

Guilt Black-Balling Innocence.

We are obliged to a correspondent who writes to express his satisfaction with our comments upon public affairs, and more particularly with the directness and force of the blows which nail our troubles to the door of the dominant party in the State. He thinks, however, that there is one point which has not been sufficiently touched upon, one piece of effrontery not rebuked with deserved severity. It is the disposition to charge the tax-payers with a share of the responsibility for the frauds which have been committed on the people, such as those of the Land Commission, Sinking Fund, Financial Board, &c. This he regards as unjust as it is brazen. He pressed as the apologists for this poor mockery of a government are, they think they make a specious defence of its shortcomings, its crimes and corruptions, if they can gather from dim tradition, or rake out of the ashes of a flickering past, some semblance of neglect, some departure from an exact course, some fancied irregularity on the part of the officials of those days. This sort of defence is admission of guilt and an endeavor to make it excusable by finding for it respectable company. But the parallel can never be made out, the association cannot be established. And if it could be made out, it would avail nothing. It would not relieve the present blackness, to show that some other period had not been conspicuously bright. The band of magnificent villains who have used their influence, talents and public position to swindle the country, to take bread from the mouths of the poor, to stain the annals of the State, to draw down upon it the indignation and contempt of mankind, are no less villains, because some small rascal, fifty or a hundred years ago, fouled the little stream of his short official career.

Our correspondent draws a clear distinction between the degrees of responsibility of those who hold office and of those who do not. No man, he says, who does not hold office, can be charged with the betrayal of a Government trust. Only those who hold the reins are responsible for the driving. There is a great difference between the official who, for reasons of his own, has aided to put out, say, fraudulent certificates, and the citizen who knows nothing of them but what their face tells him. Private individuals should feel that when such paper, pay certificate or State bond, is offered on the market, they have a right to buy at as low price as they can get it, and that they will be safe in doing so. No bond of trust holds the private citizen to the duty of financial State policeman. As no one is bound to be on guard against the government which is over him, it is not his fault, but his misfortune, if he should be drawn into questionable transactions. The blame is not his, but belongs exclusively to those who have set the trap in which he has been caught. Blame is too soft a word for them. It is monstrous in a government to become a swindling agency. It is a double swindle, a monstrosity unheard of, for its officials and supporters, while they solicit and importune the people not to withdraw their confidence from it, to charge this confidence, when innocently or ignorantly extended, as complicity in wrong and crime. Such charges are like those made by Potiphar's wife. Our correspondent puts it forcibly thus: "We are asked to give our support to this republican government by the very people who charge us with fraud when we have a financial transaction with the Government, although we hold no office of trust, or even place of official opportunity for fraud. This is unparalleled impudence."

North and South Carolina Compared.—We in North Carolina cannot well appreciate our good fortune in having driven the carpet-baggers out of the State, except by a comparison of our situation with that of other communities still cursed by the sinister presence of those birds of evil omen. In 1868-69, our taxes were enormously high—more than the people could well pay; but since the Conservatives have been in power, we apprehend that no people are less burdened by taxation than we are. In South Carolina, the public thieves have held on to the crib with death-like pertinacity, and the people are irretrievably ruined.

Raleigh Crescent.

The Civil Rights Bill.—The Rev. Dr. Sears, Superintendent of the Peabody Southern school fund, made an hour's argument before the House Judiciary Committee on Friday against the section in the Civil Rights Bill which provides for mixed schools.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—In our issue of Sunday, we published sketches of the clergy who attended the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South, at Louisville, Ky., as delegates, and to-day we furnish sketches of the lay members, taken from the Louisville *Courier-Journal*:

Hon. Simpson Bobo is a native of Spartanburg, South Carolina, where he was born January 15, 1804. He enjoyed the advantages of a classical and English education, and was admitted to the practice of the legal profession May 20, 1825. He joined the Methodist Church in 1839, and for many years has been one of its most substantial pillars. For probably thirty years, he has been the loved and efficient superintendent of the Sunday School at Spartanburg. Since the introduction of the laity into the representation of the church, he has rarely been absent from his annual or District Conference, and served with wise discretion as Chairman of the Sunday School Committee of the last General Conference. He is also one of the large-hearted pecuniary supporters of the church. At the bar of the legal profession, he has achieved worthy success, both by his clear and vigorous exposition of the law and his conscientious discharge of duty under a high sense of truth and justice. Although opposed to nullification and secession, when his State finally moved he moved with her, and was a member of the Secession Convention of 1860. He also served with honor to himself in the Legislature of 1862 and 1863.

John H. Kinsler was born May 4, 1823, in Richland District, S. C., and educated at Mount Zion. He joined the Methodist Church in 1856, and professed religion about the same time, and soon assumed a position of prominent usefulness. He has been elected to every annual Conference, and as a representative man, enjoys a large degree of the confidence of the membership. He was elected to the State Legislature in 1850-52, and served as a member of the secession convention of 1860, both of which places he filled to the satisfaction of his constituency. When the issue of war was laid he drew the sword, and gallantly served to its close as Captain in the 12th South Carolina Regiment. The occupation of his life has been that of planting, in which he has been successful, and yet finding time for a generous intellectual culture. He wields a graceful pen, and whenever moved from his modest reticence to public speaking, has never failed to produce a most decided impression.

A. A. Gilbert was born at Waterboro, S. C., November 19, 1829, of Presbyterian parents. He received a fair English and some classical education at the place of his birth. Married and located at Sumter, S. C., February, 1850, and in April of the same year, established the *Sumter Watchman*, a weekly newspaper, which he has continued to publish and edit to the present time. He joined the Methodist Church in early manhood, and has served as a steward seventeen years. During the war, he served as a Confederate light artillery officer, and until the final surrender at Greensboro, N. C., was most of the time in command of a light battery. He was a member of the South Carolina Legislature in 1865 and '66. Mr. Gilbert was a member of the Memphis General Conference and of the South Carolina Conference at each session since the introduction of the laity, and also of each District Conference. He has been Superintendent of the Sunday School at Sumter, S. C., about nine years. He is a man of clear mind, of strong character, and genial and generous in disposition.

Samuel A. Nelson is a native of Worcester County, Massachusetts, and was born at Upton, October 9, 1819. He removed to Charleston, South Carolina, September, 1837, and united himself with the church in 1842. Was elected Sunday School Superintendent in 1847, which position he has continued to occupy until the present time. Is now the much-beloved and very successful Superintendent connected with Trinity Church, Charleston. This school is the largest within the bounds of the South Carolina Conference, numbering, in the aggregate, near three hundred. From its ranks, the membership of the church is constantly reinforced, the conversion of the children and youth being a prominent point in the labors of its zealous and pious Superintendent. Mr. Nelson has been a resident of Charleston nearly thirty-seven years, and for twenty years has been connected with the wholesale boot and shoe house of D. F. Fleming & Co., of that city.

F. A. Connor was born in Abbeville County, S. C., in 1813, of Methodist parents. He received his academic training first at Old Tabernacle Academy, where the distinguished Dr. Stephen Olin first taught school, was converted and began his brilliant career as a Methodist preacher; and next at Cokesbury Conference school. He was graduated at Randolph Macon College, Virginia, in 1838, and began to teach school in 1840. Was soon after elected to the classical department of the Cokesbury school, which position he filled with marked usefulness for seven years, when impaired health rendered his resignation necessary. Four years afterward he was elected to the Presidency of the Cokesbury Masonic Female College, which, after four years of successful administration, in consequence of feeble health, he also resigned. Since that time he has been engaged in active business. He has long been a prominent and useful member of the church, and is much admired for his fine qualities.

A. English Williams, M. D., was

left an orphan, by the death of both father and mother at the same time, at the tender age of ten years, and may be literally styled the architect of his own fortune. He is a native of Colleton County, S. C., and was born February 20, 1832; connected himself with the Methodist Church September, 1844, and professed conversion September 6, 1857. He graduated in medicine at the South Carolina Medical College, Charleston, March, 1854; practiced his profession successfully until the beginning of the late war, when he entered the Confederate States army as a surgeon, where his kindness of heart and warm Christian sympathy, coupled with his medical skill, was a blessing to many a sick and dying soldier. At the close of the war, he entered the timber business, with which he is still successfully connected. As an ardent, liberal, working and speaking supporter of the church, he has accomplished great good. As District Financial Agent, his earnest and searching appeals and convincing arguments have done much to the education of the membership in this important particular, and for the aid of the church in her moneyed wants.

REV. DR. PLUMER.—The following sketch of Rev. William S. Plumer, D. D., LL. D., is taken from the *Columbus Index*:

Upon the right of the platform, in an easy chair against the wall, is to be seen regularly and steadily the majestic form of this father in Israel. With his hoary head, a crown of glory, and his great flowing beard of snowy white far down upon his bosom, unmarred by a single thread, with majestic voice supported by impressive mien—all backed by his reputation in the church, of longest standing, for pulpit and platform eloquence and goodness and theological learning—he is the marked man of the Assembly. Dr. Plumer is seventy-one years old, yet in bodily vigor and in the fullness of his intellectual strength. He is the leading Professor in the Theological Seminary at Columbia; is a theological author of distinction; was Moderator of the Huntsville Assembly, and is the only man, living or dead, who has had the honor of presiding over the Assemblies of our church and of the old undivided church. He has been Professor, besides at Columbia, in Alleghany Seminary; has been pastor, during his long life, in the cities of Petersburg, Richmond and Baltimore. While in the former city, he founded the *Central Presbyterian*, which lives to bless him to this day; it was first called the *Watchman of the South*. The special characteristic of his eloquence is earnestness and solemnity. He speaks like Elijah upon Carmel; and, as he lifts himself up before the gathered people, and in the name of the Lord, and with His own awful emphasis, says: "How long will ye halt between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow Him; but if Baal, then follow him," it is not hard to believe the days of the prophets are restored. Without disparagement to any, Dr. Plumer may be pronounced the most notable and distinguished member of the Assembly.

It is pretty well understood that there will be no more investments of English capital in the South until the State Governments pass to the control of the actual and responsible citizens. The era of carpet-bag rule has depressed alike the industries of the States it afflicts and their commercial credit abroad. Nor can capitalists be blamed for hesitating to entrust means in contact with the infectious bankruptcy and prevalent ruin that follow in the steps of these adventurers as desolation follows the path of an army. The people of some of the Southern States, aware that the single alternative of utter ruin or the expulsion of the carpet-baggers is left them, are gathering their strength for one supreme effort in the latter direction. Notably among these States is Alabama and Florida. They will succeed, if it is possible. Aroused to the full measure of the grand necessity, they will leave no stone unturned, no effort unemployed, to accomplish a result on which not only the preservation of their property but their honor abroad depends. In the effort, they have the sympathy and good wishes of every honest community in the country.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL.—The New York *Sun* remarks that this bill opens a question of the range of power in our national Legislature to pass any and every act which the caprice of the hour may inspire. "We are all of us interested to know," it says, "whether our thirty-seven States are, in all branches of local police, independent sovereignties or merely organized Counties, whose alms houses and jails are to be inspected by a Congressional committee, or its roads and bridges placed under the supervision of a detailed officer of the Engineer Corps. Further than this, there are questions of personal rights which follow on this claim of unrestricted meddling by Congress."

LARGE LEGACIES TO VIRGINIANS.—William Anderson, a grand-uncle of W. D. Couch, of Bottetourt County, dying in England, recently, without lineal descendants, and possessed of an immense estate, has bequeathed it to his nephews in America. Mr. Couch inherits by his will \$210,000 for his share of the estate. Mr. William Anderson, of Lynchburg, gets \$160,000. The British Consul at Richmond has assured these gentlemen that the money is in bank awaiting its legal claimants, and their agent is now crossing the Atlantic to take possession. [*Pineville (Va.) Herald.*]

THE BANK OF THE STATE BILLS.—The answer of County Treasurer Gurney to the rule citing him to show cause why he should not be compelled to receive bills of the Bank of the State in payment of taxes due the State, was filed in the Court of Common Pleas on Monday. The answer sets forth, first, that the bills tendered were not genuine bills of the Bank of the State, and that a large portion of the taxes for which they were tendered were due to the County. That by the expiration of the charter of the bank on the 1st of January, 1871, the debts evidenced by the bills of the corporation became extinguished, and all the bills ceased to be contracts. That a sufficient tender by the relators for their taxes would have rendered any execution subsequently issued null and void, and the relators would have full and sufficient remedy at law for all damages. That the Act under which the taxes were levied provides that they shall be paid only in gold and silver coin, United States currency, national bank notes and bills receivable of the State. The answer also sets forth that a large amount of the bills were re-issued by the bank with the distinct understanding and agreement that they were not payable on demand in coin, and even thus no longer receivable at the treasury of the State or by the tax-collectors. That before the relators can tender the bills in payment of taxes they must establish the condition upon which alone the bills are receivable in payment of taxes, to wit: That at time of their issue, they were made payable, or have become payable, in gold and silver coin. That a large number of the bills were placed in the hands of the Confederate Government, for the aid of the rebellion, and that the respondent cannot receive the said bills tendered by the relators, until it has been shown that the bills so tendered were not the bills so issued to the Confederate Government. That, during the war, the bank ceased to be prepared and issued certain of its notes, bearing date during that period, and that the said notes were thus unlawful, null and void. That all bills issued between the years 1860 and 1863 are not receivable for taxes due the State.

The counsel for the relators will file a replication to this answer, upon which the issues will be joined and the case argued at the ensuing term of the Court of Common Pleas. Messrs. Magrath and Lowndes appear for the relators in the test case, and Messrs. C. H. Simonton and Julian Mitchell for the County Treasurer. [*Charleston News and Courier.*]

A TERRIFYING PHENOMENON.—The *Asheville Expositor*, of the 23rd ult., has the following fresh news from Bald Mountain in regard to new quakings and the appearance of other phenomena not hitherto observed in that section. The *Expositor* says:

Thursday evening last, about half-past 7, several severe shocks of an earthquake again were observed at Bald Mountain, equal in severity to any that have preceded them within the last three or four months of these rumblings. The noise was heard and quaking felt distinctly at Coimney Rock, a distance of ten miles from the source of the disturbance. A score of persons at different points, several miles distant from the mountain, concur in the statement of feeling its effects, especially in the direction of Rutherford County and along Broad River. A number of persons along this river, at the distance of ten miles from the mountain, say the rumblings and other impressions from the shocks were quite severe and terrible. They were similar to the sounds and rumblings observed there in February last—even more marked and alarming.

In addition to what was there observed, a strange phenomenon of lights was witnessed by many—lights which frequently shot up from the mountain. A few nights before Thursday evening's shocks, a party of four or five, at Spicer Springs, saw a huge light moving up Broad River, which shone with such intensity as to exhibit the trees and hills for an eighth of a mile on each side of the river, as if it were daylight. It shone but five minutes, and disappearing, left all in darkness. They describe it as resembling an electric light, or like a mellow line of fire moving up the river. The witnesses were much alarmed at the time, and can offer no explanation of the strange phenomenon. On the Friday previous to the above mentioned occurrences, slight shocks were felt from the same mountain. The people in the vicinity are much interested, and manifest much excitement over these new disturbances.

THE COTTON CROP.—Much interest is shown in the condition of the cotton crop. Reports from the Carolinas, Alabama and Georgia show that the prospects of the crop are backward. Considerably less acreage has been planted than last year. The general impression is that the yield may reach about 3,250,000 bales. This is not as good as we had hoped, being 750,000 bales less than the crop of last year. Something of this is attributed to the poverty of the planter, who has not money enough to buy fertilizers, and who experience much difficulty in obtaining money on future crops. There is a good deal of political quietude arising out of the angry discussions occasioned by the Civil Rights Bill and the misgovernment of so many of the States. This, of course, disheartens the people, and prevents that cheerful energy and industry without which a people can raise neither cotton nor corn.—*New York Herald.*

Deaths in Charleston for the week ending May 30, 27—whites, 8; colored, 19.

CITY MATTERS.—Subscribe for the PHOENIX

A horse never gets beyond his ninth year—if his owner wants to sell him.

The Governor has appointed Mr. J. M. Dennis, of Sumter County, a Trial Justice.

Let us all give thanks for the refreshing shower which came so gently down upon us yesterday.

We acknowledge the receipt of an invitation to attend the commencement exercises of Roanoke College, at Salem, Va., on the 17th inst.

A refreshing shower of rain visited Columbia early yesterday morning, which is the first we have had in some time.

Quite a number of families are to leave the city soon for the summer season. Some go to the mountains, but many others go North.

A man may forget his business, his family and all his sacred obligations of life, but he always remembers where he got that counterfeit bill.

Dr. J. M. Westmoreland, traveling agent of the *Greenville Daily News*, called upon us yesterday. He is also traveling in other interests.

We received a visit, yesterday, from Mr. Bertram Snyder, Secretary of the Philadelphia Board of Steam Navigation, and correspondent of the *Nautical Gazette*.

There was considerable interest in this city over the Derby race. We heard of some parties who were fortunate enough to stake their greenbacks on the winning horse.

The opinion is freely expressed by some that they never expect to be hotter than they were Monday night. Well, we were warm ourselves, but we ain't so easy as to the matter of never being any warmer.

There is nothing which contributes more to the sweetness of life than friendship; there is nothing which disturbs our repose more than friends, if we have not the discernment to choose them well.

Inquiry was made yesterday as to when the fire bell would be put up; and we are happy to state that it will be attended to at once, as Mr. Tom Collins has just arrived for the purpose.

We invite special attention to the advertisement of Cleveland Mineral Springs, N. C., in another column. To persons in quest of health and pleasure during the hot summer months, this delightful summer resort offers superior attractions.

The Grand Jury of Lexington present the official bond of Emanuel Walker, recently appointed Auditor, vice J. H. Hendrix, as insufficient; because the bond of the County Auditor is for \$1,000, and the principal and sureties on the same, according to their sworn returns upon the tax duplicates of the County, show them to be worth only \$249.

BEFORE ASSOCIATE JUSTICE WRIGHT, AT CHAMBERS.—The State, *ex rel.* Emanuel Walker, vs. James H. Hendrix. Petition for mandamus. Mr. Booxer was heard for relator; Mr. Chamberlain for respondent. This case is important, inasmuch as it involves the question whether or not the Governor can suspend a legally appointed officer "for cause," under the recent Act, without setting forth that cause, and allowing the officer an opportunity of defence thereon before the Legislature assembles. Decision reserved.

ACCIDENT.—Yesterday afternoon, Messrs. Charles S. Minor and Charles M. Wilder were driving down Main street, in a buggy, and had reached the corner of Medium street, when their horse made a sudden turn, upsetting the buggy and throwing out the occupants, both of whom were severely hurt. Mr. Wilder was unconscious for some time, and it was supposed at first that he had been killed. He was taken into a neighboring store, and received good attention. His head was badly bruised, and he also received a severe contusion about the breast. The horse was thrown down by the buggy, and it was with difficulty that a more serious accident was prevented.

"John Worthington's Name" is the title of a novel just issued by Harper & Bros., of New York, at \$1.00. The author is Frank Leo Benedict, who also wrote "My Daughter Elnor," "Miss Van Kortland," "Miss Dorothy's Charge," &c. We have not had the opportunity of perusing the work as yet, but feel warranted in recommending it, if the author's previous efforts are any criterion. The characters hitherto portrayed by the writer have been fashionable and high-bred—such as we would meet in any of our great cities. The best features of American fashionable life are well depicted. The work is for sale at the bookstore of Mr. W. J. Duffie.

TO THE PEOPLE.—The malarious season is upon you, and you require some remedy to protect you from the noisome pestilence which broods in midnight darkness—your destruction. Go to Heintz's doctor shop and get a cure. No store is so replete with skillful remedies. His "Blood Pills," "Chill and Fever Cure," and all his other valuable medicines are now household remedies, and no family will be without them.

SUPREME COURT, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3.—The Court met at 10 A. M. Present—Chief Justice Moses and Associate Justices Wright and Willard.

The State, *ex rel.* A. G. Brenizer, Agent, and others, vs. F. L. Cardozo, State Treasurer. On account of the severe illness of Attorney-General Melton, on motion of Mr. Chamberlain for respondents, the time for filing the returns in these cases was extended to June 17. It was also ordered that argument be heard on the 19th.

"A Fast Life on the Modern Highway," is the title of a nicely printed and profusely illustrated work, by Jos. Taylor. This book is a glance into the railroad world from a new point of view, and is full of anecdote and pathetic and amusing sketches of railroad characters. It is a contribution to railroad literature that will be read with infinite zest when one is on the cars. It is the work of a railroad man, and is intended to afford amusement and instruction, combined in wholesome proportions. It will place before the mind of the reader a constant recurring series of incident and adventure, which will associate themselves in his memory forever after with the every-day experiences of travel. The work is published by Harper & Brothers, of New York, and can be purchased at the bookstore of Mr. W. J. Duffie.

FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.—We took occasion, a few days ago, to caution the public against what we believed to be counterfeits of the new ten cent currency, drawing attention to the color of the seal as being in the one red and in the other green. Captain C. J. Iredell, Cashier of the Carolina National Bank, wrote to Washington in reference to the matter, and the letter in reply, which we publish below, throws a different light on the subject. We are pleased to state that we were in error in pronouncing the notes with the red seal counterfeits:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE COMPTROLLER OF CURRENCY, WASHINGTON, June 1, 1874.
C. J. Iredell, Esq., Cashier Carolina National Bank, Columbia, S. C.
Sir: I have your letter of the 29th ult., enclosing two ten cent fractional currency notes, and herewith return the same. They are both genuine, and I am informed by the Chief of Printing Bureau of Treasury Department that the red seal was substituted in place of the green to more readily distinguish the tens from the fifty cent notes, which they somewhat resemble. Very respectfully,
J. S. LANGWORTHY,
Deputy Comptroller.

THE CONCERT.—Our community is under lasting obligations to the Columbia Choral Union for a most delightful musical entertainment last evening. Messrs. Denok and Koepfer, and the conductor, Professor Evans, organized for victory, and won it without a doubt or shade to mar its completeness. The extended programme of the evening embraced a beautiful variety of musical selections, all gems of great masters in harmony, all products of that genius which blends simplicity and art, science and the truthfulness of nature. It is a great deal to say, but it may be said with truth, that they were rendered with a skill, spirit, pathos and fidelity not unworthy, in many instances, of their high origin.

We cannot, at the late hour at which we pen this, undertake to discriminate the merits of the many admirable voices which thrilled in song and still linger in memory. Where all were so excellent, it were impossible, if not invidious, to do so. The skill, compass and elaborate execution of one class were matched by the bird-like tones and soft breathings of another. Bouquets innumerable fell at the feet of the fair performers, testifying the high admiration which they excited. The gentlemen performers were only less successful.

All went off splendidly, and we trust that we shall be favored before a great while with a repetition of what was, without qualification, one of the most delightful evenings of the whole season.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.
T. W. Brevard—Cleveland Springs.
P. Cantwell—Smoked Tongues.
Extra Communication Acaona Lodge.

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