

Orangeburg Times.

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Vol. III.

ORANGEBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1874.

THE ORANGEBURG TIMES

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GLOVER & GLOVER,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
Office opposite Court House Square,
Orangeburg, S. C.

THOS. W. GLOVER, MORTIMER GLOVER,
JULIUS GLOVER.

Feb. 12

W. J. DeTreville,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Office at Court House Square,
Orangeburg, S. C.

Feb. 13

IZLAR & DIBBLE,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
RUSSELL STREET,
Orangeburg, S. C.

Feb. 13

H. F. ROBINSON
DEALER IN

Books, Music and Stationery, and Fancy
Articles,
CHURCH STREET,
ORANGEBURG, C. H., S. C.

Feb. 13

J. H. Mathews
BARBER,
ORANGEBURG, S. C.

Feb. 13

Shop in rear of Bettison's Building,
April 9, 1874

FRESH AND GENUINE
GARDEN SEEDS AND ONION SETS, Just
received from D. Landroth & Son, and for sale
by E. EZEKIEL, Sign of the Big watch

NOTICE
Members of the different Granges will be supplied at Orange prices.

Mar. 13, 1873

E. EZEKIEL

MOSES M. BROWN,
BARBER,
MARKET STREET, ORANGEBURG, S. C.,
(NEXT DOOR TO STRAUS & STREET'S MILL.)

HAVING permanently located in the town,
I would respectfully solicit the patronage of
the citizens. Every effort will be used to give
satisfaction.

June 18, 1873

COTTON GINS.

THE UNDERSIGNED IS AGENT FOR
the celebrated Prize-Medal Taylor Gin, of
which he has sold 25 in this county. Also, the
Neblett & Goodrich Gin, highly recommended
by Col. D. W. Aiken and others.

On hand One 50 Saw, and One 45 Saw
TAYLOR GIN.

A One 42 Saw,
NEBLET & GOODRICH GIN.

RUBBER BELTING
furnished at Agent's prices.

July 10, 1873

J. A. HAMILTON,

July 10, 1873

Speech of Capt. H. G. Sheridan before the Survivors Association.

Little more than a half score of years ago, the people of South Carolina and of the Southern States, were unacquainted with occasions of this character. From our earliest recollection, it is true, that families and communities met to shed a tear of sympathy, and to pay the last tribute of respect and love to the memory of the dead. States, too, in a congregated capacity have eulogized those honored servants, who by a life of faithful and devoted labor for the public good, had won for themselves the love and merited the well-done of those they served: The death of a McDuffie or a Calhoun, of a Clay or a Webster aroused the great public heart of the nation; and a united but stricken people met in solemn assemblies to deplore their loss, and to perpetuate their memories. Monumental piles have been erected all over this land bearing upon their faces the testimony of a people's memory of the santed dead. Hearts have, indeed, shed great tears of love, but the bereaved ones mourned not without hope—their grief was tempered by a family and a State pride. We felt and believed, when the grave received their sacred remains, that they had lived in the service of a country, which would remain to us and to our children a perpetual inheritance; that they had died in the defence of a government, whose principles of States, rights and States sovereignty would forever be a bulwark of defense to ours and our children's rights. Consigning them with mourning, to the mother, dust, we returned to homes to study the lessons taught us by their lives, to prize the purity of their characters and to love the kindred, the homes and the government they had left us. We believe that the fame of the dead was the glory of the living, and the history of the public servant was the history of the country; there fore we bowed submissively to all the dispensations of Providence. But to-day where are our homes? Where our kindred? and where is our government? There is nothing left save the precious memories of the past, the bitterness of to-day, and an anxious looking forward to the events of tomorrow.

And in this dark hour of our calamity we are met together with disappointed hopes as the survivors not only of our brave comrades, who fell upon the battle field, and lie mouldering in their graves, but of the principles, social, political and religious they died to defend. The memory of these like them, is consecrated to immortal gratitude; because in the graves of the defenders lie buried the principles they defended. As the one can never again physically aid us, so the other can never morally protect us; with the old love is buried the old faiths.

Were it possible for one, ignorant of the events of the last dozen years, to visit this country and see the homes once prosperous, now demolished or decaying; towns and cities once alive with thrift and trade, now in ashes or dilapidated; a country once green and ripe to the harvest with a united and contented population, now seared, and blighted, and ravished with one race pulverizing another; and a government once administered by honesty and intelligence, now with ignorance enthroned and rascality rampant—a nation of thieves where an honest people had been; he would naturally conclude that some terrible political convulsion had happened to break down the spirits and destroy the energies of the people,—or, that a long and bloody war of extermination had devastated the fields, burnt the homes, depopulated the cities and left the country to plunder and repine. But what are the facts? It is true a political revolution did occur; but it was for the establishment of inalienable right, and might have been avoided by honesty and fair dealing. It is equally true that a bloody war passed over the land; yet the restoration of peace and an equal government would have returned the people to prosperity and to-day its lines might have been obliterated. These terrible results have been due, from first to last, to a wilful—a wicked—a revengeful spirit of misrepresenting the motives and the character of the people of the South, persisted in by the press of the North; and, consequent upon this, the adoption of a policy of reconstruction by the Gen-

eral Government which has been destructive to every interest of our people. Since the war no legislative act of the South has been rightly construed; no motive, ever correctly understood; and no policy ever correctly entered. But every act, and almost every word has been distorted, and twisted, and forced into shape to suit the will of her traducers.

From 1865 to the present day we have heard it, and have seen it, in the public prints of the North, that the Northern men, who come among us, are remorselessly ostracised from society and branded as carpet-bagger, or political adventurers; and that the Southern man, who dares to change his political opinions, is denounced as a scoundrel, or renegade and persecuted by the community. There never was a fouler slander perpetrated upon a people. Let the honest and industrious man come among us from what quarter he may—from north, east, south or west we want him, and if satisfied he is a gentleman, will welcome him to our hearth circles and home hospitalities. But we wish the North to know, and the world to know that the carpet-bagger is a peculiar species of man with distinctive characteristics that mark his identity, and we have no excuse to give for the ineffable contempt and scorn in which he is held at the South, and especially in South Carolina. With regard to the very few leading Southern men, who have abandoned the old principles for the new which we believe to be unconstitutional and ruinous to our interests, all I have to say is, that, in almost every case, the change of sentiment has been accompanied by circumstances that left no doubt on the public mind of dishonest and venal motives. The man, who sells himself, can expect nothing but condemnation at the hands of the South. Whilst an honest change of sentiment, based upon convictions of right, is as much respected here as elsewhere; the bartering of principle for money, is as much despised at the South as elsewhere. It has been asserted, and that assertion repeated by every fanatic at the North, that we hope yet to renew the conflict and wreak a savage vengeance on our oppressors. Such a belief could not for one moment be entertained by a single honest man who would visit the country and see our utter physical prostration, and witness our almost inordinate anxiety for a permanent peace and restoration of an equal government. It can only exist in the mind whose aim it is to create prejudices, to excite strife and to perpetuate enmity between the sections.

The restoration of the institution of slavery has been charged to the South. This imputation in the face of our own legislative acts to abolish it and to confer civil rights upon the negro, is too base to be answered. It is the offspring of an imagination bent upon the perpetual estrangement of the races inhabiting our country, and finds lodgings only among dishonest adventurers and paid scoundrels who circulate it during election seasons that they may ride into office upon its back.

These, and other malicious misrepresentations by the northern press and the persistent misunderstandings and consequent oppression on the part of the government, will fill a page in the history of the Caucasian race that will consign their authors to an immortality of infamy. For before God I solemnly believe it and in the presence of this audience I assert it, that the alienation existing between the North and the South, the prejudices between the white man and the negro, the broken fortunes, the prostituted government, and the almost universal ruin of this fair Southern land, are due directly and indirectly to the misrepresentations of the northern press, and to the oppressive reconstruction policy, inaugurated and pursued by the general government toward the South. They are not the legitimate results of the war, nor, at this distant day, its indirect effects.

Our people went into the contest of 1861 with honest convictions that the principles of government, they assayed to maintain by the sword, were sound and constitutional—in perfect accord with the spirit and intentions of the authors of this government. To accomplish our ends we expended money and blood as long as there was a hope of success; and our de-

feat by mere physical force of numbers did not prove us to be traitors of those principles we fought. The North did all that could be done by war when she forced us to abandon the contest and yield to the verdict of that court; and it is worse than folly for her to expect the Southern people to confess a wrong—long, or to acknowledge the unsoundness and injustice of their cause. This must be demonstrated by other logic than that of the sword. Nor has she studied human nature, and especially the character of the Southern people, to a good purpose if she looks for them to be "over grateful and loving because of that defeat; or, the memories, born before and during the struggle, to be rapidly obliterated in the mist of their present oppression." If the South is ever to be reconstructed and a complete reconciliation effected, it must be done by other means than those on trial now. You cannot whip love into a human being—esteem is not begotten of force, neither can the oppressive policy of the government make the South love it.

There was a time after the war when the Southern people would have yielded every thing save honor and the history of the past. Had the promises, made them during the war by the United States Congress, been kept inviolable, the stipulations of peace at the surrender been sacredly observed and a true magnanimity marked the policy of the victors during the process of reconstruction, the harrowings of war would have passed away, the broken fortunes would have been repaired and the North and South to-day would have been one in sentiment—one in affection—one in interest. The laws of human affections are every where the same; they control the action of nations as well as those of individuals. Remove the causes of division and strife will end; substitute love for hatred and friendship will be restored, and the contrary effects will result if the opposite course be pursued. Continued and provoked insult and injury can endanger nothing but estrangement, bitterness and strife between nations as well as individuals. The study of these principles I would commend to both sections of our country that a basis of reconstruction might yet be adopted which will unite our whole people in friendship, so that together they may put forth every effort to build up again the prosperity and promote the glory of our common country. It has generally been conceded by American statesmen, at least, that the constitution of 1787, under which the Federal Government began its existence, was as near perfection as human government could be made. It was indorsed in the beginning by the first minds of the nation; and, decending the series of years preceding the late war, it came not only indorsed but defended by all the living statesmen of every period and from all sections of the land. Yet three-fourths of a century only has verified the prediction of Alexander Hamilton, that "The constitution of 1787" that perfection of human government "is a frail and worthless fabric." The framers of that instrument believed, they had accomplished their whole purpose when they delegated certain powers to the general government, and reserved all the rest to the States. They believed that these reserved powers would prove a sufficient check against any effort toward the consolidation of powers, and was also an ample protection for the individual rights of the States. Their purpose would have indeed been accomplished, had not two single omissions been made: One was the failure to assert explicitly and definitely that the instrument itself was a contract subject to the laws of contracts, that the general government was not a party to it but simply a creature—an agent to fulfill its stipulations and do the bidding of the original parties. The other was the inexcusable blunder of making no adequate provision for protecting the rights of minorities against the crushing power of majorities. Not only these failures; but Mr. Jefferson, commenting upon the principles of that constitution, makes the omissions almost criminal by saying that one of the foundation stones of our future hopes was that "an absolute acquiescence in the necessity of the majority was the vital principle of republics from which there was no appeal but to force."

It is true there is an appeal from the House of Representatives to the Senate, and should both houses concern in a measure of oppressions, that decision may be controlled by the veto of the President; should both houses and the President agree, the Supreme Court, in the exercise of its constitutional authority, may strike the combated decision of the House, the Senate and the President powerless at its feet. Yet the history of the government proves that not even this division of powers is not sufficient for the protection of the minority against the tyranny of the majority.

The contest between the general government and the States first developed itself in the enactment of the Alien and Sedition Laws, and; gathering strength from Mr. Jefferson's doctrine of an absolute acquiescence in the decision of the majority, it established the famous Protesting system. In 1832 and subsequently in 1852 so bold and despotic was that majority until the foundation stones of State Sovereignty were shaken to their very centers. At every step the contest grew more violent and determined until it overcame every barrier and reached its climax in the election of Mr. Lincoln to the Presidency. And thus the "majority of the people" will throw the nation into a war, the results of which have swept away every vestige of States Rights, and left the government in the hands of a majority which has destroyed its ancient dignity and plunged the South into an abyss of corruption and crime that finds its parallel only in the downfall of a Greece or a Rome, or the peggony of an Ireland.

The fatal error, if it may be allowed to charge our fathers with a wrong doing, consists in placing the supreme power in the hands of the people and not in the law. They trusted in the purity of man, remembering not that, in a collective capacity, man invested with power is aristotle's wild beast, which in the fierceness of its rage tore proud Athens in fragments—that seized upon the vitals of Rome and left that proud "mistress of the world" but a mangled carcass among the nations of the earth. The history of governments plainly show that the people once possessed of supreme power are never influenced by the nobler instincts of humanity, but by the love of dominion and the greed of gain; and the majority of this people in the exercise of its sovereign will is ever a cruel and remorseless tyrant that respects neither the rights of God nor man. So it is and will ever be in these nominally United States until the decay of this putrefying carcass of a government shall be completed; and the filthy worms, that feed upon it, shall perish.

The fabric of a government, that was the pride of a Washington and the boast of every good and great man in the years that are passed, is tattered, and torn, and disorganized with scarcely a vestige of its former liberty remaining. The blind rage of a cruel majority has done it because power was invested in the people and not in the law. This power broke through the feeble barriers of the constitution, invaded the legislative, executive and judiciary departments of the government, destroyed the rights of the States, and burst asunder the bands that held the nation together. It is dark to day politically, but, if this majority rule continues, there may be deeper depths of misery for the South than those she suffers now. In this contest for power between the general government and the states, selfishness was one of the chief incentives, and the leaves and fishes, the grand object of pursuit. Now since the dominant party has made sure of power, we hear it unblushingly utter the infamous maxim: "To the victors belong the spoils." Their boasted political virtue has been eclipsed by the brighter prospect of plunder; public liberty has been forgotten in the memory of self, and corruption stands enthroned in the land of Washington. Without a constitution—without law, the country is controlled by the will of the majority, and that majority an ignorant rabble.

Let us, my fellow comrades, turn with disgust and loathing from present surroundings. Forgetting if we can the political principles of our fathers, remembering only their virtuous lives, let us look forward with faith in God to the

coming of purer principles and institutions—a government better adapted to the nature and wants of man. The past it is true, is full of dear memories, we can treasure them; the present is pregnant with fearful anticipations, if they come we must endure them; the future though doubtful is all that brings hope to the heart; let us, therefore address ourselves to the only legitimate work of the times, that of maintaining those landmarks of character which entitle us as a distinctive people. The priceless reputation, bequeathed us by our own fathers and defended by our fallen comrades, is rendered doubly dear to us and must be preserved as a right legacy and the hopes it inspires are as impossible as the glory of their former. We may never be able to increase its lustre; but let us not let that go to our hands shall ever diminish it. In the past it was the reputation and character of our Washington and Madison, of our Calhoun and Clay that formed the warp and woof of American history. In the future it will be the reputation and character of our dead Lee and Jackson, of our living Johnson and Hampton that shall lend additional dignity to the record of this continent.

Perhaps there is no trait of character that distinguishes us as citizens of a State more than that of love for our native land. We may and do feel proud of the broad appellation, an American; prouder still of the glorious title, a Southerner; but the proudest emotions touch the heart when we can claim to be a South Carolinian. She is our mother; here we first breathed the breath of life; here her riches raised us to manhood; the ashes of our fathers and the tombs of our comrades are here. No matter how mingled with her soil, the most sacred relations of human life cluster around the scenes—the companionships of childhood—the friendships of youth—the loves and the stern realities of manhood—all are bonds that bind us to South Carolina and make her our home—our native land. And now in this hour of distress and bitter trouble let no Carolinian abandon his mother. If there was one thing that belonged to and peculiarly marked us as citizens of a common country, the South in the past, it was a high sense of honor, including in its composition justice to all men, a polite sociability with others, and a love for virtue. This gave a polish to Southern manners that made us a distinctive people and attracted the admiration of the world. The corruption, political, social and religious, incident to the varied and often conflicting elements which entered into the composition of other sections of our own country and of other nationalities, was unknown at the South; hence our character as a people was influenced in its formation by a single element and that was a unity of interest. Essentially a peculiar people from our institutions and with a single interest we had time to practice virtue and measured our dealings with others by a high standard of honor. But the spirit of selfishness infused into our common life by the loss of our causes and the importation of corrupt elements from the North, has sowed the seeds of pestilence that have demoralized the country and well nigh destroyed our distinguishing features. Like a subtle spirit it has undermined the foundation of Southern character, and the grand building, that has been the admiration of the world, is about to topple to the ground.

Selfishness, socially, materialism and prostitution politically, are rampant in the land. These dangerous elements have entered into the common life and are controlling the daily transactions of our people. Selfishness is so influencing the pursuits and warping our interests until our boasted sociability exist, only in name. Materialism has entered the pulpits and schools of the South, teaching and instilling its dangerous doctrines in the hearts of old and young until virtue is scarcely recognized as the leading characteristic of southern society. The most glaring crimes are daily being justified on religious principles.

Political prostitution has seized upon every department of the government from the highest magistrate who sits upon his seat to the lowest menial that grovels at his feet.

Continued on Second Page.