

TERMS: ONE YEAR \$1.50.

SIX MONTHS .75c. TWO MONTHS .40c.

Two Dollars if not paid in advance.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

The Supreme Court has decided an important principle relating to the homestead in the case of Francis S. Riley, Plaintiff, against Clarissa Gaines and others. The case was an action for partition, in which Marshall B. Gaines was one of the distributees, living upon the real estate of his father, the Rev. Nathaniel Gaines, deceased, which was to be partitioned. There was a judgment and execution against him in favor of the National Bank of Anderson, which was levied upon his interest in the estate, and against which he claimed the benefit of the homestead exemption. It was contended on the part of the Bank that the homestead could not be claimed or set off in property which was undivided. The Court has confirmed Judge Presley's decision, holding that M. B. Gaines is entitled to his homestead in the estate of which he is a distributee to the amount of his interest. This decision settles the principle that a distributee living upon the property in which he has an interest can claim the homestead exemption against an execution levied before the division of the property.

GARFIELD AND THE NEGRO.

General Garfield is having a considerable portion of his time at Mentor occupied by delegations of colored men visiting him for the purpose of laying the condition and so-called grievances of their race before him. The replies of the President elect have so far been sensible and to the point, evincing more than an average understanding of the situation down South. We apprehend that he will not place himself entirely in the hands of Elliott & Co. in forming his Southern policy. It may be that the new President has the statesmanship to see that the greatest need of the Union is a permanent settlement of the race problem, and that he has the ability to grapple with it. A wise, firm and intelligent policy on the part of the incoming administration in dealing with the negro will win for General Garfield the gratitude of the whole country and a high position in history. The negro ought to be taught that government is a sacred trust, to be committed to the care of those best qualified by experience, intelligence, education and honesty. This is all the South asks. Let the negro trust himself by education and practical business demonstration of his qualification for office, and then there will be no opposition to his preference to office upon the same terms as the white man. We believe General Garfield holds these views, and if he will only carry them out the whole country will have an agreeable surprise.

OUR RELATIONS WITH CHINA.

The Commission appointed by the United States to revise our treaties with China has succeeded beyond the most sanguine expectations of our people in securing a treaty which is just and equitable to both nations. The Commission made two treaties. The first and most important of which is in substance as follows: "Whenever, in the opinion of the Government of the United States, the coming of Chinese laborers to the United States, or their residence therein, affect, or threaten to affect, the interests of that country, to endanger the good order of the said country, or of any portion thereof, or to interfere with the Government of China, the Government of the United States may regulate, limit, or suspend such coming or residence, but may not absolutely prohibit it. The limitation or suspension shall be reasonable and shall apply only to Chinese who may go to the United States as laborers, other classes not being intended by this section. Legislation taken in regard to Chinese laborers will be of such a character only as is necessary to enforce the regulation, limitation, or suspension of immigration, and immigrants shall not be subject to personal maltreatment or abuse."

This treaty, it will be seen, gives to the Chinaman the right to reside here for the purposes of travel, trade or business other than that of laborers, but gives this Government entire control of the objectionable features of Chinese immigration. The second treaty relates to commerce between the two nations, and is merely supplementary to previous treaties. For the success of the Commission Col. W. H. Trescott is entitled to the credit. He is an accomplished diplomat, and before he left for his uncertain errand we said that if any person could secure a favorable treaty he was the man. The result has verified the prediction. This treaty places Col. Trescott in the front rank of American diplomats, and will doubtless lead to a deserved promotion.

THE RECENT RAILROAD MURDER.

A Charlotte dispatch to the New York Herald, dated January 10, says: "The Coroner's investigation of the recent Air Line Railroad disaster near this city, reported in the Herald of the 28th of December, which resulted in the death of five men, culminated in the arrest of Engineer Wisensberg, of the second section, on the charge of murder. The investigation has been conducted with the utmost secrecy, but it is reported to-day that the arrest of other train men of high position is to follow. A procedure of this sort is so unusual that it has caused a profound sensation in the community. The intimation is that Wisensberg had been drinking, though it is alleged that he is a perfectly sober and reliable man. He having been refused him, his counsel are contemplating a movement to have him released on a writ of habeas corpus, claiming that the only charge against him is that of criminal negligence. The death by railroad accidents of thirteen persons in this vicinity, within the last twenty days, has aroused a spirit of inquiry and determination which will not readily be put down. The horror of these accidents is further intensified by the fact that eight of the victims were burned. It is also generally reported that if this investigation results in anything like a case against the railroad men, others will follow. Several large suits for damages will certainly be brought against the companies. This is right. There has of late been a tendency to much carelessness in rail-

roads, and it is time those who are reckless of human life should be dealt with as any other murderers. A few prosecutions and one or two convictions will do a great deal towards rendering railroad travel more secure. An employee of a railroad company who neglects his duty, as the operator at Norcross is shown to have done in the company's statement of the reasons for the collision by which Mr. Keys was recently killed, is as guilty as the man who obstructs a track and causes the death of one or more passengers, and ought to be dealt with in the same manner. The only difference is that the first is a criminal act of omission, while the latter is a criminal act of commission. The result to the traveling public is the same. Men who are in positions where human life depends upon the proper discharge of duty should be held to a strict accountability before the law for the results of carelessness or omission. It is the only way to render the lives of the traveling public reasonably safe.

SENATORIAL ELECTIONS.

CALIFORNIA. The Joint Assembly elected Gen. John F. Miller to represent California in the United States Senate. He is a Republican.

NEVADA.

The Joint Assembly has elected John G. Fair, the bonanza king, United States Senator to succeed Sharon. Fair is a Democrat, and it is to be hoped will be present in the Senate oftener than Sharon has during his term.

INDIANA.

The Republicans of Indiana have nominated Gen. Ben. Harrison for the United States Senate. This nomination is equivalent to an election, and is a very fair selection. He will succeed Senator McDonald, who has been one of the ablest of the Democratic Senators.

OHIO.

The Republicans have nominated John Sherman, the present Secretary of the Treasury, for the United States Senate to succeed Senator Thurman, who is the Democratic nominee. The Republicans will certainly elect, and John Sherman will be the Senator. The Democrats lose heavily by the retirement of Senator Thurman.

DELAWARE.

The least of all the States has again selected the greatest of all the living statesmen to represent her in the United States Senate. The Hon. Thomas F. Bayard will remain in the Senate for the term of six years after the fourth of March next. The election is to be congratulated on his re-election.

NEW YORK.

A fierce contest has been waged in New York within the Republican party for the Senatorial nomination. The division between the Conkling and anti-Conkling wing of the party. As was to be expected, however, Conkling's man was victorious in the caucus, which was equivalent to an election. The candidates placed in nomination were, Thos. C. Platt, Richard Crowley, Sherman A. Rogers, Elbridge G. Lapham and Wm. A. Wheeler. The first ballot resulted as follows: Platt 54, Crowley 26, Rogers 10, Lapham 4, Wheeler 10, Morton 12. Morton had not been regularly placed in nomination. Platt's nomination was then made unanimous. This is equivalent to giving Conkling two votes, and proves that the stalwart machine is in fine order in New York. Conkling runs the Empire State.

FLORIDA.

Hon. A. W. Jones has been re-elected to the Senate for a term of six years from the fourth of next March.

THE INAUGURATION CEREMONIES.

The coming inauguration of General Garfield as President of the United States will undoubtedly be a very grand affair, exceeding the display and demonstration of any preceding inauguration. In addition to the usual and official ceremonies, the friends of Gen. Garfield are preparing a mammoth parade, to be participated in by all of the military companies and organizations of the United States that can be present. The parade is in charge of Col. H. C. Corbin, Assistant Adjutant General of the United States Army, and all communications from companies expecting to attend should be addressed to him at Washington, D. C. Upon this occasion there is no reason to oppose or object to his demonstration, for Gen. Garfield was undoubtedly elected President, and there will be no opposition to his inauguration. All sections and all parties admit his due election, and whatever may have been the acrimony of the late campaign, all true citizens look upon him now as the next President of the United States, and desire a peaceful, prosperous and successful administration for him. Therefore, Republicans and Democrats, Northerners and Southerners, will alike cheerfully participate in the honors it is proposed to do him on the day of his inauguration. But in spite of all this, there is danger lurking in this innovation, and at no distant day it may prove the bane of our Republic. The congregation of large bodies of troops at the Capitol on the day of inauguration would prove most disastrous in the event of a disputed presidential election. Then the appeal would be to brute force, instead of the regularly constituted authorities for the settlement of the question. It is the introduction of a new and unknown force in our system of government, and we cannot estimate its results. We think, therefore, that it is to be regretted that this departure from the moorings of the past has crept into our Republic, and inasmuch that it will never be repeated again. Inasmuch, however, as the parade is to take place, as many Southern companies should participate as possible, in order to show that our people have no prejudice or hostility to the incoming administration.

We would like to see the Palmetto Riflemen of Anderson represented there, and hope the necessary arrangements can be made.

The citizens of Charleston were anxious to get one glimpse of the famous actress, Sara Bernhardt, and applied to her manager, Mr. Abbey. She replied, however, requiring three thousand dollars and all the expenses of the troupe, to be secured, for one night's performance. The arrangement was not made.

AN INTERESTING QUARREL.

Those who ought to know say that Grant and Conkling would prefer seeing ex-President Davis or Senator Wade Hampton Secretary of State rather than Senator Blaine. Blaine and Conkling do not speak, in consequence of remarks of Blaine to the effect that the New York Senator strutted like a turkey gobbler, and some other like complimentary criticisms. The cause of the trouble with Gen. Grant is related in a recent letter to the Philadelphia Times, as follows:

The quarrel between Grant and Blaine, as I hear it, is very amusing, and more like two school-boys than two great big men, who have now or have had the eyes of the whole country bent toward them. It will not you for the story, but the story is so true, that I will relate it. After the Chicago Convention, smarting somewhat under his defeat, Blaine consoled himself by saying to some friends: "Well, I have beaten that fellow Grant, anyway." A little cold consolation like that ought not to be complained of. I know that after Sherman failed of nomination, and that he had some very severe things to say about Charles Foster—much more severe, indeed, than Blaine said about Grant—but it was in anger, and no doubt he long ago repented of his choler. However, what Blaine said of Grant was kindly repeated to the latter, who became greatly incensed.

This fact, in turn, was brought to Blaine. He could not believe it, and, being anxious to do the polite thing on his part and to show that he had no personal feeling against Grant, the next time he went to New York he called at Grant's hotel and sent his card—two cards, indeed, one to General and one to Mrs. Grant, with the name on each. To Mrs. Grant he said no more than the slightest attention, although Blaine waited for more than half an hour for his answer. Not very long after that Grant came to Washington and was received by the United States Senate. When that august body adjourned for that purpose there were two senators who did not greet the ex-President; one was Mr. Blaine and the other was Mr. Vorhees. They were down in the Senate restaurant eating some cold roast beef and drinking a glass of beer. The story still goes on to say that a few weeks later Blaine was again in New York, and there he came to business with a downy banker by the name of the latter's private office, as usual unannounced. There sat Mr. Grant, not two feet off, and there stood the banker by his side. The eyes of the two distinguished men met for an instant, but not a word was spoken between them. Mr. Blaine said to the banker: "Mr. Grant is in the city for your moment, but I see you are engaged, and I will call again." Then he turned and left, as cool as though he were leaving his dinner table. They have never met since. I understand that Grant is very angry. Well, the world will go along just the same.

Senator Conkling telegraphed the Hon. Thos. C. Platt, Republican caucus nominee in the New York Legislature for United States Senator: "I congratulate the Republican party and the State of New York on the choice of a Senator who never apologized for being a stalwart Republican." A stalwart is defined by the Augustus Chronicle and Constitutionalist as "a Republican who hates Hayes, laughs at civil service reform, sticks to the machine, obeys Conkling's whip-lash, advocates a third term for Grant, and damn the Mormon." This would be a good time for some friend to congratulate the Republican party in general and Mr. Conkling in particular upon the fact that old ex-Gov. Sprague did not use his shotgun on a certain memorable occasion.

Col. Fisher, the Receiver of the South Carolina Railroad, objects to the discharge of Gen. Conner, the Receiver of the Greenville & Columbia Railroad, because the latter road is in debt to the former road \$441,544, and suits are now pending which, if won by the South Carolina Railroad, would necessitate the appointment of another Receiver. The Court heard argument and took the papers. No decision has yet been made.

If General Garfield makes Senator Blaine his Secretary of State, Messrs. Grant, Conkling & Co. will doubtless put on their war paint. General Garfield, however, can stand it, as they only run New York, while he will have the conservative sentiment of the whole country to sustain him in resisting their ultra policy.

The old and well-known house of E. W. Marshall & Co., of Charleston, has suspended, with heavy liabilities.

An Urgent Appeal to Every Lover of Order in the State.

The recent action of our Legislature on the subject of ardent spirits calls for the gratitude of every good citizen; for, though the law enacted may not be as stringent as many desired, it is of inestimable value as an evidence of the sentiment of our commonwealth. This sentiment conspires with other facts to render the present the most auspicious time to step still further forward in the march toward reform and sobriety in all our borders.

It is conceded that there is a powerful striding now going on in the public mind; and it is believed that the great makers will do much greater things for next winter, if we show them that we will uphold them in their efforts to rid the country of the curse of rum. Let us rally to their support. Let us aid, as far as in us lies, in enforcing the present law. Let us tell them, when they re-assemble, of our earnest, anxious longing for the total banishment of ardent spirits from our State.

We think how highly God has favored us in soil, climate, in water power, in mineral wealth, in scenery, in everything. Think how instantly ample prosperity and undisturbed enjoyment would result upon our people if the dreadful demon of drink were driven from our limits. Think how the results of our criminal excesses result from drunkenness. See how our jails, our penitentiary, our poor-houses, and our asylum are crowded with victims of the habit of drink. Think of the lives of innocent ones jeopardized or lost by the drunkard's violence. Shall we longer quietly witness the destruction of property, the confidence destroyed, happiness turned to woe, hopes blasted, lives lost, and souls consigned to perdition? Shall we not rather unite in a general effort to bring these evils to an end? It is, therefore, hereby proposed that we begin at once to circulate for signature the petition for the amendment of our Legislature to pass at the next session a law totally prohibiting the manufacture and sale of ardent spirits as a beverage. Every reader of this appeal, white or colored, male or female, old or young, clerical or lay, who is willing to circulate, or cause to be circulated, the petition, or is earnestly invited to write immediately to our Grandworthy Patriarch, Rev. S. Lander, Williamson, S. C., who will promptly send as many headings as each one will agree to use. Let us marshal our forces, and move forward to victory. [Every newspaper in South Carolina is requested to copy.]

PILGRIMS TO MENTOR.

Elliott, Lee, and other Self-Constituted Representatives Malaga the South and Read for the Negro.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, Jan. 14.

A colored delegation visited Mentor to-day and waited upon Gen. Garfield at his house. The delegation was composed of R. B. Elliott, Samuel Lee and D. A. Striker, of South Carolina; Henry B. Geo. of Texas; James W. Deane, Jr. of Geo., and J. W. Prince, Jr. of Geo. L. Malson, James W. Hood, John A. Leahy, J. W. Harris and Stewart Ellison, of North Carolina.

On being received by Gen. Garfield, R. B. Elliott, the spokesman, addressed the President elect, and after congratulating him on his election, said: "We have come to present you a brief statement of our condition in the South, but not in the spirit of dictation, but in the belief that a fair representation of our cause can best be made by those of us who are compelled to endure grievous wrongs for opinion's sake. Although clothed with the rights of citizenship by the provisions of the Constitution of the United States, and recognized as such by legislative enactment and judicial decisions, yet still in all the Southern States, we are citizens in name and not in fact. Our right to participate in elections for the choice of public officers is not only questioned, but in many localities a riotously determined effort is made to prevent fraud and intimidation in many of the Southern States. Sir, the rights of minorities are illegally and wantonly subverted by the imperious will of unscrupulous majorities for no other reason than this, that these majorities consist of men who, free and enfranchised by the Constitution, are not loyal to the country of which they are citizens, and steadfast in the support of that political party which saved the life of the nation, and to the charge of which can most safely be entrusted the duty of preserving the results accomplished by the late war. The methods resorted to by our political opponents in the matter of fraud and intimidation in many of the Southern States, sir, the rights of minorities are illegally and wantonly subverted by the imperious will of unscrupulous majorities for no other reason than this, that these majorities consist of men who, free and enfranchised by the Constitution, are not loyal to the country of which they are citizens, and steadfast in the support of that political party which saved the life of the nation, and to the charge of which can most safely be entrusted the duty of preserving the results accomplished by the late war. 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