

For President,
HORATIO SEYMOUR, of N. Y.
 For Vice-President,
GEN. F. P. BLAIR, of MISSOURI.

STATE ELECTORAL TICKETS.
 For State at Large—J. P. Thomas, of Richland; J. D. Kennedy, of Kershaw.
 First Congressional District—R. F. Graham, of Marion.
 Second Congressional District—B. H. Rutledge, of Charleston.
 Third Congressional District—A. C. Haskell, of Abbeville.
 Fourth Congressional District—E. C. McClure, of Chester.

COLUMBIA.

Tuesday Morning, Sept. 15, 1868.

The Dangers Ahead.

All good Governments rest upon well-regulated public opinion; indeed, we may go further, and re-affirm in broad terms, that all Governments must ultimately rest upon the consent of the governed. The Roman Empire, throughout the centuries of its glory and power, was sustained by the pride that the Roman felt in calling himself a Roman citizen; and the authority and power of the British Empire of to-day, results from the just pride that all Englishmen feel in being considered British subjects. Destroy this national sentiment, and where would be the boasted supremacy of that great power upon the land and upon the sea? More particularly is this true in respect to a Government like ours, founded upon the consent and affection of the people. Withhold this consent and alienate that affection, and what would be the Government of the United States? What would be the Union itself? An enforced Union is a snare and a reproach. Some things are plain. Ours is pre-eminently a Government of opinion—not the opinion of one section domineering over another section, but the opinion of all sections combining to make up a united whole. Many of the Northern people, in this, the day of their prosperity, seem to have forgotten the counsels of the past; they seem to think that ours is a Government of power, and not a Government of consent. They seem to forget that enforced obedience is death to the spirit of our free institutions. For more than eight years—aye, for more than thirty years—there are those who have been utterly oblivious of the rights of minorities, and seem to understand nothing but the might of majorities. The Congress of the United States seems of late to have forgotten that the great object of a Constitution, is to protect minorities against the tyranny of majorities, and that they are bound by the Constitution. They seem to think that no matter what may be written in the bond, obedience not to the condition, but to the penalty, is to be enforced. Principle means nothing; power means everything. This made the late war. Hence, too, since the war, we behold the country breaking loose from her moorings and drifting to ruin. There is really no such thing as calm statesmanship left in America. Passion, hate, prejudice, unscrupulous and lawless acts—the known characteristics of the mere mob—are the order of the day, and shape the policy of those in power. The question is not whether a measure is wise and prudent; not whether it is statesmanlike; not whether it is humane. Oh, no! the only question seems to be, is it sufficiently extravagant, sufficiently vindictive, sufficiently revengful, sufficiently sensational and sufficiently leveling? If it fails in these particulars, the cry is, away with it, and let us give to the screw another turn. Yes, they talk of Government as "a screw," and they speak of "running it" as a machine. These people seem to materialize everything. They act as if they want the support of the people extorted from them, and value it only when it is mingled with the cries of the torture. They want no such sickly service as comes from the warm but rational affection of the people, which can only be fostered by a wise and merciful administration of equal laws. All this is of the very essence of tyranny. What is a name, if we

have the substance? The immediate result of this always is, that the tyrant soon learns to hate the people, and the people, in return, learn to hate the tyrant. This at once brings up the old story of history, repeated again and again in every country and in every age. And we are now having it re-enacted, in the nineteenth century, upon American soil. The party in power is seeking to retain its influence and its authority by subverting the Constitution and driving the chariot wheels of the conqueror over the necks of the people. Let them succeed, and our free institutions are forever gone. In such a contest, their candidate (General Grant) is as nothing—not so much as an atom. He may be never so good or never so great, still he is a mere creature—a creature of the very circumstances that have already driven us to the very brink of ruin. The opposing party is seeking to check this onward and downward course, and to save the country, by a return to something like law, order and constitutional authority. It is trying to rest the Government once more (where only it can rest) upon the benign and cheerful consent of the governed. Here, again, we may add, that Mr. Seymour, in this contest, is a mere name, and nothing more. His popularity and influence are as absolutely nothing. This is not a contest between men, no matter how great or good these men may be. It is a war of the elements—the thunder-clash of conflicting opinions. It is the great problem of self-government; and the overshadowing question is, shall these American States be a republic, or shall they become a despotism, or must they fall into anarchy? When the party in power conferred, by the sword, the suffrage upon the ignorant negro, they virtually gave up the republic; and to avoid the evils of anarchy, they are now prepared to fly into the arms of military despotism. Hence, the candidate of their choice was the general of their armies. Hence, they vote for General Grant. Hence, they talk of a peace which is the peace of death. "Let us have peace," says the General. "Yes," is their answer; "the empire is peace." Let us revolutionize the Government; let us lay in ruins the Constitution; let us violate the dearest rights of the citizen; let us overturn society and set at naught the most cherished guarantees of liberty; let us use the barbarian to drive out the free man from his birth-right; let us do all this, aye, and much more than this, and then let us have peace! Peace! Yes; the peace of despotism—the peace of the grave, wherein shall then lie buried the great work of our fathers and the last hope of thirty millions of free men! This is the peace that they offer to the American people! To assist this usurpation is treason! To overturn this usurpation is revolution! What! lift your hand against an accomplished fact! What! clank your chains in the ears of your master! What! raise your voice against Caesar, when Caesar is Rome—"when Rome contains but one man!" Who does this? Off with his head! Let us have peace! All good men feel that these great issues are in the hands of the Almighty; but He works by wise instrumentalities, and, under Him, with the lights before us, we support that struggling party which seems to be in favor of pausing for a moment in mid-career, of consulting the political chart and compass, of taking a new reckoning of course and distance, and turning the head of the ship from the whirlpool that now threatens to engulf us. God speed the happy consummation of our devout and prayerful hopes.

The post office at St. Matthews, Orangeburg District, has been discontinued.

Maine.
 The annual State election took place in Maine, yesterday. But, of course, the actual result will not be known, for a day or two. Both parties made a most active and thorough canvass, and a large vote may be expected. Last year, a radical Legislature had made a most odious liquor and constabulary law, which disgusted a very large portion of their party, who showed their disapproval of these measures by remaining from the polls, and, although the Democratic vote was less by nearly one thousand than in the two elections, State and Presidential, of 1864, yet the radical majorities of that year were reduced nearly ten thousand, and that of 1866 by nearly seventeen thousand. The average radical majority for the past five years is a little over twenty thousand, and it is from this stand-point we should compare the returns of the election yesterday. The *Wilmington Journal* expresses the opinion that neither the candidates nor the platform of the party are specially popular with the New England Democrats, and their opinions were not consulted in this regard. But, on the other hand, the people of Maine have suffered so much from the enormous and unequal taxation of the Government, and have become so disgusted with the corruptions of the radical party, that it is hoped and expected that the usual majority will be greatly reduced, if not entirely overcome. Democratic speakers have demonstrated to her people how the great industrial interests of Maine have suffered and perished under the burdens of radical legislation; the ruinous results of Jacobin rule have been brought home to them, and they begin to look with favor upon their opponents. In summing up its considerations upon this election, the *Boston Post* remarks:

"A word or two in reference to the election in Maine, which takes place next Monday. Last year the radical majority was 11,766; the year before it was 27,700, that is, the Democracy made a gain in one year of about 17,000, in a total vote of 104,000. This was one of the most extraordinary gains ever made in one year. A large part of it was due to the State Constabulary and other laws, which have since been repealed; indeed, but a small portion of it was fairly attributable to national issues. At the coming election, nothing will be due to local State issues; the only question before the people is a national one. If, therefore, the Democracy retain their gain of last year, or even keep the radical majority down to 16,000 or 17,000, it will show a prodigious change in Maine on national questions.

"We ought not fairly to expect more at this time, and we ought to receive such a result conclusive evidence that a change had begun, which would result in the certain success of our Presidential candidate. We hope for more—we hope, not only, that the gain of last year will be retained, but increased—but surely, if our hopes are disappointed, and we get in place of it a gain of 10 or 12,000 from 1866, under the circumstances of last and this year's elections, we ought to be satisfied."

Third Congressional District.
 MR. EDITOR: As the Convention to nominate a candidate for Congress, in the Third Congressional District, will convene in this city, to-day, I beg leave to direct the attention of delegates to the fact, that the Central Democratic Club of Anderson District have placed in nomination the Hon. J. P. Reed, of Anderson, as a suitable person to represent the interests of the people at this time. His fine abilities as a popular speaker are widely known, while his readiness in debate would render his services to the Democratic party of incalculable value in the coming election. It is unnecessary to enumerate the claims of the distinguished gentleman now brought forward by the Democracy of the up-country; and I will only add that they are entitled to the highest consideration at the hands of the Nominating Convention, having sought no position nor claimed any honors, beyond the privilege of battling nobly against the tide of radicalism—"first, last and all the time."

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, the resolution adopted by the Central Club of Anderson, is herewith appended, for the information of delegates:

Resolved, That the District Central Club of Anderson, respectfully beg leave to suggest the name of Hon. J. P. Reed, as a suitable candidate to represent this Congressional District, and that the delegates from this club to the Nominating Convention, to be held on the 15th instant, are hereby instructed to present his name before the said Convention.

DEMOCRAT.

Democratic Mass Meeting, at Camden.—At the Clarendon and Sumter Line—At Bennettville, in Marlborough District—Immense Gatherings—Great Enthusiasm.

We are pleased to learn that all over the State, the Democracy are moving and working and rallying and showing their strength and enthusiasm.

In the old town of Camden, a large gathering took place on the 8th. The procession was formed by Col. Boykin, the Chief Marshal, and marched to the place of meeting. A fine band of music from Charleston, added interest to the occasion. Gen. J. B. Kershaw was the chairman of the meeting, and after a few appropriate remarks, introduced successively, Col. J. P. Thomas, Gen. J. D. Kennedy, Colonel A. C. Haskell and Major F. F. Warley, who spoke on the issues of the day. Pleasant Goode and Wm. Stowers spoke to the colored people present, and made a good impression. After the meeting, the crowd partook of a fine barbecue. The affair was a decided success, notwithstanding the efforts of the radical leaders in Camden to draw off the negroes.

On the 11th, the Line Democratic Club held a meeting in Clarendon, just over the Sumter line. The meeting was a most intelligent one. Dr. Ingram was President of the occasion. The meeting was eloquently addressed by Col. R. F. Graham, Ex-Gov. J. L. Manning, Mr. Moise, J. P. Richardson, Esq., and A. A. Gilbert, Esq. About 2 o'clock, Gen. Kennedy and Col. J. P. Thomas arrived on the ground, and were invited to speak. After each of these gentlemen had spoken on the issues of the canvass, Mr. Galluchat was called upon; but declined to speak, in view of the number of speakers that had already engaged the attention of the audience. Mr. DePass, of Camden, excused himself from the call made upon him, for a similar reason. The occasion was an interesting one; and a barbecue closed the exercises of the day.

One of the most imposing demonstrations of the canvass, came off on the 12th, at Bennettville. The procession was formed by Col. Harrington, and consisted of over 2,000 persons in the line. The procession marched to a grove in the vicinity of the town. There an immense crowd from Marlborough and Marion and Darlington had assembled. J. H. Hudson, Esq., was the chairman of the meeting. Col. Mullins, an active champion of the Democracy in this section, spoke as usual with fine effect, and was the recipient of a handsome bouquet from the fair ladies of the town. General Kennedy was introduced next, and spoke with his accustomed vim and eloquence. Col. J. P. Thomas spoke next, and this closed the exercises of the meeting. After the barbecued meat had been disposed of, the crowd again assembled, and William Stowers, Pleasant Goode and others spoke. The fine Muller band was here also, and discoursed fine music. This demonstration was a most imposing one, and revealed a Democratic strength, that gratified the friends of the Democracy and astonished the adherents of a corrupt and dying radicalism. Mr. Grant, formerly a radical, was present and ready to declare his adhesion to the Democratic party.

The good work goes on bravely, and all the signs are favorable.

The startling statement that the public debt, on the 1st day of September, was \$2,535,614,313 carries a single consolation—that this amount of debt is "less cash in the Treasury." But, if the radicals are running the country in debt at the present rate, how long will the cash in the treasury last? The radicals ought to leave enough for the beginning of the Seymour administration, and Democratic care and economy, as opposed to radical inefficiency and extravagance, will provide all that is necessary for the purer and cheaper times which the success of the Democracy will insure.

NO ELECTION IN MISSISSIPPI.—It is now absolutely certain that there will be no election for President and Vice-President held in Mississippi, General Gillem having positively prohibited it. The Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee announces that he will appeal from the decision of General Gillem to General Grant and the President.

Local Items.

We are requested to state that the delegates to the Democratic Nominating Convention, for the Third Congressional District, will meet, this evening, at half-past 7, at the Carolina Hall. Delegates from the Fourth District, at Nickerson's Hotel, at the same hour.

A. S. Buford, Esq., the energetic President of the Richmond and Danville Railroad, arrived in Columbia, on Sunday evening, and will remain a day or two. He is quartered with Mr. Wright.

A GOOD THING TO PUT IN THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.—We saw an estimate of the expenses of the present session of the General Assembly, in the hands of a prominent member of the House of Representatives, yesterday, which was said to have been predicated of reasonable calculations. It amounted to \$130,000. Step up, tax-payers, to the captain's office and settle.

CHANGE OF PROPRIETORS.—Wm. A. Wright, Esq., formerly of the American Hotel, Richmond, Virginia, and for about a year in charge of Nickerson's Hotel, in this city, has bought out the interest of the former proprietor, and will hereafter run the institution under his own name. Mr. Wright is a thorough business man, and will retain the good name of the hotel. We wish Mr. Wright a just modicum of success—he certainly deserves it. On Sunday, we dropped in with several friends, and after partaking of a substantial dinner, followed by fruit, ice cream, cake, etc., finished off with that article which "Champagne Charley" so much admired.

The committee of gentlemen from Maryland, referred to several days ago, as being on a prospecting tour through several of the Southern States, arrived in Columbia, yesterday morning; but owing to their time being short, they returned yesterday afternoon; but with the promise that they will be back in November. As far as they have been, they express themselves highly pleased with the lands, and also with the cordial reception they have met with. They were escorted around Columbia, by several of our merchants. The party stopped at Wright's Hotel—formerly Nickerson's—and consisted of the following gentlemen: Dan'l. Dechert, John S. Fiery, Jos. Poppenberger, Lewis Schindel, Geo. Schindel, Wm. H. Manby, William Marr, J. S. P. Krouse, Daniel Statzman, Geo. W. Cloggett, John P. Harman, Joseph Fiery.

A ROW IN THE RADICAL CAMP.—The rads. propose to hold a mass meeting to-night, in front of Janney's new State House, for the purpose of considering the nomination of Associate Justice Solomon L. Hoge, who was selected, last week, as their candidate for Congress from this Congressional District. It is understood that Beverly Nash, and others of his ilk, will deliver addresses. This powwow will be the sequence of a meeting of the members of the two Houses of the Legislature from the several Keonties composing the Congressional District, which is to be held this forenoon, with a view, if possible, of discountenancing Hoge's nomination, and substituting therefor the name of F. Judas Moses, Jr., who is the favorite of the malcontents. Similar meetings were held, last Friday, but Moses was not strong enough to carry the point in the morning, and, by the time night came, Hoge, haven taken the precaution to sprinkle a host of paid claquers in the crowd, managed to be called on for a speech—swallowed the nigger at a gulp, and thus put Moses and his tribe temporarily into chancery.

How the meetings of to-day and to-night will result, it is, as yet, impossible to predict, but our impressions of Hoge's adroitness are so strong, that we incline to the belief that he will hold his own against our modern Judas, who has, evidently, sold out for less than thirty pieces of silver.

ALMOST A FIRE.—A wooden spittoon, in Dierck's billiard room, took fire, on Saturday night, and burnt briskly, but was soon discovered, and the fire extinguished. The stump of a lighted cigar is thought to have caused the affair.

At a meeting of the delegates of the Democratic Clubs of Richland, W. E. Talley, Jas. G. Gibbs, W. H. Stack and John Alexander, were appointed delegates to attend the Convention of the Third Congressional District, to be held this day. A resolution was adopted, instructing the delegates to nominate Col. James G. Gibbs, to represent the Third Congressional District of South Carolina in Congress.

A SLIGHT DIFFERENCE.—We understand that the State printer, yesterday, handed an estimate of the work he has done and will have to do before the session is closed, to the Committee of Ways and Means, and that it amounted to \$29,250. Subsequently, a gentleman, who is an expert in such matters, indicated to the Committee how nearly \$10,000 could be saved, by merely changing the style of the work. It is not certain, however, whether so unimportant a suggestion will be tolerated by our very economical and disinterested non tax-paying legislators.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.—The post office open during the week from 8½ a. m. to 7 p. m. On Sundays, from 4 to 5 p. m.

The Charleston and Western mails are open for delivery at 5 p. m., and close at 8½ p. m. Charleston night mail open 8½ a. m., close 4½ p. m.

Northern—Open for delivery at 8½ a. m., closes at 2.45 p. m.

Greenville—Open for delivery 5 p. m., closes at 8½ p. m.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—Special attention is called to the following advertisements, published for the first time this morning:

- Fisher & Lowrance—Bristles.
- D. C. Peixotto—Auction.
- Mesdames Girard—School.
- W. Hutson Wigg—Citation.
- Mrs. S. Townsend—Boarding.
- Independent Engine Company.
- Columbia Lodge.

The Lawyer's Test Oath.
 We see that the Legislature is about to pass a bill requiring lawyers already admitted to practice, to take the oath to support the present Constitution, required by Section 30, Article III, of said document.

We protest against this action, and submit the following for the consideration of the Governor and the Attorney-General. The Legislature we regard as above law or argument.

Said section expressly refers to members of the bar, "before they enter upon the practice of their profession." If there is any meaning in these words, other than that they apply to those who may hereafter apply for admission to practice, and not to those who may have already entered upon the practice, then we have gone to school and studied law, "before we entered upon the practice of our profession," to no purpose.

Again, all lawyers now in practice have taken an oath to support the "Constitution of South Carolina." This applies to the Constitution then in force, and all amendments or substitutes that might thereafter be ordained. If, then, the Constitution of the "14th, 15th and 16th days of April, 1868," be the Constitution of South Carolina, the oath has already been taken by all the lawyers who have already entered upon the practice of their profession. To require this oath of them is to admit that the Constitution of the "14th, 15th and 16th days of April," is not legally the "Constitution of South Carolina."

Again, Article VI, Constitution United States, Paragraph 2, provides that that Constitution and the laws made in pursuance thereof, "shall be the supreme law of the land, and the judges in every State, shall be bound thereby, anything in the Constitution or laws of any State, to the contrary notwithstanding." Now, the Constitution of the United States, as interpreted by the decisions of the Supreme Court, on cases made, is the law of the land just as much so as if those decisions were in *totidem verbis* a part of the Constitution. The Supreme Court of the United States, in December, 1866, decided that any law requiring an oath of a lawyer, already admitted to practice, was an *ex post facto* law, and, as such, null and void; being forbidden by the Constitution of the United States. Any judge, then, (who is not above law,) will have to rule that a lawyer already admitted cannot be required to take the proposed oath, as the judges ruled in *ex parte Garland*, 4 Wallace, p. 333.

Finally, the Governor is bound by his oath of office to veto a bill which is violative of the Constitution of the United States. The oath required violates that Constitution, and Section 21, Article I, of the present Constitution of South Carolina.

Do the Legislature expect stability to result from excluding all talent and virtue from our courts?

A MEMBER OF THE BAR.