

The Honest Government League.

We have had occasion, more than once, to notice and commend the efforts of the colored people, especially in the matter of the Moral Convention, and of the Young Men's Convention, both of which looked this way. A movement of this sort has recently been instituted in Charleston, under the name of the "Honest Government League." It proposes that wherever offices are to be filled, each race should be represented in a convention of its own; that each should make nominations for office upon a plan of fair division where practicable, and, where not, that they shall unite upon a common candidate, thus securing a really representative ticket. We are inclined to think well of this scheme, as we are of every one which aims to secure the main action of the colored people. Their condition—that of those of them who do not relish being bought and sold by political traders—is pitiable; between the Radicals, who merely trade in them, and the Conservatives, in whom they have not been able to repose full confidence, and whom they have been taught to distrust. We shall examine this platform more fully. It begins right in laying the blame for the present crisis in our affairs upon a class of men who have grossly deceived the colored people, and made them parties to a monstrous Government. These they now propose to throw overboard. So far, so good. We invite the attention of the black people to this platform of the Honest Government League:

"Appraised that a crisis has arrived in the political affairs of the State, at which either revolution or reform must become a necessity, we have inaugurated this movement, with a view to avoid the rashness of violence, while we not the less devotedly maintain the free and perfect enjoyment of all political rights and privileges. That we have come to this crisis is the original fault of a class of men who appeared upon the surface of politics in this State immediately after the war. They have grossly deceived the colored people; they have made them parties to a government so monstrous, that thinking men seriously question whether the right of suffrage has been properly extended. By oppressive taxes they have exhausted the profits of capital and sensibly diminished the wages of labor; accumulation has become impossible; civilization has retrograded; and the capacity of the colored man for general improvement has come to be denied. Such are the grievances which these men have done our State and race. We propose now to cast them off with their deluded followers; and to erect from the bosom of the colored Republican party a government founded upon principles of substantial justice—which will protect the political interests of every individual, and vindicate our character as a people from the seemingly just aspersions of distant observers. To do so we invite the honest colored people of the State to adopt the constitution of this society and its object, and to form similar organizations in each of the various Counties, until it becomes the proud privilege of every colored man to declare his membership in the honest government league.

"So soon as this organization is effected, it is proposed to summon a convention consisting of delegates from the various societies. This convention shall be strictly a colored Republican Convention, representing the honest colored people of the State. At the same time we invite that a white convention shall be assembled consisting of the representatives of the capital of the State. It is proposed that the two conventions by means of committees of conference shall enter into a formal covenant, by which they agree to divide equally between them the offices capable of division, and to unite upon such as are not. Upon this basis the nomination of the respective conventions shall proceed. Aware that the election laws of the State are such as to preclude all reasonable hope of a fair enumeration of the votes, it should be the assigned duty of a joint committee of the conventions to devise a mode of obtaining this, whether by petition to the President of the United States or by determined measures from among ourselves, or by both. The practicability of these propositions is attested by a manifest inclination of the people to co-operate in such a movement. The security of the people and the prosperity of the State are endeavored to be made the desired objects of this platform."

A New York correspondent says that the dry goods people continue to talk "blue" and say the only way they can make trade is to force it, and so on most descriptions of the cheaper kind of goods cutting down is the order of the day. Other branches of trade take a more hopeful view, and indulge in less croaking than is to be heard in the vicinity of Church street and Broadway.

Traps to the Rescue!—Troops have been ordered to be sent South, to be posted at different and convenient points. They are withheld from the frontier, where they are needed, and will be placed here, where they are not needed. The representations upon which this order was procured were of greatly exaggerated character, and, in most instances, were downright falsehoods. In this State, for instance, we have not heard of a single murder of a colored man, unless there may have been some in the Jones-Bowley Georgetown riots. There was a homicide in Lexington a few weeks ago, but for the most atrocious conduct. Yet we are represented to be in a terrible condition, and murders and murderous outrages as of almost daily occurrence. The National Republican, at Washington, discusses what manner of fiends those are who have "murdered a dozen or more negroes in South Carolina," and tries to revive the bitter memories of the war and of Confederate prisons. The President himself, in his letter to the Secretary of War, justifies his action by reference to the recent atrocities in the South, particularly in Louisiana, Alabama and South Carolina. These are the alleged grounds of this action. It has no basis of facts to stand upon, so far as this State is concerned. The real purpose of those who have procured it is to use it as an instrument to over-awe the white Conservative vote, to keep it from the polls, to dispirit the white people, and to develop, under the armed protection of the Government, the fullest possible Radical vote, in order to perpetuate and prolong corrupt Government. It is a Chamberlain stroke. It is a ring expedient. It will be a bond-holders' instrument.

The Instructions. In his circular to United States attorneys and marshals, let the cat out of the bag in disclaiming interference with political or party action not in violation of law. His object is equally plain in requiring protection to all classes of citizens, white and colored, in the free exercise of the elective franchise and the enjoyment of the other rights and privileges to which they are entitled under the constitution and laws. If officials should wish it, it would not be difficult to find violations of law in political action, or danger to the rights and privileges of a class, race or party, whose votes it is desirable to manipulate in the interests of corruption. This we have no reason to expect the Government officials of this State will pretend to find, and we desire to be understood as not prejudging them. But there is another class of people—the leaders of the corrupt Radical hosts in the State, the masters of the ring—who are not likely to be either just or prudent. They mean to turn this invasion, which they have courted and procured, into profit for themselves. They will try to make capital out of it. Its use for them is to help lift them into power. As for outrages, violence, &c., that is all in my eye, and only a shallow pretext.

Outrages to Order. The readers of the Union-Herald were entertained a short time since by some letters of Bishop Haven, copied from the Independent, which were remarkable for extreme Radical views and for denunciations of the people of the South. In the Independent of this week we see a correction of some of these statements, and the others, in all probability, rest upon no better ground. Says the Independent:

Mr. W. S. Witham, 257 Canal street, New York, writes as Bishop Haven was misinformed about the execution of four negroes in Thomasville, Ga., for a murder of which nearly everybody believed that three of them were innocent. He says: "It was in Thomasville when three of those negroes murdered their employer, Mr. Hall, who had been to town to sell his cotton and was returning home about dusk. They were convicted of murder in the first degree by a negro jury and sentenced to be hung by an impartial Judge. The fourth negro was convicted for killing his wife, and the four were hung together."

As we regard the ordering of troops into this State as a mere electioneering dodge, it gives us little concern. It is doubtful whether they will, after all, be sent here. If they are, they will not stay long. They will leave as soon as the election is over. While here upon a duty which is, in its nature, odious, we have no doubt they will observe a proper discretion. And the people will receive them with no unkind feelings. They bear them no malice. Those already stationed here have conducted themselves without offense or reproach, and the officers have made themselves personally welcome and agreeable.

EDITOR PHENIX: What does the editor of the Union-Herald mean in making the following assertions in Friday morning's issue: "The cotton crop of the South in 1860 was about three million (3,000,000) bales. It was for the year ending August 31, 1874, four million (4,000,000) bales, an increase of one million bales. Is not this simple statement worth a volume of arguments in proof of the superiority of freedom over slavery?" Now, sir, we should greatly like to know whether the editor of the U-H. is really ignorant of the subject whereof he affirms, or whether, on the contrary, he is informed himself and is seeking willfully to mislead others. In either event, he is not just the man to write for the information of the public. Every tyro even ought to know that the cotton crop of 1860 was by far the largest crop ever produced in the United States. The census reports give the production of that year at five million three hundred and eighty seven thousand and fifty-two bales. In view of the facts of the case, we see that his simple statement is worth just nothing at all, (unless it be as a proof of either his own ignorance or of his determination to suppress the truth,) for the simple reason that said statement is utterly devoid of the one all-important element—truth.

We have frequently seen it stated during the last four years—once in 1871 by a no less important personage than our late illustrious Representative in Congress, Hon. R. B. Elliott, in a speech delivered in Cooper Institute, New York, that free labor is producing better crops of all the great staples of the South than was ever produced by slave labor; and now the sapient editor of the U-H. comes to the front with a reiteration of the falsehood. He says: "We take the great staple of cotton as a specimen, and we infer that the increase of the other productions has been in the same ratio." Let us see now how the case stands with "the other productions." We begin with Indian corn, the great staff of life with the laboring millions. The Southern States, excluding Delaware, raised, in 1860, 433,607,490 bushels of this almost indispensable crop. In 1870, the same States produced 315,106,193 bushels, a falling off of 118,501,297 bushels. Of wheat, the Southern States produced, in 1860, 49,166,701 bushels; in 1870, they produced 50,152,166. Again, in 1870, of 984,465 bushels, Missouri, with a colored population of only 118,071, against a white population of 1,603,146, or only one negro to every nine whites, increased her wheat production by more than 10,000,000 bushels, thus showing a falling off in the balance of the Southern States of more than 9,000,000 from 1860 to 1870. Of rice, which is produced exclusively in the South, the crop of 1870 was 78,635,021 pounds, against 187,167,032 pounds in 1860, and 215,313,497 pounds in 1850. Here is a falling off of nearly two thirds of the rice crop from 1850 to 1870. In "our own beloved State," where there were, in 1870, 126,000 false as perjury itself. Those who make these assertions are either willfully ignorant, or else they lie, with the deliberate design of deceiving those who are innocently ignorant. Perhaps these worthies believe Forney's lying assertion, that the ignorance of the native whites of the South "is denser than that of the population of the worst quarter of any city North of the Potomac;" and that "were it not that the Southern whites have a convenient contrast with their negro fellow citizens, their illiteracy would be positively black." And it may be that, presuming on this ignorance, they have concluded that there is no danger that their lying representations will be exposed. If so, let them be undeceived in this particular. ARGUS.

UNCONSTITUTIONAL.—Judge Carpenter has made a decision declaring the Act of the General Assembly, approved March 3, 1874, unconstitutional. This Act provides that the poll tax for the fiscal year of 1873 shall be appropriated to the payment of the school certificates of 1872 and 1873, leaving open, *inter alia*, a wide field for educational speculation. By the Act of March 19, it is made a felony for any officer to apply a tax levied and collected for one year to the indebtedness of any other year. The decision rests, however, not upon the conflicting provisions of the two Acts, but upon the ground that the Legislature has no right to divert a tax levied for a specific purpose and year to any other.

DESERTING THE WEST.—The Chicago Inter-Ocean says "evidences of stagnation in business are abundant enough, but one of the most significant signs in this direction is the tide of emigration, which is now turning Eastward with a rush never equaled since the depressing days of 1857."

THE GIFT CONCERT OF THE MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION OF NORFOLK POSTPONED.—Our readers will see from an advertisement in another column that the grand gift concert, which was to have been given by the Masonic Relief Association, of Norfolk, Va., on the 31 of September, has been postponed until Thursday, the 19th of November.

As the directors remark in their card, there are many persons who desire and intend to invest in this enterprise, but have been deterred from so doing by the belief that a postponement would take place, and they were unwilling to purchase tickets until they felt assured that a day had been fixed when the drawing would positively take place. In consequence of this impression, the sale of tickets—while largely in excess of the number sold previously to the postponement of the first gift concert given by the association—has not been to such an extent as to enable the directors to make a satisfactory distribution of prizes or to accomplish the object of the concert proposed to be given. It is, therefore, the interest of all concerned, that the drawing be deferred until the day designated in the announcement; and we doubt not that the action of the directors will meet with the hearty approval of their patrons, and that the result will prove satisfactory to them.

THE LAST GRAND GIFT CONCERT IN AID OF THE MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION OF NORFOLK POSTPONED.—To the Public: In selecting the 31 day of September as the date upon which to have their last gift concert, the Directors of the Masonic Relief Association were influenced by the belief that there would be a sufficient length of time between the publication of the scheme and the above-mentioned date to enable them to dispose of such a number of tickets as to insure a full drawing and an avoidance of scaling the prizes. While the enterprise has been liberally patronized by a large number of purchasers of tickets in every section of the United States and the British provinces, yet the impression seems to have prevailed, with many who were willing to aid in the work of completing the Masonic Temple in this city, by investing in this scheme, that the concert would be postponed, and, as a consequence, they have declined to purchase tickets until an announcement should be made that a day had been fixed upon when the drawing would positively take place. The Directors, being assured that their patrons will be satisfied with the reasons actuating them in making a postponement, have selected Thursday, the 19th day of November, as the time to hold their second grand gift concert and drawing, and they hope that orders for tickets will be sent immediately by all who desire to obtain one or more of the valuable cash prizes which they offer. The public may be confident that the same fairness and honesty which characterized their first drawing will be observed in this.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
Masonic Relief Association.
By HENRY V. MOORE, Secretary.

Anniversaries of County Bible Societies will occur as follows in South Carolina: Greenville city, September 6; Pickens Court House, September 13; Walhalla Court House, September 20; Anderson Court House, September 27; Camden and Kershaw, at Camden, October 11. The Sumter County Bible Society will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary at the town of Sumter, Sunday, October 4, it being the first Sunday in October, at the Baptist Church.

The President has advised Secretary Bristow to withhold for the present any contemplated change in the matter of making a new appointment, in place of Supervisor of Internal Revenue Cobb, of North Carolina. The removal of Col. Whitley, as chief of the secret service division of the Treasury Department, was determined upon today.

Fred. Martin, who sailed from this country a short time ago, having in charge some 100,000 young shad, intended for the streams of Germany, writes from on board the steamer, that the fish all died of starvation, and another attempt would be made to transport shad from American to German waters.

Think of the whole South in a state of starvation, and the people dependent on charity for their daily bread, and some idea may be formed of the vastness and the horrors of the great famine now afflicting India. 8,000,000 of natives are said to be wanting the necessities of life.

The terrible and bloody "conflict of races" at Wacochee Valley, Ala., has turned out to be another story of "three black crows"—it was only something as black as a crow. Nobody was killed, or even hurt much, as far as ascertained, and only one church was burned.

THE "PRESS GAGGLES" GLOGGED.—Returns of the election in the Second Congressional District of Vermont announces the defeat of Judge Poland, father of the iniquitous "press-gag" law, passed at the last session of Congress.

Trim Davis, the deaf mute, son of Davis, manager of Variety Theatre, killed Wm. Bird, policeman, in Jack-ly's circus, the other night, in Cincinnati, by shooting him to escape arrest.

REMARKABLE SUICIDE.—Mrs. Jonathan Holmes, an old lady seventy-one years of age, living in Jones County, Ga., near Clinton, deliberately blew out her brains with a shot-gun, last Monday night.

At Cherokee, Alabama, yesterday, young Rogers, son of the Town Marshal, was shot and instantly killed by John McCloskey, son of the Circuit Court Clerk at Tusculum.

Gen. P. M. B. Young was defeated in the nominating convention of the 7th Congressional District of Georgia, on the 1st instant, by Hon. L. M. Trammell.

Col. John D. Wylie has been nominated for the Senate, and B. F. Miller and John B. Irwin, Esq., for the House of Representatives, in Lancaster.

Tuesday night in Jersey City, New Jersey, Henry Lohman, while enraged at his wife, beat her on the head, causing fatal wounds. The brutal husband was arrested.

Gov. Kellogg, of Louisiana, has issued a proclamation, offering a reward of \$5,000 a head for all the persons implicated in the Coushatta affair.

The railroad barbecue, at Spartanburg, on the 10th, will be a most interesting feast.

Thomas Leeseur, a very worthy colored man, died in Charleston, on the 2d inst.

Mrs. Mary Glenn, Mrs. Sarah Langston and Mrs. Mary Wilson, of Laurens, died last week.

A colored woman, named Daphne Pinckney, fell dead in Charleston, on the 3d.

There was a slight fall of snow at Omaha and Salt Lake City on the 2d.

Funeral Invitation.
The friends and acquaintances of Miss LOULA MOORE, Mr. J. A. Moore and family, Mr. S. H. Blodgett and family and Mrs. C. E. Reed and family, are respectfully invited to attend the funeral services of the former, at the First Baptist Church, THIS DAY, at 2 o'clock.

Auction Sales.

Estate Sale.
By JACOB LEVIN, Auctioneer.
ON MONDAY MORNING, September 7th, at 10 o'clock, I will sell in front of my office,
2 fine cream-colored HORSES.
1 double Carriage (new).
1 superior Saddle and Harness.
1 Wagon and Harness.
3 superior Milk Cows.

STOCKS.
57 shares COLUMBIA GAS LIGHT.
15 shares Broad River Bridge.
8 shares Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad.
5 shares Greenville Railroad. Sept 5

Miss E. W. Barnwell
WILL re-open her SCHOOL FOR GIRLS on October 1st, corner of Plain and Marion streets. French and Latin or German taught without extra charge. Hon. H. W. BARNWELL will assist in the school. Terms—\$5, \$1 and \$3 per month, or \$12, \$10 and \$8 per quarter. Sent 5 cents.

The Principals OF THE COLUMBIA FEMALE ACADEMY, JANE H. REYNOLDS and SOPHIA M. REYNOLDS, will be prepared to receive Boarding and Day Pupils, as usual, on the 1st of October. For circulars, apply to the Principals or at the Book Stores in the city. Sept 5

NEW CODFISH,
New Mess Mackerel,
AND FULTON MARKET BEEF, all fresh and fine, open this morning, at Sept 5
CANTWELL'S.

FALL STOCK NOW OPENING

AT
D. EPSTEIN'S
FASHIONABLE
Clothing House,
Under Columbia Hotel.

THE most popular styles of the season in Men's and Boys' HATS are now ready, among which are the
"Granger" and "Tom Collins" Hat.
Magnificent stock of
CLOTHING,

Furnishing Goods, &c.

Arriving every day. Look out for bargains this season, as I am determined to maintain the standard of selling the BEST GOODS in the market at the LOWEST PRICES.

BALANCE OF SUMMER GOODS will be sold at a SACRIFICE, in order to close them out and make room. Call early for them at
D. EPSTEIN'S,
Under Columbia Hotel.
Sept 5

New Church Music Book
For 1874-75.

THE LEADER!
By H. R. PALMER, assisted by L. O. EMERSON.

JUST issued and ready for sale. Its success already assured. Its price is a return to ante-war Church Book rates and its contents new, fresh and cannot fail of winning a hearty endorsement from choir masters—the musical profession and the musical public. Specimen pages free on application.

PRICE \$1.38. \$12.00 PER DOZ.
RIVER OF LIFE,
FOR SABBATH SCHOOLS.

A sale of over 30,000 in less than one year attests the merit of this book. The publishers are confident that no better Sabbath School book has been published in years, and none given such entire satisfaction. Price 35 cts. B'ds; \$3.60 per doz.; \$30 per 100.

THOMAS'

Sacred Quartettes and Anthems.

This day published. Has been many years in preparation, and will be welcomed by all the lovers of Mr. Thomas' sacred music—and who is not? As a quartette book for choirs, it will be found indispensable. Price in boards, \$2.50. Cloth, \$3.00. OLIVER DITSON & CO., Boston, CHAS. H. DITSON & CO., New York, 711 Broadway, N. Y. Sept 5

CITY MATTERS.—Subscribe for the PHENIX. Pat. expects to soup the balance of his turtle to-day.

Transient advertisements and notices must be paid for in advance. This rule will be adhered to hereafter.

Mr. Henry Collins, a capital artist in crayon drawing, expects to pay a short business visit to Columbia.

The Columbians were defeated by the Ku Klux Base Ball Club in Winnsboro, yesterday. The score stood 29 to 32.

We can look back upon August and say with safety, "take it for all in all, we will never look upon its like again."

Mrs. C. E. Reed leaves for the North, this evening, to purchase her fall stock of millinery and fancy goods. Many who had on their over-coats yesterday week, August 28, had on their linen yesterday, September 4.

The Spartanburg New Era has departed for the happy Camp grounds of Radicalism.

So what Mr. D. Epstein has to say relative to the fall stock of clothing, etc., he is now opening. It was selected under his personal supervision.

We have been requested to say that tickets of admission to the Schuetzen-Verein entertainment (except members) are \$1.

"What is more unpleasant than always expecting to be dunned?" asks an exchange. Being dunned, we think, is.

Who pays for the gas consumed in the Court House during the numerous and almost nightly gatherings held there?

If our city authorities will cast their eyes on certain portions of our streets they might find several evils which ought to be corrected.

Are you aware that 15¢ cents pays for a week's subscription to the PHENIX? and yet many individuals complain that they cannot afford to subscribe.

When the year commenced with March, September was in reality the seventh month, but now the name is a misnomer, as are also the names of October, November and December.

Old type metal—superior to Babbitt for some purposes—can be obtained at PHENIX office at low figures—25 cents a pound for fifty pounds or less; 20 cents for larger quantities.

The ante-room of the Governor's office was the scene of a set-to, yesterday, between two colored politicians. One of them was tossed across the room—very nearly damaging some of the lookers-on. They were separated before any serious injury was done.

PHENIXIANA.—Modern rod of correction—Stick of candy.

Is "stealing a march" worse than taking a walk?

In the morning, think what thou hast to do, and at night, ask what thou hast done.

No manners are so fine as the most awkward manifestations of good will toward men.

A hoary head is a crown of glory, but a small tooth comb goes through it all the same.

A young man who got the mitten from his sweetheart, the other night, says he can now endorse what the poet said about these being "the melancholy days, the saddest of the year."

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—P. Cantwell—New Oddfish, &c. Oliver Ditson & Co.—New Music. Misses Reynolds—School Notice. Jacob Levin—Estate Sale. D. Epstein—Fall Stock. Miss E. W. Barnwell—School. Walker, Evans & Cogswell.

HOTEL ARRIVALS, September 4.—Wheeler House—J Jenkins, Ga; Mrs J H McDevitt and child, Edgfield; E G Willingham, Ga; G Schultz, N Y; F B Evans, W Phillips, Pa; J D Gregory, Miss; J Armstrong, Md; W P Russell, Charleston; C A W Barham, N C; P Brown, city; A B Trent, Ohio; G W Fisk, N Y; L Zimmer, Charleston; D E Gosnell, Md; T H Cooke, Greenville; W P Starke, S C.

Hendrie House—John J Taylor and wife, A S Barnes, Gaston Eatman, Charleston; A S Lamer, B A Stovall, Ga; L W Perrin, Abbeville; O Smith, Hard Scabble; S P Boozer and two children, S Boozer, Miss Lila Boozer, Newberry; J S Jones, Ga; B S Quattlebaum, Lexington.

Central Hotel—B H Rice, Mrs B H Rice, W W Rice, F W Eison, Union; Mrs W W Duncan and three children, Va; Miss M A Wallace, Miss; Hon G Cannon, Spartanburg; G P Hoffman, Doko; L P Loring and wife, Sumter.

CHARLESTON TO THE FRONT.—Among our new advertisements, is that of one of the oldest establishments in this State. Established in 1832, it has maintained the first place in its line of business. With large experience and unsurpassed facilities, Messrs. Walker, Evans & Cogswell are prepared to sustain the reputation of their establishment. Like A. T. Stewart, they believe in newspaper advertising, and take this means to announce that they have, this season, added very largely to their stock of type and machinery, and are better prepared than ever to please their customers. We wish them every success.