

Present Duty of the Colored People.

The convention of colored citizens of Georgia, recently held in Atlanta, to take into consideration a project for an extensive emigration of their people to States further West, resulted in no definite action. It was gotten up, no doubt, for the purposes of agitation and in order to make political capital by provoking discontent. Gov. Smith and some other gentlemen gave the convention some good advice. They were counselled to reflect carefully upon the advantages they already enjoyed in Georgia, before they throw them away to seek imaginary blessings under more difficult circumstances. The colored man in Georgia, where he is in a minority in the government, and exerts but little control over it, is much better off in property and contentment than where, as in South Carolina, Louisiana and Florida, he is in the ascendancy. The discontent which has been expressed comes mainly from colored and other politicians, who wish to live upon the opportunities which commotion will give them, rather than upon the results of honest labor. These agitators are not friends of the prosperity and progress of their people. An idea, thrown out by one of them in a pet, that they will finally have to leave this country on account of the increasing prejudices against them North and South, may, if insisted on, be taken up in earnest, and for such reasons as he may not wholly anticipate. He says that it has been advised that they crowd certain States and hold them for their special benefit, but thinks that this policy will not work well long. "If we are going to inaugurate that policy," he says, "let us ask the General Government to give us New Mexico, and let us repair there. Congress ought to give us New Mexico, with transportation from any part of the country, with six months' rations for all who desire to make the venture. But even that would not serve to thwart the ultimate ends of Heaven in carrying out the purposes for which the negro was brought into this country, for there is no more doubt in my mind that we have got to ultimately return to Africa, than that there is a God in Heaven."

Mr. H. M. Turner, who advanced these views in the Convention, was hardly wise in the use to which he designed to put them. The problem which he and other advanced men of his race should address themselves to solve is, how best to promote the spirit of contentment and how best to bring about the material prosperity of his people. They have fed upon agitation, trouble and discontent long enough. They require repose, and the undivided application of all their power of mind, skill of hand and strength of muscle to the production of wealth, and the increase of their individual means. When they become thrifty farmers and win their own freholds, and sit under their own vine and fig tree, they will realize what it is to be free in fact as well as in name. Political independence and advancement of their families in comforts, in education, in morals, will follow in order, and they will thus realize as good condition as can be expected or may be desired. If their progress and development here, under equal laws, which give protection to persons and property, should be matched by the opening, through travel, commerce and the efforts of the great powers of Europe, of their parent country, to their visits, they will be fitted by their attainments in knowledge, by their substantial means, by their silent acquisitions of useful experience, to enter the field which may thus be opened, as civilized colonists and settlers. They will be prepared, at any rate, to ponder what may be the leadings and teachings of Providence. And should they feel called upon or be impelled ultimately to return to the home of their ancestors, to take back an impress of the high civilization to which they were born and in which they have been bred, their long exile will be found to have been a blessing in disguise. It is fashionable to decry what is called slavery, but slavery had its uses, even to those subject to its power. It was an education in habits, in physical development, and in no little degree in morals, intelligence, crafts and manners. The habit of toil, the power of endurance, were useful to the Israelites as well as the learning which they had imbibed from their task-masters, the Egyptians. The era of emancipation is having its uses too. The American African, who has been subject to the two influences, cannot be compared with any natives in ef-

iciency in any direction, so immeasurably superior are they. They will become capable of even much more, if they go quietly along fulfilling the duties of the present and leaving to time and Providence the development of their future destiny. Above all things, they should eschew agitation and settle down to quiet life and steady employment.

Why Not Report? Why Not Investigate?

In the proceedings of the House of Representatives for Monday, we observe that Mr. Freeman introduced a resolution that, in consequence, as reported, of grave irregularities existing in the management of the affairs of the assets of the Bank of the State, since the appointment of the last receiver, a joint committee of the House and Senate be appointed to investigate the financial condition of these assets, &c. A similar concurrent resolution, introduced by Mr. Boston, which requires the receiver to make a report of the condition of the affairs of the Bank, &c., was adopted and ordered to be sent to the Senate. In the Senate proceedings, we find two resolutions to the same effect. Looking at these reiterated demands of the General Assembly to have light upon this interesting subject, we wonder what is the reason Mr. Puffer does not come forward and promptly afford it. Yesterday, we learn that the Senate refused to adopt the concurrent resolution which came from the House. We wonder again, what reasons there can be in the minds of the Senators to hide and hush up this matter.

Pending the discussion, yesterday, of a bill to amend an Act to regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors, Mr. Beatty, of York, the Nestor of the House, made a capital point against the inconsistency of passing a resolution to exclude the sale of all liquors from the State House and grounds, and yet giving additional license and privilege to the traffic among the people, whose homes it invades in the most fearful forms. He indulged in a short but telling disquisition upon intemperance, which he described as the most universal, all-pervading and remorselessly destructive evil of the times. From the days of Sir Matthew Hale, who pointed out its connection with crime, to the present, it has been the source of untold crime, wrong and suffering. As to the law itself, passed only last March, and just now received and understood in the Counties, he saw no necessity and no advantage in altering it. It was well enough as it stood. The constant alterations and amendments of laws lead to confusion and misunderstanding. The best and surest way to secure the respect of the people is to pass good laws, transact the necessary public business and go home.

He was in the habit of giving advice to the colored people in his County. He summed up his counsel to them under three heads: That they should get a home, if it be but one acre of ground; acquire whatever education was possible for themselves and for their children, and remember the hole from which they had been digged and avoid the evils of the savage condition, the chief of which was intoxicating drink. It was a pleasant episode to listen to this venerable gentleman, as he inculcated the lessons of virtue and raised his trembling but earnest voice against a habit which he justly regards as deadly and disastrous beyond all others.

The Condition of the South—President Grant, in his message to Congress, says:

Your attention will be drawn to the unsettled condition of affairs in some of the Southern States. On the 14th of September last, the Governor of Louisiana called upon me, as provided by the Constitution and laws of the United States, to aid in suppressing domestic violence in that State. This call was made in view of a proclamation issued on that day by D. B. Penn, claiming that he was elected Lieutenant Governor in 1872, and calling upon the militia of the State to assemble and drive from power the "usurpers," as he designated the officers of the State Government. On the next day I issued my proclamation, commanding the insurgents to disperse within five days from the date thereof, and subsequently learned that on that day they had taken forcible possession of the State House. Steps were taken by me to support the existing and recognized State Government; but before the expiration of the five days the insurrectionary movement was practically abandoned, and the officers of the State Government, with minor exceptions, resumed their powers and duties. Considering that the present State administration of Louisiana has been the only government in that State for nearly two years, that it has been tacitly acknowledged and acquiesced in as such by Congress, and more than once expressly recognized by me, I re-

garded it as my clear duty, when legally called upon for that purpose, to prevent its overthrow by an armed mob under pretence of fraud and irregularity in the election of 1872. I have heretofore called the attention of Congress to this subject, stating that, on account of the frauds and forgeries committed at the said election, and because it appears that returns thereof were never legally canvassed, it was impossible to tell thereby who were chosen; but from the best sources of information at my command I have always believed the present State officers received a majority of the legal votes actually cast at that election. I repeat what I said in my special message of February 23, 1872, that in the event of no action of Congress, I must continue to recognize the Government heretofore recognized by me. I regret to say that, with preparations for the late election, decided indications appeared in some localities in the Southern States of a determination, by acts of violence and intimidation to deprive citizens of the freedom of the ballot because of their political opinions. Bands of men, masked and armed, made their appearance. White Leagues and other societies were formed. Large quantities of arms and ammunition were imported and distributed to these organizations. Military drills, with menacing demonstrations, were held, and with all, murders enough were committed to spread terror among those whose political action was to be suppressed, if possible, by these intolerant and criminal proceedings. In some places colored laborers were compelled to vote according to the wishes of their employers, under threats of discharge if they acted otherwise, and there are too many instances in which, when these threats were disregarded, they were remorselessly executed by those who made them. I understand that the fifteenth amendment to the Constitution was made to prevent this and a like state of things, and the Act of May 31st, with amendments, was passed to enforce its provisions—the aim of both being to guarantee to all citizens the right to vote and protect them in the free enjoyment of that right. Enjoined by the Constitution (to take care that the laws be faithfully executed,) and convinced by undoubted evidence that violations of said Act had been committed, and that wide-spread and flagrant disregard of it was contemplated, the proper officers were instructed to prosecute the offenders, and troops were stationed at convenient points to aid these officers, if necessary, in the performance of their official duties. Complaints are made of this interference by Federal authority, but if said amendment and Act do not provide for such interference under the circumstances as above stated, then they are without meaning, force or effect, and the whole scheme of colored disfranchisement is worse than mockery and little better than a crime. Possibly, Congress may find it due to truth and justice to ascertain by means of a committee whether the alleged wrongs to colored citizens for political purposes are real, or the reports thereof were manufactured for the occasion.

The whole number of troops in the States of Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, Maryland and Virginia, at the time of the election, was 4,802. This embraces the garrisons of all the forts from the Delaware to the Gulf of Mexico. Another trouble has arisen in Arkansas. Article 13 of the Constitution of that State, (which was adopted in 1868, and upon the approval of which by Act of Congress the State was restored to representation as one of the States of the Union,) provides in effect that before amendments proposed to this Constitution shall become a part thereof, they shall be passed by two successive Assemblies, and then submitted to and ratified by a majority of the electors of the State voting thereon. On the 11th May, 1874, the Governor convened an extra session of the General Assembly of the State, which, on the 18th of the same month, passed an Act providing for a convention to frame a new Constitution. Pursuant to this act, and at an election held on the 30th June, 1874, the convention was approved and delegates were chosen thereto, who assembled on the 11th of last July, and formed a new Constitution, the schedule of which provided for the election of an entire new set of State officers in a manner contrary to the then existing election laws of the State. On the 12th October, 1874, this Constitution, as therein provided, was submitted to the people for their approval or rejection, and, according to the election returns, it was approved by a large majority of those qualified to vote thereon, and at the same election persons were chosen to fill all State, County and township offices. The Governor elected in 1872 for the term of four years turned over his office to the Governor chosen under the new Constitution, whereupon the Lieutenant-Governor, also elected in 1872 for a term of four years, claiming to act as Governor, and alleging that said proceedings, by which the new Constitution was made and a new set of officers elected, were unconstitutional, illegal and void, called upon me as provided in section 4, article 4, of the Constitution, to protect the State against domestic violence.

As Congress is now investigating the political affairs of Arkansas, I have declined to interfere. The whole subject of Executive interference with affairs of a State is repugnant to public opinion. The feeling of those who, from their official capacity, must be used in such interposition, and to him or those who most direct, unless made clearly on the side of law, such inter-

ference becomes a crime, and with the law to support it, is condemned without a hearing. I desire, therefore, that all necessity for Executive direction in local affairs may become unnecessary, and obsolete. I invite the attention not of Congress but of the people of the United States to the causes and effects of these unhappy questions. Is there not a disposition on one side to magnify wrong and outrage, and on the other side to belittle them or justify them? If public opinion could be directed to a correct survey of what it is and to rebuking wrong and aiding the proper authorities in punishing it, a better state of feeling would be inculcated, and the sooner we would have that peace which would leave the States free, indeed, to regulate their own domestic affairs. I believe, on the part of our citizens of the Southern States, the better part of them, there is a disposition to be law-abiding and to do no violence either to individuals or to the laws existing. But do they do right in ignoring the existence of violence and bloodshed in resistance to constituted authority? I sympathize with their prostrate condition and would do all in my power to relieve them, acknowledging that in some instances they have had most trying governments to live under and very oppressed ones in the way of taxation for nominal improvements, not giving benefits equal to the hardships imposed. But can they proclaim themselves entirely irresponsible for this condition? They cannot. Violence has been rampant in some localities, and has either been justified or denied by those who could have prevented it. The theory is even raised that there is to be no further interference on the part of the General Government to protect citizens within a State where the State authorities fail to give protection. This is a great mistake.

While I remain Executive, all the laws of Congress and the provisions of the Constitution, including the recent amendments added thereto, will be enforced with rigor, but with regret that they should have added one jot or tittle to Executive duties or powers. Let there be fairness in the discussion of Southern questions, the advocates of both or all political parties giving honest, truthful reports of occurrences, condemning the wrong and upholding the right, and soon all will be well. Under existing conditions the negro votes the Republican ticket because he knows his friends are of that party. Many a good citizen votes the opposition ticket, not because he agrees with the great principles of State which separate parties, but because generally he is opposed to negro rule. This is a most delusive cry. Treat the negro as a citizen and a voter, as he is, and must remain, and soon parties will divide, not on the color line, but on principles. Then we shall have no complaint of sectional interference. The report of the Attorney-General contains valuable recommendations relating to the administration of justice in the Courts of the United States, to which I invite your attention. I respectfully suggest to Congress the propriety of increasing the number of judicial districts in the United States to eleven, the present number being nine, and the creation of two additional judgeships. The territory to be traversed by the Circuit Judges is so great, and the business of the Courts so steadily increasing, that it is growing more and more impossible for them to keep up with the business requiring their attention. Whether this would involve the necessity of adding two more Justices of the Supreme Court to the present number, I submit to the judgment of Congress.

SCHEK'S PULMONIC SYRUP, FOR THE CURE OF CONSUMPTION, COUGHS AND COLDS.—The great virtue of this medicine is, that it ripens the matter and throws it out of the system, purifies the blood, and thus effects a cure.

SCHEK'S SEA WED TONIC, FOR THE CURE OF DYSPEPSIA, INDIGESTION, &c.—The Tonic produces a healthy action of the stomach, creating an appetite, forming chyle and curing the most obstinate cases of indigestion.

SCHEK'S MANDRAKE PILLS, FOR THE CURE OF LIVER COMPLAINT, &c.—These pills are alterative, and produce a healthy action of the liver, without the least danger, as they are free from calomel, and yet more efficacious in restoring a healthy action of the liver.

These remedies are a certain cure for Consumption, as the Pulmonic Syrup ripens the matter and purifies the blood. The Mandrake Pills act upon the liver, create a healthy bile and remove all diseases of the liver, often a cause of Consumption. The Sea Wed Tonic gives tone and strength to the stomach, makes a good digestion and enables the organ to form good blood; and thus creates a healthy circulation of healthy blood. The combined action of these medicines, as thus explained, will cure every case of Consumption, if taken in time, and the use of the medicines persevered in.

Dr. Schenk is professionally at his principal office, corner Sixth and Arch Streets, Philadelphia, every Monday, where all letters for advice must be addressed. Nov 11:13

The novelty of Charleston, S. C., for the next few weeks is the great reduction in our prices of all kinds of Dry Goods, Carpets, Oil Cloths, &c., at the popular house of Partridge & Co., who, it is known, keep the largest and best selected stock of above named goods at the lowest possible prices. Country orders entrusted to them are filled with the greatest care and dispatch. If goods are not satisfactory, money will be returned. Samples sent on application. Remit per Express or Post Office Order, or goods will be sent C. O. D. All retail orders over \$10 will be sent free of charge. N 29f

CITY MATRONS.—Subscribe for the PHOENIX—don't borrow.

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

Job printing of every kind, from a miniature visiting card to a four-sheet poster, turned out, at short notice, from PHOENIX office. Try us.

Dr. Henrich must keep attractive articles in his store, as people flock there constantly. Perhaps the Queen's Delight has something to do with it.

Mr. D. Epstein is getting up a raffle for a handsome diamond pin. Lucky individuals should take a chance or two. The ornament is valued at \$300. Cold, but clear, yesterday.

Old type metal, at 25 cents a pound, can be obtained at the PHOENIX office, for small quantities; 20 cents by the 100 pounds—delivered at the depot.

There was a heavy addition made to the officers of the Richland Rifle Club, last night. Mr. W. G. Beck was elected Fourth Corporal, to fill a vacancy—and it will be well filled, too.

Dr. W. C. Fisher is the fortunate possessor of a handsome breech-loading double-barreled gun. He won it in a raffle. The death-dealer is for home use, and borrowers will take the hint.

Mr. Leurey, nearly opposite PHOENIX office, received another heavy invoice of finely flavored apples, sweet oranges and prime Irish potatoes, yesterday. These in need should apply at once. These household necessities are particularly fine.

Speaker Elliott was assaulted by an irate colored man, yesterday afternoon, as he was leaving the State House; and although he received several heavy blows with a stick, made such good use of his fists as to cause his assailant to beat a retreat.

The reunion of the First Cavalry Brigade, Army Northern Virginia, for the purpose of organizing an association of its members, will be held in Girardey's Opera House, Augusta, Ga., on Wednesday, December 16, at 11 o'clock. Lieutenant-General Wade Hampton will deliver an address.

There is a string of visitors every day in the ante-room connected with the Executive chamber. Governor Chamberlain's course has so pleased the Conservatives, that numbers of them call to express their gratification and to pay their respects to the Governor.

The Hebrew Feast of Light commemorating the heroic deeds of Judas Maccabees, began to be celebrated in the families of Israelites on last Thursday evening. It is customary among the orthodox Israelites to light a number of tapers each evening, and an additional light for each night during the festival, in commemoration of the events which transpired about 2,400 years ago. The festival will continue until Friday evening next.

From an advertisement in another column, it will be seen that Messrs. John Agnew & Son will have their kerosene wagon running to-day. They propose to deliver to our citizens, at their residences, a superior article of kerosene, fully up to the standard required by the United States, at the low price of twenty cents per gallon, or five cents per quart. Those desirous of availing themselves of this accommodation and the low price at which it is offered, will do well to wait for their wagon.

STRANGE COURT.—TUESDAY, December 8.—The Court met at 10 A. M. Present—Chief Justice Moses and Associate Justices Wright and Willard.

The Eighth Circuit was called. Geraty & Armstrong, appellants, vs. Robert M. DeBose, respondent. Mr. Bart was heard for appellants. Mr. McGowan for respondent.

Bannister Allen, appellant, vs. William Spear, respondent. Mr. Thomson was heard for appellant. Motion granted, orders of Circuit Judge reversed and cases remanded.

Trustees of the estate of De La Howe, appellants, vs. H. H. Harper et al., respondents. Mr. Thomson was heard for appellants. Mr. McGowan for respondents.

Samuel Hunter, appellant, vs. Wardlaw & Edwards, respondents. Mr. Noble was heard for appellant. Mr. Cothran for respondents.

Thomas Eakin, respondent, vs. John Knox, appellant. Mr. Thomson was heard for appellant. Mr. Bart for respondent.

Janet H. McLaren, respondent, vs. Knox & Cunningham, appellants. Mr. Thomson was heard for appellants. At 3 P. M., the Court adjourned until Wednesday, 9th, 10 A. M.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.—Northern mail opens 6.30 A. M.; 3 P. M.; closes 11 A. M., 6 P. M. Charleston opens 8 A. M., 5.30 P. M.; closes 8 A. M., 6 P. M. Western opens 6 A. M., 1 P. M.; closes 6, 1.30 P. M. Greenville opens 6.45 P. M.; closes 8 A. M. Wilmington opens 4 P. M.; closes 10.30 A. M. On Sunday open from 2.30 to 3.30 P. M.

UNITED STATES COURT, COLUMBIA, December 8.—Court opened this morning, at 10 o'clock—Judges Bond and Bryan presiding.

A verdict of \$2,629.75 was returned for the plaintiff in the case of Thos. Dillard, a citizen of Tennessee, vs. the Greenville and Columbia Railroad—non-payment of coupons.

A. Matteson, charged with the homicide of Davis, in Anderson County, was brought up for trial. The jurisdiction of the Court in this case was argued by Messrs. Hobbins, Corbin, Earle and Baxter for the Court; Attorney-General Melton and Solicitor Glytho for the prisoner. Decision will be rendered to-morrow.

The following decree was rendered: In re L. S. K. Bennett, bankrupt; executor of the will of E. Bennett.

The report of Samuel Lord, Esq., special master in this case, being read and council heard, it is ordered that the same be confirmed except in the following particulars: 1. That the rents which have been received by the assignees are general assets, and will be applied in the first place to the payment of the council fee of \$1,500 and the costs reported by the referee as chargeable to the general estate. Should there be a deficiency, the above-mentioned fee and cost will be paid pro rata; and should there be a surplus, it will be divided among the general creditors, who have proven their claims according to law. 2. All cash and bonds derived from the sale of the real estate and remaining in the hands of the assignee thereafter, will be turned over and assigned to Mrs. Bennett, and the assignees will immediately thereafter report their action in the premises to the Court.

LIST OF NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. C. J. Laney—Apples, &c. John Agnew & Son—Kerosene. Meeting of Columbia Chapter.

HOTEL ARRIVALS, DECEMBER 8.—Hendrix House—Dr. J. W. Deboit, Pa.; John Gibson, Ky.; R. Goodin, Ga.; W. N. Hendrix, Lexington; Dr. Bowen, Kershaw; J. D. Robinson, Orangeburg; W. W. Brooks, Washington; Thos. T. Sigourney, Md.; Miss H. W. Desportes, Winesboro; Miss Sallie Witherspoon, Sumter; J. Turner, Fairfield; J. E. Pogge, Miss A. Barr, N. C.; W. H. Orain, Lewis' T. O.; W. H. Kane and lady, Md.

Mansion House—L. Emstein, Mass.; W. W. Drafts, Lexington; J. C. F. Sims, Richard; J. S. Swygert, Fairfield; T. A. Huggins, Honea Path; J. L. Orr, J. H. McConnell, Anderson; P. J. Coleman, R. C. Strother, Saluda Old Town; C. Fisher, Doko; J. L. Black, S. C.

FAITH WELL FOUNDED.—In old times, at the commencement of every season, it was the fashion to take a strong cathartic as a safeguard against a change of temperature. It was a worse than senseless practice. The people of our day understand the matter better. Instead of depleting the system, they reinforce it. In the method they adopt, they exhibit a wise discrimination. Instead of resorting to the vitiated stimulants of commerce, or any of the compounds derived from them, they put their faith in "the only absolutely pure invigorant procurable in the market—Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. Their faith is well founded. Never has any tonic medicine been prepared with such scrupulous precision and conscientious care. It is a vegetable compound of which every ingredient is sound, wholesome, and medicinal in the true sense of the word. Now, we have three prominent national complaints. One-half of the adult population of the United States suffer, more or less, either from diseases of the stomach, derangements of the liver, or affections of the kidneys. In no other land under heaven are these maladies so general as in this country, and Hostetter's Bitters is a specific for them all, unless organic in their origin, and, therefore, beyond cure. And let those who are fortunate enough to be exempt from them at present, understand one great fact, viz: that an occasional use of this vitalizing tonic will as certainly prevent them as the sun will prevent the earth from freezing where its genial beams descend. The Bitters is a genial and excellent tonic, a moderate alterative, and just enough of an aperient to regulate, without convulsing, the bowels. It is, therefore, a specific peculiarly adapted to the present season. D 67f1

People will get married, and most of us do not have but one chance, so do it up in style. Moreover, it is a poor compliment to your friends to invite them to your wedding with a shabby invitation. The invitation is your law; it intro. uces the life of the new couple, and should be in the best style. Walker, Evans & Cogswell, Charleston, S. C., have all the finest styles of paper, cards, &c., and execute the work in the highest style of the art. Send to them for samples and prices. N 29f

L. I. Woolfe, who was convicted of murder, sent to the penitentiary and pardoned by Gov. Moses, has been committed to jail in Charleston, in default of \$1,000 bail, by Trial Justice Dover, for threatening the life of the constable of Trial Justice Levy, and for threatening to commit an assault and breach of the peace.

On last Sunday, a difficulty occurred in Union County, between Jerry Pitts and George Higgins, both colored, in which the former killed the latter with an axe.

Rev. Mr. Johnson, of Summerville, S. C., has renounced the Episcopal Church and connected himself with the Reform Episcopal movement.

Mr. Thomas J. Spurrier, an aged citizen of Fairfield, died in Bidgeway, a few days ago.