

We are not responsible for the views of our correspondents.

Our Ticket.

- For Governor, WADE HAMPTON. For Lieutenant-Governor, W. D. SIMPSON. For Secretary of State, R. M. SIMS. For Superintendent of Education, H. S. THOMPSON. For Comptroller-General, JOHNSON HAGOOD. For Adjutant and Inspector-General, E. W. MOISE. For State Treasurer, S. L. LEAPHART. For Attorney-General, LEROY F. YOUNG. For Congress, GEORGE D. TILMAN.

The PEOPLE is the only straight-out Democratic paper in Barnwell county.

Primary Elections vs. Conventions.

It is well to make haste slowly, for it is far easier to get into than out of trouble. The late county convention acted wisely in remitting to the precinct clubs the question of the adoption of the primary election system. Their decision will be final and accepted as satisfactory by the losing party. This delay has given an opportunity for examination into the merits and demerits of the proposed change, and if adopted now it will be with a clearer understanding of its advantages and an ability to guard against errors into which hasty action would have probably led its advocates and the party generally. We think that some of the upper counties have failed to properly arrange the details for a satisfactory execution of its intention. It is the purpose of the system, as generally understood, to ascertain the will of the people in the most satisfactory manner and to prevent the log-rolling and wire-pulling of the convention system. If the primary election plan can better secure these ends it will be acceptable to all the people except the wire-pullers, log-rollers and their henchmen; but if from any cause it fails to accomplish these results it only aggravates the very evils it was intended to cure. The discontent prevalent in the ranks of our democracy is due more largely to the lively interest felt in public affairs by the great mass of our party than to any other cause. The people now recognize this as their government, and they are determined to maintain its purity to perfect the reforms already inaugurated, and to hold every public officer to a strict discharge of his duties, and with this proper motive they are turning to the consideration of the best methods for preserving party unity and thus securing the best possible government. The democracy still recognizes as a cardinal principle the voice of a majority as the law of the party, and when this popular will on any measure is ascertained party ranks will close up with the elbow touch, for in the present an independent democrat is an enemy to the cause of honesty and home rule. In the upper counties above referred to the conventions have decided that the candidates receiving the highest number of votes in the primary elections shall be the party nominees. The adoption of this provision will probably defeat the very purposes for which they have adopted the primary plan, for when a large number of candidates for any office are in the field no one of them may receive a majority of the democratic vote and our party government becomes one of minorities rather than of majorities. The conventions were influenced, perhaps, by the desire to avoid the "trouble" of frequent elections, but our State government is a beggarly one if the benefits conferred by democratic administration will not compensate the people for the "trouble" of attending an extra election. No man deserves or should desire a party nomination unless he is the first choice of a majority of its members and the very measure intended to save "trouble" will, it is to be feared, bring greater difficulties in the future upon the democracy of the counties in which it has been adopted than they are now facing. It is not too late to remedy the evil and the sooner they retraced their steps the better.

University of South Carolina.

The Trustees of the University at a recent meeting appointed a committee to prepare a plan for the reopening of the institution, and we predict that they will elaborate a plan which will do credit to their knowledge of high sounding phrases and State history. We might bear this infliction with equanimity, but the sequel, sure to follow, an application to the next General Assembly for a "liberal" appropriation for its support gets the better of our patience. If reopened soon it will furnish profitable employment to a staff of erudite professors and a few boarding-house keepers, and it may add somewhat to the trade and attractions of the capital, but we can see no benefits that will outweigh the relative wrongs that would result from its re-establishment. It would

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enter into unequal competition with the numerous denominational colleges already in operation, as its rates of tuition, already fixed by law, are considerably lower, and all deficiencies would be paid out of the public treasury. We have personal knowledge of the hardships endured by the professors of these colleges in their efforts during our darkest days to furnish the opportunity of acquiring a collegiate education, and the schools are still equal to all the needs of the State. The friends of the University may succeed in reopening it but the vast majority of the people in the State do not want it reopened now, and we propose that it be submitted to a primary election and that the members of the next General Assembly be instructed to vote on this question, when it comes up, as it surely will, in accordance with the wishes of their constituents.

Taxes and Bills of the Bank of the State.

The following paragraph from the columns of the Darlington Southerner deserves more than a passing notice at our hands.

We state as a matter of importance to many of our citizens, whose lands have been forfeited, that their lands may be redeemed by the payment of the taxes of last year and of this year, without costs and penalties and without paying previous back taxes—and this can be done either in currency or in stamped bills of the bank of the State. This privilege will be extended to Stat. of October, after which day all lands not so redeemed, will be restored to the list of forfeited lands, with all unpaid back taxes, cost and penalties, and will then be sold as the property of the State. There should be as little delay as possible, as the bills of the Bank will probably advance in price.

We decidedly protest against the propagation of any such principles and practices.

The Bills of the Bank of the State are undoubtedly valid obligations binding upon our people. So far as the legal aspect of the obligation appearing upon their face is concerned they constitute a debt which the courts will not hesitate to enforce. But with regard to the moral nature of the obligations we have little hesitation in saying that it sits lightly on our conscience. To what extent they have been fraudulently reissued under Radical rule after being called in for cancellation it is now impossible to determine.

These bills have long ceased to represent the claims of bona fide creditors, inasmuch as they are now almost entirely in the hands of speculative holders, who originally bought them for a merely nominal consideration. Our battle-scathed and plundered people are called upon to meet the undertakings of past days of folly and extravagance of which the Bank of the State was then, and its dead body is now the damning exponent. They are called upon at a time when their scanty earnings, barely sufficient to sustain themselves and families in honorable poverty, are subjected to the strain of heavy taxes imposed upon them for the maintenance of the State's financial honor at home and abroad.

The emancipation of our State from financial embarrassment can only be successfully accomplished by each and every citizen honorably and equitably sustaining his portion of the common burden. We have no hesitation in saying that the citizen who purchases bills of the Bank of the State to pay his taxes with is dodging his share of that burden and consequently entangling upon his fellow citizens who manfully perform their duties to the State, an additional load to their already overtaxed energies and resources.

Our present Legislature has provided for these Bank obligations in the same way as for other floating indebtedness, viz: by funding at fifty per cent. discount. The holders then of these bills will be driven to the necessity of funding upon the terms dictated by the Legislature, unless they find they can make more by buck-stering them out to the base traffickers who seek advantage from their country's necessities.

But it may be said that it is perfectly legitimate to redeem one's land forfeited to the State by taking advantage of any legal position. We say it is not. No man has a right to shirk his share of common dangers, burdens or sacrifices. The very fact of these lands being forfeited is prima facie evidence against the owners of duties neglected and common obligations avoided in the past to the detriment and oppression of their more conscientious fellow citizens.

The opportunity of redemption on easy terms too mercifully tendered to past delinquents is a great boon and one for which they ought to be thankful. It might have been so qualified as to operate only in case of legal tender. The Legislature, however, seems to have relied implicitly upon the honor and patriotism of the people impelling them to accept the indulgence in good faith, and we should be sorry to believe that any respectable portion of our citizens should be so sordid and unpatriotic as to follow the suggestions contained in the above quoted paragraph, for we cannot conceive anything better calculated to embarrass our State government or hamper the administration of our county affairs than a general adoption of the advice tendered to the tax payers by our Darlington cotemporary.

If the cap fits wear it—If it does give you fits.

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The Republican Programme.

At a late meeting of the Republican State Executive Committee in Columbia it was determined to hold a State Convention on the 7th of August. It is generally admitted that no republican will oppose Governor Hampton, but the party propose to make a hot fight for the control of the Legislature.

Editorial Briefs.

Judge Wm. H. Wallace presides at the next term of our court.

Darlington proposes to organize a county immigration society.

Mrs. Jane D. Moses, widow of the late Chief Justice Moses, died last week.

Next year's session of the Southern Baptist Convention will be held in Atlanta, Georgia.

Fruit and grain crops in the Northern States were seriously injured last week severe frosts.

The General Conference of the Southern Methodist Church is still sitting in Atlanta. It will elect several additional bishops.

The Edgefield Advertiser of last week has a good likeness of Gen. M. C. Butler, and a strikingly able three-column letter on primary elections.

Hon. Thomas C. Perrin, of Abbeville, died of heart disease on the 14th Inst. He had filled numerous honorable positions in a highly creditable manner.

Comptroller-General Hagood will accept our thanks for a copy of his very useful "Abstract of the laws of South Carolina relating to the assessment and collection of taxes."

Managers of elections for the general election of 1876 are requested to forward to the chairman, A. Knopf, Esq., properly vouchered statements of their respective accounts. They receive two dollars per day for the time actually employed, and ten cents per mile for necessary travel. Clerks are entitled to two dollars per day without mileage—but no manager or clerk will receive pay for more than three days.

President Hayes has pardoned the ku klux confined in the Albany, N. Y., penitentiary, and we hope that they will soon order the discontinuance of the pending prosecutions of citizens of this State for alleged violations of the Enforcement Acts. It would be an act of simple justice to relieve the large number of persons—over eight hundred—from the unjust and unfounded charges against them and for which they have vainly sought trial. "The best government the world ever saw" seems to be endeavoring to intimidate them, but we have not yet found any one badly scared.

Potter's Resolution Passed.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—The long protracted struggle in the House over Potter's resolution for a select committee of eleven to investigate the alleged Presidential Frauds in Florida and Louisiana resulted to-day in a victory of the Democrats and in the adoption of the resolution. The Democratic members who had been absent or paired on Monday last, when the resolution was offered, had since been recalled to the city, or had given notice of the termination of their pairs; and to-day there were present in the House, free from entangling alliances 148 Democratic members, including the speaker. After various preliminary movements, comprising a call of the House, the closing of the doors, the issuing of warrants for absentees, none of whom were in the city, &c., a final vote was taken on the adoption of the preamble and resolution. Not a single Republican member had his vote recorded, and but two Democratic members (Mills, of Texas, and Morse, of Massachusetts) voted in the negative. The affirmative vote was 145, and the preamble and resolution were declared adopted.

There was a good deal of confusion, uproar and excitement throughout the day, but no demonstration attended the announcement of the result. Mr. Stephens did not vote as he was paired.

An incident occurred over this question of pairs which at one time threatened to be serious. Goode, of Virginia, had been paired with Loring, of Massachusetts, who was in the city but sick, and when Goode stated the fact that he had given notice to Mr. Loring, of the termination of the pair and that under the circumstances he felt it his duty to vote, a sneering remark that it was simply a question of honor was made by Conger, of Michigan. Goode replied with a strong feeling of indignation, that he could take care of his own honor, and that if Conger assailed it, he (Goode) would hold him to a personal responsibility. The response was loudly applauded on the Democratic side, and was received with jeers and contemptuous laughter on the Republican side; Conger re-marking sarcastically that Goode's threat was making him tremble in his boots. Goode's remark was objected to by Mr. Hale, of Maine, as being unpatriotic, but the Speaker decided "that the first offense had been given by Conger, and that it would be as reasonable to expect a child not to holler when struck as to expect a man not to resent an insult." The Speaker's ruling gave intense satisfaction to the Democrats and corresponding displeasure to the Republicans.

Of course, Mr. Potter, of New York, will be chairman of the select committee.

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It is understood that as soon as possible after its organization sub-committees will be appointed, and will proceed to Florida and Louisiana. It is expected Springer, of Illinois, will be a member of the committee, and probably chairman of the Florida sub-committee. It is very probable the Republicans will to-morrow offer a resolution to extend the investigation to Oregon, Mississippi, South Carolina and other States.

American Institutions—Primary Elections—Convention.

EDITOR OF THE PEOPLE: It is very amusing to notice the arguments pro and con on the subject of primary elections. We give an extract or two as samples; the Florence "Times," an advocate of the system, observes:

"There is one feature of the proposed system, however, that is hard to realize as truly Democratic, that is the oath regulation. It is to be regretted that Democrats as well as Republicans have to whip themselves into the party line."

The Orangeburg "Times," per contra, remarks: "Any one, who will study the plan, can readily see how wire-pullers and knowing ones may easily find a pretext to make null and void any primary election and cause a new one to be ordered, and thus by repeating the process tire the people, out until they refuse to attend the polls."

The Walhalla Courier, in favor of the primary, thus sums up against the convention system: "The plan by delegates is objectionable. It is not Democratic. The nominees are most always the choice of a few leading minds or of a combination formed by the friends of the two or three candidates who manipulate the local clubs and secure delegates favorable to them."

Now, Mr. Editor, to what result does all this tend but to the conviction that any innovation upon the established institutions of the land is attended with danger to the true interests, and to the liberties of the people, the moment they subscribe the "gag" pledges or oaths, surrender into the hands of wire-pullers and political tricksters, whose names they do not even know, the sovereignty of the ballot, and confess themselves either too ignorant or too careless to appreciate those blessings of political freedom which have made the United States the envy of the world. They confess their institutions a failure, and acknowledge, after a national existence of a short century, that a "poverty," the nature of which they know nothing, must be grafted upon the institutions to save them from what—danger from without? No, but rascalities within their own borders. Both temporis and moris must be bad.

Your correspondent, "A Citizen," in your last week's issue, struck the true chord. "If it is the duty of the citizen to exercise the elective franchise it is certainly his duty, in our opinion, to do so with integrity and discretion. This franchise can only be exercised with integrity when a citizen votes according to his honest convictions; with discretion, where these convictions are the result of mature judgment and an enlightened conscience."

What room is there for the exercise of judgment or conscience when the voter has sworn to vote for a somebody whose very name is in the vocative? When, with a "loyalty" more Quixotic than prudent, he has surrendered his "judgment" and his "conscience" to the custody of his "party." This is "welding" us together with a vengeance, and, if successful, will go far to prove the wonderful malleability of American character. W. G. T.

Important Acts.

An act for protection of landlords in rental of houses and tenements.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same, That in all cases where tenants hold over after expiration of their leases or contracts for rent—whether the same be in writing or by parol, or shall fail to pay the rent when it shall become due, the landlord is hereby authorized and empowered, either in person or by agent, to enter upon the premises and claim possession, and in case of refusal or resistance it shall be lawful for the person so letting said premises, houses or tenements, his agents or attorney, to apply to a trial justice, whose duty it shall be to have a notice served upon the person or persons so refusing to be dispossessed to show cause before him, if any he can, within three days from the date of said personal service of such notice, why he should not be dispossessed; and if he fails to show sufficient cause, it shall be the duty of the trial justice forthwith to issue his warrant directed to the Sheriff of the county or any constable thereof, requiring him, without delay, to dispossess said person or persons from the premises so let, and authorizing him to use such force as may be necessary. Provided, that trial justice shall receive fifty cents for issuing said notice and warrant, and one dollar for executing a fee of one dollar for executing

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the same, to be paid by the party so refusing to be dispossessed; and if said costs cannot be collected from the tenant, then the same shall be paid by the landlord, except in cases of constables and trial justices in counties where they receive salaries: Provided, that in case any tenant shall be wrongfully dispossessed, he, she, or they may have an action for damages against such landlord.

Approved March 22, 1878.

An act to amend the criminal law. Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same, that from and after the lapse of sixty days from the passage of this act any person who shall commit either of the crimes of arson or rape shall, upon conviction, suffer death by hanging in the same form and manner as is now provided by law for willful murder: Provided, however, that in each case where the prisoner is found guilty the jury may find a special verdict, recommending him to the mercy of the Court, whereupon the punishment shall be reduced to imprisonment in the penitentiary with hard labor during the whole lifetime of the prisoner.

Sec. 2. That from and after the lapse of sixty days from the passage of this act any person who shall commit the crime of burglary at common law shall, upon conviction, be imprisoned in the State penitentiary with hard labor during the whole lifetime of the prisoner.

Sec. 3. That on and after the passage of this act any person found guilty of the larceny of any horse, mule, cow, hog or any other live stock shall suffer imprisonment in the State penitentiary at hard labor for a period of not less than one year nor more than ten years, and such fine as the Court, in its discretion, may see fit to impose.

Approved March 22, 1878.

Argument for Usury Laws.

We were yesterday told the particulars of a case of a young man who is being eaten up by interest at about as lively a rate as though he were being devoured by a devil fish. His case is a reminder of the celebrated horse-shoe nail problem. It appears that in 1876 the young man, not then of age, was the keeper of a restaurant in this city. On one occasion he required some money, and a lawyer boarding with him loaned him \$50, the young man saying that, as interest on the sum, he would not charge the lawyer for his board until he paid him back his money. The lawyer said this was all right, and next day brought the boy a note to be signed by him, in which interest, on the fifty dollars was charged at the rate of \$1.40 per day, the lawyer saying that this was about the value of what he was eating each day. The boy objected strongly to signing it, but was finally induced to put his name to the paper. The lawyer went on eating—the boy not finding it in his power to keep going and pay the \$50—till the restaurant "busted" out. The lawyer still kept the note, which was given on the 14th of November, 1876. Finally the young man, who had gone to some restaurant in town, was sued on the note by the lawyer, who obtained judgment, with interest at the rate of \$1.40 per day. The young man's wages, amounting to \$116, were attached and gobbled, yet the note was far from being paid. Now the lawyer is going after his victim again, and the principal and interest amount to just \$736.50, not saying anything about what the lawyer ate and the \$116 he got by attaching the young man's wages. Considering that it is not yet eighteen months since the boy borrowed the \$50, we think this hash-house interest far ahead of the devil fish.—Ex.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Tax Returns.

AUDITOR'S OFFICE. BEAUCHVILLE, S. C. May 21, 1878. The assessors will be at the following named places on the dates herein specified to assess all property in the county, both real and personal. Persons are notified to be prompt in making returns and thereby avoid the penalty of three per cent. for failure. Erwin, June 4th and 5th. Allendale, June 6th and 7th. Prater's Store, June 8th. Buford's Bridge, June 10th and 11th. Ehrhardt's, June 12th and 13th. Howell's Mill, June 14th. Myers', June 17th and 18th. Bamberg, June 19th and 20th. Grahams, June 21st and 22nd. Bladock, June 24th and 25th. Pares Store, June 26th and 27th. Robbins, June 28th and 29th. Whitson, July 1st and 2nd. Mison's Mill, July 3d. Blanton's Store, July 5th. Barnwell, from 6th to 20th July. Blackville, from 1st June to 2nd July. C. E. LARTIGUE, Auditor B. C.

National House

353 King Street, (BET. GEORGE AND LIBERTY.) Board, \$1 50 Per Day. CHARLESTON, S. C. MRS. H. M. BAKER, Proprietress. A. B. CONNER, Attorney at Law. ALLENDALE, S. C.

JAS. W. TURLEY, Augusta, Georgia.

THE OLD RELIABLE Cash Dry Goods Store,

BEGS AGAIN TO CALL YOUR VERY SERIOUS ATTENTION TO his enormous and Matchless Stock of First-class

SPRING AND SUMMER DRY GOODS,

Which has never before reached such astonishingly low down prices. My friends will see how utterly impossible it is to enumerate all the things in a Dry Goods Store. My customers can rely on my stock supplying anything that they can think or desire. Send your orders with confidence, for anything you want—you shall not be disappointed. Describe as nearly as you can what you want, and about the price you want to pay.

Exceptional Lines and Prices in the following departments may be relied on: Dress Goods, White Goods, Hosiery and Notions, Cassimeres, House-Keeping Goods, Domestic, Paris, Trimmed Hats, Small Wares, Ladies' Ready-Made Suits, Lace Goods, Handkerchiefs.

Parcels amounting to \$10.00 and over will be delivered Free of Charge.

James W. Turley.

may 16-3m

YOU WILL FIND

—AT THE—

MAGNOLIA SALOON,

BROAD STREET,

AUGUSTA GEORGIA,

A FIRST-CLASS RESTAURANT,

Bountifully supplied with all the delicacies of the season.

THE BAR

Will be found to contain the best Beer, Ale, Whiskies, Brandies and Wines in the city.

MAT F. NELSON Proprietor.

may 18-3m

Do Not Buy Your

Men and Boys' Clothing

AND Furnishing Goods

Until you go to

Charleston, S. C.

Where you can save 25 per cent. by purchasing from

Matthiessen & Doolittle,

Academy of Music Building, Corner King and Market.

ap 18-3m

Fashionable Hat Emporium.

Edwin J. White.

DEALER IN

HATS, CAPS, FURS & UMBRELLAS.

269 King Street (Opp. Haspl) Charleston, South Carolina.

Umbrellas made and repaired to order.

Walter Steele is with this house and will be pleased to see his friends.

James A. Gray & Co.,

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA.

Our Stock of Spring and Summer Dry Goods is now complete, and is the largest and best assorted in the South.

Our Mourning Department contains everything from the lowest price to the finest goods imported.

Our Black, Colored, and Fancy Silk Stock is universally acknowledged to be the finest in the market, a glance at its contents will convince the most skeptical.

All the latest Novelties in Colored Dress Goods—"Chenille Jardiniers," "Resille Cypres," "Beige Sylphide," "Hombly" Victoria Suitings, Borettes &c. Designs and effects in Neckwear to be found nowhere else.

The handsomest Scarf Laces and Embroideries ever offered to the people of Georgia or Carolina.

Everything pretty and desirable in Parasols, and in Fancy Goods generally.

A Splendid Stock of Linens of every description Towels, Napkins and Dullies, &c. Embroidered Piano Covers.

A full line of Cassimeres, Cottonades, Homespun and everything needed by Country Stores and Planters.

The only complete stock of Ladies' Underwear south of Mason and Dixon's line. Ladies and Misses suits in great variety. Boys suits (from 3 to 8 years). A full line of Infant's wear, Cloaks, Dresses, &c. &c. Everything will be sold at the very lowest price—in fact so low as to astonish even buyers themselves.

Orders filled promptly and carefully.

James A. Gray & Co.

apr 24-3m

South Carolina—Barnwell County.

B. J. Quattlebaum,

IN THE PROBATE COURT. DENTIST.

Whereas, Susannah Hall has made suit to me to grant her letters of administration on the estate of Benjamin Hall, deceased, there are therefore 16 creditors and admonish all and singular the kindred and creditors of the said Benjamin Hall, deceased, that they do appear before me in the court of probate to be held at Barnwell Courthouse on Monday, the 27th day of May, at 10 o'clock a. m., to show cause, if any they have, why said administration should not be granted.

Given under my hand at Barnwell the 15th day of May, 1878.

JAMES M. RYAN, Judge of Probate.

may 16-14

NOTICE.

All persons having claims against the late Dr. J. Allen Duncan will render them and those against whom had claims will make payment to J. Davant, Esq., attorney at law, lendale.

M. M. DUNCAN, Executor.

apr 25-4t

Geo. T. Andrews,

NOTARY PUBLIC.

G. E. STEADMAN,

BLACKVILLE, S. C.

apr 18-3m