

# The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aims't at, be thy Country's, thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHERN, Established June, 1866

Consolidated Aug. 2, 1881.

SUMTER, S. C. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1895.

New Series—Vol. XIV. No. 29.

The Watchman and Southron.

Published Every Wednesday,

N. G. Osteen,  
SUMTER, S. C.

TERMS:

Two Dollars per annum—in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS:

One Square first insertion.....\$1 00  
Every subsequent insertion..... 50  
Contracts for three months, or longer will be made at reduced rates.

All communications which subscribe private interests will be charged for as advertisements. Obituaries and tributes of respect will be charged for.

The Old Issue Revived.

Republican, alias Negro, Convention Held in Columbia.

Plans Adopted for Organizing the Negroes, so that They May Decide What White Men Shall be Elected to the Coming Constitutional Convention.

Columbia State, February 7.

COLUMBIA, February 6.—Ellery M. Brayton's Convention came together to-day. It is a small affair. About 100 delegates were present when it convened, of whom four-fifths were negroes. Among the prominent white men attending were B. O. Duncan, of Newberry; W. W. Russell, of Anderson; R. W. Memminger, of Charleston; D. V. Clayton and Lawson D. Melton, of Columbia. Congressman Murray, Prof. Morris, of Columbia, and Smith, of Aiken, were some of the colored leaders. Tom Miller was not in evidence, though he is said to sympathize with the movement, and of course none of the Webstersites leant to the assemblage the light or shade of their countenances.

The convention was to meet at noon, but it was not until eight minutes of 1 o'clock that E. M. Brayton called it to order. The hall had not been heated, (the delegates couldn't afford the expense, it was said,) and it was anything but comfortable.

Mr. Brayton then read the call and announced the convention ready for business. J. W. Morris nominated Brayton for temporary chairman, and no other nomination being made, Brayton was elected.

BRAYTON'S OPENING SPEECH.

Brayton thanked the convention for the compliment and promised to preside with fairness: "We have assembled," he said, "at a crisis in the politics of the State. We are not here in a factional spirit. We are here under a call broad enough to include everybody now in or out of the party. The Republican party stands in need of active, earnest, energetic workers. For many years, crushed as we have been, the party has been able to do nothing. The party has been under duress and subjected to oppression, but this oppression has reached the climax now, and we must seek to prevent the threatened disaster. Under the conditions in this State we have reached the point that numbers do not count in elections.

"We cannot by ourselves prevent the constitutional convention being controlled by the spirit which is threatened by those who have called it. We can hope for assistance from others who have the real good of the State at heart. We must show that we are willing to join in good faith with those who desire a new constitution which will subserve the interests of all classes of people in the State. For twelve years the Democratic party has been in power, and it is not until lately that the constitution has been complained of.

"This was a most unfortunate time to hold such a convention. It is a sorry contrast when it is compared with other constitutional conventions. When another faction had control no one was disfranchised and no welfare disregarded. The prosperity of the whole State was regarded. We are here for a practical purpose, to devise means in this dire extremity so as to secure a constitution such as every man should demand. We ask in the first place that it should not be final until acted upon by the people. We want it referred back to the people. We want a non-partisan constitution. We want all parties to have a fair chance in all elections. We wish here to act so that we can appeal to all broad-minded and liberal-minded men. During the ten days in March there has been given a boon to the voters of the State, that of additional registration.

"It will be observed that the colored ministers have been called upon to use their influence to awaken the people, and to impress them with the need of registration. They alone can accomplish this result in the limited time that is left. This is no partisan matter, but a question that affects the life and death of citizenship. If we can do nothing, then there will be disfranchisement by the tens of thousands. There could be nothing nearer

in the line of the ministers' duty than to arouse the colored voters." He believed that out of this convention would grow a Republican party that would be what it ought to be in this State.

On motion of V. P. Clayton a committee of seven was appointed on platform and resolutions.

Prof. Morris moved that a committee of nine be appointed on organization, and the motion prevailed.

THE COMMITTEES.

The committee on platform, etc., was announced as follows: V. P. Clayton, Richland; R. H. Richardson, Sumter; B. O. Duncan, Newberry; R. W. Memminger, Charleston; H. L. Shrewsbury, Chester; M. W. Watson, Edgefield; R. E. Primus, Hampton.

The committee on organization is as follows: J. W. Morris, Richland; G. W. Murray, Charleston; L. D. Melton, Richland; D. W. Fowler, Union; W. C. Rush, Oconee; G. T. Mills, Spartanburg; J. B. Fishburne, Berkeley; T. M. Prickett, Orangeburg.

B. O'Dell Duncan took the floor and said: "In view of Senator Irby's statement last night, namely, 'There is no use to mince words about it—we must carry this convention or white supremacy is gone forever,' I offer the following resolution and hope that it will be adopted without reference to a committee:

"Resolved, That this is a statement utterly without foundation, and that our only purpose in organizing at the present time as Republicans is to be in a position to co-operate with and render the leadership of just minded and liberty loving white men who, like ourselves, are opposed to the dominating and tyrannical Tillman-Irby ring."

THE AFTERNOON SESSION.

At five minutes to 5 o'clock the convention reassembled, and Smith, of the credentials committee, reported, reading the roll of delegates.

W. W. Russell nominated Duncan, of Newberry, for permanent chairman, referring to him as a Republican well known, not only to the Republicans of this State, but to those of the whole country. Smith seconded the nomination. Fishburne nominated Brayton, who declined, and Duncan was elected. Brayton introduced Duncan as one of the pioneer Republicans of the State, who was a member of the constitutional convention of 1868.

MR. B. O. DUNCAN'S SPEECH.

Dr. Duncan disclaimed any ability as a public speaker, but gave his views as to the purposes of the convention. He would assure Senator Irby emphatically that the purpose was not to regain control of the State affairs. It was a defensive movement against the schemes of the Tillman-Irby constitutional convention, which was counted in by the grossest frauds. If the Republican corpse is to be resurrected it is attributable to Senator Irby's faction. It is only intended to organize in order to co-operate with Democrats and anti-reformers against the Tillman ring. It seemed that the old Republican organization was dead or gone into innocuous desuetude. This convention would endeavor to have every Republican register and assist at the ballot box, but would do nothing to hinder opposition to the element now dominant in the State.

A large black delegate moved that the signers of the call be allowed to participate in the Convention. Carried.

Dr. V. P. Clayton presented as part of the platform committee's report an address, which, at his request, was read by delegate Smith as follows:

THE REPUBLICAN ADDRESS.

To the People of South Carolina: We have the authority of Ex-Governor and Senator-elect Tillman that the Democratic party is an offence in the nostrils of South Carolina people. He said the same thing of the Republican party, but as he has always claimed to be a Democrat his judgment of the Democrat party may be accepted as the result of intimate knowledge, while his charges against the Republicans are evidently from hearsay and prejudice and not so well entitled to belief. The facts before the country and the people of this State are that the Democratic party is confessedly dead and the Populist party impracticable. No thinking man doubts that at the next election the Republicans will sweep the country and regain power for a long term of years.

In the face of this situation an effort is now being made to destroy the Republican and negro vote in South Carolina. The only justification suggested in this course is the alleged desire for white supremacy and fear of negro rule. The only argument advanced for its support is the rebash of sins of so-called "Radical" Governments in this State from 1868 to 1876. We ask the people of this State to consider soberly and honestly certain facts which cannot be disputed:

The masses of the negroes of this State have never shown the least desire to persecute their white neighbors. There was corruption in the so-called Radical Governments, but it was chiefly the work of alien politicians and the result of bad leadership. It is a fact

that the men now prominent in the Republican party passed through that time of temptation and debauchery untaunted.

In palliation of the sins of the negro we may submit the testimony of white Democrats regarding their own Governments. Governor Tillman has informed us that the Governments of white Democrats to the year 1890 were marked by corruption, bribery, political leprosy and inability. On the other hand very serious charges of very much the same nature have been brought against his Government by Democrats of opposing factions. The people of the State are agreed that the taxes of so-called "Radical" times were not as hard to pay as those now levied. We have Governor Tillman's evidence that far more pounds of cotton and meat and bushels of corn are needed now to pay taxes than at any period of "Radical government." Nobody can claim that the people are as prosperous now as they were then.

Notwithstanding these things the Republicans and the negroes of the State have for eighteen years submitted quietly to the rule of the minority with wonderful patience, with a docility and faithfulness and hope which must challenge the admiration and enlist the sympathy of the world. They have yielded everything with hardly a murmur. They have seen all the promises made them by the white Democrats in 1876 broken and contemptuously ignored. They have been banished from the jury boxes and the ballot boxes and discriminated against consistently and remorselessly. With all this they have gone on paying their share of taxes, the masses of them faithfully, honestly and humbly striving to do their part in building up the State and to make themselves better citizens and Christians.

Now they are called on to meet a proposition boldly, publicly and unblushingly announced that a convention be held for the declared and expressed purpose of disfranchising them forever and leaving them entirely helpless at the mercy of men who have shown every disposition to invade their rights, to blast their hopes and to crush all their modest aspirations. Against this cruel, unprovoked and unnecessary outrage we appeal to the people of the country of all parts, and especially to those of South Carolina. Representing and speaking for the Republican party we do solemnly declare that we are not acting for the restoration of Republican rule in the State or for the destruction or impairment of white supremacy. We are asking simply that Republicans and negroes be spared the right to exist as citizens and be not put on the level with convicts who have forfeited all civil rights. It is not only for the Republicans and the negroes, but for all interests of the State that we appeal.

Under the constitution of the United States no law can be framed to disfranchise the negroes which will not disfranchise thousands of white men, except by the adoption of what is known as the "Mississippi plan," which leaves in the hands of three or five men in each county, appointed by the Administration absolute power in deciding the right to vote. This has never been passed on by the United States Courts and is in all probability illegal. Whether it be so or not every instinct of every free man and the reason of every thinking man must revolt against a system so contrary to every principle of Republican form of government, and so inevitably leading to tyranny and corruption. Whatever may be the design or the pretext, such a system must bring the extermination of all parties and factions, save the Administration which may happen to be in power, leaving it unrestrained by any fear of responsibility to them.

We call on the Republicans of the State to organize and register to a man that they may be in position to co-operate in electing a constitutional convention which will be responsible to and will represent the people, and will protect the rights and interests of all. We recommend that wherever men of that kind are suggested they be voted for by all Republicans regardless of their party or factional alliances, and that our votes be given to men whom we can trust and men the masses of the people can trust, and who will feel that we are citizens of South Carolina, having rights and interests to be guarded by the fundamental law of the State. We invite all patriotic and thinking people of all parties and classes to join in this patriotic effort.

Let the Republicans begin immediately the work of organizing. It is their duty and privilege now to do a great work for the State which has been in so many respects a hard mother to them, and we do not believe they will flinch. Let them rally and do their part like men, trusting to the sense of justice and the intelligent self-interest of the people to make their final appeal effective. The Democratic party has been repudiated by the country and by those in this State who have claimed to represent it. Its record in New York and elsewhere and the charges against its Administration brought from responsible sources here estop it from claiming to be the representative and guardian of political purity.

The cries of "white supremacy" and negro rule are simply exhausted bugaboos which will frighten no man who thinks, and are used only by shallow partisans for purposes of deceit. The Republican masses of South Carolina will rally once more for the liberties and the rights of the people, the safety of the State and the maintenance of Republican principles and free government.

G. W. Murray was recognized. He said that already the same old game of registration officers delaying applicants for registration by useless questions had begun. He thought that the platform should warn the people that a concerted plan had already been agreed upon to carry the constitutional convention by all means, fair or foul.

Morris moved the previous question and the address was unanimously adopted. The following platform was then read:

THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.

We, Republicans of South Carolina, in Convention assembled for the purpose of organizing the Republican party of the State on a broader, more liberal and more progressive basis, do declare our principles as follows:

On national questions, we declare adherence to the essential principles of the National Republican party as set forth in its platform of principles at Minneapolis in June, 1892, that is to say we are in favor of moderate and reasonable protection for American labor and American capital against the cheaper labor and cheaper capital of other countries.

We are in favor of sound, full-value money, whether of gold or silver, paper or currency, for all classes of people, for "bread winner" as well as for the capitalist, for the poor laborer in his hut as well as for the millionaire in his palace.

We are in favor of a government service based on merit and capacity, instead of on the corrupt and debasing Jacksonian system, "To the victors belong the spoils."

We are in favor of a free and fair ballot in all public elections, and an honest count of votes cast for all classes of citizens, whether native or foreign born, whether white or colored. These we regard as fundamental principles of the National Republican party, and we believe they are in no sense sectional, and in no way hostile or inimical to the best interests of the South or of our own State. But in local State affairs our position is peculiar, and we are under the necessity of accommodating ourselves to the situation. We have for years been deprived of any voice in our State Government by unjust election laws, and by fraud and trickery openly practiced at elections. We have quietly submitted to the wrong, hoping for the return of a more liberal and just sentiment among our Democratic fellow citizens. We are glad to observe that this long hoped for change of sentiment seems to be taking place among many of our very best and most trustworthy people, and we would by no act of ours mar or check its progress. On the contrary we would promote and encourage its development in every way possible. This, then, is the situation with which we find ourselves as Republicans confronted, and from no fault of ours, for we have done nothing whatever to provoke it. The question we are now called upon to decide, shall we hold our hands and quietly submit to seeing ourselves disfranchised, our most sacred rights as citizens taken away from us, and even the means of educating our children cut off by the repeal of the public school tax? If we do this we furnish to the world the strongest possible evidence of our utter incapacity and unfitness for citizenship. If on the contrary we proceed to carefully organize our forces all over the State, in every town and county, and manifest our readiness to co-operate heartily with liberal-minded and just-ice-loving white citizens and under their leadership, we will show the world that we are not unworthy of citizenship; we will encourage liberal and fair-minded Democrats to organize and take a bold stand against the injustice and tyranny of the dominant faction, and we'll show to that faction itself that we constitute a faction to be respected. But we should make it clearly and distinctly understood that we do not propose to act on the aggressive, but purely on the defensive, that we do not propose to make any effort to control the constitutional convention, but only to assist as far as we can in electing to it fair-minded men and justice loving citizens of such standing and character that they may with safety be trusted to frame a fair and impartial and conservative constitution, just alike to all classes and citizens. To make it clearly understood what in our opinion ought to be the course of the coming convention, we may announce the following fundamental principles which will be satisfactory to us as Republicans, and which we think ought to be acceptable to all fair-minded, conservative citizens:

1. No Constitution should be put in force until it has been submitted to and ratified by the legal voters of the State.

2. The constitution should make no discrimination, civil or political,

against any class of citizens on account of race or color.

3. It should provide for the equal participation of the two leading political parties in the management and control of elections.

4. It should make no reduction of the present special tax for public school purposes, but rather the contrary, nor should it increase the poll tax, that being discrimination against the poor man, be he white or black.

The foregoing are expressive in brief of the principles and ideas on which we propose to organize and make the contest purely and simply in defence of our rights as Republicans and as citizens; and we most earnestly urge upon every Republican entitled to vote to spare no pains to procure a registration certificate in order to be able to vote on election day.

In conclusion we would earnestly appeal to all honest and patriotic citizens who are opposed to our present arbitrary and tyrannical rule to organize promptly and to assume the leadership against the present dominant faction, for the purpose of restoring to our poor unfortunate State a Government fair, just and impartial to all classes of her citizens, a Government of the people, by the people and for the people.

against any class of citizens on account of race or color.

3. It should provide for the equal participation of the two leading political parties in the management and control of elections.

4. It should make no reduction of the present special tax for public school purposes, but rather the contrary, nor should it increase the poll tax, that being discrimination against the poor man, be he white or black.

The foregoing are expressive in brief of the principles and ideas on which we propose to organize and make the contest purely and simply in defence of our rights as Republicans and as citizens; and we most earnestly urge upon every Republican entitled to vote to spare no pains to procure a registration certificate in order to be able to vote on election day.

In conclusion we would earnestly appeal to all honest and patriotic citizens who are opposed to our present arbitrary and tyrannical rule to organize promptly and to assume the leadership against the present dominant faction, for the purpose of restoring to our poor unfortunate State a Government fair, just and impartial to all classes of her citizens, a Government of the people, by the people and for the people.

The following is the section reflecting upon the Tillmanites, which, after debate was stricken out:

But while this more just sentiment has been slowly gaining ground on the one hand, on the other an extreme faction has suddenly sprung into existence, and by worse than dubious methods has gained full possession of all branches of our State Government—the executive, the legislative and, worst of all, the judiciary. This now dominant, exultant and utterly unscrupulous faction proposes, for the purpose of perpetuating its own power, to permanently disfranchise the mass of Republican voters by a change in the fundamental law of the State. Not content with temporary disfranchisement, by means of unjust election laws, partisan management of elections and fraudulent count of votes, it proposes to make this disfranchisement permanent by a change in our State constitution. Its purpose in this respect is not left in doubt, but is open and avowed during the last campaign, from every political stump in the State by the "bosses" of the faction. With this in view a factional Legislature provided for a Constitutional convention and factional managers of elections "counted it in" by the grossest kind of frauds at the November elections, in spite of an unquestionable popular majority against it.

ORGANIZING THE CAMPAIGN.

Then there was another delay over the manner of organizing. The Convention finally agreed on the following plan of organization:

That as there is no organization of the Republican party now in this State, this committee recommends and urges that this body, composed of representatives of the Republican party of the State, do reorganize the Republican party.

They recommend further, first, that the rules for the government of the Republican party of South Carolina, adopted by the State Convention on September 13, 1882, and amended May 1, 1888, be reaffirmed and adopted and ratified by this convention as the rules governing the party as it shall be reorganized.

The committee recommends the election of a State executive committee, and chairman and vice chairman of each Congressional district, and any other officers or organizers as this convention may deem necessary.

Rev. A. M. Williams, of the Westley Monumental church, took for his subject to-night "The Theology Taught Through Tribly." He did not see anything immoral in the novel, but his opinion was that it attacked a fundamental principle of the Christian religion, which is faith.—Savannah News.

The Valdosta pork packing establishment has bargained for 3,000 fat hogs to be delivered next season. They will be supplied by farmers within a radius of eight miles. The price to be paid is 3 to 4 cents gross. The Valdosta Times estimates that the 3,000 hogs will average 200 pounds each, and that at 3½ cents a pound they will bring the farmers in money not less than \$21,000. The raising of the hogs will involve very little additional expense on the part of the farmers, so that the cash they receive for them will be so much extra money put into circulation in the neighborhood.—Savannah News

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder  
ABSOLUTELY PURE

Down in a Deep Tunnel

Hundreds of Dollars Worth of Whiskey is Found.

Columbia State, February 8.

Slick moonshiners who have for years been making a study of ingenious methods to evade the United States Revenue laws are simply not in it with the South Carolina Dispensary law evaders. But they are not so liable to have their ingenuity outdone by "informers" as the Carolina liquor man is. His way is a hard one. When he feels safe and secure, down comes the constables, knowing where to look for the lair of the tiger, and forsooth he is ousted.

Yesterday a lair was unearthed right in the heart of Carolina's Capital, which was almost in the bowels of the earth—a lair which rivals that of North Carolina moonshiners, who dived through a river's waters to reach the mouth of their underground distillery. It was a way down under the cellar of the store of Messrs. Platt, Hook & Shull, and the whole construction of the underground tunnel, particularly the manner of concealing the way of entrance, was a masterpiece of ingenuity. It is safe to say that it would never have been discovered had not some informer needed the 20 cent a gallon reward offered by the State. As a result the owners of the liquor—whatever they are—have about \$1,300 less than they had yesterday morning, for between 300 and 400 gallons of good liquor was found and confiscated.

The search of the place was made by Liquor Constables Speed Davis and Beach, Trial Justice Constables Cooper and Hattin, and Sergeant Morehead and officer Sheppard and Strickland of the police force. They swept down on the place in the forenoon, and Mr. Ed. Shull was so abusive, so Constable Speed says, that he ordered him locked up in the stationhouse. Officer Sheppard took him away.

The owners of the store refused to allow the officers to go into the store, but opened up the cellar. The building is a very long one, and the cellar the officers were ushered into runs only about half way. At the rear end was solid earth and plenty of it. The officers knew what they were doing, however, for they sent for shovels and spades and began to dig into the wall of earth. After digging forward about six feet, their instruments struck air and they soon got into the rest of the cellar. They went in and searched all around. On one side, next to the brick wall, was what appeared to be the solid foundation of a large chimney, running on up through the building. On this their attention centered. Pretty soon they began to cut into the brick, and in a short time they gazed through, and, by the flickering light of a candle, they could see that the chimney was a false one; that inside a ladder ran upwards and there was a neat little bar with all necessities inside. They cut the hole larger and got inside. They could see the bottom of an ingenious trap door in the floor, which could not be detected above, as it was covered by shelving. But the liquor had not been found, and the real ingenuity of the hiding place was yet to be seen. The constables looked around the inside walls of the chimney, and towards the outer wall they finally discovered a door about four feet high. They broke this down and stood at the mouth of a large tunnel running back into the "bowels of the earth." A man could almost stand erect in the neatly constructed tunnel. Then the exploration of this tunnel began. The constables went on and on until they struck a point where the tunnel divided and branched in opposite directions, and then the liquor was in sight. There was about forty feet of tunneling, and the earth taken out of it had been used to make the false back to the cellar. It took the constables until about 4 p. m. to get out all the liquor stored in the tunnel. And there was lots of it. In all the constables estimate they got nearly 400 gallons. There were 22 five gallon jugs, 20 five gallon demijohns, 18 boxes, formerly containing "Octagon soap," but found to contain 32 pint bottles each; and 15 or 20 five gallon kegs. The liquor was all hauled to the State Dispensary during the afternoon.—The State.

Day Books, Ledgers, Journals, both single and double entry, Record books, Letter Copying Books etc., at H. G. Osteen & Co's.