

TERMS—\$2.00 IN ADVANCE.

NO. 1,115.

and of those already constructed there
did not exist the means of preventing their

going to decay. Upon this labor rests the public credit, and without it this State could not procure a dollar in the market, though for the most useful purpose, because she would be wholly unable to pay the interest on the public debt already contracted. In a word, the social and material prosperity of our people, and their means of living, greatly depend upon this species of labor from the State. Already there exists a heavy drain upon it, in consequence of the greater profits resulting from its employment in the more Southern States.

That the repeal of the clause of the Constitution in question, and the consequences that would inevitably flow from that act, would add another and a powerful influence to those already existing to expel slaves from the State, does not, to my mind, admit of a doubt. Furthermore, the constitution as it exists, is consistent with itself. All free men have the right of voting for Members of both branches of the Legislature, and all are required to pay a poll tax towards the support of the Government. Were this tax repealed, there would be a total exemption from the payment of the power of imposing taxes resting with one portion of our people, while the duty of paying them would remain to the other. Considered from this point of view, this feature of our constitution, which is sought to be abrogated, affords a highly useful protection to all kinds of property of whatever nature.

Before concluding this subject, I would respectfully suggest a revision of our revenue law with a view to its amendment in such particulars as public interests may require. I would especially recommend an amendment of the clause imposing a tax upon incomes and salaries, upon the principle heretofore indicated.

It is believed that the condition of the public finances will admit of a reduction of the tax upon land, from twenty to fifteen cents on the hundred dollars value. Such a reduction I deem necessary to the establishing of a just relation between the land tax and that imposed upon other property of a like kind.

I would that I could, consistently with a due regard to the public interests, conclude this communication with a reference simply to the domestic affairs of the State. It is impossible, however, to close the eyes to the perilous condition of the confederacy, growing out of the agitation that has for many years been kept up against the institution of African Slavery as existing in the South.

The Republic has at last fallen upon those evils, against which, the Father of his Country so solemnly warned us in his parting advice: it is distinctly and widely divided by "parties founded upon geographical discriminations."

The great body of the people of the Northern and Southern States entertain diametrically opposite opinions upon the subject of African Slavery; the former, that it is a social and political evil and a sin; the latter, that it is a system of labor eminently well adapted to our climate and soil, right and proper within itself, and that so far from being a sin, its establishment among us is one of the Providences of God for civilizing and Christianizing that benighted race.

Were the sentiments entertained as abstract opinions merely, they would occasion but little disturbance to the government. It is far otherwise, however. This sentiment, with the people of the North, has assumed the form of a bold and aggressive fanaticism, that seeks the annihilation of slavery in the South all hazards, and regardless of consequences. That such is its aim, the object and the end of its daily and hourly labors, can no longer be the subject of a doubt.

Impelled by this spirit, the Northern States have violated our rights to an extent that would scarcely have been borne by any other people on earth. They have deprived us of our property, through lawless mobs, acting under the sanction of a high public opinion, and often, too, with the connivance of their constituted authorities. Organized societies, with them, have sent emissaries among us to incite slaves to insurrection and to bloodshed. Inflammatory publications counseling slaves to rise against their masters have been systematically circulated throughout the South by the prominent party of the North, sanctioned and endorsed by its most influential leaders. The Legislature of a large majority of the non-slaveholding States have, by solemn enactments, openly and shamelessly annulled a provision of the Constitution of the United States, for the rendition of fugitive slaves and have legislated directly and pointedly, with the view to prevent the owner from recovering such property.

Courts of justice among them have, upon more than one occasion, totally disregarded a law of Congress, enacted to secure our rights of property, and delivered over fugitives slaves to attendant mobs, with a knowledge of their power to prevent such rendition by force. But little more than a year ago, an armed organization was deliberately planned and set on foot by political societies, and men high in public confidence at the North, for the purpose of heading an insurrection of slaves against their masters. The invaders came, and in the night time, fell upon a weak and unsuspecting community and murdered peaceable and unarmed citizens.

When captured and executed for their treason and murder, they were lamented by the great body of the people of the North, as though they had fallen in the performance of some meritorious public service. It is not to be doubted that history furnished another instance among a civilized people where treason and murder have been so sympathized with and applauded. Since which time, men most prominent in these demonstrations have been elevated to the highest offices of State, thus evidencing the deep and pervading sentiment of hostility in the North towards the institutions and the people of the South.

Such of the invaders as escaped were harbored in the non-slaveholding States and upon demand made, according to the forms of the constitution, the executives of two of those States, Ohio and Iowa, pointedly refused to perform their sworn constitutional obligations by surrendering them to the justice they had fled.

Enormities like these could not have been perpetrated towards the people of any foreign nation without involving the country in a war. Indeed it is now but too manifest that the people of the Southern States have not in this confederacy that protection for their property which the subjects of Great Britain, France or any other foreign country can claim and enforce against us. Should the subjects of any foreign government be despoiled of their property by the people of Massachusetts or any other non-slaveholding State, restitution and indemnity would be made by our government, upon demand, or reprisals and war against the United States would enforce indemnity. But should the people of Massachusetts forcibly deprive a citizen of North Carolina of his property, he could have no such remedy; and indeed no remedy at all since the constitution which provides for such cases has been wholly annulled.

The forbearance with which the South has borne these indignities and wrongs, has not

terly failed to secure a corresponding forbearance upon the part of our aggressors. The spirit of fanaticism by which they are influenced, growing bolder by its latest not and unobstructed influence, has at last, so far as the Northern masses, as to enable them to seize upon the general government with all its power of purse and sword. Two persons have been elected, respectively to the offices of President and Vice President, exclusively by the people of one section of the country, upon a principle hostile to the institutions and domestic policy of the other. Neither of them received an electoral vote in all the fifteen Southern States, and neither could have uttered, in many of them, the political sentiments upon which they are elevated to power, without subjecting himself to the penalties of the local criminal laws. A clearer case of a foreign domination as to us could not well be pretended; and that it will be a hostile domination, past occurrences and the circumstances under which they have been elected, forbid us to doubt. That any people, having a due appreciation of the principles of liberty, could long submit to such a domination, it is impossible to suppose.

They now tell us, that this election has been conducted according to the forms of the Constitution, and, that therefore, the people of the South should take no exception to the fact. They, who themselves have utterly refused to be bound by that Constitution, now hold it up to us, as a bond to secure us from defending our property and lives against their oppressions.

It is true, Abraham Lincoln is elected President according to the forms of the Constitution; it is equally true, that George the Third was the rightful occupant of the British Throne, yet our fathers submitted not to his authority. They rebelled not against the man, because of any defect of his title to the crown, but against the more substantial fact, the tyranny of the Minister of the Parliament. The power "behind the throne," which in the name of the throne attempted to deprive them of their liberties is the one with which they grappled. So it is with us. It is not the man, Abraham Lincoln, that we regard, but the power that elevated him to office, and which will naturally maintain a controlling influence in his Administration. And can it reasonably be expected, that men who have totally disregarded their constitutional obligations and proved so dangerous in the administration of their State Governments should be entrusted with the power of governing the last of our people in daily gratification of their lust of power and desire for domination?

When it is considered that the sentiment of hostility to African Slavery is deeply fixed in the minds of the Northern people, that for twenty-five years it has formed a part of their education, been inculcated in the family circle, and taught to them from the Pulpit, as a leading principle of their religion, together with the duty of its practical enforcement "everywhere and on every occasion," it must be confessed there exists but little ground upon which to rest a hope that our rights will be secured to us by the General Government administered at their hands.

This condition of public affairs, as was to be expected, threatens the most deplorable consequences to the confederacy. Already, it is rendered more than probable, that several of the Southern States in the exercise of the mutual rights of nations, will separate from the Federal Union, before the termination of your present Session. Such an occurrence, would present a grave state of facts commanding your most serious and solemn deliberations.

requires your early attention. I would recommend a thorough reorganization of the militia and the enrollment of all persons between the ages of 18 and 45 years. With such a regulation our muster roll would contain near a hundred and ten thousand men.

I would also recommend the formation of a corps, of ten thousand volunteers with an organization separate from the main body of the militia, and that they be suitably armed and equipped.

That your proceedings may be conducted in a spirit of harmony and conciliation, and that they will redound to the honor and welfare of North Carolina and our common country is my fervent desire.

JOHN W. ELLIS.
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
RALEIGH, Nov. 20th, 1860.

THE PATRIOT.

EDITED BY
M. S. SHERWOOD, AND JAMES A. LONG.

GREENSBOROUGH, N. C.
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1860.

The Convention—Altering the Constitution.

We see that several bills have been introduced into the Legislature with the view of altering the Constitution so as to tax negroes on the ad valorem principle. Some of these bills look to such alteration by Legislative enactment, while others propose a Convention. We have always advocated the Convention mode, because we think that it would be more satisfactory, and more in accordance with the republican principles upon which our Government is founded, and also, because the making, or the amending a Constitution, should never be entrusted to the hands of mere politicians. The Convention mode has been objected to by many, on the ground that it would cost too much. We have always thought this objection quite frivolous, as the cost would not, in any event, exceed fifteen or twenty thousand dollars, a much less sum than was expended in getting Free Suffrage by Legislative enactment. But be that as it may, we presume that we are to have a Convention in any event; and such being the case, when the Convention is assembled, the question of altering or amending the Constitution can be submitted to them, with very little additional cost. And as the Convention which is to assemble, is to take into consideration the grave and important question of remaining in, or going out of the Union, we presume it will be composed of our wisest, best and most prudent men, and consequently, just such men as would be best calculated to remodel our Constitution. If we are to go out of the Union, it is well known and conceded by all, that our taxes will be greatly increased, and that, unless negroes are made to bear their equitable proportion, that all other kinds of property, even to the plough horse, will have to be taxed beyond all reason. In view of such an event, therefore, it becomes necessary that negroes should be made liable to this tax as soon as possible, and as the Convention mode is much more speedy than the Legislature, we cannot conceive how any one can object to the alteration by this mode, the more especially, as we will in any event, be at the expense of a Convention. And if the delegates of which this Convention will be composed, have sense enough to manage our Federal matters with discretion, they surely will have sufficient wisdom to effect whatever amendments are required in our State Constitution. And again, if North Carolina is to secede, and we are to have a civil war, we will have no time during such scenes, to be tampering with our organic law—better get our Constitution all in good trim before we go out of the Union, so that when we get out, we will have every thing ready to our hands. By a Convention we can have our Constitution amended and ratified by the people by the 1st Thursday of August, 1861. Whereas, by the Legislative mode it will take about three years. And as we are to have a Convention, it is an insult to the people to be tampering with their Constitution by the Legislature, for when they meet in this capacity, they can fix matters to suit themselves. When the people meet in Convention on the state of the Union, it can't be a limited Convention. It would be a ridiculous absurdity for a set of men who have no power to say a word about their own Constitution, to meet in Convention, and gravely consult about the Constitution of the United States.

Although there are some fiery spirits at Raleigh, or at least, some who seem anxious to acquire a notoriety as such, yet we are glad to learn, and that from good authority, that the large majority of the members of the General Assembly are conservative men, men who think much more of preserving the liberties and blessings which we now enjoy, and of handing them down in all their freshness and purity to their children, than they do of acquiring a little mushroom reputation for chivalry, by pining themselves on to the tail of South Carolina. The Hon. Bedford Brown, we understand, made on last Friday, a very able speech in behalf of the Union, taking the ground that the election of Lincoln was not in itself, a sufficient cause to disrupt this Union. Mr. Brown but speaks the sentiments of at least three-fourths of the members of the Legislature, and of eight-tenths of the people of the State. The Disunion spirit of the Legislature, small in the beginning, will, we predict, grow smaller by degrees, and beautifully less.

DISUNIONISM.

North Carolina University.
A portion of the students of the University having recently passed a series of resolutions pledging themselves to the support of secession, we are glad to see that another portion of them held a meeting on the 19th, in the College Chapel, and passed resolutions with a view of counteracting the impression designed to be produced by the previous manifesto. This is a good sign. The following is the 5th resolution, which we commend to the attention of all young gentlemen at our Schools and Colleges:

5th. That, indeed, we believe that the momentous question which is now agitating the Southern mind ought to be left to wiser and more experienced heads than ours; furthermore, that hot political excitement does not accord with the character of an institution of learning, which by right, ought to be the abode of quiet, thoughtful study, of unpassioned feeling, and of reason; but that we feel justified in bringing forward these resolutions in order to counteract the opinion that secessionism is the prevailing sentiment of our college.

THE BANKS.

Every where North, South, East and West, the Banks are suspending. There is a panic throughout the land. Creditors are calling upon their debtors to pay up—the Banks are not discounting; money cannot be had, and every species of property is greatly reduced in value. What is to be done? Why the Democracy say we must take off the restrictions from the Banks, relieve them from the penalties consequent upon suspension, so that they can discount, and thereby furnish money to the people. And it is possible, that the anti-bank-money-specie currency Democracy—the anti-bank-money-savers, can afford no other remedy for the distresses of the people than ship-plasters! Poor Democracy! how fallen! And is this to be the first fruits of secession, that all the wholesome restrictions which we have thrown around our Banks are to be removed, so that they can expand and over issue without any restraint? In our present difficulties, it may be necessary for the relief of the people, that the Bank restrictions be taken off—but we desire the people to reflect and ask themselves what has caused this necessity? How long, oh! how long shall our country be cursed with the misrule of Democracy? Rule or ruin, has for years, been their motto—and now that power is passing from their hands, they seem determined to destroy our common country, which heretofore, they alone, have professed to have the ability to save.

UNION MEETINGS.

The people of Kentucky are holding large meetings in various parts of the State, giving expression of opinion against secession and disunionism. We are glad to see that similar meetings have been held in some counties in this State, and we hope that in a short time, the people in every county will assemble themselves together, and speak in a voice that cannot be misunderstood, that this Union must and shall be preserved; that no mere Constitutional act, or ought to be a sufficient cause for a dissolution, and that we can better maintain our rights in than out of the Union.

A Preacher in Difficulty.

A celebrated preacher, well known as an eccentric character, stopped short in the pulpit; it was in vain that he scratched his head; nothing would come out. "My friends," said he, as he walked down the pulpit stairs, "my friends, I pity

A GRAVE CHARGE.

The Standard says that Mr. Ellis succeeded in getting the nomination for Governor at Charlotte in 1858, by resorting to tricks, which even a New York politician would consider unfair. What these tricks were, the Standard don't say, but they must have been very scurvy tricks indeed, for it is well known that a New York politician considers cheating, lying, swindling, perjury, and subornation of perjury, as all fair and right in the scramble for office and the spoils—and yet, according to the Standard, Mr. Ellis has been guilty of tricks, which even these corrupt New York politicians would consider unfair. We have a great curiosity to know what these tricks were. This a grave charge; and from what we know of Mr. Holden, we are satisfied that he would not make it unless he could prove it. Mr. Holden has had a long acquaintance with Mr. Ellis, and has had every opportunity of finding him and his tricks out, so if Mr. Holden has made a false charge against Mr. Ellis, he has done it willfully and knowingly. We don't believe that Mr. Holden in late years, would do such a thing—for sometime past, we have looked upon Mr. Holden as quite a reformed man, and as quite a different man from what he was, when in 1844, he charged Mr. Clay with bargain and corruption. Mr. Holden never believed this on Mr. Clay. He wouldn't do such a thing now—nor would he now charge Gov. Ellis with these scurvy tricks if he did not believe them.

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KANSAS TROUBLES.

There is great excitement in Missouri and Kansas, on account of the movements of the abolitionists, Capt. Montgomery and his company, numbering some five hundred. Montgomery threatens to invade Missouri and Arkansas, and free the negroes. Several men have already been murdered, and others captured and probably killed. A dispatch from Warsaw, Mo. states that a meeting has been held to call on the President for aid. It is understood that the President has ordered Gen. Harney, to proceed to the scene of the disturbances and to subdue the insurgents.

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N. C. Annual Conference—Methodist Protestant Church.

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Gov. Ellis's Message.—We publish to-day in extra form the message of Gov. Ellis to the Legislature of this State.

There are portions of this document to which we cannot do respectfully oblige. We regard portions of it as tending to disunion without good cause, and we fear that the purpose of the Governor is to "precipitate" the State into the same position occupied by Southern Carolina. We say this after a careful reading of the message. We regret that it is our duty to say it for we were anxious, if possible, to approve the tone of the message and the policy recommended in it.

The Governor recommends in the first place a consultation with the slaveholding States, and then he commands that "a Convention of the people of the State be called, to assemble immediately after the proposed consultation with other Southern States shall have terminated." This consultation is to be held through commissioners or delegates to be appointed by the Legislature, and afterwards the people of the State to be consulted, or rather to be called upon to carry out the programme of disunion which this consultation will propose. In other words, we are to be taken to dissolve the Union on account of the election of a President according to the Constitution, and the people are then to be called, not to direct or control the consultation, but merely to register and carry out the decision of the disunion leaders. There it is, fellow-citizens, in plain English. That is the plan of your Governor. He desires to dissolve the Union, but he fears to trust the people with the question. He would agree and arrange with the slaveholding States to honor and the pride of the State to disunion schemes; and then, and only then would he consult the people of the State in their sovereign capacity, to know what they would do on the most important subject that has ever engaged their attention. Such is the Democracy of Gov. Ellis—such is the respect which he entertains for his masters, the people of the North-Carolina.

KANSAS TROUBLES.

There is great excitement in Missouri and Kansas, on account of the movements of the abolitionists, Capt. Montgomery and his company, numbering some five hundred. Montgomery threatens to invade Missouri and Arkansas, and free the negroes. Several men have already been murdered, and others captured and probably killed. A dispatch from Warsaw, Mo. states that a meeting has been held to call on the President for aid. It is understood that the President has ordered Gen. Harney, to proceed to the scene of the disturbances and to subdue the insurgents.

Suspension.

The Banks in Fayetteville suspended specie payment on Friday, the 23d.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

The great length of the Governor's Message prevents us, this week, from giving a full synopsis of the proceedings of the Legislature. The following, however, is a summary of all that is important:

SENATE, Tuesday Nov. 20th, 1860.

On motion of Mr. Simpson, a message was sent to the House, proposing to raise a joint committee of two from each House to report regulations to govern the intercourse between both Houses. Messrs. Ramsay and Walker were appointed on the part of the Senate, as a joint select committee to wait on the Governor, and express the readiness of the Legislature to receive any communication from him.

A message was received from the House proposing to elect a printer for the State, and announcing that John Spelman and Messrs. Syme and Hall were in nomination. The Senate agreed to the proposition. The Senate proceeded to ballot. Mr. Spelman received 27 votes, and Messrs. Syme and Hall 18.

A message came from the House, to go into an election for Attorney General, announcing that W. A. Jenkins and Kemp P. Esqris, had been put in nomination. The Senate agreed to the proposition, and proceeded to vote. Mr. Jenkins received 29 votes, and Mr. Battle 17.

Mr. Blodsoe from the committee to superintend the election of public printer, announced that the whole number of votes cast, were 161; necessary to a choice 81. Mr. Spelman having received 88, was declared duly elected. Mr. Burton from the committee to superintend the election of Attorney General, reported as follows: Whole number of votes cast 161; necessary to a choice 80. Of these, Mr. Jenkins received 89 votes, Mr. Battle 72.

A Bill was introduced by Mr. Turner, of Orange,

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