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BY JOHN F. ROSWORTH

CANTON, MISS.

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THE CONVENTION TAX

We publish to-day an ordinance of the Convention levying the special tax, together with General Gillem's order ordering the sheriffs in the several counties to collect the same. He had the graciousness to so modify the ordinance that tax-payers have *thirty* days after notification, in which to "shell out," instead of only five, as decreed by the scallawags, scullions, rapscallions and slabberdegullions now sitting at Jackson, calling themselves a *Constitutional* Convention. So our 6 most potent, grave and reverend Seignior, and worshipful right good masters" could not "hurry up the hot cakes, and hand around the rolls" quite so soon as they expected. They could not "put a girdle around the earth in forty minutes," as Dagan intimated they would be able to do. Since Gen. Gillem's order appeared, however, convention warrants have taken a slight upward tendency, and two pounds of candles can now be bought for a $10 warrant, instead of one, as before.

We still think this tax should be resisted, if there are any legal means by which it can possibly be done. Of that, however, gentlemen of the legal profession are the best advisers. Two or three of our contemporaries have suggested that our people should band together, as one man, and refuse to bid on any property advertised to be sold for the tax; that the owner of the property should himself bid it in, and then forfeit his bid—and so on, *ad infinitum*.

Certainly such an odious, iniquitous and abominable scheme for robbing the people for the benefit of a set of impudent negroes and worthless adventurers, should be thwarted, if it be in the power of the honest masses to do it. Let's try.

THE "CONSTITUTIONAL" CONVENTION.

When will this body of men finish the business for which they were assembled, and adjourn? Since it has become probable that the tax which they have levied upon the honest people and real citizens of Mississippi will have to be paid, the above becomes a question of great importance. They voted themselves ten dollars per day, at the beginning of the session, since which they are enacting, and their pay and other expenses have already cost the State over one hundred thousand dollars—they having been in session sixty-five days. Is that not enough at which to rob the oppressed and impoverished people of this State? Is it not time they had completed the beginning they have made in framing, and gone about their business, legitimate or illegitimate, as the case may be? Have they no consciences, at all? Are there no honest men among them? Is there no one among them to raise his voice in behalf of justice, honor, honesty and right?

They have already outraged decency, by remaining in session over two months to accomplish that which they should have performed in two weeks at the farthest. How much longer do they intend to impose on the patience, and suck, like vampires, the life-blood, as it were, of this people? "How long, oh! Lord, how long?"

They have frittered away their time in discussing questions with which they have no more to do than a council of Esquimaux—such as changing the names of counties, removing the seat of government, propositions for "relief" of the people, etc; and the other day they spent several hours in discussing a resolution to rule out the reporter of the *Clarion*, because he did not place the prefix of *Mr.* to the names of the "colored" members of the menagerie!

The people have become weary of this tomfoolery, and public sentiment—even of the better sort of radicals and negroes themselves—demands that they should "close out" and go home—And if they do not want the curse of "anathema maranatha" of an indignant and outraged people to follow them even to their obscure and dishonored graves they will "not stand much upon the order of their going, but go at once" and rid the body politic of a disgusting carbuncle, the people generally of an incubus, and the good citizens of Jackson particularly, of a nuisance.

Of course, what we say on this subject is intended to apply alone to the *Radicals* in the caravan serie. The Conservatives—the only men of ability in the conclave—had they not been checkmated, would have framed a good constitution, and gone home, long ago. There are even Republicans in the body who have been opposed to all delays.

GEN. GILLEM'S ORDER ENFORCING THE COLLECTION OF THE CONVENTION TAX.

HEAD'QS. 4TH MILITARY DISTRICT.
(MISSISSIPPI AND ARKANSAS.)

General Orders } *Vicksburg Miss., March 6 1868.*
No. 10 }

The taxes levied on by the following ordinance passed by the Constitutional Convention of Mississippi on the 27th of February 1868, for the purpose of raising funds to defray the expenses of said Convention, will be collected and accounted for by the Sheriff as directed by said ordinance, with the following exceptions:

Section 4, providing "that it shall be the duty of the said Sheriffs and ex officio tax collectors to give immediate notice upon the right of this ordinance that they will proceed to collect the taxes herein levied, and that all taxes remaining unpaid at the expiration of ten days from the date of said notice, will be subject to a penalty of five per cent. on the amount of said tax," is so much thereof as is contained within the period of ten days.

The Auditor of Public Accounts of the State of Mississippi will issue his warrants as provided in the 16th section of the ordinance aforesaid.

The Sheriffs will compute all costs and disburse the funds as prescribed by law and this ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE

Passed by the Constitutional Convention of the State of Mississippi February 27 1868, to provide for the levy and collection of a special tax upon the property in the State of Mississippi to pay the expenses of said Convention in conformity with the provisions of an act entitled "An act supplementary to an act entitled "An act to provide for the government of the United States in the State of Mississippi," March 23, 1868.

SEC. 1. *Be it ordained*, That we, the people of the State of Mississippi, by the Convention assembled, in compliance with the act of Congress entitled "An act to provide for the government of the United States in the State of Mississippi," March 23, 1868, do hereby declare that a special tax on the property in said State, equal in value to the amount of the State tax assessed upon and to be paid by the State upon such property for the year 1867, be and the same is hereby levied, and that the amount shall be added to the State tax assessment roll for the year of 1868.

SEC. 2. *Be it further ordained*, That a special tax of one-half of one per cent. be and the same is hereby levied upon the value of the stock now on hand in merchandise of all Dry Goods, Groceries, Drugs or Physicians' stock, and other articles of merchandise and all other taxable property not herein specifically exempted.

SEC. 3. *Be it further ordained*, That the said tax is hereby fixed upon each and every acre of land in the State, and upon each and every town lot in the towns, villages and cities in the State, equal in value to the amount of State tax assessed upon such property for the year 1867, to be added to the State tax assessment roll for the year of 1868.

SEC. 4. *Be it further ordained*, That the said tax collectors shall be required to collect the taxes herein levied upon the property herein specified, and for the purpose of paying the necessary expenses of the Convention herein provided for, and for the purpose of paying the interest on the State debt, and for the purpose of paying the State officers, and for the purpose of paying the State quota of the expenses of the United States Government in the State of Mississippi