THE WEEKLY CLARION.

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Editorial Correspondence of the Clarion.

PRINCE GEORGE Co., MARYLAND, July 31st, 1869.

The letter of Judge Dent to Messrs. Jeffords and Moorman, which appears in the telegraphic columns of the newspapers of this date, declaring his unalterable purpose to accept the nomination of the National Republicans, settles the question of his candidacy, and it may be added, of his triumphant election.

In this connection, it is worthy of note, that a special despatch was sent from Washington to the New York Tribune, Baltimore Sun, and other leading papers, dated 27th, stating that "Judge Dent has frequently asserted his willingness to withdraw from the canvass in Mississippi, if in the opinion of the President the success of the Conservative movement in that State would result in the injury of the Republican party, of which he claims to be a loyal member."

Inasmuch as this information, or pretended information, was given in the interest of the Eggleston-Alcorn faction, it is conclusive, they themselves being witnesses, that *Judge Dent has not accepted the nomination tendered him by the National Republicans in discegard of the wishes of the President*, and that therefore the best evidence that the Republicans, white and colored, of Mississippi, can give of their renunciation of the heresy of Disfranchisement as embodied in the Eggleston constitution, and of their advocacy of the Grant doctrine of a constitution that will secure the civil and political rights of every citizen of the State, will be to fall in with the great popular movement in favor of LOUIS DENT.

Every day demonstrates the wisdom of the course of the Virginia conservatives in suspending their distinctive organization and supporting the Walker Republican candidates. By this means, they have taken away any pretext of the extreme Radicals in Congress to prevent the admission of the State into the Union. When the Legislature shall have ratified the 15th amendment, all the requirements of the law of reconstruction will have been complied with, and Gen. Grant who expresses himself gratified at the result, will insist upon the prompt recognition of her State government. He will carry his point, just as he carried the day against the extremists in their infamous attempt to force Disfranchising constitutions on Virginia and Mississippi at the last session, contrary to the known will of their people. When the defeat of the Wells party, which occupies the same relation to the people of Virginia that the Eggleston-Alcorn faction does to Mississippi, was first announced, the Washington Chronicle did not scruple to intimate that the State would be kept out of the Union as a punishment for her contumacy in refusing to accept the Bitter-Enders, particularly after they had professed to repudiate proscription; but the discreet course of Gov. Walker and his friends have convinced them of the weakness of this game, and now the Wells Executive Committee in suppliant tones, are proposing terms of reunion with the Walker party—admitting the success of the latter—and hypocritically pretending, notwithstanding their recent abuse of the Conservative Republicans, that there is really no cause for dissension among them.

The course of the New York Tribune, the great leader of the Republican press, attracting much attention. Mr. Greely has placed himself at the head of the Liberal movement. He scouts the idea that Virginia shall longer be denied her equal rights in the Union in consequence of her repudiation of the Wells faction. He takes the same just view of the contest in Mississippi, and administered a severe rebuke to a delegation of Egglestonians who called upon him a few days ago to secure the powerful influence of his paper in the interest of their rotten and failing cause.

E. B.

PRINCE GEORGE Co., MARYLAND, August 1st, 1869.

The division in the Cabinet on political questions is understood to be broad and deep. Boutwell, Cresswell, Robeson and (probably) Hoar, are extreme Radicals. Fish, Rawlings and Cox are National Republicans. And it is surmised that the President does not attempt to control the political views of his constitutional advisers.

In order to save himself from defeat, Stokes, the candidate of the Disfranchisers in Tennessee against Senter, National Republican, has obtained letters from Boutwell and Cresswell strongly endorsing him; but the other members of the Cabinet have refused to interfere in the election.

Nothing can exceed the folly into which the blind partizanship of Boutwell and Cresswell, has betrayed them. It is scarcely to be doubted that Stokes will be defeated as he deserves to be. He will go down beneath the same popular wave in favor of Impartial Suffrage and Universal Amnesty which has swept triumphantly over Virginia. And yet to the extent of their ability, they have committed the Administration to the fortunes of the failing faction: and the election of Senter may be logically claimed as a defeat of the Administration in a State which gave Gen. Grant 30,000 majority over Seymour, provided they are to be accepted as exponents of its policy. Gen. Grant will ascertain ere long that it is wretched management which permits a portion of his cabinet to present his Administration in an attitude of hostility to all who refuse to bow the knee to the Baal of Proscription; and that it must float with the current which is carrying the vessel freighted with the fortunes of the people, to the haven of "Peace," or sink beneath it.

In his letter in favor of Stokes, Mr. Boutwell, lays down this proposition:—"The platform of a party is not so good "an indication of their purpose as can be "obtained from a knowledge of the political character and opinions of the "men who control the party."

Measured by this standard, what are the present professions of the Eggleston-Alcorn faction in favor of a liberal constitution, worth? How are they to be weighed against the "political character and opinions" of the men who framed the Disfranchising constitution, and who indecently, and in disregard of the plighted faith of Congress, attempted to force it and themselves on the people who had fairly and righteously decided against them?

E. B.

WEST JACKSON ENTERPRISE.—We paid a visit yesterday to the shops of Messrs. Wm. and John Stewart, near the freight depot in West Jackson, and were surprised as well as delighted at the extent to which they are engaging in the general business of manufacturing. Commencing without other capital than their genius, industry and long experience as mechanics, they are rapidly building up a business which cannot fail eventually to well repay them for their enterprise and toil, and prove greatly beneficial to our city, also. Their shops—at present but temporary frame structures—are located on Town Creek, where they have purchased four acres of ground, and here they hope, before many years, to erect extensive and substantial buildings.

The Messrs. Stewart are at present engaged, in co-partnership with Mr. T. C. Newcomer, in the manufacture of bone dust.—Their mill, for this purpose, is capable of grinding six tons per day. It is interesting to witness how readily, and with terrible force, the largest bones are reduced to the finest dust—the best known fertilizer to enrich our mother earth. The demand for this fertilizer, during the past season, was far greater than they were able to supply.—Now, however, they are fully prepared to fill orders. Planters ordering from this mill will get the pure article, and at less cost than bone-dust can be purchased elsewhere and brought here. The only drawback is the want of bones!—or, rather, the want of the disposition to gather them up. Mr. Newcomer has advertised for half a million pounds.

The next thing we noticed was a Grist Mill, capable of grinding fifty bushels of corn per hour. This mill serves the public on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and has already proven a great accommodation to the people in West Jackson and vicinity.

The fruit crates, patented by Messrs. Lindsey & O'Sullivan are made at these shops. The Messrs. Stewart devised and put in operation the necessary machinery for turning out a box every three minutes.

A Planing Machine, and an immense oven for the rapid drying of lumber are among the other features of their shops.

The engine in use is almost entirely of their own manufacture. It is about thirty-horse power. They have recently fitted up an engine for our Press Room, which we hope to have in its place next week, when we will be better prepared to use up the raw material, and give the Messrs Stewarts a better blow!

We will add that Mr. Wm. Stewart is one of the most accomplished draughtsmen in the country, and is very frequently called upon for designs and plans for public edifices, residences, etc.

FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE ORPHANS' HOME.—On the 17th inst., we published a series of resolutions adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Orphans' Home, expressing their disapproval of the efforts of certain parties in New York to secure a certain lottery franchise by the payment of five thousand dollars into the State Treasury for the benefit of the Orphans' Home. Just prior to the time mentioned, a representative of the New York parties had made a formal tender of the money to the State Treasurer, who declined to receive it, under instructions from Gen. Ames—the latter emphatically endorsing on the application his disapproval of lottery schemes, even when conducted ostensibly in the interest of orphans. The New Yorkers, however, were not to be foiled in their benevolent(?) efforts in behalf of the children at Lauderdale Springs, and have actually secured from Gen. Sherman an order directing our State Treasurer to receive the money when tendered! This order, with the money, is now at Columbus, and will be here in a few days. In this attitude of the case, the Trustees will, of course, accept the five thousand dollars, for the benefit of the Home. It will be paid into the State Treasury for that purpose, and can be applied only in that behalf

ORPHANS' HOME—ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

The Third Annual Festival of the Orphans' Home will occur at Lauderdale, on the 15th of September proximo. Everybody is invited to attend. We are very anxious that these annual gatherings should be generally attended by the people. We want them to become acquainted with the Home; with its management and condition, and the work it is accomplishing. We urge all therefore, to come and see us. Your presence will encourage us and cheer the orphans.

Entertainments of various kinds will be provided for the occasion. The orphans will entertain us with a brief exhibition of their attainments. Distinguished speakers will address us. There will be music to charm us. Nor will the "inner man" be forgotten.

We would not have the people forget, however, that one object of this Festival is to *entertain the orphans*. We would make the enjoyments of the occasion mutual. We therefore invite every one to bring a little something for the inmates of the Home. Bring something nice. These children are like our own—they love nice things; but it is not often that they have the privilege of enjoying them. They are poor, and have only what we give them.

If you cannot come yourself to the festival, send a box or basket of nice things by a neighbor or friend, or Express. Let us show the orphans that we love them still, and wish to be loved by them.

Fresh meats and fowls should be sent so as to reach the Home on the 14th.

The Railroads will convey all visitors to the festival and home again at half fare.

By order of the Board,
W. S. WEBB, Sec'y.

The various papers of the State will do the Home a favor by giving the above as wide a circulation as possible.

EDUCATIONAL.—Under the Presidency of Rev. Walter Hillman, the two well-known institutions of learning at Clinton—Mississippi College and Central Female Institute—are rapidly regaining that efficiency and popularity which characterized them before the war. The latter school was one of the few that did not suspend operations during the recent unpleasantness. It kept steadily on, but with a diminished patronage of course. During the past year the attendance of pupils was very encouraging, and its prospects for the session which opens on the 28th of next month are very flattering. It is one of the best Female Colleges in the South. Mr. Hillman and his lady are peculiarly qualified for the care and general advancement of young ladies.

We direct particular attention to what Mr. Hillman has to say elsewhere concerning Mississippi College. Financial embarrassments have crippled the usefulness of this College, but it will soon be relieved, and will go forward in the great work of preparing young men for the battles of life. The next session opens on the 27th September.

EDUCATIONAL ADDRESS.—We have received from Rev. L. R. Redding, Professor in Whitworth Female College, a pamphlet copy of his "Address on the Utility and Practicability of a System of Universal Education"—delivered before a mass meeting of the citizens of Brookhaven, July 19th, 1869.

Buck's Bitters is the *best* and *cheapest* tonic extant.

For the Clarion.

What is our best Policy?

In the present civil and political condition of our State the vital question presented for the judgment of our people, is, what is the best policy for us to pursue? not, what is the best as tested by individual proclivities and desires—but, what is essentially the best for the political and material interests of the State. It is often necessary, in the history of a people, and it is often eminently proper that issues should be met with diplomacy and dealt with upon considerations of expediency.

Our course should be predicated upon a complete recognition of "the situation," and a matured estimate of our resources and the difficulties to be overcome. Let us, then, look at our condition, and let us see what we really have the power to accomplish for our good. Let us determine by reason, and the inexorable logic of events what course promises us the greatest attainable good, and then see if in pursuing that course, whether or no we sacrifice our integrity as a people.

It is not necessary to go very far back to past events to determine our present condition. But as a starting point, in order to avoid all dangerous abstractions, we must comprehend it fully.

Four years ago our war-worn armies stacked their arms; and we were then in the saddest sense of the term, a prostrate people. Since that time we have been completely in the power of the national government; a government which has been administered for that time by a party hostile to us. It is not necessary to inquire whether this power is rightful or wrongful. Let us say, however, that it is a usurped power, obtained only through the forms of a tortured and misconstrued constitution, and exerted arbitrarily and tyrannically. It has resulted in the overthrow of our State government, and our deprivation of all participation either in State or National government, and the deprivation of many of our dearest personal rights, and in the establishment of a military despotism over us. It is useless to enumerate in detail that which we all feel so acutely. In a word, everything we do is done by the sufferance of the party in power.

We claim that we have political and civil rights and privileges guaranteed to us by the Constitution of the United States, and rights and liberties given us by the laws of nature. It is true, in the abstract we have these rights and privileges. But it is idle to talk of theoretical rights, unless we have the power to enforce them. The remedies, like the rights, unfortunately, exist only theoretically in a disregarded and profaned constitution. Have we the power, independently of the will of the National government, to remove one of our greatest grievances, the vast tyranny of this military Despotism? Have we the power to assume again the government of our State, and regardless of the powers at Washington, restore her broken relations to the Federal government, and assert for her the independence and prerogatives of a State in the Union? Alas! the stubborn facts around us answer but too promptly.

Assuredly it is sufficient to say that had we possessed the power we would have accomplished long since these great ends. If then, we are powerless ourselves, and independently of the conquering power to attain and hold these great fundamental rights, how utterly powerless are we to remove all the minor consequential ills and grievances appertaining to our condition.

It may be taken for granted that could we attain our wishes we would reconstruct the State on a basis different from that proposed by Congress. But a choice is not left us.

Every reflective reasoning mind must see that reconstruction cannot be effected from the Southern stand-point. That stand-point practically has long been passed in the onward march of facts. This problem cannot be solved to meet what are practically some of our exploded ideas.

How will it then be accomplished? That it will be on some plan is inevitable.—Can it ever be accomplished on the National Democratic theory? That is the stand-point of many of us. A settlement on this basis cannot *be possible* for four years, and cannot be regarded as scarcely a probability after that time We should not predicate our action upon any hopes or calculations of this kind.

Then how will this State be restored? Only one answer remains. Either under Radical or Conservative auspices. We must admit the existence of the two parties We have watched with breathless interest the Virginia campaign. We are anxious observers of the contest now progressing in Tennessee, and these two States, particularly the first, illustrate our political condition. We cannot fail to see in this, and in the advocacy of conservative principles by leading Republican journals, that there is a growing tendency to a reaction in our favor.

Wisdom suggests that we should lend our energies to the policy that promises the best results, rather that exhaust ourselves in vain efforts for what we all must admit is unattainable.

Now we say it is manifestly our policy suggested by reason, and, we may add, dictated by our necessities, to avail ourselves fully of this favorable reaction, and in no way can this be done except by supporting the recently organized Conservative Party.

It seems to be admitted by our thinking men, that a Democratic ticket in the coming campaign, is impracticable. All seem to feel that a Democratic triumph at the ballot box, would be rejected by Congress.

Whether impracticable or not, we have every reason to believe that no Democratic ticket will be announced.

Then the whole question presents itself as a simple alternative. Shall we support the Radicals or Conservative Republicans? No true man can hesitate between the two. No man who is not so wrapped up in his own vanity, so absorbed in the contemplation of his own pet ideas, as to be unmindful of the vital interests of the people, can be negative in this contest.

On the one hand are the Radicals, a set of political vampires, ready and anxious, notwithstanding their recent soft words and fair promises, to suck our life-blood, and to sweep away the last expiring breath of our liberties. We have read their hearts by their revolting acts, and we see that nothing but the most detestable tyrannies will follow their advent into office.

On the other hand is the new but powerful National Union Republican Party, composed of men of intelligence and honesty. Republicans it is true, but in no way identified with the political monsters who have worked for our ruin. This party has planted itself upon the most conservative ground occupied by any part of the Republican party North. It proposes to give to every white man his rights, and to administer the government fairly and liberally, thereby softening many of the asperities of laws which we regard as oppressive. By this party we will secure, if not the hearty sympathy, at least the non-interference of the Executive Departments, and the certainty of a fair election; and lastly, the most important of all, the great probability of a ratification by Congress, without which all effort on our part is vain. Can we ever hope for better terms than Universal Suffrage and Universal amnesty, promised by this party?

Is not the only open question in this State whether we, the white population, shall have our political rights? Are not the other questions closed upon us by a power which we must all confess is, so far as we are concerned, supreme. Every jurist knows that from the political questions arising under acts of Congress, there is no appeal to the courts. The great question of negro suffrage will soon be irrevocably settled by constitutional amendment. Congress will never reverse its action.

Many of these facts alluded to are painful to us, and they are only alluded to because they are existing realities, and because we must recognize and act upon them, and turn them, if we can, to good account. We must as a morally brave people, turn from the past, and gather up all that is left of our liberties, and not disparingly relinquish the attainable because we cannot gain all we desire. We should, in a word, go to work as a philosophical, earnest people, to rebuild with the material at hand, the fabric of our liberties, restore the State government on the best *practical* basis, and foster the material interests of our State.

To support then the National Union Republican party must be the best course, the one that promises the greatest attainable good. A few will probably say that they cannot ignore their principles by supporting this party. To these we say there is not, nor will there be any party in the field representing their principles. Where, then, is the apostacy in choosing between the two parties in the field, particularly where one is friendly and the other hostile to us?

This is the last great struggle for our rights. Let every citizen of the State become an earnest, zealous supporter of this party. Let every man who has our true interests at heart but do his duty, and in the clash of the coming contest the last vestige of Proscriptive Radicalism will be swept from our State. Let us through a false idea of principle or sentiment, remain inactive, or yield a cold and passive support, and we will see in the horrors of the catastrophe, the proof of our mistake.

J.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

FELLOW-CITIZENS:—

You are doubtless aware of the fact, that the President of the United States, on the 10th day of July, 1869, issued his Proclamation, appointing the 30th day of November next, as the time for voting on the ratification of the Constitution, adopted by the Constitutional Convention, which assembled in this city on the 15th day of May, 1868. At the same time officers of the State Government, members of the Legislature, and members of Congress will be chosen.

The President, in his proclamation, has ordered that the following highly objectionable features of the constitution, shall be voted on separately, viz: that part of section No. 3, of Article 7, which reads as follows:

"That I am not disfranchised in any of the provisions of the acts known as the reconstruction act of the Thirty-ninth and Fortieth Congress, and that I admit the political and civil equality of all men, so help me God;" provided, that if Congress should at any time remove the disabilities of any persons disfranchised in said reconstruction acts of the said Thirty-ninth and Fortieth Congress, and the Legislature of this State shall concur therein, then so much of this oath only as refers to the reconstruction acts shall not be required of such persons so pardoned, and entitles him to be registered.

Also, the whole of section No. 5, of article No 7, which is as follows:

No person shall be eligible to any office of profit or trust, civil or military, in this State who was a member of the Legislature that voted for the call of the convention that passed the ordinance of secession, or as a delegate to any convention, or voted for or signed any ordinance of secession, or who gave voluntary aid, countenance or encouragement to persons engaged in armed hostility to the United States, or who accepted or attempted to exercise the functions of any office, civil or military, under any authority or pretended government, power or constitution within the United States, hostile, or inimical thereto, except all persons who aided reconstruction by voting for this Convention, or have continuously advocated the assemblage of this Convention, and shall continue in good faith to advocate the same; but the Legislature may remove such disabilities, provided nothing in this section, except voting for, or signing the ordinance of secession, shall be so construed as to exclude from office the private soldiers of the late so-called Confederate States army.

Also, Section 5, of Article 9, which is as follows:

The credit of the State shall not be pledged or loaned in aid of any person, association or corporation, nor shall the State hereafter become a stockholder in any corporation or association.

Also, that part of section 26, artiel 12, which prescribes the oath of office to be taken by State officers, and which is in the words following:

That I have never, as a member of any convention, voted for or signed any ordinance of secession; that I have never been a member of the State Legislature that voted for a call for any Convention that passed any such ordinance.

The President also directs that that portion of the ordinances contained in the Constitution from sections 4 to 15, of article No. 13, inclusive, shall not be considered as constituting any part of the Constitution.

It will thus be perceived, that many of those objectionable features of the Constitution of 1868, against which the people of the State so justly complained, and which led to the rejection of that instrument, at the ballot-box, have been extracted from the body of the Constitution, and are to be voted upon separately at the November election. In reference to the clause prohibiting the faith of the State from being pledged, and which is to be voted on separately, the undersigned express no opinion.

The adoption of the Constitution, divested of the disfranchising clauses above copied, may now be regarded as a fixed fact.—the Radical Republicans, who framed the instrument, having pledged themselves to vote against these odious provisions.—the Conservative Republicans having given a similar pledge—and the people of the State, generally, having signified a willingness, under the circumstances, to take the Constitution, thus amended, as the fundamental law of the State. Although it is true, that there are some other provisions of the constitution which are objectionable, and which we would have been pleased to have seen designated for a separate vote; yet, recurring to our deplorable condition as a people, and considering the whole "situation," we deem it fortunate that we shall have for our organic law, even this Radical Constitution, shorn of it prominent enormities.

There will, then, be no contest between parties, in voting on the Constitution. There will, however, be an issue as to the men who shall be elected to administer the reconstructed State government and represent us in Congress; and on that question we desire to give expression to our views, and to submit our conclusions to the consideration of the people.

There are two organized parties in the State. The Radical Republicans, sometimes called the Eggleston party—those who endeavored by ignoble means to force upon us the Constitution of 1868, as a whole, after it had been fairly voted down by a large majority of the people, of both races—have perfected one political organization for the coming election. They will shortly present a ticket, which, we doubt not, will be mainly composed of that class of adventurers who have constantly endorsed and struggled for all the oppressions and unjust principles and practices of that odious party.—Perhaps, in their desperation, and in order to deceive and delude our people, they may bid high enough to secure some ambitious aspirants amongst our "home folks" willing enough and credulous enough to lend themselves to their nefarious schemes of wrong and plunder. At all events we entertain no doubt but the ticket of the Radical Republicans, when announced, will be, in every respect, a type and reflection of the Eggleston party.

On the 23rd of June last, the Conservative Republicans assembled in Convention in this city, organized themselves into a political party, under the name of "National Union Republicans," and promulgated a Platform of principles. That platform announces universal suffrage and universal amnesty, and a speedy removal of all the political disabilities imposed upon our people, and an early reconstruction of the Union on the Congressional plan, as the prominent principles governing them. Their platform denounces the principles of the ultra Republicans, or Radicals, and advocates the restoration of Peace and fraternal relations between the North and the South. The "National Union Republican Party" has issued an official call for a State Convention, to assemble in this city, on the 8th day of September, 1869, at which time they propose to nominate and present their State and Congressional ticket. In that call, they invite all persons, irrespective of political antecedents, race or color, and who oppose the men, measures and principles of the Radical party, to unite with them.

It is well understood now, after free discussion and consultation, that the real citizens of Mississippi,—the old inhabitants and owners of the soil,—will not place any ticket before the people at the coming election; nor will they make any effort to effect the organization of any third party. On this subject, there seems to be great unanimity of opinion amongst men of all political antecedents—although there are a few persons, at different points in the State, who still think that a third party should have been organized.

Inasmuch, then, as we shall have two Republican Parties in the field, and no party peculiarly our own, the people of Mississippi are forced either to take no part whatever in the approaching elections, or to give support to one of the two Republican tickets. What course should we pursue, in view of our anomalous and prostrate condition as a people? Shall we remain mere inactive observers of the struggle, or shall we in the present campaign, lend our aid to one of the Republican Parties? Which course is likely to be promotive of our interests?

On this vital question, the undersigned desire to submit their views. We certainly have no disposition to dictate to our fellow-citizens; nor are we unmindful of the fact, that we have no delegated authority to issue a political address on behalf of any party; and yet, as private citizens, solicitous for the future welfare of the State, we shall venture to express our own views, and to advise our fellow citizens as to the course, which, in our opinion, they should pursue in this important crisis in our affairs.

The undersigned announce it as their deliberate and matured opinion, after much anxious study of the State, we shall venture consultation with very many of the ablest and most prudent citizens of the State, in every county, that we should support the "National Union Republican Party," and vote for the ticket which they may present. We feel well assured that their ticket will be composed of gentlemen actuated by conservative and patriotic principles, and possessed of intelligence and capacity for office. The support yielded to this party should not be cold and formal; but active, zealous and faithful, embracing all honorable means necessary to ensure success, and to enable that party, under the truly conservative and patriotic principles announced in their platform, to achieve a signal victory over their opponents. Success, by an overwhelming majority, will be certain, if our people pursue the course above suggested We advise the people in every county of the State to go to work, at once, in the direction indicated, with a determination to succeed, and to be active and untiring in their labors!

The policy we recommend was pursued by our wise and intelligent friends in Virginia in their recent election. You are aware that they obtained a great victory over the Radical Republicans. Virginia stands this day virtually reconstructed, on the basis of Universal Suffrage and Universal Amnesty. Let us follow the lead of the old "mother of States," and reap the same advantages she has secured by the wisdom and prudence of her people.

The principles of the National Union Republican Party of Mississippi, are in perfect harmony with the Congressional plan of reconstruction. They are in harmony with the views of the President of the United States, as announced in his generous and patriotic special message to Congress, opposing the odious disfranchising schemes of the Eggleston party, and recommending measures which will secure to all the citizens of Mississippi, of both races, equal political rights and privileges. Under their auspices Mississippi can certainly secure a fair election, and be re-admitted into the Union, and have her true interests represented in Congress.

All Mississippians agree that reconstruction, on the best attainable basis, and at the earliest possible moment, is essential to the great interests of the State. Reconstruction will bring Peace, real Peace, to the country, and will restore to us pure civil rule, and a destruction of that gigantic military despotism, under which we have so long suffered and languished, with all its terrible humiliations and oppressions. The present basis for reconstruction, although no mode of our selection, (for we had no power to choose,) is certainly as fair and just as we have any reason to hope for hereafter.

Reconstruction once effected, and the blessings of Peace and civil rule secured, we shall speedily witness a marked change for the better in all our material interests. Capital, labor and population will flow into the State. Our natural advantages, the wonderful productiveness of our rich soil and genial climate, will *command* prosperity. Our paralized industrial pursuits will all revive, whenever we obtain certainty for the future, by the establishment of a fixed, enduring civil government. Our political history hereafter, will, of course, be governed by the degree of prudence and wisdom our people may observe, in meeting and directing unforeseen future developments.

We take it for granted that no true Mississippian, worthy of that honored name, can think for a moment of adhering to the Radical Republican Party as it exists in the State of Mississippi. From them we have received nothing but cruel tyranny, unjust persecution, and a degree of oppression and humiliation unequaled, as we conceive, in the sad history of conquered nations. Their odious principles, as ignobly illustrated by their past party history, and not *successfully* disguised even in their cunningly devised and insincere Platform of July last, are condemned by all intelligent and just men, North and South. The conservative sentiments *expressed* in their late Platform, cannot be confided in, having been forced from them, as a last desperate effort to seize the State Government, with its offices and emoluments, after the party had been rebuked at the ballot-box, by the people of the State of both races; after they had been signally repudiated and rebuked by President Grant, and by a Congress composed of a large majority of Republicans.

Without further extending this address, by stating all the reasons which conducted our minds to the conclusion herein announced, we submit that which we have written to the calm consideration of the people of the State, of both races, not doubting but the course we recommend is the proper one to be pursued, in view of our unfortunate surroundings.

JACKSON, August 5th, 1869.

Respectfully, etc.,

AMOS R. JOHNSTON, Hinds county.
WILLIAM YERGER, "
THOS. J. WHARTON, "
JOHN D. FREEMAN, "
A. G. BROWN, "
WILLIAM T. WITHERS, "
GEORGE W. HARPER, "
JOSHUA GREEN, "
GEO. L. POITER, "
WILEY P. HARRIS, "
FULTON ANDERSON, "
E. BARKSDALE, "
THOMAS S. DABNEY, "
PAUL A. BOTTO, Adams county.
CHARLES P. NEILSON, Amite county.
GEORGE F. WEBB, "
S. E. WILSON, Attala county.
THOS. P. HOY, "
E. M. WELLS, "
C. M. VAIDEN, Carroll county.
J. Z. GEORGE, "
DAN. R. RUSSELL, "
SYLVANUS EVANS, Clark county.
HERMAN MAYES, Copiah county.
R. W. HUEY, "
W. A. STONE, "
J. M. WESSON, "
A. P. BARRY, "
W. M. HALEY, "
JOHN TAYLOR MOORE, Claiborne county
JOHN C. HUMPHREYS, "
T. N. MARTIN, Chickasaw county.
THOMAS N. DAVIS, "
WM. S. BATES, Chickasaw county.
JAMES J. DEAVENPORT, "
A. H. BRANTLEY, Choctaw county.
B. H. CHALMERS, De Soto county.
M. D. JOHNSON, "
J. B. MORGAN, "
J. C. N. ROBERTSON, "
THOMAS S. TATE, "
HENRY DOCKERY, "
H. CASSEDY, Franklin county.
W. A. CHAMPLIN, Harrison county.
REUBEN O. REYNOLDS, Monroe county.
J. J. HOOKER, Holmes County.
W. H. MAGRUDER, "
J. M. DYER, "
W. A. DRENNAN, "
H. P. JOHNSON, "
W. W. GAITHER, Itawamba County.
BENJ. THIGPEN, Jasper County.
O. C. DEASE, "
W. T. POWE, "
JOHN WATTS, "
WM. HARDY, "
CALVIT ROBERTS, Jackson county.
THOS. REED, Jefferson, County.
E. H. HICKS, "
GEO. W. SHACKLEFORD, "
J. J. McLEAN, "
B. B. PADDOCK, "
JOHN D. WATTS, Kemper County.
O. Y. NEELY, "
ED. L. BOWEN, Lawrence County.
K. R. WEEB, "
J. S. HAMM, Lauderdale County.
L. A. RAGSDALE, "
JAS. J. SHANNON, "
P. H. McCUTCHEN, Lafayette County.
L. S. OWEN, Lee County.
W. D. HOLDER, "
SAML. L. MEEK, Lowndes County.
J. H. SHARP, "
BATTLE FORT, "
JAMES T. HARRISON, "
A. MURDOCK, "
BEVERLY MATHEWS, "
A. S. HUMPHRIES, "
FRANKLIN SMITH, Madison County.
S. S. CALHOUN, "
SINGLETON GARRETT, "
M. B. McMICKEN, "
J. McFARLAND, "
H. W. WALTER, Marshall County.
W. S. FEATHERSTON, "
LOCKE E. HOUSTON, Monroe County.
A. E. FANT, Noxubee County.
G. D. MOORE, "
H. L. MULDROW, Octibbeha County.
JOHN T. LAMKIN, Pike county.
THOMAS R. STOCKDALE, "
D. W. HURST, "
W. G. CAMPBELL, "
W. R. HAMILTON, "
WM. H. GARLAND, "
F. T. COOPER, "
JEFF. WILSON, Pontotoc county.
C. D. FONTAINE, "
ROBERT LOWRY, Rankin county.
A. G. MAYERS, "
JOSEPH M. JAYNE, "
WM. C. HARPER, "
W. B. SHELBY, "
THOS. J. CATCHINGS, "
A. J. PEANTZ, "
THOS. N. NORRILL, "
THOS. S. WHITE, "
M. D. GRAHAM, Scott county.
A. Y. HARPER, "
A. B. SMITH, "
T. O. MENDENHALL, Simpson county.
W. J. WARD, Smith county.
L. McLAURIN, "
D. R. WALSE, "
JESSE ELLIS, "
MOSES MEYER, "
J. G. BLACKWELL, "
JOHN H. WOOD, "
A. E. REYNOLDS, Tishomingo county.
W. M. INGE, "
W. T. STRICKLIN, Tippah county.
A. M. PAXTON, Warren county.
WIRT ADAMS, "
H. R. WARE, "
FRANK VALLIANT, Washington co.
J. B. COVINGTON, Winston county.
WM. S. BOLLING, "
GARNETT ANDREWS, Jr., Yazoo co.
N. G. NYE, "
J. W. C. SMITH, "
GEO. B. WILKINSON, "
ROBERT BOWMAN, "
F. BARKSDALE, "
R. S. HUDSON, "
WM. R. MILES, "
E. C. WALTHALL, Yalobusha county.
W. R. BARKSDALE, "

The Chinese Question.

WATER VALLEY, Miss., Aug. 3, 1869.

Editor Clarion.—As a Southern man and Mississippian of twenty years, I beg the privilege through your columns of entering my earnest protest against a certain project which is agitating the newspaper world if not the people. If the papers represent the people, we all seem to be going wild over the introduction of Chinese laborers into the South. In the first place, I would ask, do we want population? I think we have as much now as before the war, and as for the whites, they are more industrious and thrifty, and if Probate Clerk's records are any indication, it will increase more rapidly than anti-bellum times, when we were all more or less know nothings on this question. Admitting that we want more population, I would ask every sober, reflecting man who originates an idea, and who have observed the operations of our "system," if it is not better to bring here intelligent, thrifty, christian Europeans, and make them the owners of the soil they occupy, than to flood the country with this Trogan rabble? Would they not make a better class of citizens, and be better fitted every way to perpetuate our republic, when this perpetuation is now almost a forlorn hope? Would this not soonest develop our various resources, build up our wasted fortunes, and make the country really prosperous? Let no man say they will not come among us, for they will if we offer them inducements, as for instance, look at the Western States. Cannot our large land owners divide their farms into small homesteads and sell to these people on terms to induce them to come, reserving a portion that will increase in value by the increase of population, and will not the same reason set up and push forward their other enterprises? From the revelation of the China agent at the Memphis Convention, and the prompt responses to his requirements, it seems that we have a little money yet, and cannot we spend as much money for one European as for a cooly, and is he not worth twice as much?

Most of our papers have advocated this very policy since the surrender, and it is surprising with what lawyer-like facility they now change sides to suit the supposed popular sentiment. The big guns fire, and the little ones chime in the general cry for the restoration of King Cotton, and the consequent relapse into the attendant mania.

Does not every one know that cotton was ruining our land, and effectually checking the improving our farms, and the beautifying and making comfortable our homes? Look at the immense influence of our farmers who hunted slaves, mules and cotton bales by hundreds, who deprived themselves of nearly every comfort, lived in huts and fared really worse than our humblest mechanics. I believe we want diversified agriculture, and immigrants brought here capable of making intelligent citizens, and am satisfied that with a fair and well-decided discussion of the subject, all honest men would arrive at the same conclusion. There are two million and a half of landless laborers in the United States now out of employment, to whom not one word of encouragement, or one cent of money is offered, but we have plenty to send for the Chinese. Oh, wonderful oh, patriotic consistency (?) No inconsiderable portion of this large number is here in the South, and can be seen any day by Mississippians. Many of them are ex-confederate soldiers, some of whom gave land, mules, niggers, limbs—all but life for their protection with the threatened reduction to pauperism by the merciless competition of these myriads of heathens. Is the picture overdrawn?

Then again, look at the certainty of contests and riotous disturbances that will inevitably follow this unnatural rivalry of the vermin-eating idolators, against our white men who cannot live so low. Again will not the loyal league emissaries take advantage of this God-send, (to them) and unite the opium eaters with our present unsettled political party, and the combination is formidable indeed! We know that the carpet-baggers are fertile in resources, and work unceasingly.

To present a still more odious feature:—think of our already diluted and depreciated christianity, mixing with Buddhist rites and Fetich orgies.—Our social demoralization pushed forward by the depraved habits of these creatures.—the misegromation of all the seas of Adam in one nation, and all these things sustained and urged forward by the operation of the damning laws that govern us. Will not the consequences be such as to make every patriot shudder? Will we not have Babylon over again? Is it improbable? It not, God save us.

The Americans cannot go backward, we will go forward to weal, or raise such a pandemonium as will make the Chief of the fallen gleeful, people his dominions with demons, and make angels weep. I believe this question is more important, than the incubus of our national debt, with its concomitant train of blighting evils, and deserves the greatest consideration of every patriot.

REBELLIS.

The State Fair—Interesting Letter from Thos. Reed, Esq., of Jefferson County.

FAYETTE, August 26, 1869.

Editor Clarion:—I received a letter recently, from Col. Wesson, President of the State Agricultural, Mechanical, and Manufacturing Association, suggesting to me to hereafter address any information on the subject of the association, to you. He also urged me to go to those counties that had not formed auxiliaries, and address them on the subject. A business and social visit to Natchez was just on hand, and whilst in that city, through some little effort, a call was got up for a meeting, which was held on Thursday, the 29th ult., by Dr. Watkins, Col. King, S. L. Guice, Esq., Capt. French, late of the Freedmen's Bureau, and now County Treasurer, P. A. Botto, Esq., of the Democrat, Thos. Gratton, Esq., President of the meeting, and the writer, addressed the meeting. Much interest was manifested, and the initiatory steps were taken for organizing an Auxilliary Society, to the Agricultural, Mechanical, and Manufacturing Association of Mississippi.

Capt. French stated that he would rather report to his friends and correspondents at the North, one such meeting as this one, than a hundred political gatherings. He stated that in his official relations he had had many enquiries about this section of country, what land could be bought for, the character of productions, etc., that to such letters, hereafter, he could give a more favorable answer, for he had seen and heard more to-day to communicate to that class of emigrants, than he had heard since he had been in their city.

There are now in my District, five auxiliaries, or the steps have been taken to form that number, in Amite, Adams, Franklin, Jefferson, and Wilkinson. The only county that has made no commencement, is old Claiborne; formally that county took the lead. Her Fair grounds, and all the appointments were superior to any other in this section. What has become of her public spirit, I do not know; I hope, however, that a Society will be organized there, before the State Fair. I should be able to secure the attendance on the State Fair of a superior committee from that county.

Col. Wesson requests me to report all the information I have about the crops. In the Southwestern counties the corn crop is generally good; the cotton crop is very late, but the general belief is that a moderate crop will be made, if not cut off by the worms. They made their appearance on some places three weeks ago. The trying season on late cotton is yet to come. Every planter is now gathering fodder, which promises a good yield. I have urged upon the different Societies to report the condition of the crops to Col. Power, Secretary.

Our Association is going ahead, proposals are out for Fair ground buildings, and a programme for a fall Fair in November, is published. We will send a good delegation, some fine stock, agricultural inventions, and fancy work from the ladies to the State Fair. Since I received notice of my selection as a Vice-President, I have talked, written, and labored in various ways for the cause. I have some plans to lay before the Association at its next meeting. I do not think that I can be charged with neglect.

Yours,
THOMAS REED,
Vice-President First Judicial District.

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

What is said of the Conservative Movement.

From the Liberty (Amite Co.) Herald.

* * * *

We hold that man to be no friend to his State who will suffer himself to be governed by party prejudice so far, or be so bigoted in his views as to refuse to give his sanction to whatever measure it may seem best for us to adopt by force of the circumstances which surround us. The perilous situation in which we are placed, the imminent dangers which threaten the present as well