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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1867.

Southern Constitutional Conventions. The result of the recent elections in the South leaves no room for doubt that Constitutional Conventions will be ordered in each of the late Rebel States, under the provisions of the Reconstruction laws passed by Congress. This fact imposes great responsibilities upon those Conventions. The success or failure of the reconstruction policy of Congress rests mainly with them. The constant argument of the conservatives is that these Conventions are composed of bigoted, illiberal, ignorant, and incapable men—utterly disqualified for the work of making the organic law and framework of a State. The only way to effectually answer these charges is for the Conventions to show by their works that the indictment is false. Notwithstanding all the clamor that has been raised by interested politicians, who, for party ends, would prolong the reconstruction struggle, if the people see that the work is progressing according to the rule of essential justice, they will endorse and ratify it. The public mind longs to see this question settled by the admission of the seceded States to the Union, if that can be accomplished consistently with the safety of the country. Schemes of prostration and general disfranchisement should not be indulged in. Public sentiment will not sustain them, because such measures would pave the way for new difficulties hereafter. What the judgment of the country will sustain the Southern Conventions in doing is about this—First, the incorporation of fealty to the Union as an irrevocable provision in their State Constitutions; secondly, the securing of the absolute civil and political equality of all citizens by the strongest possible guarantees; thirdly, the adoption of a system of free schools; and, fourthly, the disfranchisement of notorious and leading Rebels for such length of time as the communities in which they live shall see fit. Constitutions embracing these features, no matter by whom made, if adopted by the people of the States concerned, will be sanctioned by the general voice of good citizens all over the country. Oligarchies of race, whether white or black, will not be tolerated, and for two good reasons—first, because opposed to the genius of our institutions; and, secondly, because an oligarchy in control of a State is an oligarchy wielding the powers of that State in the Government of the Union, and thus affecting the interests of the people of the whole country. Ten men clothed with the corporate functions of a "State" in South Carolina are ten men to balance the State of Pennsylvania in the Senate of the United States. Hence, all considerations of justice and humanity aside, the very instinct of self-preservation must prompt the States which now constitute the republic to refuse admission to any new State whose corporate powers are lodged in the hands of an oligarchy. All questions of suffrage, as a mere abstract right, dwindle into insignificance beside the practical bearings of State equality in the Senate. Oligarchies, therefore, cannot be tolerated; and if the constitutions about to be framed in the Southern districts shall undertake the general disfranchisement of white or black, it will be the duty of Congress to reject them. But if those constitutions shall provide for truly republican forms of government, basing the "State" upon the broad foundations of the people, Congress will sanction them, and, once admitted, no power can overturn them. The Southern Conventions, then, have an important work before them. It is theirs to erect new States which shall be faithful to the republic, which shall secure the education and elevation of the masses, which shall render life and property secure, and which will lead the Southern portion of our country on to a glorious development of its splendid powers and resources. Slavery, aristocracy, and caste have hitherto ruled the destinies of the South; let us see what liberty, equality, and fraternity can now do for her.

Popular Sovereignty in Georgia. We took occasion a few days since, in commenting upon the Virginia election, to call attention to the fact that it had been participated in by a larger proportion of the citizens of that State than had ever before united in any political act whatever; so that the Constitutional Convention just elected would be the most truly a representative, popular body of any that had ever exercised governmental functions in the "Old Dominion." We are now called upon to chronicle a similar state of facts with reference to Georgia. At the election just held there the vote is the largest of any legal vote ever cast in the State. The official return is 188,047, as the total registered vote, 108,410 as the total vote cast, of which 102,283 were for the Convention and 4127 against it, being a majority for the Convention of 98,156. At the Presidential election of 1850 the total vote of Georgia was 98,806; at that of 1856 it was 106,365; so that the present vote slightly exceeds that of 1860. But the most striking contrast is afforded between the present movement for a State Government in Georgia and the illegal and usurpatory attempts made by President Johnson to fix up a State organization there. Mr. Johnson's government was sanctioned by just 37,200 citizens, that being the total number of votes cast for "Governor" Jenkins in 1865. If anything ever deserved to be called a "rotten borough" government, it is one attempted to be foisted upon a people by 37,000 citizens out of 188,000! And yet it is the overthrow of such a "government" as this by one springing directly from the people, and overwhelmingly sanctioned by them, that is called in Democratic parlance the "destruction of a State!" The truth is, the organizations cooked up by Mr. Johnson were as destitute of popular sanction or approval as they were of legal or constitutional validity. They were not the products of the people, but the manufactures of the Executive. They were as far removed as possible from that sacred creation of the people, a "State." In flagrant contrast to these Executive organizations are the civil corporations now being made in the Southern districts by the people. These latter, at every step, are sanctioned by the people. First, the people vote whether they will have a Convention or not; then for members to constitute it; and, finally, upon the Constitution that the Convention may frame. A want of popular approval at any of these stages vitiates the whole work, and it falls to the ground. There is no rushing of anything on to the people. Congress prescribes the steps, but the people must take them. Do we hazard anything in saying that States thus organized, springing directly from the people, and sanctioned by them, will be more sacred in all the elements of true legality than any which have ever existed in the South? or that, once admitted to the Union, they can never be overturned, except at the point of the sword? We say that such States will stand. Reconstructed Georgia, firmly bound to the Union by irrevocable provisions of her fundamental law, and still more firmly by the affectionate loyalty of the majority of her citizens, will tower immeasurably, in all the elements of a noble Commonwealth, over that old Georgia that tore herself away from the Union, and quenched her corporate life in the floods of revolution! So of all the Rebel communities. They will come into the Union reconstructed, regenerated, and disenthralled, fitted to become worthy members of one great republic.

Proper Departments for Our Public Records. By act of Assembly all deeds, titles, mortgages, and conveyances affecting any real property in any county of the State are compelled to be recorded in the office of the proper Court or Recorder, and during the time allowed for recording, these documents remain in the possession of the officers appointed. In the case of wills, the originals are also permanently deposited. In fact, the titles of all of the property owners in Philadelphia depend to a greater or less extent on the preservation of these public records. Every reader of THE EVENING TELEGRAPH who is possessed of real estate, has his main security for quiet possession in the fact that all of the previous owners have transmitted a clear title to him, and every step in which title can be verified by record. When it is remembered that many of our citizens depend entirely on the public acknowledgments, and do not possess themselves of the original deeds, the real value of the safety of these documents can be appreciated. Yet is a notorious fact that not one of the offices provided by law for the purpose of being a safe deposit of the archives, is possessed of a fire-proof building in which they may be kept. On the contrary, the offices allotted to them are in a state to render them imminently liable to destruction by fire. The State House Row is old. Its wood-work, dried by years of age, would, if once lighted, burn like tinder. There would be no hopes of extinguishing the flames if once they got under headway. Any morning the citizens of Philadelphia may wake up to find the whole of the old building destroyed, and all the titles with it. This loss would be irreparable. Yet the authorities have, with almost criminal negligence, neglected to take any precaution for the proper preservation of the documents entrusted to their care. In other words, by law they compel us to leave these valuable deeds in their possession, and then omit to take ordinary precautions for their safe keeping. The smallest county in the State has safer and more ample accommodation for its public records than the great city of Philadelphia. The little town of Media has a court-house fire-proof and burglar-proof, which exceeds in substantial structure and safety the best building provided by our city. It is quite time that this negligence be corrected. It is a duty due to their constituents that proper buildings be at once secured. Any day may be too late to have the evil corrected. Let Councils make the needed appropriation for the purpose, and the property-holders will pay all the required taxes with a satisfaction rarely experienced when a demand is made on them by the city government.

A Last Word on the Broad Street Bill. This afternoon City Councils will either reconsider their action in regard to the Mayor's veto of the Broad street bill, or by failure to discuss the subject, allow the views of his Honor to become the law of our city. There are numerous reasons already adverted to which demand of our representatives a reconsideration of their previous vote. In a republic the wishes and comfort of the great majority of the people should be considered in making the laws. As we have no privileged classes, the desires of the few, whatever their wealth and social position, must give way to those of the many. In the case of Broad street, one hundred people favor the widening of the pavement where one favors the views of the Mayor. As we are now expending thousands of dollars in attempting to beautify the handsomest street of our city, the symmetry of the plan should not be marred in order to enrich contractors. If the views of the Mayor prevail, then we will have a street one part of which is much wider than the other; and when viewed from either end, a most unnecessarily awkward effect is the result. In the proposed improvement ample room is reserved for carriages, but at the same time the wants of the pedestrians are attended to. Unless this improvement is concurred in, the people will be crowded together on the narrow pavements, while the effect of the carriages will be impaired by the wide space, which will not show them to advantage. The plea of the Mayor is based on a probable future contingency, that the room for equestrians may not at some remote future date be sufficient, while the arguments in favor of the bill are present and visible to any one who will walk Broad street on any clear afternoon. Lastly, the property-holders, those whose daily and hourly interest lies in the proper arrangement of the street, and who are the least likely persons to do anything to injure its beauty and advancement, are all in favor of the contemplated action of this bill. For these reasons, if for no others, it is the duty of the Common Council to reconsider its action, and yield to the wishes of the people.

Ten Years' Imprisonment for Stealing Money from a Letter. A young Post Office clerk was sentenced in New York a few days since to ten years' hard labor in the penitentiary for embezzling letters. His thefts had been detected by means of decoy letters containing money that was marked. His counsel endeavored to create sympathy for him on this account with the jury, on the ground that "temptation" had been thrown in his way, but it is difficult to see how money inclosed in a letter could be a temptation to a man who had not already tampered with the letter sufficiently to find out what was in it. Every Post Office clerk knows well enough that money is continually passing through the mails, and if his virtue is not strong enough to resist the temptation to steal, he had better seek some less exposed situation. The Judge, in sentencing this young man, said:—"You have been convicted of embezzling letters from the post office in which you were a clerk. The crime charged upon you is peculiar, and the frame of the statute indicates the intention that it should be punished with severity. It must be understood by those who are in the Post Office Department and intrusted with the correspondence of the country, that no tampering with it is allowable. There is no such thing as a trivial violation of this statute. The term of imprisonment fixed by the law is not less than ten years nor more than twenty. The points of law urged by your counsel have been carefully considered, and no reason is found in them why you should not be sentenced. I have also considered the request that you should be imprisoned in the County Jail, but I think for offenses under this statute such a request cannot be conceded. I have concluded that the proper sentence is that you shall be imprisoned for ten years at hard labor in the Albany Penitentiary."

The Scheme for Dividing Texas. We see no good reasons for the proposed division of Texas into two States, a scheme which is ascribed to Mr. Stevens. The State is large enough, it is true, to be cut up into four or five new States, but the population is not yet excessive for even one State. Every new State implies two new Senators in Congress, and we think the two which Texas will have so soon as she is admitted to the Union, are as many as her population will entitle her to for some time to come.

A Four-Cornered Fight. The political situation in New York City has assumed a very interesting phase. At the approaching Mayoralty election there will be four candidates in the field, the overwhelming majority of the Democracy having caused a double split in their ranks. Mayor Hoffman finds his management of the Tammany ring such a profitable undertaking that he is anxious to continue it; while Fernando Wood, backed up by the hungry oromancers of Mozart Hall, is making a great noise about Tammany corruption and municipal reform. Disgusted with the hypocrisy of both these factions, the quasi respectable Democrats, under the style and name of the Democratic Union, are promising a foretaste of the millennium as the result of the election of their candidate, the eminently respectable Mr. Anthon. Into this double breach in the walls of the enemy the Republicans have cast themselves, with the Hon. William A. Darling at their head. Mr. Darling's record is clear and honest, and he deserves the support not only of every Republican voter, but of every Democrat who has any regard for his own personal interests. New York is a perfect Eden of political thieves, and the only hope of its regeneration is in the success of the Republican ticket. Under these circumstances it is much to be regretted that some of the Republican journals of that city are urging their readers to support Mayor Hoffman for the sake of defeating Fernando. Let the Republican party of the city present a united front, and both Hoffman and Fernando will go by the board.

The London Observer announces that Queen Victoria is about to emerge from her long seclusion, and that the next season will be one of the most brilliant of her reign.

THE JOHNSON COMMITTEE. Last evening an event took place in our city which has hardly received the attention which its political significance demands. We refer to the meeting of the "National Union State Committee," assembled at the Girard House. As we have not heard any of the names of the distinguished gentlemen who participated in the movement, we are compelled to take it for granted that our genial friend Dr. Swann presided. We are sorry to see a decrease in the members of that illustrious organization. Before the election it had an office of its own; now it meets in a small parlor of an hotel. To-morrow! Where will it meet to-morrow? The main achievement of the meeting last night was the adoption of a resolution averring that "the National Union party retains an abiding and unshaken faith in the firmness, wisdom, and integrity of Andrew Johnson." We can only say that if the meeting was composed only of such persons as held such a sentiment, we think the managers wise in taking a private parlor, for if the whole party had attended, there would have been no inconvenience from overcrowding the room.

SPECIAL NOTICES. [For additional Special Notices see the Third Page.] A RECIPE FOR COUNTERTREING FOREIGN PIERRES. A quantity of bad spirits and coarse essential oils: mix and bottle in the latter articles; and paste the former on the vials. Then add the stuff (and the public) if you can. But you can't do much in that way while the "Night-Blooming Cereus" has the command of every domestic market.—"Froth-Infusion Star," 15

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING. JOY COE & CO., Agents for the "Telegraph" and Newspaper Press of the whole country, HAVE MOVED FROM FIFTH and CHESTNUT STREETS TO NO. 144 S. SIXTH STREET, second door above WALNUT. OFFICES—No. 144 S. SIXTH STREET, Philadelphia. TRIBUNE BUILDING, New York. 7304P

THE HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA. Organized in 1825—Incorporated June 7, 1845. Office, No. 807 NORTH STREET—Open from 10 to 5 P. M. George H. Stuart, President. Alexander G. Catell, Vice-President. Rudolph K. Hoedick, Secretary. Thomas T. Mason, Treasurer. No. 128 N. Third St. MANAGER. James Appleton, Thomas Foster. James B. Rodgers, George H. Harper. Matthew Newkirk, Alexander T. Lane. William M. Wilson, Henry K. Kinney. Isaac R. Smith, Samuel Mullen. George Nugent, Hiram Miller. Robert G. Galt, James W. Carson. General Agent—Emanuel H. Toland. Missionaries: John W. Rowland, Roland T. Kessell, Wm. W. Harding, Wm. W. Harding.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE OF PHILADELPHIA. SECOND LECTURE OF THE FIRST ANNUAL COURSE. PROFESSOR EDWARD L. YOUNG, of New York, will deliver his great lecture on the "Chemistry of the Sunbeam" at HORTICULTURAL HALL, FRIDAY EVENING, November 22. Tickets of Admission, price 50 cents, for sale at Trumpler's, No. 928 Chestnut street, or at the door. 11 21 79

POPULAR LECTURES. Under the auspices of the YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION. HENRY VINCENT, The English Reformer and Brilliant Orator, will deliver TWO LECTURES AT CONCERT HALL. TUESDAY EVENING, November 26. Subject—JOHN MILTON, the Sobolair, the Poet, the Patriot—the prodigy of his own age, and the glory of all time. THURSDAY EVENING, November 28. Subject—GARIBALDI. Tickets for sale at ASHMEAD'S, No. 724 CHESTNUT street, Philadelphia, Nov. 20, 1867. Admission, 25c. Reserved Seats, 50c. 11 19 68

CORN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 20, 1867. The Stockholders of this Bank are hereby notified that the Bank will assume and pay the State tax, which has been assessed on the shares, and is now payable at the office of the Receiver of Taxes. 11 21 31 H. F. SCHREYER, Cashier.

ALL CAN HAVE BEAUTIFUL HAIR. LONDON HAIR COLOR. NOT LONDON HAIR COLOR. DYE. LONDON HAIR COLOR. NOT LONDON HAIR COLOR. DYE. LONDON HAIR COLOR. NOT LONDON HAIR COLOR. DYE. RESTORER AND DRESSING. RESTORER AND DRESSING. RESTORER AND DRESSING. RESTORER AND DRESSING. The only known Restorer of Color and Perfect Hair Dressing combined. NO MORE BALDNESS. NO MORE BALDNESS. NO MORE BALDNESS. NO MORE BALDNESS. OR OR OR OR GREY HAIR. GREY HAIR. GREY HAIR. GREY HAIR. It never fails to impart life, growth, and vigor to the weakest hair, restores and stops its falling, and is sure to produce a new growth of hair, causing it to grow thick and strong. Only 75 cents a bottle; half a dozen, \$4. DR. SWAYNE'S. No. 320 N. SIXTH STREET above Vine, and all Druggists and Variety Stores. 9 13 69

UNIVERSAL EXPOSITION, PARIS, 1867. STEINWAY & SONS Triumphant, having been awarded the First Grand Gold Medal for American Pianos in all three styles exhibited, this MEDAL being classically classified in order of merit by the unanimous verdict of the International Jury. FOR SALE ONLY BY BLASUIS BROS., 250 N. 3rd St. NO. 1006 CHESTNUT ST. 25 CENTS.—HARPER FOR DECEMBER, Godey, 20 cents. Ladies' Friend, 15 cents. Democrat, 25 cents. Peterson's, 15 cents. Every Saturday, 5 cents. CHEAP BOOKS. Shakespeare, full gilt, retail, \$8, selling at 75 cents. Byron, " " " 75 cents. Moore, " " " 75 cents.

Five Hundred Kinds of New Books. Published at \$2, selling at 50 cents. Stereoscopic Views Published at 25 cents. Selling at 10 cents. 10,000 Lithographs and Photographs, Large and small, plain and colored, Selling at any Price to Close the Business. G. W. PITCHER'S CLOSING OUT SALE. (11 21 21) 508 CHESTNUT STREET, 508

WHOLESALE BUCK CLOVE MANUFACTURERS, McNEELY & CO., 11 20 67

THE COSPELDT PATENT LOWWATER DETECTOR COMPANY. PHILADELPHIA, PA. CAPITAL \$500,000. OFFICE, No. 12 S. THIRD ST., PHILADELPHIA. Wm. A. STEPHENS, A. MERINO, DIRECTORS. Wm. A. STEPHENS, S. J. SOLMS, Wm. C. ROUSSEAU, A. MERINO. The Company is now prepared to apply its Lowwater Detector to boilers. This Detector, the original invention of John Cospel, patented June 15, 1853, is conceded to be the most reliable one yet invented, and has been in successful operation in various boilers in this city for some years. Steam boiler makers, dealers, and owners of boilers are requested to call at the office and examine it, or an agent will call upon them if requested by address to the Company. 11 21 21

HORSE CHEAPEST IN THE CITY. No. 61 MARKET STREET. Where the BIG HORSE is in the Door. (11 21 21)

HARDING'S EDITIONS SIXTY DAYS TO COME. WE WILL OFFER OUR SPLENDID STOCK OF NEW AND FASHIONABLE Silks, Shawls, Cloths, Velvets, Dress Goods, AT SUCH PRICES AS WILL DEFY COMPETITION. And Insure Rapid Sales, THUS OFFERING EXTRAORDINARY INDUCEMENTS TO LADIES TO SELECT FROM OUR IMMENSE STOCK OF NEW AND SEASONABLE GOODS. EDWIN HALL & CO., No. 28 South SECOND Street.

Family, Pulpit, and Photograph BIBLES, Prayer, Hymns, Family and Pocket Bibles, PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS. New and Beautiful Styles, Rich Turkey Morocco, Antique Relief, and Gold. STRENGTH, BEAUTY, CHEAPNESS, COMBINED. Harding's Patent Chain-Back PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS.

The book trade and dealers in fancy articles for Holiday sales will find the most extensive assortment of Photograph Albums in the country, and superior to any heretofore made. For great strength, durability, and cheapness, Harding's Patent Chain-Back Albums are unrivalled. Purchasers will find it greatly to their advantage to examine these new lines of goods before making up their order for Holiday stock. Also, a large and splendid assortment of new styles of Photograph Albums made in the usual manner. WM. W. HARDING, No. 326 CHESTNUT ST., Philadelphia, 11 21 21

THE AMERICAN BUTTON-HOLE, OVERSEAMING, AND SEWING MACHINE COMPANY are now getting ready their splendid combination FAMILY MACHINES, for Christmas Presents. Nothing could be more appropriate for a gift to a Lady friend than one of these magnificent Machines. Beauty and utility combined, it would prove a constant, daily souvenir of the giver. For sale at S. W. Corner of ELEVENTH and CHESTNUT Streets. 11 21 21

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE. WILL POSITIVELY SELL OUT, REGARDLESS OF COST, STOCK AND FIXTURES OF THE HOUSE-FURNISHING STORE, No. 910 SPRING GARDEN ST. ON THE 27TH INST. PRIVATE SALE PRIOR TO THE ABOVE DATE. (11 21 21) ISAAC TOWNSEND, Administrator.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF HOLDERS OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, who may wish to convert them into the FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS OF THE Union Pacific Railroad Co. We publish below the terms upon which they may now be exchanged at the office of the Agents of the Company in this city. W. H. FAINTER & CO., No. 28 SOUTH THIRD STREET. We would to-day give these bonds and pay a difference of \$205-23 taking in exchange U. S. 6's of 1861. \$150-23 do. do. 5-20's of 1862. \$127-54 do. do. 5-20's of 1864. \$137-58 do. do. 5-20's of 1865, May & Nov. \$151-23 do. do. 5-20's of '66, Jan. & July. \$151-23 do. do. 5-20's of '67, do. \$92-23 do. do. 5% out, 10-40's, do. \$159-18 do. do. 7-10 Cy. June issue. \$153-15 do. do. 7-10 Cy. July issue. (For every thousand dollars.) We offer these bonds to the public, with every convenience in their security. Philadelphia, Nov. 21, 1867. 11 60 40

ALL-WOOL POPLINS, CHOICE COLORS. For Sale Less than the Late Auction Sale Prices. EDWIN HALL & CO., No. 28 South SECOND STREET.

FRENCH MERINOES, AT 62 1/2 CENTS. FRENCH MERINOES, 75 CENTS. FRENCH MERINOES, 87 1/2 CENTS. FRENCH MERINOES, \$1. EDWIN HALL & CO., No. 28 South SECOND Street.

BROCHE LONG SHAWLS, FOR SALE AT LESS THAN THE LATE AUCTION SALE PRICES. EDWIN HALL & CO., No. 28 South SECOND Street.

ALMERIA GRAPES, FINEST QUALITY, 7200 YARDS OF FANCY DRESS GOODS, AT 25 CENTS PER YARD. REDUCED FROM 30 CENTS. THIS LOT OF DRESS GOODS IS A GREAT BARGAIN. EDWIN HALL & CO., No. 28 South SECOND Street.

SIMON COLTON & CLARKE, S. W. COR. BROAD AND WALNUT STS., PHILADELPHIA. 15 2