MEMPHIS APPEAL

THURSDAY MORNING, FEB. 26, 1874.

THE Chattanooga *Times* of Tuesday had a well-considered and apropos article upon the condition of South Carolina, in the course of which it indulges in some historic recollections of Tennessee under Radical rule. It shows how, in 1869, Tennessee was little, if any, better off than either South Carolina or Louisiana were then. Under Republican rule—the bottom rail having gotten on top—she had accumulated liabilities that appalled the stoutest hearts; our credit was so low in the money market that bonds, upon which to raise money to pay interest, or otherwise leak out of the treasury, could not be hypothecated at a better figure than fifty cents on the dollar; our bonds sold as low as forty and forty-five cents, and since 1867 had not commanded above sixty cents. We were, from sheer poverty, without any system of public schools. Our railroads were languishing, trade stagnant, money going from rather than coming into the State. Mark the change wrought in less than four years, since the bottom rail went to the ground, and the intelligence and virtue of all parties has had fair play. We now have a debt which the State can and will pay beyond a peradventure, and money in the treasury to meet the July interest on our bonds; and our condition is the antipode of what it was when the present State government was elected, the work of the Conservative Democratic party of Tennessee.

THE gubernatorial epidemic has invaded East Tennessee, and is spreading at an alarming rate. The Knoxville *Press and Herald* says that Hamilton county now has a candidate for governor to add to the nine hundred and eighty-seven who have been named in the west and middle divisions, and in a few days it expects to hear of a candidate from Bradley; then one from McMinn; then Monroe and Loudon and Knox. "We will have no difficulty in naming the Knox county man," says our cotemporary. "We saw him on the street yesterday. There was about seven of him. Like it is said to have been in Washington during the war—a boy could throw a stone in any direction and hit a brigadier-general—we couldn't miss hitting our man here in Knoxville."

THE question of practical education for women is the great need and demand of the day. But it is rather the natural order of things, than any loud cry of special pleaders, that is to insure what we so sincerely desire. The spirit of the new scientific dispensation, a kindlier regard for apt and practical work of women, a more and more impatient discontent with the "finished" results of feminine education, are all aiding the change. There will be no more peace until that which is as much reform as progress is accomplished. Women must be taught to be self-supporting and independent, to be free in the sense that men are free to be elevated above the contingencies that make so many of them what they would not be if they could help themselves.

GOVERNOR AMES has not yet appointed chancellors for the several districts of Mississippi, and the Corinth *News* says does not seem to be in any hurry about it, adding that these offices are of so vast importance to the general welfare of the people that the appointments should not be made hastily; and the governor, taking time to investigate the merits of the different claimants, gives some little assurance in advance that the incoming chancellors will in no respect be inferior to the old ones, but that they will be men of whom it can be said, in deed and in truth, that they are learned in the law above their fellows, and in every way worthy of the honorable positions to which they have been called.

THE order of the "Sovereigns of Industry," which first assumed shape in Massachusetts, now has "councils" in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Missouri, Louisiana, Tennessee, Mississippi, Kansas, California, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Indiana. This order, or society, admits women to all its privileges, whether as members or officers, and disclaims political bias toward any party. It is made up of mechanics and workingmen and women, and will be an effective aid and assistant of the granges in their efforts at reform. The people are moving out of the old ruts and grooves.

THE Cuban correspondent of the New Orleans *Picayune* tells of the discovery of an immense swindle that has been perpetrated on the public of Cuba and of the United States. He says the administrator of the lottery has been arrested and is being criminally prosecuted, for having for some time past kept some of the numbers out of the globe, then purchased the tickets bearing those numbers and called them out as having drawn prizes, putting the proceeds in his pocket. The buyers of tickets have, of course, been grossly swindled by this enterprising officer, who in a short time is believed to have made as much money as our Astors and Stewarts.

THE New York *Times*, administration paper, says of the memorial addressed to congress by the tax-payers of South Carolina, that it is a document "which demands attention. Congress cannot ignore it. The resolutions made are most extraordinary, and certainly they will not be read with pleasure by any section of political parties. We hope it will be found that something can be done for South Carolina before congress separates."

IS IT not about time our streets were being put in order for the summer? They are yet in a fearful condition, exciting the apprehensions of our citizens. If Mayor League has succeeded in raising the fifty thousand dollars authorized for that purpose by the general council, we hope he will lose no time in its proper expenditure.

IF THE voters of the fourth district of Kentucky don't elect J. Proctor Knott, we hope they will get a solid thinker, like our Senator Cooper, who has only spoken once in two years. That's the only punishment we can think of just now for such a failure.

THE Chattanooga *Commercial* says: "Chattanooga has at last brought out her candidate for gubernatorial honors, Hon. D. M. Key is the man."

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

What Smith?

EDITORS APPEAL—I see in your good paper of the twentieth instant, under the head of "Local Paragraphs," that one Richard Smith had stolen an old family clock, and was sentenced to two years in the State prison. You will confer a great favor by informing a friend of his, if it is Richard Smith, of the Cincinnati *Gazette*? Learning that it was his intention to visit Memphis during the Mardi Gras festivities, and knowing his great desire to be on *time*, I fear it's him that has fallen a victim to the above paragraph. OHIO.

SOMERVILLE, TENN., February 23, 1874.

[It was not the great and good deacon. He did not come to our Mardi Gras, that we heard of.—EDS. APPEAL.]

Temperance and Mardi Gras.

EDITORS APPEAL—Your lengthy account of Mardi Gras festivities in Memphis was quite interesting, although I can not agree with you in calling such holidays national blessings. But please excuse my bluntness, not to say impoliteness, in calling your attention to an inconsistency appearing in your last number. You exceedingly extol the excess of enthusiasm (an alliterative description seems to suit the account best), which prevailed in the city during the festivities, and in the same paper decry an excess of enthusiasm in an opposite direction, namely, the cause of temperance. Please remember that yours is a favorite family newspaper, which we place in the hands of our sons and daughters to read, and therefore it is a power potent for good or evil. QUONDAM CONTRIBUTOR.

WITTSBURG, ARK., February 21, 1874.

[Our fair correspondent is mistaken. We did not have an excess of enthusiasm, but we had a rollicking, jovial, happy time of it at Mardi Gras. And in objecting to the mode of the whisky war, we characterized it, and properly, as an excess of fanaticism.—EDITORS APPEAL.]

A Negro on the Present System of Farming.

EDITORS APPEAL—Is it not wonderful to look at the condition of the south, and count its vast wealth and resources, and still find that we are in what would, if justly termed, be an unprosperous condition. The products are worth annually over six hundred millions of dollars, at a very low estimate, and, yet, Messrs. Editors, we can hardly live from one year to another. With all this vast wealth we cannot get through with one year without first going east and making burdensome and expensive arrangements with eastern capitalists in order to get along from one January to another. It is not only so with the merchant, mechanic, the farmers and traders, but so with the States. We cannot build a railroad without first selling ourselves to eastern captalists to do so. Every organization of any description that takes capital to run, belongs to some eastern banking-house or Boston. Is there no remedy for this? Let us first find what is the cause of this state of things, and then see if there is a remedy. The sales of cotton alone, every year since the war, reached the enormous sum of three hundred and forty-seven millions annually, and yet, out of this vast sum, not one-fourth of it came to the south. It is not on the account of the war that we have this state affairs. We were in the same condition before the war that we are now, and, if anything, worse. Some planters claimed that they were in a better condition, but facts do not show it. There was hardly a plantation in the south that was not mortgaged—to whom? To men of capital in the south? Was it to some banking-house south of Mason and Dixon's line, run and controlled in the interest of the south? Not at all. Eastern capital controlled the whole business, and to-day I can say, without successful contradiction, that there is not a house of any note in the south that is not largely obligated to some eastern capital. The question naturally arises: Is there any remedy for this great evil? Let us first see what becomes of the money and products, and then we may arrive at some conclusion. I will try and get at the root of it as I see it, and as it is clearly demonstrated every day of my life. Labor depends upon capital. Capital depends upon the products of the country. *Labor produces and capital.* First, we have a laboring class in the south that is uneducated. It is evident that unintelligent labor is not able to compete with capital, or, in other words, capital will control this class of labor. Let us see: The planter has his large place left untenanted after the war, demands large rents and gets it, comes about it once a year, instructs his labor to put it in cotton, that it will not pay him to raise corn, that if he does he will not be able to pay eight or ten and sometimes sixteen dollars per acre. It takes the whole year to run a crop of cotton, while two or three plowings make a crop of corn. So the laborer tugs away on his cotton, skipping about over the large bodies of land that he may find soil that will produce a bale to the acre, leaving the balance to grow up in undergrowth. The planter goes off to some city, there to remain until cotton-picking time. During the year the hands have to have supplies, and the planter must furnish them, or he will not be able to get his rent. He goes to these merchants, and tells them he has so many hands upon his place; shows figures for so much cotton at the end of the year, and the merchant takes a mortgage from the planter. The planter, in return, takes a mortgage from his laborers. Now the merchant must have means to carry on his business. The merchant goes east, and gives a mortgage to the capitalists. Here we find a perfect chain of obligations. In the meantime there are little whisky-shops all over the county, and small-fry groceries, that are ready to take a mortgage on some old bony horse, or a mule, or whatever the poor laborer may have that is not already obligated—many of these parties paying two and one-half per cent. per month for money to run them until harvest. You will see here, by way of interchange, that with anything like a failure the south could not stand it one year. Everybody that handles labor now must make a profit, and in consequence there is no profit for the laborer at the end of the year. Labor finds he does not make anything on that place; knows that he has worked hard, made enough cotton, but can see no revenue for what he has done. He pulls up stakes for another place, and the planter has to go and bring hands from some other State, at a big expense to himself. It is very easy to see how the best set of hands come out. Now for the remedy. Let the planter sell off his large farm, or a part of it to the laborer. It matters not what his color is so he is a producer; rent him what he has left at a reasonable figure, encourage him to raise stock and corn; import some good grain, millet or other hays. Give the laborer a chance at this for one or two years, and my word for it you will see prosperous villages spring up, large cities grow up, railways traversing your States from one end to the other, daily lines of packets traversing your beautiful rivers, etc. But one says: "This is all *stuff*, I have offered to sell time and again, and I cannot get them to buy. As for the rent of the land, I cannot afford to take less, on account of the high taxes." This is a very poor argument indeed. It is true that the taxes are high, and too high. This evil we can only remedy by increasing the wealth of the country. But supposing we had such a state of affairs,—that is, small, prosperous farmers—all over the country, how soon would we have men of capital among us, and thus would not have to go east and pay a large per cent. on money. Our State credit would go up, thereby reducing taxation, and giving such a tone to commerce within our borders that those who have the control of State affairs and the reins of the State government in their hands, would be compelled to "let up" by popular sentiment. But as it is, we have nothing but mockery in every department of business. Some of our States are not able to pay her officials, and they are (so they say) compelled to resort to all sorts of strategy to keep up the dignity of their position. Some call it stealing. The laborer is worthy of his hire, and until he gets what is honestly due him we can never prosper in the south. Never upon God's footstool was there such a chance for a people. The finest bodies of land on earth, the best rivers on earth, and the best labor, if properly managed. Are we to shut our eyes to this painful truth? How soon, under this state of affairs would the laborer put his confidence in capital, and work shoulder to shoulder with it. As it is, he is continually fighting capital, and not able to compete with it. All of our political evils would be remedied; black and white would go to the polls in one common interest, voting alike on questions of importance. *Horsehead* politicians would give way to statesmen; men of business capacity would enter into our commerce; and, in short, prosperity would be at every man's door. Did you, Messrs. Editors, ever think of the geograph cal, or, in other words, the physical geography of this great country? With our great water-sheds and immense rivers it is impossible for us to ever make a failure in crops. We may fall in some portions of the south, but a total failure is simply an impossibility. With a perfect system of navigation, such as we ought to have had long ago, how easy would it be to supply the wants of any particular section of country in the south. It is not the vast amount of wealth stored up in the vaults of large cities that makes a great people. But these matters can be handled by abler pens than mine. I simply throw out a few hints that perchance they may be taken up by some one that is able to handle the subject.

MARIANNA, ARK., February 12, 1874.

[The above is from the pen of a colored citizen of Arkansas, who, it will be seen, realizes all the difficulties of the present mode of farming, and is able to suggest a remedy—EDITORS APPEAL.]

A Financial Suggestion that is Not Practicable.

EDITORS APPEAL—Civil government is the result of a necessity, for a just and uniform disposition of power, and should be so employed as to protect, to the fullest extent, the citizens, in whatever laudable avocation engaged—wheresoever he may be. Commerce, and her twin-sister, finance, have, in the past, commanded the energies and talent of the first minds, in the effort to perfect a system that would unerringly tend to a perpetuation of national prosperity, happiness and glory. With accumulated experience, the demand still exists. Annually the people of the United States send abroad near two hundred million dollars in raw cotton, which might be made to yield five hundred million dollars as easily as two hundred million. That congress has the power, under the constitution, to legislate, as I shall hereafter indicate, I doubt not. The government can, by act of congress, become the owner of that portion of the cotton raised to be exported, at prices ranging from twenty to thirty cents (an average of twenty-five cents per pound), leaving the house manufacturer to negotiate them, as now, with the producer, at rates agreeable to both. The average number of bales shipped from this country is about three millions, at the average price of twenty-five cents, and allowing four hundred pounds as the average weight, would amount to the sum of three hundred millions of dollars. The present circulating medium of the country is, in round numbers, seven hundred millions of (paper) dollars. To add the value of the exports of cotton annually, without some means of depleting the amount in circulation, would in all probability work greater mischief than the total absence of any such circulation. But the cotton in possession of the government would of necessity command, as is the case with all monopolies, an enhanced value. Forty cents per pound would be but a small price for an article of such vast importance to mankind; and at forty cents the government would realize a profit of one hundred and eighty millions of dollars—or, in round numbers, four hundred and eighty millions of dollars for the crop, annually. Fifty per cent. of the value of the annual crop, the amount and prices as stated being correct, would, if demanded in coin, meet the interest upon the bonded debt, which is twenty-three hundred millions of dollars, and leave a surplus of one hundred millions of dollars in coin in the treasury. The remaining half of the value of the crop, if received in any of the government's securities (bonds or currency), would go far toward depleting the currency to a point within the requirements of the business of the country, and such a regulation would make the currency and bonds of the United States command a premium as a bill of exchange in every country on the globe where American cotton is manufactured. A modification of the excise laws allowing the importer to pay duty in currency instead of gold would be but just. In fact, the demand for coin would cease with the means at hand for acquiring it, and a return to specie payment would follow like magic the action of congress as above indicated. But there are some grave objections to such a course by government: First, it is sectional legislation; second, if cotton is monopolized, why not pork, and flour, and corn, *et id omne genus* by the government? For the sake of argument I will admit the first objection to be well taken, but only in a restricted sense. The cotton States would only be benefited by the sale of cotton to government. They would realize about one hundred million dollars more for the crop annually than now, while the government would realize a profit of one hundred and eighty millions, and the eastern and southern manufacturer would be protected by a tariff of sixty per cent. against foreign goods, which would be one hundred per cent. greater than congress would ever allow under the present system of protection. One hundred millions to the cotton States, one hundred and eighty millions to the government, sixty per cent. protection to the manufacturer of cotton, and payment of imports in currency instead of gold by the importer, the production of cotton stimulated to an extent that the food-growing section would have a market at home, with enhanced prices, and the cotton manufacturers an almost exclusive monopoly in the United States, would be some of the effects at home of this sectional legislation. I will now examine the second objection. It is a fact beyond controversy that, with the exception of hay and sugar, but little reliance can be placed in the safe keeping, in large quantities, of the various articles of produce which this country furnishes in such profusion. Hence a monopoly could not be profitable; besides, the produce of this country, cotton excepted, is common the world over. The stimulated production of cotton at the rates indicated would be immense, and would stimulate a like consumption of all articles of food, and at higher rates. The provident would accumulate wealth as never before, and the improvident would revel in luxury, and dress in "purple and fine linen." The substantial benefits to the country would manifest themselves by a payment of home debts, an improvement of homesteads, and capital to invest in manufactures, mining, and internal improvements. Immigration would set to our wasted south-land, and foreign capital, based by the government rates of cotton from competition with our domestic manufacturers, would seek investment in this most favored land. Property values would appreciate; taxes, at present onerous, would become trifling; the bonded debt of the country within the next decade would be dissipated, and an era of gold would dawn unparalleled in the history of man.

PHILLIPS COUNTY, ARK., February 17, 1874.

[This will not work. Congress cannot go into the commission business.—EDS. APPEAL.]

Pity for the Unfortunate.

EDITORS APPEAL—I was much pleased with the article in your issue of the twenty-fourth regarding the "unfortunates of my sex," whom the police of late have placed under the ban, and are now nightly arrested and conveyed to the stationhouses, for the purpose, it seems, of increasing the revenues of the city. I cannot think these "raids" are made with the consent of Chief Athy, for in his annual report as published in the APPEAL, he says he considers houses of prostitution necessary evils. Are these arrests, then, made upon the responsibility of the officer of the night, or is it done at the instance of the police board, of which Mayor John Loague is president, and Dr. Wm. Hewett and H. S. Lee are members? I had thought that at this advanced period of civilization, the persecutions of these "magdalens" had ceased, but it seems that Memphis officials have gone back to the barbarism of the past, and upon these unfortunates a crusade has been inaugurated. And what is proposed to be accomplished? Are the houses of ill-fame to be abated? If so, it will only drive the inmates to secluded rooms, and instead of being congregated, they will scatter broadcast over our city, and be brought in closer contact with the virtuous wives and daughters of Memphis. Or is it done merely for the pecuniary benefit of which the the city reaps the reward. If so, O, the shame of such a policy. Why prosecute those whom the lust of man has placed where they are? Why punish the dupe and not the villain? Pity for their situation should be felt by all who prize virtue. No true woman lives but who feels the deepest sorrow for these fallen ones and the practice of dragging them from their houses at the late hour of night. A WOMAN.

GENERAL NEWS.

Charges of Malfeasance — Distressing Accident—Jail Delivery—From the Gold Coast.

The Missouri Farmers in Council—They Pledge Themselves to Agencies—Etc, Etc., Etc.

Distressing Accident.

PHILADELPHIA, February 25.—At Norristown Monday, while the members of the Freeland lodge of Good Fellows were rehearsing *Three Years in a Man Trap*, Abraham L. Hunsicker, aged eighteen, son of Rev. H. A. Hunsicker, was shot dead. The youth was personating the barkeeper.

Charges of Malfeasance Not Sustained.

SAN FRANCISCO, February 25.—Last night Mayor Otis appeared before the board of supervisors, and offered to retire from the position of president of that body until the charge of malfeasance, made by Judge Stanley, could be investigated. His acts showed that he had done no more than his duty, and that Stanley's action was hasty, and prompted by petty jealousy. The board passed unanimous resolutions of confidence in Mayor Otis and Treasurer Hubert.

From the Gold Coast.

LONDON, February 25.—A report has reached here that a great battle has been fought at Comasie, between the Ashantees and the force under General Sir Garnet Woolsley. The engagement is said to have lasted the whole day and to have closed with no decided result. The loss of the British troops is given as nearly three hundred, including many officers. The Highlanders alone are reported to have had one hundred and fifty men killed and wounded. General Sir Garnet Woolsley was said to be in need of reinforcements, which were fifteen miles off.

Jail Delivery.

NEWCASTLE, DEL., February 25.—About one o'clock this morning Israel Rodings, night warden of the jail, hearing a slight noise in the yard, opened the door, when he was immediately seized by a gang of men, who gagged, handcuffed, and bound him, and then threw him into a coal-hole. The gang then went to the cell in which E. Frazer was confined under life sentence for killing one Allison, and taking him out, escaped, by scalling the walls by means of ladders brought with them. Big Frank, whipped a short time ago in prison, was one of the gang. In addition to Frazer, the bank burglars, Lawton, Hurlcurt, Carter, and Hope, each under a sentence of ten years' imprisonment, were rescued by the gang. The cells were entered by means of jack-screws used on the windows. Twelve or fifteen were engaged in the rescue, and are supposed to have come by tug from Philadelphia.

The Missouri Farmers.

ST. LOUIS, February 24.—The State grange to-day adopted a resolution, instructing their various agents to buy no machinery or agricultural implements except from the manufacturers, and pledging themselves to sustain such action of agents by purchasing such articles only from them, or from home manufacturers. The grange adjourned *sine die* at three o'clock this afternoon.

The *Times's* correspondent, writing of the session of the grange, says that as a grange it has done nothing of a political character, but a number of its members have held two informal meetings, at the last of which a committee of one from each congressional district in the State was appointed to attend to political matters during the *interim* of the sessions of the State grange. A majority of this body has the power to call the committee together at any time to examine the merits of candidates for political office, and will advise sub-committees of county councils who will give information to grangers regarding such candidates. This is not a grange movement, but there is an evident determination on the part of a considerable number of grangers to make their influence felt in the next election. There is in fact an unorganized party in this State grange who believe in speaking out and telling what is wanted in the way of representative men. They desire to say to the world that the object of the grange is not only to benefit its members inside, but the entire community, if possible, through the influence exerted by this organization of farmers, and ask the cooperation of other laboring classes, in order that a complete revulsion of sentiment in regard to the conduct of public affairs may be effected.

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34TH SEMI-ANNUAL STATEMENT.

Cash on hand and in Bank	$37,721 73
Bills receivable, Fire Mortgage Notes	174,627 66
Bills receivable, with approved security	11,231 65
Bills receivable, Premium Notes	654 10
Bonds City of Newport, 8 per cent	10,000 00
Bonds City of Dayton, 10 per cent	18,027 60
Premiums in transit from agents	19,536 70
Real Estate, cash value	10,000 00
Personal Property, cash value	1,000 00
Accrued Interest on Bonds and Mortgages	5,269 50
Total Assets	$287,368 94
Total Liabilities of Company	$8,000 00

H. T. TOMLINSON, Agent,
17 Madison St., Memphis, Tenn.

STATE OF TENNESSEE,
Insurance Commissioner's Office.
Nashville, December 9, 1873.
I, WM. MORROW, Insurance Commissioner, do hereby certify that the CLAY FIRE and MARINE INSURANCE CO located at Newport, in the State of Kentucky, has produced to me satisfactory evidence that the said company has complied with all the requirements of the laws of the State of Tennessee imposed on insurance companies; and I further certify that H. T. Tomlinson, Agent of said company, has authority to take risks, and transact the business of insurance for and in behalf of said company in this State, at Memphis, Tenn.
W. MORROW,
Insurance Commissioner of Tennessee.

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