

The Athens Post.

BY SAM. P. IVINS.

ATHENS, TENNESSEE, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1868.

VOL. XVI--NO. 43.

TERMS:
THE POST IS PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY, AT TWO DOLLARS A YEAR, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

No attention paid to orders for the paper unless accompanied by the cash. Advertisements will be charged \$1.50 per square of ten lines, or less, for the first insertion, and 75 cents for each continuation. A liberal deduction made to parties who advertise by the year.

Persons sending advertisements should mark the number of times they desire them inserted, or they will be continued until forborne and charged accordingly.

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Job Work, such as Pamphlets, Circulars, Cards, Blanks, Handbills, etc., will be executed in good style and at reasonable rates.

All letters addressed to the Proprietor will be promptly attended to.

Communications, to secure insertion, must be accompanied by the name of the authors.

The Post.

Athens, Friday, Sept. 25, 1868.

The State Democratic Executive Committee.

The State Democratic Executive Committee of Tennessee has resolved upon a vigorous and active prosecution of the campaign for the National Presidential ticket for Seymour and Blair.

The Hon. EDMUND COOPER has been appointed Elector for the State at large, vice Hon. George W. Jones, resigned, and has accepted the position.

A Committee of Finance has been appointed by the committee, consisting of the following named gentlemen: L. F. Beech, Esq., Chairman; W. Matt Brown, A. G. Adams, Samuel D. Morgan, Samuel R. Anderson, of Davidson County; John Baxter, of Knox, and M. D. L. Stewart, of Shelby.

The Democrats and Conservatives of each Electoral District are requested to hold conventions and nominate candidates for District Electors, by or before the 21st of September. In the event of a failure to hold such convention in any district, the State Executive Committee will designate a candidate.

Democratic papers throughout the State are requested to publish this announcement.

GEORGE J. STURBLEFIELD,
Chairman Ex. State Committee.
ALBERT ROBERTS, Sec'y pro tem.

The Difference!

Gov. Seymour pays heavy taxes on all his personal property, and because he owns no bonds he is a "copperhead and traitor." Shaking no dust as a citizen, he is rewarded with vituperation and taxes! Every where there are richer men who sold their landed property and invested in government bonds, to save taxation. The right to do this is not questioned, but is a result of Republican law making. Pay taxes and you are a "Traitor." Pay no taxes and you are a "Patriot!"

Cost of the Extra Session.

The expense incurred by the late special session of the Legislature was about \$45,000 estimated on a gold basis. The General Assembly remained in session fifty days at a cost of nearly \$1,000 per day. The per diem of its members will average about \$350 each, while \$4,410 was paid to the clerks. If such misapplication of the public funds is not rank robbery, we are totally at loss to understand the meaning of the term.

Newspaper Libel Suit.

In the libel suit brought by Emil Inneck, ex-auditor of the State of Michigan, against the *Detroit Advertiser and Tribune*, in which the damages were laid at \$50,000, after a seven-days' trial, a verdict of six cents was awarded to the plaintiff. He was charged with incompetency as a State officer, and the defense plead the truth in justification.

The Recent Earthquake.

Additional accounts of the recent earthquake in South America state that the shock was preceded by a sound like that of a distant tempest, and then the ground shook from south to north. A palm tree remains standing, untouched and as green as ever, in the midst of the desolate country.

The Southern Trade.

General West, Col. Sam. Tate, Gen. Beauregard, Edgar Thompson and other gentlemen, have consummated a scheme for the consolidation of all the railroads connecting Paducah with Mobile and New Orleans.

Direct connection will be immediately established between Vincennes, Indiana, and Paducah. The movement is inaugurated by Philadelphia capitalists, with a view to controlling the Southern trade.

The Ohio and Indiana Radicals express alarm at the condition of the canvass in those States. They virtually concede the election of Hendricks, and the loss of several Congressmen in Ohio, including Eggleston and Schenck.

Hard on Seward.

The papers are publishing a letter written by Hon. Jerry Black to President Johnson about Secretary Seward and the Vela Alta business. It is pretty tough on the Auburnian. Among other things, Judge Black writes thus:

Why do you not discard him [Seward] at once and forever? He has brought irreparable woes upon the country, and all the troubles of your unfortunate administration have sprung directly or indirectly from his crooked policy. He will never be faithful to the right, and he has not ability enough to make the wrong seem plausible. As a lawyer he would not stand fifth rate in any county court; as a politician he has always been a mere sneak; as a statesman there is nothing of him at all, except a shameless disregard of the Constitution he swears to support. The man who made that silly and yet atrocious boast to Lord Lyons can inspire nothing but disgust in the minds of any Christian people.

Do not let your credulity be imposed on by his professions of faith in the Democratic creed. He is a convert without conviction; he will be a backslider upon the first temptation. With his principles, or rather his want of principles, he can find sympathy and admiration in the party which he served by kidnapping free-born Americans. But to the Democracy, with its love of liberty and law, he and his little bell are both but "sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal." All men in proportion as they love justice must despise him.

The Me-liss-us Proclamation.

The papers in all directions are severe upon Governor Brownlow's proclamation calling on the militia to organize. We think, in view of the real facts of the case, His Excellency has made another serious mistake. The following is from the *Nashville Union and American* of the 18th:

Scarcely have the people had time to felicitate themselves upon the prospect of pacification afforded by the guarantee of the Federal authority to maintain the laws and preserve order, before they are startled with an incendiary proclamation from the Governor. It is brute thunder only as yet, but none the less flagrant and wicked in the motives which inspired it; and is intended to be as widely mischievous as possible. With the presence of Federal troops in ample numbers and at every point that they may be desired to see sent, the Governor of this State knows there is no necessity for the organization of a militia force. His conscience, if he has one, convicted him as every word of this proclamation fell from his pen, that he was perpetrating a cold-blooded, cruel, wanton and useless act of injustice to the people and injury to the best interests of the State.

The October Elections.

The *Boston Post* speculating upon the October elections says:

Larger results have never depended on the fall State elections than will make themselves visible this year. The three important, and, we may say the decisive elections to occur in October are those in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana, and they take place on the same day, the 13th. Coming so very near to the general election in November—but three weeks—their immediate influence on that event will tell visibly. Should they be very closely contested, we shall witness an increased intensity of effort on both sides in every State to secure the final triumph; but in case the Democrats and Conservatives sweep these three great States clean of the vestiges of radicalism, the November conclusion, in a fair and open trial, will be a foregone one. The Radical party must then consider themselves fairly embarked on an ebb tide, to be drifted out to sea that has no shore.

The Public Debt.

The public debt increased \$42,830,948 the last year. September 1, 1867, \$2,492,783,265; September 1, 1868, \$2,535,614,313. Increase \$42,830,948. This is not the worst feature of the statement. In 1865 the public debt was \$2,423,457,002 1/2. In 1868 it is \$2,643,256,285. An increase of \$219,819,282 1/2.

These figures are from the book; they are correct and indisputable, all denials and assertions to the contrary notwithstanding.

Let Him Alone.

The *Atlanta Constitution* says, until some new occasion arises, our columns will be closed to communications in reference to Joseph E. Brown. He has already been ventilated sufficiently to satisfy the demands of the most inordinate. The author of his own destruction, let him rest. The digger of his own grave, let it be undisturbed, save by the winds and rains of heaven.

Pent-up Enthusiasm.

The *New York Tribune* assures its readers that there is an immense amount of "pent-up enthusiasm" in the country for Grant and Colfax. Grant is said by some of his most discreet advisers to have a vast amount of "suppressed wisdom." It is very appropriate that the enthusiasm should be "pent-up" for wisdom that is "suppressed."

Heavy Gal.

Helen Eckert, a girl of sixteen, of Easton, Pennsylvania, weighs now over five hundred pounds, and is unable, from her great weight to get out of the house. She is evidently the "girl of the period," as a full stop has been put to her perambulations.

The *New York Mail* says that the fashion of changing photographs is entirely done away with.

An Important Letter from Henry Ward Beecher.

PEEKSKILL, Thursday, August 30.

GENTLEMEN: I am obliged to you for the invitation which you have made to me to act as Chaplain of the Convention of Sailors and Soldiers about to convene at Cleveland. I cannot attend it, but I heartily wish it, and all other conventions, of what party soever, success, whose object is the restoration of all the States lately in rebellion to their Federal relations.

Our theory of government has no place for a State except in the Union.—It is justly taken for granted that the duties and responsibilities of a State in Federal relations tend to its political health, and to that of the whole nation. Even Territories are hastily brought in, before the prescribed conditions are fulfilled, as if it were dangerous to leave the community outside of the great body politic.

Had the loyal Senators and Representatives of Tennessee been admitted at once, on the assembling of Congress, and, in moderate succession, Arkansas, Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, and Virginia, the public mind of the South would have been far more healthy than it is, and those States which lingered on probation to the last would have been under more salutary influence to good conduct than if a dozen armies watched over them.

Refusing to admit loyal Senators and Representatives from the South to Congress will not help the freedmen. It will not secure for them the vote. It will not protect them. It will not secure any amendment of our Constitution, however just and wise. It will only increase the dangers and complicate the difficulties. Whether we regard the whole nation, or any section of it, or class of it, the first demand of our time is entire reunion!

Once united, we can, by schools, churches, a free press and increasing free speech, attack each evil and secure every good.

Every moment that we delay this healthful step complicates the case. The excluded population, though unsettled before, grow more irritable; the army becomes indispensable to local government, and superfluous to the Government in one and another difficulty, and this will be done in vain, and sometimes with great injustice—for our Government wisely adapted to its own proper functions, is utterly devoid of those habits, and unacquainted with the instruments which fit a centralized government to exercise authority in remote States over local affairs. Every attempt to perform such duties has resulted in mistakes which have excited the nation. But whatever imprudence there may be in the method of the Federal Government in the Federal Government is unfit to exercise minor police and local government, and will inevitably blunder when it attempts it. To keep a half score of States under Federal authority, but without national ties and responsibilities; to oblige the central authority to govern half the territory of the Union by Federal civil officers and by the army, is a policy not only unbecomingly to our ideas and principles, but pre-eminently dangerous to the spirit of our Government. However humane the ends sought and the motives, it is, in fact, a course of instruction, preparing our Government to be despotic and familiarizing the people to stretch of authority which can never be other than dangerous to liberty.

I am aware that good men are withheld from advocating the prompt and successive admission of the exiled States by the fear, chiefly of its effect upon parties and upon freedom. It is said that if admitted to Congress the Southern Senators and Representatives will coalesce with Northern Democrats and rule the country. Is this nation then to remain dismembered to serve the ends of parties? Have we learned no wisdom by the history of the past ten years, in which just this course of sacrificing the nation to the exigencies of parties plunged us into rebellion and war?

Even admit that the power should pass into the hands of a party made up of Southern men and the liberty interests of society are never to be used in their own interest. The war has changed, not alone institutions, but ideas. The whole country advanced. Public sentiment is exalted far beyond what it has been at any former period. A new party, would, like a river, be obliged to seek its channels in the already existing slopes and forms of the continent.

We have entered a new era of liberty. The style of thought is free and more noble. The young men of our times are regenerated. The great army has been a school, and hundreds of thousands of men are going home to preach a truer and nobler view of human rights. All the industrial interests of society are moving with increased wisdom towards intelligence and liberty. Everywhere—in churches, in literature, and in nature and natural sciences, in physical industries in social questions, as well as in politics, the nation feels that the winter is over, and a new spring hangs in the horizon and works through all the elements. In this happily changed and advanced condition of things, no party of the retrograde can maintain itself. Everything marches, and parties must march.

I hear with wonder and shame and scorn the fear of a few that the South once more in adjustment with the Federal Government will rule the nation! The North is rich—never so rich; the South is poor—never so poor.—The population of the North is nearly double that of the South. The industry of the North, in divers, in forwardness and productiveness in all the machinery and education required for manufacturing, is half a century in ad-

vance of the South. Churches in the North crown every hill, and schools swarm in every neighborhood; while the South has but scattered lights, at long distances, like light-houses twinkling along the edge of a continent of darkness. In the presence of such a contrast, how mean and craven is the fear that the South will rule the policy of the land? That it will have an influence, that it will contribute, in time, most important influences or restraints, we are glad to believe. But if it rises at once to the control of the Government it will be because the North, demoralized by prosperity, and beaunted by glistening interests, refuse to discharge its share of political duty. In such a case the South not only will control the government, but it ought to do it.

It is feared, with more reason, that the restoration of the South to her full independence will be detrimental to the freedmen. The sooner we dismiss from our minds the idea that the freedmen can be classified, and separated from the white population, and nursed and defended by themselves, the better it will be for them and us. The negro is part and parcel of Southern society. He cannot be prosperous while it is unprosperous. Its evils will rebound upon him. Its happiness and reinvigoration cannot be kept from his participation. The restoration of the South to amicable relations with the North, the reorganization of its industry, the reinvigoration of its enterprise and thrift will all redound to the freedmen's benefit. Nothing is so dangerous to the freedmen as an unsettled state of society in the South. On him come all the spite and anger and caprice and revenge. He will be made the scapegoat of lawless and heartless men. Unless we turn the Government into a vast military machine there cannot be armies enough to protect the freedmen while Southern society remains insurrectionary. If Southern society is calmed, settled and occupied, and soothed, with new hopes and prosperous industries, no armies will be needed. Riots will subside, lawless hangers on will be driven off or better governed, and a way will be gradually opened up to the freedmen, through education and industry, to full citizenship, with all its honors and duties.

Civilization is a growth. None can escape that forty years in the wilderness who travel from the Egypt of ignorance to the promised land of civilization. The freedmen must take their march. I have full faith in the results. If they have the stamina to undergo the hardships which every civilized people has undergone in their upward progress, they will in due time take their place among us. That place cannot be bought, nor bequeathed, nor gained by slight of hand. It will come to sobriety, virtue, industry and frugality. As the nation cannot be sound until the South is prosperous, so, on the other extreme, a healthy condition of civil society in the South is indispensable to the welfare of the freedmen.

Meanwhile, the great chasm which rebellion made is not filled up. It grows deeper and stretches wider! Out of it rise dread spectres and threatening sounds. Let that gulf be closed, and bury in it slavery, sectional animosity, and all strifes and hatreds!

It is fit that the brave men who, on sea and land, faced death to save the nation, should now, by their voice and vote, consummate what their swords rendered possible.

For the sake of the freedmen, for the sake of the South and its millions of our fellow-countrymen, for our own sake, and for the great cause of freedom and civilization, I urge the immediate re-union of all the parts which rebellion and war have shattered.

I am truly yours,
HENRY WARD BEECHER.

Returned from Liberia.

The *Baltimore Sun* of Tuesday last, says the *Savannah Republican*, reports the arrival at that port, of the American Colonization Society's ship *Goconda*, which sailed from Savannah early in the Summer. She had a good trip out with the four hundred emigrants, and a quick run home from Monrovia. Considering that the Radical blacks love politics better than work, they cannot do better than to emigrate to Liberia, where they can enjoy political privileges to their heart's content, and where a white man is not allowed to vote or take a part in public affairs.

Horrible Outrage.

A most horrible rape was perpetrated by a negro, the other day, in Daviess county, Mo., upon a little girl whose parents reside about seven miles North of Galatin. The fiend sought the child in the woods, and by brute force satisfied his hellish lusts, then bound her to a tree and disappeared. After a search of three days, she was found as her destroyer had left her, but in a dying condition, living barely long enough to tell the name of the fiend who had so brutally outraged and murdered her. The villain has not been heard of since the occurrence.

The Gains.

The total Democratic gains in the elections that have occurred during this year have amounted to 49,000 votes.—The total radical gains at elections that have occurred during this year, have been 9,000 votes. If this sort of thing continues how large a majority, according to the Jacobin arithmetic, will Grant get in November next?

When it is asked, how would Harry Clay vote were he alive, the answer can be best given in his own words: "If suffrage is asked for the highest civil officer of my country, the candidate must present some other title than bullets gathered in the blood-stained battle-field."

Great Earthquakes.

The *New York Herald*, in a notice of the recent terrible earthquake in South America, says:

The South American earthquake will take rank among the most dreadful convulsions of modern times. When all the details are known it may be found to have been more disastrous than that at Lisbon on November 1, 1755, when sixty thousand people were killed and the city laid in ruins. The present century has been prolific in such convulsions of nature. In 1811 the western part of this country was visited by a most severe shock, traces of which are still to be found in the region extending from the mouth of the Ohio river to that of the St. Francis. On March 29, 1812, another earthquake destroyed the city of Caracas, Venezuela, burying beneath the ruins twelve thousand of its inhabitants. From December 16, 1857, to January, 1858, the Kingdom of Naples was visited by violent shocks, and about thirty thousand are estimated to have been about thirty thousand. On June 19, 1853, the Mexican republic met with a like fate. The city of Quito, Ecuador, was likewise shaken in March '59, and some thousands of lives lost. But more recently we had to chronicle the disastrous earthquakes in Central America and the West Indies last October, and in the Sandwich Islands in the beginning of April of this year. The losses in the West Indies, although severe, were far inferior to those caused by the present earthquake. They were estimated at about twenty millions of dollars and some hundreds of lives lost. In the Sandwich Islands the damage done was still less. The reason of this is clear—the regions traversed by the shocks are about in the same ratio as to extent and density of population as the respective losses. Just a year previous to this South American earthquake a most violent shock was felt in the East Indies, and was followed in October by the West India convulsions. In each case the direction of the earthquake corresponded with the mountain ranges, just as the line of the direction of the shocks in the present case corresponds with the range of the Andes Mountains. It is also noticeable that the most violent earthquakes have taken place about the time when the periodical displays of meteors are due—that is, about the months of April, August, October, November and December. Ever since the earth got into the great meteoric belt, in November, 1847, we have had to chronicle unusually disastrous earthquakes. Can it be that the electric like shocks of earthquake are generated by the contact of the metallic portion of this belt with the sulphuric emanations of the volcanoes?

Great Gold Discovery.

The following extraordinary statement comes through the *Patriot*, published at Atchison, in the State of Kansas:

We are informed by Mr. J. P. Brown, of the firm of Brown & Bier, contractors for building the Catholic Church in this city, that every brick in this mammoth building contains a quantity of fine gold. This fine edifice probably contains more brick than any block in the city. For a long time the workmen and bricklayers have noticed small specks in the bricks resembling gold, but which, of course, they little thought was in reality the precious metal. Yesterday Mr. Hempler, the architect, having pulverized several of the bricks, ascertained beyond a doubt, by the aid of chemicals, that they really contained gold.

The bricks were manufactured at the kilns just below G. W. Gillespie & Co's saw mill, and it is supposed that gold may be found in quantities on the bluff, just west of the brick kiln.

The Queen of Spain.

Queen Isabella, of Spain, weighs two hundred and twenty-five pounds. She has become very homely, and when she appears in public with her two eldest daughters, both of whom are very handsome girls, the contrast is most striking. The Queen's husband is the very embodiment of stupidity; he looks in his garb like a clown, and in his manner like a clown. He is always head over ears in debt, and the Queen herself is likewise mostly short of funds. The better class of Madrid society look with profound contempt on the royal family. As a proof of the Queen's unpopularity at the capital of Spain, it is said that there is in Madrid scarcely a single girl bearing the name Isabella.

A Slight Mistake.

A merchant, who was absent from his home, received a telegram informing him of his wife's safe delivery of a little girl; at the same time a letter from his partner advising him that a draft had been presented for \$6,000, and the signature seemed rather doubtful. The merchant replied to both dispatches, but misdirected them. The astonishment of the wife may be imagined when she read: "I know nothing about it; it's a swindle." The partner received hearty congratulations on his safe delivery.

A notorious negro named Dr. Woods, was shot and severely wounded by the police Tuesday night in Memphis while attempting to escape after being arrested. Woods was the leader of the party who attempted to murder Mr. Alexander on the Hernando road a few days ago.

It is reported that two members of the Arkansas Legislature, a County Clerk, United States Assessor and Collector, and two United States contractors for building freedmen school-houses, have been driven from Lafayette county in that State. Also, that three white and eighteen black men have been killed.

LETTER FROM TEXAS.

BONHAM, Fannin Co., Texas,
August 30th, 1868.

Mr. W. C. Vaughan: When I left McMinn county last fall, I promised you and others that I would give you a correct account of Texas as far as I might be able. I have now been here one season, and I have recently taken a tour of two hundred miles in order to examine the country, and will give you the result of my observation. Some persons are well pleased with Texas, and overrate it; others are displeased, and underestimate it. I will attempt to strike the golden medium, and neither exaggerate nor extenuate.

Red River county is pretty well timbered and has good land. Near the river there is good timber and good land all the way up, though rather sickly, and plenty of fruit. Lamar county has large prairies in it, and when standing in the middle of a large prairie, you can't see any timber, and all the timber here is scrubby. Fannin county has black waxy and black sandy land, and is scarce of running water. Grayson, Denton and Collin counties have about the same kind of land and timber, though I think Collin is the best watered, and they all have large prairies. The timber is red, black and post oak; red, box, chit and slippery elm; walnut, pecan, ash, hickory, hackberry, bodark, and others that I can't name. Bodark is a thorny, scrubby timber, and splits pretty well, and is very durable. There is a great deal of bodark timber in these counties. When I speak of black, waxy land, I mean just what I say. The sandy land is more pleasant to cultivate than the waxy, but the waxy land stands a drouth best.

Dallas is the most beautiful county I ever saw; good land, pretty good water, large prairies, though timber is scarce. Ellis and Hill are more broken than the other counties, with more water, but not more timber till you get to the Cross Timbers. The Cross Timbers are post oak, black oak, and black jack. Johnson county has good land, and the Cross Timbers run through it. Waco, in McLennan county, is improving rapidly, so is Dallas. The land on the Brazos is as good as need be. Bosque county is broken, rocky, and no good timber. The land on Bosque river is good, though the ridges are rocky, with scrubby cedar on them. In that section they build a good deal of rock fence, and it is more subject to drouth than this portion of the State, and the whole State has much less rain than you have in Tennessee.

Society here is not as good as in Tennessee, though it is improving very much. In my late tour I saw many revivals in progress among the Baptists, Methodists and Cumberland Presbyterians. I saw many fine churches, but in some sections schools are unhandy, as the people are too much scattered.

Cabbage and beans do not grow very well here, but lettuce, beets, mustard and onions grow finely. Most of persons here make their gardens in their fields, as they say any place is rich enough for a garden. This is a good country for peaches, and on the sandy land they raise fine apples.

A railroad from Galveston to California is in contemplation, and when finished I think this will be the best money-making country in the United States for this reason: We can make more produce in this country on an average than you can, and we only feed the stock that we use; the balance live on the range. A man can generally sell one half that he raises.

I have seen more dissatisfied people here than in any country I ever saw. Some of them move off and move back three or four times before they become satisfied; but it don't cost much to move as they feed on the grass. This country is more subject to chills and fever than East Tennessee, except that portion of McMinn county below Gouldy's old mills. Mr. Allen has lived here over twenty years, has thirteen children, all alive and healthy, and he says that he has never paid fifty dollars in doctor's bills in the time. Upon the whole, Texas is a good country, and if any of you conclude to move here, come by way of Memphis and Helena, Ark. Your old friend, JAS. F. BENTON.

Maine.

The joy of the lady of 70, who at three score and ten years, gave birth to her first and only child, illustrates the ecstasy of the Radicals over the Maine election. "Nurse it well," said the young mother, "for I shall never have another."

Bennett Burned Out.

A *New York* dispatch of the 18th says James Gordon Bennett's house at Washington Heights, was burned from a defective flue; fully insured.

The *New York* papers advertise exhibitions of the patent safety coffin under the head of "amusements."