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From the Raleigh Sentinel.

The "Constitutional Convention," (So-Called.)

MORNING SESSION.

MONDAY, Feb. 24, 1868.

The Convention was called to order at 10 o'clock.

Prayer by Rev. J. W. Hood (negro).

Harris, of Wake (negro), presented a memorial concerning a divorce case. Referred,

Mr. Andrews, another of the same nature, which was also referred.

Mr. Pool, from the committee on Relief, submitted two ordinances, which were ordered to be printed.

Mr. Forkner, from the select committee on final adjournment, a resolution that this Convention will adjourn, *sine die*, on Tuesday the 10th day of March, at 12 o'clock, M.

On motion of Mr. Abbott, the report was accepted.

He then moved that it be made the special order, at 10½ o'clock, on Monday next. Carried.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, &C.

By Mr. McDonald, of Chatham: A resolution in favor of establishing a Penitentiary. Referred.

By Mr. Colgrove: A resolution limiting the duration of speeches. Lies over.

By Mr. Abbott: An ordinance incorporating the Northwestern and North Carolina Railroad.

SPECIAL ORDER.

The report of the committee on Immigration and Statistics, establishing an Agent in the city of New York, was taken up.

The question recurred upon the amendment of Mr. McDonald, of Chatham, striking out, in the 5th line, the words "the Governor shall appoint," and inserting "the people shall elect."

Mr. Jones, of Washington, was opposed to this multiplicity of draughts upon the Public Treasury. (The Agent is to be paid $2,000, and the Treasurer is directed to pay all the other necessary expenses of the agency.) You have already established too many high salaried offices for this poverty stricken State. He thought this measure a quixotic enterprise in every particular.

The Chair interrupted the speaker, saying that a motion to indefinitely postpone had heretofore been made.

Mr. Rich hoped the gentleman would be allowed to go on, for this was a rehash of the harangue he gave them some days ago.

Mr. Turner said that if it *was* a rehash, it was very good, and he wished to hear it.

The Chair: "Go on, sir; go on—the House seems inclined to listen to you."

Mr. Jones resumed his remarks, stating his objections to the measure. He did not think that the peasantry of Europe would come down to this section among the colored class. No, they would turn their footsteps towards the West, where white labor prevailed.

Pending the discussion, the hour arrived to resume the

SUFFRAGE QUESTION.

Mr. Pool, the Chairman, took the floor. He commenced his speech by declaring that, for the last ten years, he had opposed the institution of slavery on *principle*. He scouted the idea of negro supremacy, as being utterly impossible. It was only made the watchword of the Conservatives, for political effect, &c. In regard to a liberal course being pursued towards the men who were lately engaged in the rebellion, he read a letter signed by Logan, Boutwell, Colfax, Laflin, and other leading Radicals in Congress, recommending as few alterations in the Constitution as possible, and a lenient course towards the men formerly in rebellion. He thought that any clause of disfranchisement in the Constitution would result most disastrously. He regretted that gentlemen had seen fit to drag up the dead form of the late rebellion, and rake the ashes from its smouldering ruins. He regretted their appeals to passion and prejudice. He thought they should lay aside all such unworthy feelings. He would appeal to the colored people; they had tasted the sweets of liberty, the shackles had fallen from their limbs; let those shackles for white and black men, be buried forever.—He appealed to the ultra men upon this floor to pause ere they took such a fatal step. He hoped that the minority report would be voted down, and also the minority Republican report, and that the 1st section of the majority report would be adopted, with the understanding that additional sections may be offered in the nature of provisions.

The general debate being closed, Mr. Abbott moved to take the first section of the majority report.

Galloway (negro) withdrew his substitute in favor of that of Mr. French, of Bladen.

The article on suffrage of the majority report was read.

In section 1 Mr. Heaton moved to strike out in fifth line, "three months," (residence of voter in county) and insert "thirty days."

Mr. Pool accepted.

Mr. King, of Lenior, objected, saying it would open the door to fraud. He thought three months a short enough time.

Mr. Heaton's amendment created a good deal of debate.

Mr. McDonald, of Chatham, called for the yeas and nays, but the call was not sustained.

The question was put and the amendment was adopted.

The question recurred upon the substitute of Mr. French, of Bladen, disfranchising all persons who, previous to the war, held Executive and Judicial offices, but providing that the Legislature, by a two-thirds vote, may remove such disabilities.

Mr. French moved that it be adopted as a substitute for the first section, as already amended. He said that this would leave the disfranchisement question as Congress had fixed it, but provides further, that the General Assembly may remove such disabilities, and it does not interfere with *men whose disabilities Congress might* see fit to relieve before the ratification of this Constitution.

Hood, (negro,) was opposed to the amendment.

Mr. Welker said the proposed amendment would disfranchise the best Union men in the State, who took office at the hands of Union men to protect them.

Mr. French replied that the disabilities of such men could be removed by the Legislature.

Mr. Welker: Why should not this Convention do this now? It had the power to do so.

Mr. Heaton said that, under the reconstruction acts and the Howard amendment, all would be permitted to vote, though some might be prevented from holding office. It would be, therefore, if this substitute was adopted, a direct opposition to the policy of Congress. It might be his feeling that the Congress should have restricted suffrage, but it was not that he "loved Cæsar less but Rome more" which impelled him to oppose the amendment.

[Here a lengthy colloquy took place between several of the Radicals as to the nature of the Howard amendment, &c., with which it would be profitless to cumber our columns.]

Mr. Pool said that as this debate would seemingly never end, he called the previous question.

Various objections and points of order were raised, but the rules were read and the call was sustained.

The question recurred upon Mr. French's substitute. The yeas and nays were called and resulted as follows: Yeas 25, nays 77.

Mr. Jones, of Washington, desired to offer his amendment, but Mr. Pool contended that the previous question cut off all debate upon this section.

[Three or four delegates, entertaining different opinions, were on the floor at the same time. The Chair begged that gentlemen would not all speak at once. The Chair was inclined to rule adversely, and endeavored to explain to Mr. Jones why and wherefore. Mr. Jones couldn't see the force of such reasoning. Mr. Chairman was sorry that the gentleman could not *understand* his explanation. Mr. Jones said he would *like* to *understand him*, but that was impossible. After some further debate the Chairman appealed to the Secretary to know whether the amendment had been on the table before the previous question was put. On being told that it was,]

Mr. Jones' amendment was at last put to a vote and lost.

The section, as amended, was carried.

At section 2, Mr. Jones, of Washington, moved to strike it out and insert: "It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to provide, from time to time, for the registration of all electors, but no person shall be allowed to register, vote or hold office without having first taken and subscribed an oath of loyalty to the Constitution, in opposition to secession, and in favor of the civil and political equality of all men, &c. [See Jones' remarks of Saturday.]

Mr. Tourgee wished to amend by substituting the oath of the minority report of Messrs. Candler and Congleton.

Mr. Pool moved to lay both amendments on the table.

The yeas and nays were called and resulted—yeas 44, nays 53.

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Messrs. Abbott, Ashley, Baker, Benbow, Bradley, Cherry, (negro), Colgrove, Daniel, Dowd, Durham, Ellis, Etheridge, Forkner, George, Graham, of Orange, Heaton, Hodnett, Hollowell, Ing, Jones, of Caldwell, King, of Lenoir, Legg, Lennon, Long, Marler, McCubbins, Merritt, McDonald, of Chatham, McDonald, of Moore, Mullican, Nance, Nicholson, Parker, Peterson, Pool, Rich, Rodman, Sanderlin, Stilly, Sweet, Taylor, Watts, Williams of Sampson, Williams, of Wake.

Those who voted in the negative were:

Messrs. Andrews, Aydlott, Blume, Bryan, Carter, Candler, Chilson, Cox, Dickey, Duckworth, Eppes, (negro), Fisher, French, of Bladen, French, of Chowan, Fullings, Galloway, (negro), Garland, Glover, Graham, of Montgomery, Gully, Gunter, Harris, of Wake, (negro), Harris, of Franklin, Hay, Hayes, of Robeson, Highsmith, (negro), Hoffler, Hobbs, Hood, (negro), Hyman, (negro), Jones, of Washington, Kinney, Lee, (negro), Mann, May, Moore, Morton, Murphy, Parks, Petree, Pierson, (negro), Ragland, Ray, Renfrow, Rhodes, Robbins, (negro), Rose, Smith, Stilwell, Teague, Tourgee, Tucker, Turner, Welker.

The question recurred upon Mr. Tourgee's amendment. The yeas and nays were called and the vote stood: yeas 33, nays 63.

Mr. Abbott moved to amend by inserting section three of the minority report in place of section two, of the majority report, with the following oath:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am truly and devotedly attached to the Union of all the States, and opposed to any dissolution of the same; that I entertain no political sympathy with the insigators and leaders of the rebellion or with the enemies of the Union, nor approbation of their principles or purposes; that I will neither by word or act encourage or countenance a spirit of sedition or disaffection towards the government of the United States or laws thereof; and that I will sustain and defend the Union of these States, and will discourage and resist all efforts to destroy or impair the same."

Mr. Jones, of Washington, objected to it on the gound that it did not protect loyalty. His oath would not disqualify any loyal man.

Mr. Tourgee objected to it on the ground that it was too lenient.

Pending further discussion, the House, on motion of Mr. Renfrow, adjourned until 7½ o'clock this evening.

NIGHT SESSION.

MONDAY, Feb. 24, 1868.

The Convention was called to order at 7½ o'clock.

The Suffrage question was resumed.

Mr. Abbott withdrew his amendment, in order, he said, to arrive at a direct vote on the substitute of Mr. Jones, of Washington.

Mr. Durham demanded the yeas and nays, and the call was sustained.

Mr. Heaton said, before a final vote was taken, he would call for a division. He said that there was a great difference of opinion among us; he thought the substitute ill-advised; in a few months it would be considered an odious test oath. He thought the incorporation of this measure in the Constitution would jeopardize the ratification of it. He appealed to the colored men on the floor to join in voting down this measure. He could assure them their rights would be amply protected by the provisions of the Howard amendment, which would be incorporated in the Constitution of the United States and the State Constitution.

Mr. Rich warned the gentlemen on this floor, that the passage of such an infamous test oath would dig the grave of Republicanism in this State.

Mr. Jones, of Washington, advocated, at some length, his amendment. He thought that the incorporation of this oath would enhance its chances of success. He said that this oath did not disfranchise any one, and if one did not choose to recognize the political and civil equality of all men, by taking this oath, it was his own fault. Oganizations were being perfected in order to defeat this Constitution, and he, as a good Republican, felt in duty bound to offer any legitimate check-mate that he could. When a man presents himself to register, the question would be asked if he voted against the Constitution; if he replies "yes," the Registrar, if he be an honest man, will say "stand aside, sir; you cannot take this oath, for, in voting against the Constitution you voted against political and civil equality."

Mr. Rodman characterized Mr. Jones' speech as unnatural and vindictive. He was surprised at such a speech falling from the lips of the gentleman, disfranchising those among whom he was reared and with whom he had associated through life. He (Mr. Rodman) would be ashamed to face his constituents, after giving utterance to such unnatural, vindictive sentiments. He said the government did not demand such a proceeding. The colored people did not sanction such a measure, but here is a *North Carolinian*, who gets up and boldly proposes to inflict this harsh and oppressive measure, proscribing not only his fellow-citizens, but his own neighbors and associates.

Mr. Abbott thought that there should be some kind of an oath; it would not hurt a loyal man to take an oath of this nature. Some men would make a face in swallowing the pill, no matter how much the pill was sugar-coated. (Applause, on the strength of which the speaker grew more vindictive.)

Mr. Heaton said that he had already uttered his sentiments upon this matter, and did not wish to repeat them. He intended to strive to give to the people a good, just and wise Constitution, and, when he had done that, he could face his constituents with a good conscience. He proposed the following oath, for both office holders and voters, which he offered as an amendment to Mr. Jones' proposition:

"I, ——, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of North Carolina, not inconsistent therewith,—so help me God."

Mr. Tourgee, of course, advocated Jones' amendment.

Mr. Read said that it was not only impolitic but unjust to proscribe any citizen of this State.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, said that this oath would not go into effect until after the Constitution was framed, (that is if we ever frame one,) and the State restored. Then what was the use of incorporating this measure? It was against the doctrine of true Republicanism. He characterized Mr. Jones' position as monstrous.

Mr. McDonald, of Chatham, was opposed to disfranchising a human being in the State.

Harris, of Wake, (negro,) favored the adoption of the amendment offered by Mr. Heaton.

Mr. Pool did not think any registration was necessary, but such as the Legislature might provide for some of the larger cities in this State, and he utterly opposed *any* other being administered to voters.

Mr. Durham said he hardly knew whether he was in a body that claimed to represent the free people of the State or in a body claiming to be a *Constitutional* body, convened to frame a Constitution for the people of the State, or whether he was in a strict partisan Convention. From the debate a stranger coming in the Hall would come to the conclusion that this was purely a party Convention, met to advance party purposes, not to legislate for the good of the people. The gentleman from Washington (Jones) had openly avowed the purpose of this infamous and iniquitous test oath. You are *afraid* to meet your opponents in an open and free conflict. You, then, for purely party purposes, tie them down by this infamous test oath. It shows a cowardly fear to allow the people a free and untrammeled vote upon your infamous action. I denounce all such measures as perpetrating a damnable and outrageous restriction upon the liberties of the people.

I have been denounced on this floor as being a secessionist and disloyal man.—Sir, I am not loyal to Thad. Stevens, Wilson, Sumner and others in Congress. I am not loyal to the reconstruction acts that are boldly declared unconstitutional by Thad. Stevens. I am not loyal in those things, but, sir, if any man charges me with being untrue to the Constitution of the United States, I tell him *that he lies.*—How can you charge the people of this State with being disloyal in not wishing to take this oath, when the very loyal people of Ohio voted down this very measure?

Mr. Durham was interrupted frequently, and with so many trivial and factious points of order that he had to take his seat, saying that he was not suffered to have a fair hearing on this floor.

Mr. Ashley *was aroused.* He repeated his assertion that Mr. Durham was a disloyal man.

Mr. Durham: "Oh! you are a *liar.*"

Mr. Pool called the previous question and the call was sustained.

The question recurred upon Mr. Heaton's substitute for that of Mr. Jones, of Washington.

The yeas and nays were called and resulted—yeas 25, nays 62.

The vote was taken on Mr. Jones' amendment and resulted—yeas 39, nays 51.

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Messrs. Abbott, Ashley, Blume, Carter, Candler, Chilson, Dickey, Duckworth, Epps (negro), Fisher, French, of Bladen, Fullings, Galloway (negro), Glover, Graham, of Montgomery, Hayes, of Robeson, Hayes, of Halifax, (negro), Jones, of Washington, Kinney, Lee (negro), Logan, Mann, Moore, Morton, Murphy, Parks, Ragland, Renfrow, Rhodes, Robbins (negro), Rose, Smith, Stilwell, Teague, Tourgee, Tucker, Turner, Welker, Williamson (negro) 39.

Those who voted in the negative were:

Messrs. Andrews, Adylott, Baker, Benbow, Bradley, Bryan, Carey (negro), Cherry (negro), Cox, Daniel, Dowd, Ellis, Etheridge, Forkner, French, of Chowan, George, Harris, of Wake, (negro), Ray, Heaton, Highsmith (negro), Hyman (negro), Jones, of Caldwell, King, of Lincoln, King, of Lenoir, Legg, Lennon, Long, Marler, McCubbins, Merritt, McDonald, of Chatham, McDonald, of Moore, Nance, Nicholson, Parker, Pierson, (negro) Pool, Ray, Rich, Rodman, Stilly, Sweet, Taylor, Watts—51.

The second section of the majority report was then adopted.

On motion of Mr. Tourgee, the resolution of Mr. Ashley, paying the employees $2 per day, was taken up and read.

Mr. Ashley moved to strike out the word "employees," and insert the words "three servitors." Agreed to.

The resolution as amended, was passed.

The House, on motion of Mr. French, of Bladen, adjourned.

MORNING SESSION.

TUESDAY, Feb. 25, 1868.

The Convention was called to order at 10 o'clock.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Fiske, of the Freedmen's Bureau.

A memorial from the Second Baptist (colored) Church, praying assistance in raising $50, was read. Lies over.

Mr. Durham obtained leave to have his vote recorded in the negative, upon the vote on Mr. Jones' amendment, taken last night.

So did Messrs. Holt and Graham.

Harris, of Wake, (negro), moved that when this Convention adjourn this afternoon, it adjourn until to-morrow at 11 o'clock. Carried.

Mr. Abbott moved to take up the report of the committee on Immigration and Statistics.

The Chair ruled the motion out of order.

Mr. Abbott moved to suspend the rules and take up the report.

The Chair decided that Mr. Abbott had no right to the floor, when ruled out of order.

Mr. Abbott: It seems that the Chair will not entertain any motion of mine.

The Chair: Take your seat, sir; you are out of order.

Mr. Tourgee: Mr. President, will you recognize *me*, as having the floor.

The Chair: Certainly, sir.

Mr. Tourgee: Then, sir, *I* move that the rules be suspended.

The President decided that, under the rules, there could be no suspension in this case.

Mr. Tourgee appealed from the decision of the Chair.

The appeal was put to a vote and lost.

Mr. Tourgee said he hoped the Chair would *remember* its *decision* in the matter.

By Mr. Rodman: A report from the committee on Judiciary, in regard to making the Judges elective by the people. Pending the discussion of which the hour arrived to take up the Suffrage question; but, after some little debate, it was postponed until Thursday, 11 o'clock.

The Judiciary report was read.

Messrs. Rodman, Pool and Jones, of Washington, were opposed to making the office of Judge elective and to abolishing the distinction between actions in law and suits in equity, but in deference to the ascertained sense of this Convention they had incorporated those provisions into the plan reported.

[It creates a Chief Justice and four Judges, and provides for the creation of twelve districts.]

Mr. Rodman moved that the 1st section be read and adopted.

Mr. Durham called for the yeas and nays. The call was sustained, the roll called and the vote stood, yeas 72, nays 29.

Sections 2 and 3 were read and adopted.

In the 4th section, Mr. Heaton asked an explanation.

Mr. Rodman said the Senate was the Court of Impeachment. There are Supreme and Superior Courts and Justices of the Peace. There were no County Courts.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, said, "Then you mean to do away with the County Courts?"

Mr. Rodman: "Yes, sir."

Mr. King objected strenuously.

After some further debate the section was read and put on its passage. The yeas and nays being called, resulted, yeas 66, nays 17.

Mr. Rodman, in deference to the wishes of a good many delegates, consented to waive all further consideration of the report, save those sections that decided upon the number of Judges and their tenure of office.

Section 8 (creating a Chief Justice and four Associates:)

Mr. Durham moved to strike out four and insert two Associate Justices.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, concurred with Mr. Durham.

Mr. Abbott favored the provision of the section, and, as a conclusive argument, cited the *example* of various Northern States.

Mr. Durham said that this was another innovation. The Supreme Court of North Carolina stood as high as that of any other State in the Union. It was an innovation merely to provide for party pets. Gentlemen may scoff at the word "innovation," but I can tell you that we see clearly through this shallow scheme to provide fat places for certain pets of your party, regardless of the additional tax you impose upon the people.

The yeas and nays were called, on demand of Mr. Durham, and resulted, yeas 84, nays 14.

The section, as amended, was adopted.

Section 12 [creating 12 Judicial Districts] was read, when

Mr. McDonald, of Chatham, moved to strike out "12" and insert the present number (8.)

After a lengthy debate, the amendment was lost, and the section, as reported by the Committee, was adopted.

The 27th section, making Judges elective by the people, was read.

Hayes, of Halifax, (negro,) was opposed to such a thing. He said that the elective system would tend to make the Judges open to corruption. (Sensible Hayes.)

Mr. Heaton thought the Supreme Court Judges should be nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. As for the Superior Court Judges, he did not object to their election by the people.

Mr. Abbott said that he was opposed to the whole system of electing the Judiciary by the people, but the Convention had a day or two since instructed the Committee to report as they had done, and he would now support the report which they had submitted.

Hood, (negro,) thought as did Mr. Abbott.

Mr. Rodman called the previous question. The call was sustained and the question recurred upon Mr. Heaton's amendment. (Provides that the Judges of the Supreme Court be chosen by both Houses of the General Assembly.)

The yeas and nays were called and resulted, yeas 37, nays 51.

The section, as it originally stood, was adopted.

The House, on motion of Mr. Watts, adjourned until to-morrow, at 11 o'clock.

MORNING SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 26, 1868.

The Convention was called to order at 11 o'clock.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Lennon, of the Convention.

Mr. Jones, of Washington, rose to a privileged question. He said that the Reporter of the Sentinel had added, in his proposed oath, the word "social" equality, which was a deliberate lie. He did not object, as a public man, to be commented upon by the press, editorially, but he would not be misrepresented by a Reporter, who had his seat on this floor by the courtesy of the Convention.

Mr. Durham said that the word "social" was evidently a typographical mistake, and would be corrected.

Mr. Ashley said (alluding to Mr. Durham's expression a few nights since, "Oh! you are a liar,") that he was a Minister of the Gospel, and was prevented from resenting an insult, in accordance with the falsely so-called code of honor. But he had rights and privileges in this House that would allow him a moral defence, and he now asked that the House take action in the matter.

Mr. Heaton thought the Convention was not prepared for action in this matter now, and would like to have it deferred until day after to-morrow.

Mr. Daniel moved to refer the matter to a select Committee of five.

Mr. Abbott hoped that both the gentlemen (Messrs. Ashley and Durham) would come to a good understanding in the matter.

The Chair here said that he had, at first, thought that Mr. Ashley was complaining of the Sentinel Reporter's account of the matter, and *was sorry that it was so!*

Mr. Daniel's motion to refer was put and carried.

Mr. Rodman said, as it seemed to be the fashion to make personal explanations, *he* would make *one.* It had been said of him, in the Sentinel, that he spoke very harshly of Mr. Jones, of Washington, for introducing and advocating his amendment, the other day, proposing a test oath. He (Mr. Rodman) had very high respect for Mr. Jones' private character, and knew him to be a gentleman in every particular.

Mr. Abbott also arose. *He* said that he had been reported by the Sentinel as having said, in alluding to those opposed to him politically, that they (the Republicans) would be their masters. He, of course, meant politically, and had no allusion to controlling anybody's opinions or actions, &c. He might have said things in the heat of debate that might be susceptible of misconstruction, but his intention was simply to advocate his views and opinions without indulging in personalities and abuse against those who might differ with him. He thought all this scurrility and abuse of Republican gentlemen should be stopped, and, while according the right to every one to advocate his own peculiar opinions, demanded the right to be fairly dealt with in advocating his.

The President said that *he* was often misrepresented by the Sentinel, but took no notice of it. Its censure would be regarded as praise and its praise would lower any one.

Mr. French, of Chowan, wanted to hear from the Committee raised to investigate the alleged black-mail affair.

Mr. Durham said that the Committee would submit a report in a few days.

The hour of 12 o'clock having arrived, The report of the Committee on the Judiciary was taken up.

Mr. Watts moved to reconsider the vote taken yesterday, making the Judges of the Supreme Court three in number instead of five, as provided by the report of the Committee.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table, and called for the yeas and nays.

The roll was called and resulted—yeas 46, nays 62.

Mr. Abbott gave notice that on the third reading he would offer an amendment, making the number "5" instead of "3."

Galloway (negro) presented a petition from citizens of Wilmington, praying the Convention to order an election for Municipal officers, as the present incumbents were disloyal.

Mr. Durham said that as a Republican delegate had moved to tender this Hall to the Conservative Convention, he would now move to tender the use of the Hall to the Republican Convention this evening. Carried.

On motion of Mr. Rodman the House adjourned until to-morrow, 10 o'clock.

EXECUTION OF PARKER, THE MURDERER.—On Friday last, at 10:20 A. M., William Wright Parker, the murderer of William Childress, was taken from the county jail in which he has been imprisoned for over twelve months, to the common place of execution, there to be hanged in accordance with the directions of his sentence. At an early hour the jail was besieged by a large crowd of idlers, and those possessed of a morbid love of the horrible, to see the prisoner come forth and accompany the procession to the scaffold.—Moving slowly through the streets, the procession proceeded to the place of execution. Parker was seated in an ambulance, which also contained his coffin. He was apparently much composed, with gaze fixed upward, and lips moving as if in silent prayer. The condemned was guarded by a posse of some ten or twelve citizens summoned by the Sheriff.

At 10:55 the procession arrived at the foot of the gallows, where some two thousand persons had already assembled. After being assisted from the ambulance and placed beneath the scaffold, the Sheriff proceeded to read to the prisoner the warrant for his execution. This duty being accomplished, Rev. J. H. Dally, the spiritual adviser of the condemned, offered up a prayer to that Throne on High in behalf of the erring yet repentant one, who was then about to suffer the high penalty of his crime, and whose soul was soon to stand before that awful tribunal, the decree of which is eternal. During the whole of the prayer the condemned appeared also to be offering his supplications, earnestly, but with great composure.

As 11:03 Parker ascended the scaffold and from the platform made an address of about six minutes to the assembled multitude. He said that he was now about to be executed and his soul soon to be ushered into eternity. Disobedience to parents, association with bad men and too free an indulgence in intoxicating liquors was what had brought him to this painful end. He prayed that they all might take warning by his fate and shun these evils. He said that he was as guilty as Runciman, so far as the act of robbing was concerned. Runciman took Childress' life, but he (Parker) was also guilty of the crime, and deserved punishment. He recognized the justice of the laws under which he was condemned, and thought that they were righteous and should be regarded by all. He stated that he had become reconciled to his God and prepared to meet his fate while in prison. He had borne a long imprisonment and thought after all that it was best, as he was enabled to become prepared for death. He prayed that God would be merciful to, and bless, the officers of the county. He acknowledged with gratitude the kindness which he had experienced at the hands of the jailor. After again warning the people from intoxicating drinks and bad association, and from the nourishment of a love of gain, declaring that "money is the root of all evil," and that the desire for its possession had been his bane, he brought his remarks to a close. He again declared his penalty nothing but that which is just and right, and then submitted himself to the hands of the Sheriff.

At 11:09 the noose was fixed, and at 11:11 the fatal trap fell, and the soul of William Wright Parker was launched into eternity. By some means the rope slipped around to the back of his neck, but the fall was a severe one, and in two minutes he had ceased to struggle. The main force of the fall was upon his throat, which caused the rupture of a small blood-vessel about the root of the tongue. At 11:21 the body was examined by Dr. Wm. J. Love, who pronounced that death had taken place. At 11:30 the body was cut down and lowered into the coffin, when it was again examined by Dr. Love. No particular examination was made of the neck, though it is the opinion of the Doctor that it was probably dislocated, but not broken.

The crowd then dispersed, and the body was interred, no friends having appeared to claim it.

The following is the confession written by Parker while in prison, and placed in the hands of Rev. J. H. Dally, the minister who attended him during his confinement and last moments:

CONFESSION.

WILMINGTON, January 9th, 1868.

I, William Wright Parker, do hereby certify how William Childress came to his death in the year 1863, what month, day of the month, or day of the week, I cannot remember correctly:

One night about 8 o'clock, Van Runciman, Jake Dunn, William Childress and myself were at the house of Mary McCumber, near the outskirts of Wilmington. Runciman and Childress sent Mary McCumber's little child to Chas. Closs' store after some spirits, and we all drank some of it. Then Runciman asked Childress, Dunn and myself if we would not like to take a walk to Henry Tarbour's house, saying there were two girls there with whom we might have some fun. We all went except Jake Dunn, who remained at Mary McCumber's.

It had been raining all that day, and was sprinkling when Runciman, Childress and I started for Tarbour's house, which I think is three or four hundred yards from Mary McCumber's, and the last house in the city limits. We went through the grove of little oaks, until we passed down by the left of the house and entered into the woods. Van Runciman and Childress were a little ahead of me, talking together, and when I came up with them Runciman had thrown Childress down, and was standing with one foot on his breast or neck, I am not certain which, but I think it was his neck. I asked him to get off the man's neck, and told him if he did not he would kill him. He made some reply, which I have forgotten, and at the same time was busy feeling for Childress' money. I stooped down and took off Childress' watch, and gave it to Runciman, and then said, "Let us go."

Runciman then said: "Childress will know my face if he ever sees it again." Said I, "What are you going to do then?" "Night has no eyes," said Runciman, "and dead men tell no tales." I then said: "You are not going to kill Childress?" but have forgotten what reply he made me. I said all I could to stop him, but I saw that Runciman was determined to kill Childress, and I thought I was in danger of losing my own life if I tried to prevent the deed by force.

Runciman and I then went towards the creek with Childress. When we came to the road Runciman asked me if I was not going further with him. When we got to the creek, Runciman told me to strike Childress with a pine limb that I had in my hand, which I did, but the limb being small, it was broken by the force of the blow. Runciman then told me to strike Childress with his (Runciman's) knife. I did so once over the eye, but not hard enough to have killed him; for, as God knows, I did it against my will, for had it not been so I would have struck him again. When Runciman saw that I would not do what he wished me to, he took the knife out of my hand, at the same time uttering an oath, and struck Childress with it. The latter then started to run but Runciman caught him, threw him backwards to the ground, and then commenced his bloody work. I think Runciman cut him eight or ten times, and that he died after the first or second stroke, as he never arose from the ground or spoke after Runciman first struck him.

After Runciman had killed Childress he asked me to help him throw the body into the creek, which I did, for I knew it was no use to say anything more to Runciman as the poor man Childress was dead.

I wish the public to know that what I did was done through fear of Van Runciman, as I was once badly beaten by him in the year 1860, in front of Marks & Neff's tin factory, on Front street. I wish it also known to all that I did not know Runciman was going kill Childress until he told me that he must kill him to prevent his recognizing him (Runciman) again. I begged Runciman not to kill Childress, and, God knows, did all in my power to keep him from it.

But I will say no more about it, for when that crime was committed I was only seventeen years of age, and did not know what the laws of the country were as I now do. I feel that when they are administered in a proper manner they are necessary and right, and should be respected and regarded by all citizens of the country.

And I, William Wright Parker, do hereby acknowledge that I have transgressed the laws of God and of the country, and deserve punishment, that is to say, imprisonment, for I do not think my crime worthy of death. Had I committed a willful murder I would not hesitate to acknowledge it, or to abide the penalty of the law; but, being, as I was, an unwilling accomplice, I do not feel that my punishment should be death. Yet, if the authorities of this city think I deserve such punishment, let them do unto me as they think proper, and I will ask mercy from the Great Lawgiver of the Universe, who has promised it through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

(Signed), WILLIAM W. PARKER.

IMMIGRATION SOCIETY—REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED.—Below we publish the report of the special committee appointed by the Immigration Society of this city to prepare and devise a plan of operation for carrying out the objects of the Society. The report was made to the meeting held on Wednesday night last, and would have previously been published in these columns but for the demands upon our space by other important matter. As has been previously stated the report was received, subject to the action of an adjourned meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 5th.

The report speaks for itself, and we would recommend a careful perusal by all those interested in the subject of immigration. The importance of this question is generally recognized, and the want of a white laboring population, of sturdy, thrifty immigrants is what is most needed to build up the prosperity of our country, and convert our tracts now laying waste into rich fields, bearing abundant harvests. The want of means is a sore obstacle in the way of securing the presence of these settlers; yet some plan must be devised by which they may be attracted to our midst, as the present labor system is unreliable and pernicious to the best interests of the country, and unless abolished and another system established in its stead will prove even more serious than we can now imagine:

WILMINGTON, N. C., Feb. 26, 1868.

To the members of the
"Emigration Society" of Wilmington:

GENTLEMEN:—Your committee, to whom was referred the subject matter of devising and reporting to an adjourned meeting of your Society a plan for introducing laborers into our country, ask leave to report, that they have given the subject much attention and reflection, without arriving at any definite conclusion satisfactory to themselves.

The point to accomplish, as they conceive, is not only to introduce laborers from abroad, to fill the vacuum in our sytem of labor, but, at the same time, to introduce a class of honest, industrious, laboring people, of good standing in their own country, who will be most likely to make permanent, good, peaceable, and law-abiding citizens for *our* country. To do this successfully we think it absolutely necessary, first, to provide for their political, civil, religious and social protection and comfort, as upon this alone depends the success of the enterprise. This plan involves, first, the procurement of the passage of such laws for their benefit as our statute books are deficient of; second, the sending abroad a well informed agent, competent and qualified to properly represent us and our country, our laws, climate, soil, and social condition. They must, in most cases, in all probability be furnished the means of transportation, with the assurance of comfortable homes and sustenance for at least one year after landing. All these things being accomplished, the enterprise will prove a splendid success beyond question.—But let us examine this subject a little, and we find the first obstacle which presents itself "*is the want of necessary means.*"

The impoverished condition of our people; the absence of available means; the destruction of our monied institutions; the utter hopelessness of any attempt to concentrate or associate a sufficient amount of capital to carry out this plan, stamps it at once, as altogether impractical, with no other objection.

But there is another formidable objection to this plan, which is, that in the present confused and deranged condition of our country, and of our people, it would be utterly impossible to make timely, adequate provision for the agreeable situations or comfortable homes for the emigrants—a failure in this respect would prove disastrous to the whole enterprise.

Your committee, therefore, with the lights before them, are forced to abandon this, their favorite scheme, for the present, and to recommend for consideration, a more simple and cheaper, though not so perfect a plan as the first, but which seems to come more within the reach of your present capacity, which is to elect from your body, or from the citizens at large, for a period of one year or longer, a number of citizens of acknowledged respectability of character, for integrity, energe ic business habits, and a friendly disposition towards the enterprise, clothed with authority to take charge of, manage and control all its operations, as may seem best, in their judgment, for carrying out the spirit and intention of your Society. Said "Board of Commissioners" will be expected to appoint an agent or Executive officer, to be directed, governed, and controlled by them; to be remunerated for his services by a fixed salary, or by fees; to devise the ways and means for operating the enterprise, and of directing and managing all other matters connected with it; to cause to be kept by said agent an accurate record of all emigrants passing through his office, their names, ages, occupation, nationality, description and location; to provide for them while in transitu; to establish an agency in New York or otherwise for the supply of emigrants; to open correspondence with our farmers, railroads, manufactories, mines and all other parties who may probably want labor; to gather statistics and information relative to the subject, and to open correspondence with land holders, and advertise for proposals for the donation, sale, lease or cultivation of lands; to procure the passage of such laws as may be necessary to establish the confidence, and to secure the protection of our new citizens. He shall likewise keep an order book of records, and establish such rules and regulations for ordering and supplying laborers, or settlers as may seem judicious for best advancing the interest of the enterprise, all such rules and regulations to be first approved by a majority of the board of Commissioners present, at any regular or called meeting, a majority of the whole number being necessary to hold a meeting for the transaction of business. A record of all meetings of the Commissioners must be preserved in a book for the purpose. The agent must be required to keep copies of all business letters, preserve files of all letters received, furnish monthly written reports of his operations to the board of Commissioners; and they in turn, should make reports to the Society at least once a year.

Such, gentlemen, are the outlines of the most feasible plan for carrying out the objects of your Society, which have been presented to your Committee, and as such, we submit them for your consideration and action.

RECIPE FOR PRESERVING HAMS FROM BUGS AND WORMS.—We are under obligations to Col. THOS. S. MEMORY, of Columbus county, for the following simple and valuable recipe for preserving Hams, which he has tested with uniform success:

One bushel of China berries boiled in water to a very strong tea, so as to make *one* bushel when done boiling. Rub the China berries to pieces with your hands; add two pounds of black or red pepper ground to a powder, two gallons of molasses, and add as much rye meal or flour as will make a good paste, then stir the mixture well and apply it to the hams and shoulders on the flesh side; then lay the joints on sticks, flesh side up, for a few days until the paste is dry. Then hang up the joints in the usual way, say in the same position as when the hog was standing up. This quantity is sufficient for the joints of two thousand pounds of pork.

The above must be applied before the fly lays its eggs.

This will not affect the taste in the least.

From the Raleigh Sentinel, 28th.

The Negro Radical Convention on Yesterday—Additional Nominations.

We had a Reporter on the spot, but we do not care to cumber our columns with the disgusting details of the doings, in the negro Radical nominating Convention, on yesterday. The proceedings were marked by great confusion, constant wrangling over the spoils, like hungry dogs over a bone, and incessant clatter. A looker on observed that the whole affair seemed to be a special contract undertaken by Abbott and Jim Harris, as one or the other of them was continually on the floor.

Hon. R. M. Pearson, Hon. R. P. Dick and