

AGENTS FOR THE JOURNAL. GEORGE W. FURBER is the authorized agent of the Journal for Newbern and vicinity to receive subscriptions and advertisements.

THE POOR WHITES OF THE SOUTH AND THE FREEDMEN.

The New York papers, under the lead of the Tribune, are exercising themselves about the poor whites of the South. In the sharp, caustic and pointed manner which has characterized that sheet of late, the first article of the Tribune on this subject bluntly told many unpleasant truths.

The truth of the matter is that there are thousands of poor whites in the Southern States who evince activity and energy, which is most praiseworthy, considering their surroundings. The would-be lords of the cotton field arrogated to themselves and their circles the title of polite society, and with lavish expenditure of money sustained their pretensions to a great extent.

The question which bothers our New York friends, is what shall we do with these people, and it is answered plainly in the career of Mr. JOHNSON. Educate them. How to do this is the puzzling question. Even if there were school houses as thick as the grog-shops now are, they would not be patronized by the poor whites, except those of which President JOHNSON was a type.

riority over them and has been—and is now for that matter—obliged to submit to their ignorant domination.

The Freedman, as has been aptly remarked, "has got a disease for learning." It is a mania with him. The great majority of the blacks, when opportunities are offered, occupy their leisure hours with a spelling-book or a primary reader. They are making astonishing strides in the direction of education, and are exceeding the expectations of their most sanguine friends in their intellectual advancement.

The negro can and will be educated. The poor white trash also can, but they will not, if left to their own inclinations. They require to be driven into schools, after the manner of the laws of some of the German countries. They look on free schools as an invention of the enemy, and are afraid to send their children to them or go themselves, because inasmuch as the Whigs, in old times, and the Yankees now, advocate the system, they expect that Whiggery and Yankeeism will be forced on to them.

THE STATE CONVENTION.

The Constitutional Convention of the State of North Carolina has been in session during the past two weeks; but has done nothing of importance beyond the work comprehended in the two days occupied by the passage of the ordinances abolishing slavery and declaring the secession ordinance a nullity.

As regards the ordinance abolishing slavery, but little credit will accrue to the State on its account. Care was taken to make it appear that the act was a free and independent movement on the part of the convention, by excluding any reference to the war and the practical destruction of the institution. The ordinance was passed as a mere matter of course, with but a faint and puerile effort to qualify it by striking out the word "forever." Mr. FAISON, the delegate who introduced this proposition, probably thought it his duty to do so as a true representative of his constituents, and his inclinations very likely accorded with his sense of duty.

The passage of the ordinance declaring the secession ordinance to be null and void and that it has never been legally operative, is a victory which the Union men of the State may well boast of. It proves conclusively the statements so often repeated by them that the State has never, except by the will of a minority, accepted the doctrine of secession. The peculiar condition of affairs had much to do in influencing the vote on this question, for Mr. BOYDEN, of Rowan, put it before the convention, not only as the requirement of right and justice, but as good policy. He referred to a party in the North who would be glad to see the Southern States repeal the ordinance of secession, for thereby, they would by their own acts indirectly acknowledge its legality, and place themselves in the position of conquered provinces.

representatives should go to Washington, not as supplicants, but as men demanding their rights. The success of the null and void ordinance will be hailed with delight as a victory over secession and treason, and it will be looked on as the final overthrow of the heresy in this State.

There is one thing, however, which at this juncture we will submit to the consideration of our citizens. The State never could secede and never can; but by its attempt to do so, while it did not relieve itself from its obligations to the Union, it forfeited its privileges under it, and opened its organic law to the investigation of Congress.

GIVE THE DEVIL HIS DUE.

Since the South succumbed to the persuasive machinations and perigiminations of "Mr. SHERMAN and his company" it has been flooded with newspaper correspondents from the North, sent down to "write up" the situation. With singular unanimity they have all represented disloyal feeling throughout the whole section. They only disagreed as to its extent; some claiming that it was strong enough to control the country, and others that Unionism was in the ascendancy. The reports of citizens with equal concord represented a condition to which no loyal man could object. In North Carolina particularly, these contradictions were frequent, and it came to pass that North Carolina reporters fell into disrepute, and were classed with Philadelphians, and their letters were thrown aside as unreliable. But truth is mighty and will prevail, or in the elegant language of Ike Cook, of Chicago, "You can squish it and it'll get up again, and I'll bet you five dollars on it."

We have been led to these statements by the second able speech of the Hon. Mr. BOYDEN of Rowan county, in the State Convention last week. He stated that he had, in a recent visit to Washington, informed the President and some of the members of his cabinet, that the reports of correspondents in the old North State, charging its citizens with disaffection and disloyalty, were untrue. In words which we do not remember, but in effect meaning that he now found himself in error, and the correspondents partially right, he announced his belief that the old arrogant secession spirit of rebellion still has a foothold in this State. He did not refer to any one by name; but every one present knew whom he meant and watched the parties as they squirmed and asked "does the gentleman refer to me or any member of the Convention?"

In connection with the above the following from the PROGRESS of Thursday, will be of interest to our readers:—

We publish below a letter from Elias Smith, Esq., correspondent of the New York Tribune. Of Mr. Smith's social relations or who he does, or does not visit and walk with, we have nothing to do. He is here as the representative of a paper that wields an immense influence in this great nation, whose proprietors would hardly select blackguards for such positions, and as such we feel bound to give him a hearing. The threat of violence against Mr. Smith we think most probably the work of some thoughtless youth, for the majority of the young men of Raleigh are not the character of persons that engage in mobs or lynching demonstrations. They are gentlemen and behave as such, and neither Mr. Smith or any other well behaved person has anything to fear from them. If there are persons here who sincerely meditate the renewal of this South Carolina sport of mobbing "yankees" they would do well to reflect that there are a few United States troops yet in the vicinity. We feel it especially incumbent on us to give Mr. Smith a hearing as it has been denied him in one of our city cotemporaries, where he first asked for it. The following note will explain itself:

STANDARD OFFICE, Raleigh, N. C., Oct. 10, 1865. Mr. Smith:—On consultation the editors of the Standard deem it best not to publish the communication. Very truly, CANNON & HOLDEN. [LETTER] "To the Boys of Raleigh." RALEIGH, Oct. 9, 1865. Young Gentlemen:—Your polite, though anonymous letter I took from the post-office only yesterday morning, which reads as follows:—

RALEIGH, N. C. Oct. 9, 1865. "MR. SMITH:—We, the boys of Raleigh, in a meeting have resolved if you do not stop walking with the Misses "Negress" of Raleigh, that we will take you and black your face, so that you will be the color that you wish to be; and for the second offence we will tar and feather you, and ride you on a rail. We, the boys, warn you as a white man to stop associating with the negroes. You must not go to the white Convention of North Carolina, as a negro lover is not allowed to enter the honored capitol of North Carolina. YOUNG AMERICANS."

To which I beg leave to reply through the only medium you have left me. Your friendly interest in my behalf, and desire that I should walk in good company is pleasing. I regret that you should have been to the pains of holding a "meeting" in my case to pass the above kind resolution. Had you sent a committee to labor with me, it would have saved trouble. It would also have been more manly and "chivalrous," as I think.

I bespeak your indulgence. Man is a creature of society. I came to Raleigh, it is true, without being invited, about the 14th of April last. I am fond of good company, but the ladies, old and young, for some reason, turned their backs on me—they gave me the cold shoulder. I tried for several days to behave the best I knew how; put on my best store clothes, and tried to obtain a friendly glance from them. I yearned for them; but they did not notice me. There seemed to be a slight prejudice. I am fond of children, very, and wanted to caress them, but they made mouths at me. I went to church on Sunday, but had hard work to find a seat and the only lady in the pew rose up hastily and rushed out as if my presence was not so agreeable as some other folks. Nobody said "Good morning Mr. Smith, I am happy to see you." I waited for invitations to dinner, but no invite came. I went to board, but the landlady seemed distant and cold, and I paid my bill and left. She did not seem sorry, I am fond of singing and the piano, and sighed for an invitation to spend the evening with some of the "first families," but finally became discouraged. I heard that a party of "Yankee officers" were fortunate enough to be invited out, but some of them had first to drink "the health of President Davis" before they could be received into full fellowship.

I finally took the best society I could get. There were people of every shade of complexion going around, and not being an accurate judge of tints, and the ways of your society, I may have made mistakes. Some of these people seemed willing to speak to me, and even invite me to their church. They did not run out of the pew when I went in. Their complexions were darker than some people, but I was very much pleased with the complexion of their views, particularly on the Union. They even invited me to dinner. I went, the food was good. There was a lack of pianos, but they are great on vocal music. I enjoyed myself.

When I was a boy, I heard a sermon from this text, "Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate." It made a deep impression upon my mind. My father also taught me never to be ashamed of my poor relations. We were poor ourselves once. He also said, "My son, abstain from picking pockets, and robbing hen roosts; never speak evil of a person behind his back; pay the wood-sawyer and washerwoman, and always sign your name to what you write." These early instructions of my youth, I have always tried to follow.

I hope you will rescind your resolution to black my face, tar and feather me, and ride me on the rail. From having frequently heard of persons who have experienced these recreations in the South, I have a prejudice against them. Consider to what straits I have been reduced to find good society. Reflect. In the eloquent language of another, "we are going home." I may be at "the old homestead" when you come, and I would not look well with my face blacked and otherwise disfigured by tar. Besides, it would sound badly abroad, and might hinder "immigration." I have an extensive acquaintance among the members of Congress, and am on good terms with the President, whom I assisted to elect by reporting his anti-slavery speeches in Tennessee. If your fathers or friends need my good offices in the way of procuring pardons, perhaps I can aid them. I have, also, a large acquaintance among the dry goods jobbers and grocers of New York, and, as I have done before, I will introduce such of you as may wish to purchase goods "on time." By lynching me you will lose my valuable services. Kindly yours, E. SMITH, Correspondent N. Y. Tribune.

GENERAL GRANT'S OPINION OF NEGRO TROOPS.—The New York Tribune, says editorially: General Grant, said of the negro troops: "For guard duty and picket duty, on the march and in assault, I consider the negro troops surpassed by no soldiers in the world, and equalled by very few."

"But," queried a listener, "does not that include all you can say of a soldier?" "Nearly, but not all," responded the Lieutenant General: "What remains is, the ability to endure the steady pounding of a protracted campaign." "Yes," said another questioner, "but if the negroes are good for everything else, why not for that?" "I don't say they are not," rejoined Gen. Grant, "I only say they have not been tried." The parties to that conversation were Gen. Grant, Edwin M. Stanton and Henry Ward Beecher, and we had it from the lips of the latter.

THE NEW NATIONAL UNION PARTY.

Col. JOHN W. FORNEY, of Penn., Secretary of the United States Senate, and the author of the "Occasional" letters in the Philadelphia Press, which paper he owns, together with the Washington Chronicle, Harrisburg Telegraph and several others, is a shrewd far-seeing man. Accustomed to the wire-workings of the national capital, he is an acknowledged leader at Washington, and by means of his ramified editorial connections, he wields a large influence all over the North. During the administration of Mr. Lincoln, he supported the policy of the government and was one of the most earnest advocates of freedom in the country. He now announces the following as his platform:—

1st. That the rebellion did not destroy the Republic, nor the States which composed it. 2d. That Slavery is buried in the grave of the Rebellion. 3d. Four millions of freedmen must be elevated and protected from cruelty. 4th. To pay the national debt. 5th. That none of the rebel debt should ever be recognized. 6th. That none of the authors or leaders of the rebellion should ever be admitted to places of trust or honor under the General Government. 7th. That the energies of the people should be directed to the development of the natural resources of the country.

We endorse all this, and know that in doing so we endorse President JOHNSON, for Col. FORNEY claims that this pronouncement is the President's in point of fact. But we construe the third plank in the platform to mean something more than mere words. We think that the elevation of the Freedmen can best be accomplished by making men of them, and the best way to make men of them is to give them the right of suffrage. We think that protection against cruelty to Freedmen can best be accomplished by making men of them in the full sense of the word, and giving them the right to testify in courts of justice. With this explanation we array ourselves with the National Union Party—provided it don't go back on our construction of the third plank.

CONNECTICUT AND COLORADO.

Connecticut has by a majority of six thousand, refused to amend her constitution by enlarging the suffrage privilege to include the blacks, although there are only two thousand in the State. The result of the election, however, shows an increase in the strength of the Equal Rights party, which should not be overlooked in weighing its significance. It is proved conclusively, too, that the Republicans exhibited remarkable apathy and lost the contest on account of it. All things considered we have some hope of Connecticut, at some future election, of course, for we cannot now reach her in any other way. Colorado has signified her willingness to become one of the sisterhood of the Union, but has nullified her attempt to do so, by failing to recognize the true principles of Republicanism on the suffrage question. Congress will have the handling of her proposed constitution and with other States we wot of whose organic law it will investigate, she will probably be allowed to remain in her present condition until she overcomes her "subjection to prejudices of the past."

UNDER OBLIGATIONS TO THE REBELS.

An intelligent colored friend informs us that he likes the "secess" better than the unionists, because, says he, "if the secess had never split the Union, we would never have been free." We think that there may have been some "confidences" between our friend above mentioned and High Smith of Low Johnson, who proposed to amend the ordinance abolishing slavery, by declaring that it had been destroyed by the secessionists. The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger states that complaint is made that too much ammunition is way to Southern ports. There was no limit fixed upon the amount that was allowed to be shipped, and hence, if the quantity going forward is dangerous to the peace of the nation, the government is alone responsible. A statement upon this subject will probably be called for at the hands of the collectors of the Northern ports, and, if the complaint that the shipments are too large for safety is found correct, an order reducing them to a certain standard will no doubt be issued. It seems very evident that Connecticut was lost by the apathy of the Republican party. A number of the leaders got it into their heads that, perhaps, any strenuous effort in favor of suffrage would offend the President—notwithstanding his contrary assurances. So they stayed away from the polls, and made no effort to unite the people, behaving altogether in a cowardly way—suffering the State to go by default. The true men of the Republican party should put a mark on these cowardly gentlemen.—New York Tribune.

THE NATION.

We copy the following from the last number of the above named sheet:—When the publication of The Nation was commenced, there was naturally a good deal of doubt felt and expressed in many quarters as to the existence of any demand of any demand on the part of the public for such a paper as The Nation aimed to be. We are glad to say that the experience of the last three months has satisfied us that this doubt was not well founded. We believe we are justified in asserting that no such reception has ever in this country been accorded to any weekly paper, not pictorial, as this journal has received. We find, both in the number of our subscribers and the expressions of opinion which reach us from all parts of the country, abundant proof that such a paper as we seek to supply is sure both of wide circulation and hearty appreciation. The most sanguine anticipations we ventured to form on this point have been realized. In other words—and we trust we say this without being held guilty of undue self-commendation the American public has shown that its literary taste is higher than it has been commonly assumed to be.

We felt at the outset of our enterprise that, in order to test thoroughly the popular opinion of our work, it was desirable to make the price as low as to submit the paper at once to the judgment of as large a circle of readers as possible. The experiment has been so successful that it is no longer necessary to continue it, and we propose, with and after this number, to raise the price to six dollars a year, a sum which will prove, we trust, amply remunerative. And as efforts have been made in some quarters to create the impression that The Nation, as well as other periodicals called into existence by the return of peace, is destined to be short-lived, we may be pardoned for stating that the amount of our paid-up capital is such as to relieve us of all uneasiness on that occasion.

The following is the contents of this week's number:—The Week; "The Devil an Ass;" Jordan on Davis; The Naval power of France and England; The National Highways; Another View of the Condition of the South; The South as it is; Caste Feeling in England; A Day in Pompeii; Literary Notes; The Convention of the Roman Empire; Dante in 1865; Current Literature; Art Notes; Science; Financial Review. Terms:—\$6 per annum, in advance. Address Joseph H. Richards, No. 130 Nassau street, New York.

A Colored Newspaper in Tennessee.

It is a favorite argument with that class at the North opposed to the enfranchisement of the negroes, that they are destitute of that ambition which is the spring of action, and which leads to that wondrous activity of mind that marks the members of the more advanced races of mankind. They also urge that the individuals of the colored race will not, or rather cannot avail themselves of the advantages now opening for them, and will prove their intellectual deficiencies by their utter incapacity to meet the requirements of a condition of freedom. We would attract the attention of all who really hold such an opinion to the following common-sense advice from a freedman of Nashville to his fellows, and published in one of a series of educational letters in The Colored Tennessean.

"The fact that we have hitherto labored under many disadvantages will matter nothing. The fact of our ignorance still remains. It is the imperative duty of every young man among us, to go to work at once in this matter of self-improvement. * * * The destiny of our race is in our hands, and we must have a full sense of the magnitude of our part of the work. * * *

To stand still now is defeat and destruction to our cause. Do not talk about what the colored race is going to do in ten or fifteen years, but ask yourself what you are going to do now. Commence at once to fit yourself for a faithful discharge of all the duties of a citizen in a free republic, and an enlightened, refined member of society."

In referring to the above, the Philadelphia Press, remarks as follows:—

The writer of the above surely exhibits a true appreciation of the situation of his race, of the present disadvantages of the work imperatively incumbent upon them, and of that harder fact for persons of his position to realize—that by the world at large a man is regarded for what he does without considering the hindrances which he may have to suffer, or the obstacles which he may have to overcome. All these special difficulties, which the freedmen must necessarily encounter, are evidently recognized by at least this one member of the class, and his advice could hardly be rendered more practical and apposite to the case.