

The Fourth of July.

There was a time—ante-bellum—when this national holiday brought with it joyous memories of the glorious past, and kindled in the hearts of old and young glowing emotions of patriotism and pride, which were exhibited in various demonstrations of rejoicing. Then, we were aroused at day-break by the thunders of artillery, the rattling peals of bells, the *feu de joie* of our volunteer companies, through our streets, before breakfast, and the frolics of the youngsters with pistols and fire-crackers throughout the entire day—winding up with, probably, a display of fire-works in the park. But six sad and weary years have intervened since such a celebration, and have left us with scanty means to make suitable demonstration of our patriotism and respect for the day. Poverty-stricken, crushed in spirit, depressed in view of their political future, the people of the South will scarcely be expected to celebrate the day with that joyousness and hilarity which characterized their celebrations in by-gone days.

But there are many good reasons why the day should be observed—if not with the usual noisy popular demonstrations, at least with honor and respect. The principles enunciated by the representatives of the American colonies, this day ninety-one years ago, are immortal, and will endure so long as liberty has a place of refuge on this broad earth. Although party strife and unhappy sectional differences may have beclouded them for the time being, yet we have confidence and hope that they will emerge as brightly, and with as much radiance, as when they shone upon the American people in the earlier days of the republic. Those principles are founded upon truth and right, and, when the baleful fires of faction have been quenched by the good strong sense of the citizens of the United States, in every section, then will they be hailed with joy, and adopted as the guiding constellation for the people and their representatives, both in State and national councils, and in the administration of public affairs throughout our common country.

Let the day, then, be celebrated in the proper spirit, and in the mode most befitting the circumstances in which we are placed; but let no one, bowed down by what they may consider the undue pressure of the circumstances, despair of the republic. It is an old saying, but one that has been verified too often to doubt of its application under any and all circumstances, that the darkest hour is that which immediately precedes the dawn; so, let us hope and trust, will it be with our present distracted country, that she may soon again become the wonder and admiration of the nations, for the virtue and intelligence of her citizens—her giant strides in all that make a people great and prosperous, and their undying devotion to the principles of liberty upon which was founded the Government of the United States of America. To this end, let all, of whatever rank or station in life, resolve this day to work—work continuously and effectively—until peace, harmony and mutual goodwill prevail throughout the land, and the perpetuation of the American Union be the highest political object of the people, their legislators and their rulers. Before the next succeeding anniversary of the nation's birthday, all this may be accomplished, and equality, justice and right be the governing principles in the administration of the affairs of a free American Government. We wish all our readers a day of rational enjoyment, and the youngsters as much fun and sport as they can manage to pick up, for the celebration of "the glorious fourth."

Forney's Press, of the 26th, contains the following telegram: Letters received here from prominent members of Congress indicate that at the coming meeting of that body, the provisional governments now existing in the South will be entirely abolished, and the territorial plan advocated by Senator Sumner and Hon. Thaddeus Stevens some time ago, adopted. Prominent Southern Unionists declare that while these governments remain in force, thorough reconstruction is impossible.

Suffrage in New York.

A New York Constitutional Convention has been in session for some weeks, but apparently have made very little progress. Only one committee has reported, and that is on the everlasting question of suffrage—"manhood suffrage," as it is technically called by the professional political philanthropists. The committee have presented two reports—one recommending this manhood suffrage, and the other urging that the question of extending suffrage to negroes be submitted to the people. The committee were unanimous against female suffrage.

These reports will doubtless give rise to protracted debates, but with what result cannot be anticipated. The measure that Congress has forced upon the people of the Southern States is likely to become troublesome in those States where the measure and its enforcement originated. It would be something amusing if they had yet to be reconstructed in relation to this matter, and more amusing if the Southern States, reconstructed and restored, should be called upon to aid in the work. Their people, by that time, will thoroughly understand the process, and be competent for the task.

But, seriously, this question of suffrage in the States, after the Union is reconstructed, will be found troublesome, unless it be left where the Constitution left it—to the people of the several States. Either this return to first principles, or a law of Congress applying equally to all the States, seems to be the only way of satisfactorily settling the question. The former course is preferable in every point of view, as well because it recognizes the rights of the people of the respective States to regulate their internal arrangements, as because it would almost be impossible to frame a uniform law that would be applicable to all the States, having populations as different as their climates and soils.

Union Republican Meeting.

COLUMBIA, July 2, 1867.

At a mass meeting of the Union Republican party of Richland District, called by the Executive Committee of the District, to elect delegates to the convention of the Union Republican party of South Carolina, Wm. Myers, Chairman of the Executive Committee, assumed the chair, and called the meeting to order.

On motion, Dr. E. H. Heinitsh was requested to act as Secretary, but he not being present, on motion, Preston Nowell was appointed in his stead.

The Chairman then stated that this meeting was called to accept or reject the nomination made by the Executive Committee for delegates to the Convention of the Union Republican party of South Carolina, to be held in the city of Columbia, on the 24th day of July, 1867.

The Secretary then read the nomination as follows: John Caldwell, C. H. Baldwin, S. B. Thompson, Beverly Nash and Wm. Myers.

Col. T. J. Robertson rose and stated that he was authorized by Mr. Caldwell to withdraw his name from the nomination, as he cannot be present at the time the Convention meets; but he wants it distinctly understood that he desires his name to be on the list of the Union Republican party; that he is always ready and willing to serve that party.

The question was then put, to accept the nomination made by the Executive Committee, but it was unanimously rejected. The following nomination was then offered by Mr. Hampton Mims, which was accepted, and the following committee unanimously elected: S. B. Thompson, C. H. Baldwin, Wm. Myers, Charles M. Wilder and T. J. Robertson.

Mr. Wm. Simons, sr., in behalf of Mr. C. H. Baldwin, stated that, on account of his health, he would soon be compelled to leave the city to recruit, and though he is with the Republican party, he respectfully begs leave to tender his resignation as a delegate to the Convention of the Union Republican party.

On motion, his resignation was not accepted. On motion, the delegation elect was called out to address the meeting, and they responded as follows: S. B. Thompson, Wm. Myers, C. M. Wilder and T. J. Robertson.

On motion, the following gentlemen were appointed a committee of nine to make arrangements for the meeting of the Convention: James Davis, Dr. E. H. Heinitsh, Preston Nowell, N. E. Edwards, W. K. Greenfield, Edward Thompson, Wm. Smith, Wm. Simons, sr., and Gilbert Bynum.

On motion, the meeting adjourned. The hall was crowded, and the utmost harmony and good feeling prevailed. WM. MYERS, Chairman. P. NOWELL, Secretary.

The Duty of Registration.

A committee appointed by a meeting of the citizens of Savannah has issued an address to the voters of that city, from which we make the following extract, which is applicable here, as we understand that some young men, and perhaps old ones, too, do not intend to register. We advise such to read the following reasons put forward by the Savannah Committee:

Many of you, we learn, intend declining to register your names, from impulses springing out of sentiment and individual pride—impulses which we appreciate and respect, but which we think unpractical and delusive, and calculated to distract your attention from your obvious duties and responsibilities.

You shrink from what you consider a personal humiliation, in consenting to submit to the dictation of those who now wield the power of the General Government and who choose to exercise it despotically.

We entreat you to discard these feelings, and to accept our calmer judgment and counsel in this matter. We agree with you in condemning the Acts which Congress has passed, but we do not acknowledge that there is any voluntary humiliation in asserting the rights allowed to us by them.

Granting that the Acts under consideration are unconstitutional, arbitrary and unjust; that they violate established principles of political right, and wantonly force the safeguards of social freedom—yet, until repealed or annulled by a competent judicial tribunal, they are the laws of the land in which we live. You can "accept the situation" with dignity and without sacrifice of self-respect.

The war is over; the issues upon which it was waged have been decided against us. You have done your duty in that contest, but another duty still devolves upon you. The question now is how to restore our State to a peaceful position of prosperity and of political freedom. To this end, Georgia needs and demands the aid of all her sons. The only way in which you can render that aid is by qualifying yourselves to be voters at the coming election. You can do that only by registering your names under the provisions of the military Acts. In no other way can you assume your true positions and grasp once more the power which is your birth-right.

If you hold back now, and refuse to register, consider what may be the consequences of your inaction, and the responsibilities that will rest upon you.

A very few votes may decide the preponderance of power at the next election. What fearful contingencies are involved in that simple suggestion. If you refuse to register, you deprive yourselves of the opportunity of voting for or against a convention, and for or against the constitution which that convention may adopt.

If you refrain from qualifying yourselves to be voters, what guarantee have you that the convention may not frame a constitution for your State that will, on the very ground of your default, disfranchise yourselves and your sons forever.

Why should you disdain to exercise the right of suffrage, which has always been yours, because it has also been conferred upon others—when there is more need now than ever before that you should assert it?

Many of you who will read this address have served your State faithfully in the field, under the honest conviction that you were simply doing your duty. You have carried that honor which duty sincerely undertaken and earnestly performed, always confers. But other obligations to that State still remain to be fulfilled, in order to complete your record of a trust faithfully discharged.

At no time in the history of our State, did she stand more in need of the united and unflinching energy and devotion of her sons in her behalf.

Immolate upon her altar all selfish ideas. Every duty is stern. Every duty demands some sacrifice of interest or of feeling. He is worth nothing to his friends or his country, who is not willing to make such sacrifices at the demand of duty.

You fearlessly exposed your lives in defence of your State. Will you hesitate now, when she is encompassed by new and fearful dangers, to rally to her aid, when she once more calls upon you for support?

Friends! We have shown you what we believe to be your duty in the present emergency.

We entreat you to hesitate no longer; to look upon the situation as practical men, in the light of reason and common sense; and to assert to the full extent all the rights you possess.

DECLINE OF IRELAND.—Agricultural and emigration statistics made public by order of Parliament, show that in the year 1866, the total decrease of land under cultivation in Ireland was 129,526 acres from the previous year. The decrease in respect to the crops was chiefly in oats, barley, potatoes, turnips and hay. The number of emigrants who left the country in the year was 101,251, or nearly 2,000 less than in 1865. The decrease was entirely in the number of female emigrants, as nearly 4,500 more male emigrants left the country in 1866 than in 1865.

Local Items.

INTERMISSION.—To-day being the Fourth of July, no paper will be issued on Friday.

POST OFFICE HOURS.—The office is open from 8 a. m. until 3 1/2 p. m., and from 6 until 7 p. m. The Northern mail closes at 3 1/2 p. m., and all other mails close at 8 p. m.

On the Fourth of July, the office will be open from 8 to 10 a. m., and from 6 to 7 p. m.

THE EFFECT OF ADVERTISING.—A watch was taken out of a gentleman's room a night or two ago; he advertised his loss in the *Phoenix*, and the next day had the satisfaction of again coming into possession of his "flicker." So much for advertising.

MAMMOTH VEGETABLES.—If the specimens we have received are fair samples of the vegetable crop, it would appear that, should there be a small quantity, the size and quality will make up the deficiency. Mr. Lamar Stark presented us, yesterday, with a splendid Early York—not a drum-head—hard-head cabbage, weighing eleven pounds, grown on his farm, near the city. Who can beat it?

We are indebted to Mr. McCarter for copies of the following books—some of them new—which we shall notice more fully in a few days: "The Land of Thor," by J. Ross Browne; "The Last Chronicle of Barset," a novel, by Anthony Trollope; "The Civil War in America," volume I, by John W. Draper; "The Isthmus of Panama and its Commercial Connections," by F. N. Otis; "Nora and Archibald Lee," by Agnes Tremane. All of these works are from the publishing house of Harper & Brothers, New York.

REMEDY FOR DULL TIMES.—The best remedy for dull times is to advertise freely. Merchants should not let their stocks stay shelved until they become old, stale and unprofitable, for the sake of the small expense it would cost them to advertise. If they try it regularly and persistently, they will find the investment to be a paying one.

"THE DAY WE CELEBRATE."—The Fourth is to be celebrated by our citizens in a variety of ways—almost "from grave to gay, from lively to severe." First and foremost, will be the military programme—already published. The scholars connected with the Marion Street (Methodist) Sunday School celebrate their nineteenth anniversary, and we venture the assertion that all who have been present on any previous occasion will not fail to attend. The mantle of the lamented superintendent has fallen upon worthy shoulders, and every effort has been made by teachers and scholars to keep up the reputation of the Marion Street School. The exercises begin at 9 a. m.

At the same hour, the admirers of true horsemanship and old-time amusements will have an opportunity of judging whether or not our young men are keeping up their former reputation. The tournament is to come off on the College Green.

At 11 o'clock, there will be a general celebration—reading of the Declaration of Independence, etc. The orator of the day, Col. R. B. Carpenter, is an eloquent speaker. Col. C. is Register in Bankruptcy in Charleston. Addresses from other persons are also expected. The public in general are invited to attend. See programme in advertising column.

In the afternoon, at 5 o'clock, there is to be a trotting match at the race-course. It was also intended to have a barbecue; but the idea was not carried out.

Our German friends, and, in fact, the citizens generally, can, doubtless, pass a pleasant day at Mr. Grieshaber's garden.

There is to be a festival at Janney's Hall, where cakes, ice cream, etc., will be dispensed.

The "Cuban national sport" will be exhibited at Beraghi's, near the post office.

SUPPORT YOUR OWN JOURNALS.—The *Gleaner*, issued every Wednesday, from this office, defies competition as a literary and news journal. Those who subscribe to it are kept well posted up in the current events of the day, as it embraces the telegraphic news, political, commercial, state of the markets, &c., up to the hour of going to press.

THE COLUMBIA FIRE DEPARTMENT.

At a meeting of the above department, held on the evening of the 1st instant, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted. Let it be distinctly understood, however, that this is merely a dissolution of a temporary arrangement, entered into after the destruction of the city, on the 17th of February, 1865—when there was but one complete fire apparatus in Columbia. The Phoenix Hook and Ladder Company tendered the use of their house to their unfortunate comrades, and the Palmetto and Independents joined and "run the machine" together. The apparatus of the two companies being now in complete working order, and the engine house of the Palmetto having advanced near enough to completion to warrant its occupation, the old organizations have been resumed, and hereafter the same generous rivalry which existed several years ago will be renewed, and the "first water" be the all-important matter. With the fervent hope that the machines and members will "weary of doing nothing" in the extinguishing line, and that the good feeling which has all along existed may be maintained, we bid adieu to the "Columbia Fire Department."

Resolved, That the Columbia Fire Department now be dissolved, and that the thanks of the department be tendered to the Phoenix Hook and Ladder Company for the use of their house and hall; also, to Capt. W. B. Stanley, Chief, and Capt. John McKenzie, Assistant Chief, and the other officers of the department, for the faithful and efficient manner in which they have discharged their arduous and trying duties during the period of the existence of our department.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolution be sent to Messrs. Stanley and McKenzie and the officers of the Phoenix Hook and Ladder Company.

EDITING A NEWSPAPER.—Many of the readers of a newspaper have little idea of the trials and difficulties an editor has to contend with. One who knows them by experience writes:

Everybody finds fault with the editor. He is common property, so far as abusing him is concerned. If he publishes strong political editorials, he displeases the conservative members of his party; but if he lags in interest, he is pronounced a failure. If he gives his readers a little soft sawder, he is put down for a fool. If he discusses grave matters, he is a sentimentalist. If he dives into dry subjects, he is called a boor, and so, between his readers, (and particularly those who borrow their paper,) he gets a dig or two on all sides.

Do these very intelligent critics know what it is to edit a newspaper? Some do. We met a gentleman the other day, who said he had often written for his County paper when the editor was absent or unwell. He knew all about it, and thought it was fun. He is happy, knows a good deal, but not enough about what he was talking.

The difference between writing occasionally for a weekly newspaper and editing a daily, may not be much in the estimation of these critics; but it is something, as we shall suggest. To edit a daily newspaper requires a tireless brain and body. Every day the same routine of work is to be done; there are the exchanges to look over, and perhaps an average of ten columns therein to read each day.

Then the clippings are to be made ready for the printer—a little for fools, and something for wise men. This over, there are the editorials to prepare, which, at times, require a little reflection. If the paper is to be made attractive or lively, an average of at least five columns of this sort of stuff is absolutely necessary.

This will take a couple of hours or more. Then there are letters and communications to read and prepare for the type, or to answer. Then the Rev. Mr. So-and-so drops in to have a word with you on something of interest to his flock and the Kingdom Eternal, whose departure is followed by a call from gentlemen from abroad or at home, who have something relating to your or their interest to relate and talk over. Then there are the proofs of your manuscript to peruse and correct, and so on, from day to day, week to week, year to year.

We are sometimes criticised concerning style. Says a friend, you ought to reflect over your written views and exercise more discretion. Ah, that is good. If we issued one paper a week, perhaps we would have time, if not disposition, to let him who would criticize us, take our place for one week and try his hand. Let him dash off not less than five columns of original matter daily—thirty columns per week—one hundred and twenty-five per month—fifteen hundred to two thousand per annum—performing his other duties properly, and then run about town to pick up enough money to pay paper bills and printers. If he does not wake up in a lunatic asylum, or Congress, it will be because he is a greater fool than we take him for.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE.—Mr. J. J. McCarter has placed on our desk a copy of the July number of this magazine, The "Dodge Club" are still pursuing their journey, under various trials and tribulations; while the account of a "Stage Ride to Colorado" will not tend to increase the desire to visit that "far-off country." The articles in the magazine are so generally illustrated that, after the older heads get through with its perusal, they can turn it over to the little ones as a picture book.

JOB PRINTING.—The Job Office of the *Phoenix* is as complete as any in the South. It is furnished with new fonts of type of all descriptions and of the most modern styles. All work executed promptly, with taste and skill, and at reasonable rates.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Palmetto Fire Engine Company, held on the 2d instant, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Palmetto Fire Engine Company are eminently due, and are hereby tendered, to those ladies of Columbia who, both by presentation of wreaths and garlands, as well as by their individual assistance in the tasteful arrangement of them upon the apparatus, contributed so much to the beautiful appearance of our engine upon the recent parade.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—Attention is called to the following advertisements, which are published this morning for the first time:

J. J. McCarter—Nojoke.
J. & T. R. Agnew—Crackers, &c.
E. E. Jackson—Mustard, &c.
A. S. Wallace—Violations Revenue.
Jacob Levin—Gas-Light Bills.
N. Biraghi—Turtle Soup To-Day.
General Celebration at 11 a. m.

A fine lot of Desirable Goods have just been opened by Mr. R. C. Shiver, who still adheres to his popular principle of good articles for little money. Read his advertisement, and then examine the goods.

FINANCIAL MATTERS IN ENGLAND.—

The *New York Journal of Commerce* says: that complaint is made of the accumulation of gold in the Bank of England. The rate of interest is reduced, but nobody wants to borrow. There is a surplus of coin beyond the wants of business equal to \$30,000,000. The *Journal* says:

This condition contrasts strangely with the state of things one year ago, when the monetary system of England was passing through a serious crisis, and discounts were difficult to obtain, even at the most exorbitant rates. In May, 1866, the stock of gold in the Bank of England was only £11,500,000; now it is nearly £21,000,000, or say twice as large. In fact it is at present only little short of the maximum amount of specie which the bank has ever held. The Bank of France exhibits a similar condition—its stock of specie being at present no less than £33,300,000, which is the maximum amount of specie which that bank has ever held. The *London Globe* inquires into the causes which have produced the reaction, and attributes the plethora of gold to the suspension of industrial enterprise. The channels of trade have been contracted, so that large amounts of capital are no longer required for business operations. The foreign trade of England is said to have declined ten per cent. since September last, compared with corresponding months in the previous year; joint-stock enterprise is stagnant; there are no more new railways or public improvements. In the money markets of Europe, as in the United States, there is a temporary lull.

OUTBREAK OF THE PLAGUE IN THE EAST.—The *Levant Herald* states that the terrible Asiatic plague has made its appearance among the Arabs on the line of the Euphrates. It says:

The telegraph sends evil news from Bagdad. What is declared to be the veritable Asiatic plague has appeared at Kerbelah, on the Euphrates, and of the two settled Arab tribes—1,000 strong—whom it has attacked, 100 have been carried off. A telegraphic report, dated June 4, from the quarantine inspector at Bagdad, states that whatever may be the real character of the malady, its symptoms are clearly those of the pest—typhus fever, glandular swellings, carbuncles and livid spots on the skin. The inducing causes of the outbreak are supposed to have been the miasma following the late floods, the poverty, filth and crowded state in which the people live. Prompt measures have been taken by the Bagdad authorities to prevent the spread of the malady, and, thanks to these and the great heat of the weather, the outbreak is said to be already subsiding. In the meantime, the Galatia Board of Health, at a meeting held yesterday, addressed an urgent recommendation to the Porte, that the closest quarantine might be ordered by telegraph. This has accordingly been done, and a special inspector is at once to be despatched by the board to investigate and report on the outbreak on the spot.

Three beings of the What-is-it race, with human voices, but covered with hair, have been found in Missouri.