

## The Suffrage Problem.

The new Orleans Picayune in an editorial on the suffrage problem in the South, says: "Mississippi has already adopted wise legislation which protects the State from the political power of an ignorant populace. South Carolina is wrestling with this important problem, and Louisiana, it is much to be feared, is only trifling with the matter. A fairly satisfactory amendment to the suffrage provision of the constitution is now before the people of Louisiana for adoption at the next State election, but the weak spot in it is that it gives the next State legislature the power to repeal or amend the suffrage clause, even if it should be adopted.

"There is in this State a powerful class of politicians who maintain their political domination by their ability to control or throw out of the returns the negro vote, and so long as the negro question is a prominent factor in Louisiana politics, they make use of it one way or another, whether honestly or fraudulently makes no difference, to perpetuate their power. It is plain that the nightmare of possible negro domination is so useful to them that they will not willingly see it got rid of, and there is much reason to believe that they will resist the adoption of a suffrage amendment. But, should they fail in this, they can fall back upon the expedient of securing its repeal or abrogation by the General Assembly.

"No such state of things existed in Mississippi, and it is not likely that it obtains to any extent in South Carolina, whose people will doubtless adopt some wholesome provision to purify their State politics and free themselves from a constant and serious danger."

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## The New Negro.

The Atlanta Constitution says: "In these days of the new South, the new woman and the new man, why should we not have the new negro? In point of fact the new negro is already here. Booker T. Washington, who is a Benjamin Franklin bound in black, has demonstrated his fitness to be a leader of his race, and from his State, Alabama, another sensible negro has recently come to the front. Professor W. H. Council, the founder and president of the Alabama State Normal College for Colored Students, has made a favorable impression in Europe during his recent visit. King Leopold of Belgium, Mr. Gladstone and other great men took quite a fancy to him, and the English newspapers speak very highly of him.

"Undoubtedly the new negro is here. When such men as Washington and Council take the lead in the moral, intellectual and material progress of their race, with no words of bitterness about the past and with no doubts of the future; with words of cheer for the blacks and grateful recognition of the past and present attitude of the whites, it goes without saying that there is a new and a brighter day dawning for the negroes of America."

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