

comers) were "American citizens." He then set to work and organized a little empire of his own, taking for his model the Constitution of the United States, but reserving therein so strong a spice of autocratic power for himself that he was ever afterwards known and spoken of as the Tycoon. I had the felicity while in St. Catharines of looking into the laws and constitution of the empire. There was a Senate composed of eight members, four elected from the north side of the island and four from the south; a House of Representatives, comprising twenty members, ten representing the north and ten the south.

It may be remarked that "the Tycoon" here departed from the policy of his friends in Congress in a most notable way. He divided representation between north and south, instead of limiting it to the former section, thus ignoring the delectable Stevens and Sumner policy of ruling a whole people with a government in which half of them have no voice. But this by the way. The account proceeds:

There was a Supreme Court and a Court of Common Pleas. There were magistrates, sheriffs, town clerks, coroners, and every officer down to a roadmaster. It was provided that all bills must originate with the House of Representatives, be passed by the Senate and approved by the superintendent (or Tycoon.) A majority of two-thirds carried a measure over the head of the Senate; but the right of veto was, in all cases, reserved to the superintendent. This saving clause was repeated with emphatic iteration at the end of every important article of the constitution. This Chief Justice of the Supreme Court was empowered, among other duties, to preside in the police court (in conjunction with the superintendent), and to charge five-and-twenty cents each for the issuing of summonses. Appeals from this decision might be taken to the Supreme Court (in conjunction with the superintendent). To secure the observance of these regulations, King Campbell I. raised a standing army, placed guards and pickets round the coast, and forbade any white man to land under peril of his life. Everything being thus established to his satisfaction, he convened his cabinet together and issued the following

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, We, through the goodness of God, the Supreme Being, have prospered upon this island, and whereas we feel now the influence of the boon of freedom, which we believe emanated from God;

Therefore I, Tunis G. Campbell, agent of the Bureau of Freedmen, Refugees and Abandoned Lands for St. Catharines and Ossabaw Islands, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the President of the United States and Brigadier-General Saxton, do issue this my proclamation, that the people do assemble on December 5, 1863, at their churches, and invoke Divine aid and return thanks for His great mercy in delivering us from the bond of slavery, and all other mercies vouchsafed to us.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

TUNIS G. CAMPBELL, Superintendent.
— Howard, Secretary.

It was only with great difficulty that General Tilson succeeded in deposing Tycoon Campbell from his throne and reducing him to the subordinate position he was more qualified to fill. I met the ex-monarch at Savannah, where he was playing the humble role of delegate to the convention of the African Episcopal Church, assembled in that city. He seemed to bear his misfortunes with pious equanimity, contenting himself by insinuating groundless charges against the agent of the Bureau who had succeeded him. I saw, also, at Sapelo Island, the ex-Chief Justice of the Supreme Court—a full-blooded Congo, attired in a brown mottled blouse, dark trousers and a dirty shirt, but bearing withal an aspect of dignified reserve which Mr. Chase himself could hardly surpass. I restrained my risible tendencies, not knowing whether Congress might not soon reinstate him in his judicial position, and thus subject me to the dire pains and penalties of a contempt of court.

The negroes are an imitative race, and this little history of the evanescent Empire of Ossabaw and St. Catharines attests that some of them at least have not been indifferent observers of the proceedings of Congress.

The talents which this fallen sovereign of the Sea Islands put in practice during his brief reign are of precisely the kind which are best appreciated among the dominant party at Washington. His policy was nearly as radical as theirs, and quite as just and wholesome; his contempt for the rights of white men had a better excuse, inasmuch as he was himself black; and when the beneficent amendments to the Constitution now approaching consummation shall have opened to him the doors of Congress, we see no reason why he should not be as potent and eminent on the floor of the national Senate as whilom he was when he swayed the parliament of Ossabaw.

A BLACK SANCHE AND A SOUTHERN BARATARIA.

Most "fantastic tricks" have been played in the South under the auspices of the Freedmen's Bureau by its agents and beneficiaries, but the oddest and most original that we have heard of is related by a correspondent of the New York Herald writing from Jacksonville, Florida. It seems that General Saxton, during his stay in South Carolina, found time, in the intervals of the exhausting mental labor required of him in the conception of picturesque costumes and the planning of model cottages for the blacks, to extend his paternal care to the Sea Islands. He devised a system of government for those outlying provinces and, with a consistency not common among those who affect to have discovered in the colored "man and brother" an intellectual equal, he confided its execution to a full-blooded negro. The islands of St. Catharines and Ossabaw were selected as a proper field for the inauguration of the experiment, and Tunis G. Campbell was the lucky African intrusted with the foundation and development of the Saxtonian system of government. Tunis was born in British America, possessed a keen appreciation of the delights of power, and had a taste for improving on existing forms of government which would have made him eminent had fortune thrown him into Congress among the tinkers of the Constitution. General Saxton thought that he discerned in this disposition of his deputy the very help that he wanted in extending the rod of empire over the sea-girt Sambos off the coast. He fancied that as Tunis was fond of innovation, he must needs feel a zealous attachment to the innovations which he trusted him to make on the rude political system of the freedmen he sent him to govern. But as the event proved, he was sadly mistaken. The agent doubtless had a profound respect for the talents of his principal, but he had an infinitely higher appreciation of his own. His career as an island governor far eclipsed that of Sancho Panza, when he swayed the scepter of Barataria. We copy the account of some of his proceedings from the Herald:

He at once upset and turned the old resident negroes out of their cabins, telling them they were only "refugees," but that they (the new