

WILMINGTON, N. C.: Friday, July 1st, 1881.

NORTHERN OPINION OF DAVIS'S BOOK.

Since we wrote our editorial of Sunday on Mr. Jefferson Davis's important work, we have been gratified to see that some of the leading Northern papers are reviewing "The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government" with care and candor.

They take as fair and just a view of the able work as any Southerner could expect. We cannot copy at length what is said, but we give a sentence or two from each that our readers may see the drift of the most enlightened Northern public opinion.

The editor of the New York Sun was Assistant Secretary of War during the great struggle, and his view of the character of the Southern work is interesting. The following shows a commendable spirit:

"We may add that no reader of this book, whatever his personal convictions or predilections, can fail to be profoundly impressed with the breadth and quality of the intellectual force displayed in this defence of a lost cause. There is exhibited in the preliminary discussion of principles with which the narrative of events is so ably fortified a familiarity with constitutional law and the facts bearing on the intentions of the framers of the Constitution for which we could find a parallel only in the most able of American statesmen. Nor have we reason, upon the whole, to complain of the spirit in which the writer sets forth the details of the struggle which turned on the disputed right of secession from the Union."

The Philadelphia Times has quite an elaborate discussion of the book which is well worth reading. It aims evidently to be fair and careful, but it does Mr. Davis some injustice in measuring his character. He is not as forgetful of his friends and as cold-natured as he is represented to be, we think.

There is a good deal of the long article we would dissent from very decidedly if we were to enter upon a refutation. We are satisfied to reproduce these opinions upon a work that will do more to place the cause of the South before the world in a proper light than all the other books that have been written.

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The Dudley Observatory computes the diameter of the comet at 1,500 miles. Its light is most memorable. It is thus described:

The comet stretched out across the heavens nearly 40 degrees, and the tail spread out into two well-defined branches, enveloping the north star in a flood of milky light. The eastward branch ran up, passing about 24 degrees east of the north star, and shooting up toward the zenith. This stretch was followed for fully 40 degrees, then the other branch shot up on the west for at least 35 degrees, being about 5 degrees astronomically southwest of the pole star.

Mr. J. Y. Christmas is to jail, the coroner's jury having found him responsible for Whitney's death. He is represented as being entirely composed of self-defence. The Washington Post says:

His little son came with him, and seemed much worried over his father's position. He was not old enough to fully comprehend the situation of his father. He, however, by his boyish prattle did much to while away the hours, that must have seemed days to the unfortunate man. Many friends from the boarding house on J-street also called and were allowed to see the prisoner for a short time.

It is believed there is close relationship between Senator Ransom and Mr. Christmas. The punning, genial John G. Saxo, whose verses were so popular once, is in his old age a hopeless hypochondriac. He has been the Democratic candidate for Governor of Vermont several times. He is sixty-five, and is a broken, melancholy, pitiable old man.

Why is it that negro orators are leading itinerants on the Prohibition side? It is Rev. "Mr." Price and "Mr." (why not Hon.?) Williams and so on, who seem to be "taking the wind out of the sails" of even the Hon. Augustus S. Merrimon. There seems to have been a great change recently.

The New York Tribune, an unreliable Radical organ, says the Conkling crowd are at loggerheads among themselves. Platt and Arthur are looking cross-eyed at each other. Put a chip on "me too, Platts" shoulder and dare Arthur to knock it off.

COTTON STATISTICS. In 1869 North Carolina made 145,000 bales of cotton. The very next year it doubled nearly, it being 275,000 bales. In 1871 the production again dropped off immensely, the crop being but 175,000 bales. But in 1873 it was again up, this year there being produced 255,000 bales.

Table showing cotton production statistics for various states from 1869 to 1874, including Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

The speculation of the Financial Chronicle of last week as to the crop of 1881 is that it will show an increase of acreage of 6-10 per cent of one per cent. We had supposed from what the papers have been saying that there was a much larger increase of acreage than this, and we still incline to that opinion.

The same day we prepared the above the Chronicle of the 25th inst. came to hand. We find its figures revised. It gives the actual acreage of 1880 at 16,123,000; of 1881, at 16,851,000--increase of 4.51 per cent. When in one week its figures as to acreage vary over 1,500,000, it may well cause an inquirer to stop and in perplexity ask--"how is this?"

Mr. James Y. Christmas, of Warrenton, N. C., who married the only daughter of Mrs. General Gaines, shot and killed his wife's brother in Washington City on Saturday afternoon, in self-defence. Mr. W. G. Whitney, his brother-in-law, had published a card on Saturday morning that was very offensive to Mr. Christmas, as follows:

CAUTION:--THIS IS TO INFORM the public that J. Y. Christmas is not allowed, under any circumstances, to collect any bills for the firm of Wm. G. Whitney & Co., and now H. A. Linger & Co., 1117 19th St. Very respectfully, W. M. G. WHITNEY, Judge of the 6th District."

There had been previous bad feeling. Mr. Christmas had been warned of threats of Whitney and had armed himself. He was going down to dinner having in charge an elderly lady, Mrs. Wheat, when he was assailed by Whitney. Christmas retreated and when he saw Whitney following him up with his hand in his hip pocket, he drew a five-shooter and firing killed him.

MEADE & BAKER'S CARBOLIC WASH is a fragrant and delightful toilet article, which has, by its intrinsic merits, been introduced. It arrests and destroys the offensive odor caused by decaying teeth, and imparts a fragrant odor to the breath. Used as a remedy it will speedily heal all Bleeding, Spongy, Ulcerated and Eczematous Gums.

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Our friends will please take notice that the STAR has no authorized travelling agents. Griescom after turning the thirtieth day avowed that he was "ravenously hungry."

Anti-Prohibition Meeting in Fender. A mass meeting of the citizens of Caintuck and Caswell townships, in Pender county, opposed to prohibition, met pursuant to notice at Point Caswell on Saturday, the 26th inst., at 1 o'clock.

Sudden Death of a Brunswick Man. A letter from Mr. John Duckett of Chapel Hill, informs us that Mr. J. M. Whitehurst, a teacher from Brunswick county, died there suddenly Monday morning.

Foreign Experts. The German brig Emma was cleared from this port for Wolgast, yesterday, by Mr. Henri Kraetz, with 185,013 feet of lumber; and the Norwegian brig Svanagard, for Antwerp, with Messrs. Peterson, Dowdell & Co., with 1,000 casks spirits turpentine and 700 barrels of resin.

TERRIBLE LOSS OF LIFE. Millions of rats, mice, cats, dog-bugs, roaches lose their lives by colicking with "Rough on Rats." Sold by druggists, etc.

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The State Fair will meet in Raleigh on October 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th. Superintendent Mills, of the Oxford Orphan Asylum, has a level head about many things and about titles as well as other things.

Raleigh Visitor: Dr. Willis Alston, of Littleton, has just drawn \$10,000 in a lottery company, and has received the money.

A physician who heard Dr. J. F. Long's address before the State Medical Society writes to the Goldsboro Messenger: "The Star does not overstate Dr. Long's self-prouder of his profession than they receive after hearing Dr. Long."

Salem Press: We agree with our contemporary that the Piedmont Air Line should not obstruct this movement, as they should know there is a growing distrust to the "gobbling up" of all the railroads in North Carolina.

Raleigh News-Observer: We learn that Master Thomas Washington, son of Col. J. A. Washington, has been appointed by Mr. Hubbs, the member of Congress for this district, to a cadetship at the Naval Academy.

Morganton Blade: The anti-Prohibitionists of Burke county will hold a mass meeting at the court house in Morganton about the 1st of July for the purpose of organizing for the campaign.

Raleigh News-Observer: Of all the tribes which have been paid by Southern to Northern soldiers, living or dead, none was more exacting than its conception or grateful in its execution than that paid the late Col. Joseph I. Baker, late commander of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry.

Raleigh News-Observer: Cotton is growing finely. Governor and North Carolina are well pleased with the crop. It is not at all well.

CATARH OF THE BLADDER--Stinging, smarting, irritation of the urinary passages, diseased discharges, cured by Buchanans' Drugs. Deput J. C. MYNDS, Wilmington, N. C.

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