

From the Salisbury Watchman.

JACOB COTTON, THE MURDERER.

This fellow, charged with the murder of Mrs. Mary West and her grandson, was tried and convicted at Mocksville, last week. The case came on on Wednesday morning...

A case of such interest rarely occurs in this part of the world, usually so civil, and as usual naturally expected, created a good deal of excitement. Some of our readers probably remember the circumstances under which this most awful murder was committed...

Cotton lived in Davidson county, Mrs. West in Rowan, with the Yadkin river and a distance of six miles intervening between their several residences. Cotton had formerly lived in Rowan, near Mrs. West's; and up to the night of this horrid deed, had some relations residing but a short distance therefrom.

Before day, on the morning of the 19th March, these relations of his discovered that Mrs. West's house was on fire, and by them spread the terrific intelligence, throughout the neighborhood. In a short time many of the neighbors were on the spot...

The lock of the chest in which the old lady kept her money, was found in the ruins under the spot occupied by the chest, with the bolt forced out of the locking, and just in such a condition as might have been expected, if one, with a chisel, had broken it by prizing up the lid. And then there were drops of fresh blood on the steps of the back door...

It was proven, that on the next morning after the murder of Mrs. West, about 9 o'clock in the day, Jacob Cotton presented himself at the house of Fergusson in Davidson county. Mrs. Fergusson and sister were the only persons at home.

After getting his breakfast and drinking several times of some liquor for which he had sent by the sister of Mrs. Fergusson, he became pretty lively, danced about over the floor, singing a ditty, something like the following:

The old hen and chickens went to roost
The old she-opsomus cut them down
And the old Turkey cock strutted round."

Whist in this flow of spirits he showed two purses containing money. He emptied them of their contents, and in the presence of the Fergussons counted forty-two dollars and ten cents. It was proven that Cotton had acknowledged two days before that he had no money, but that he was going to his mother's and would have plenty towards the last of the week.

It was proven that he lived in the most abject poverty—that although a good blacksmith, he idled away his time, and was a trifling, worthless fellow—that he was never known to have a large sum of money before. It was proven that he did not go to his mother's, and consequently got none from her. He attempted to account for his money: mentioned the names of two persons, of whom he said he received it. But in this he failed. They had, it was true, paid him some money five, six, or seven years before, but never an amount exceeding six dollars.

arrest. "I know where I got my money, and can tell, if I choose to do so; and if people are so bad off to know, I can tell, or show, who killed Mrs. West?" and yet not show where he got his money, neither would he divulge anything in relation to the murder.

Numerous other circumstances were brought out calculated to strengthen the probability that Cotton was guilty. But the main facts were the money found in his possession—the kind of money—silver—and the purse which contained it. The purse was proven to be the purse, the property of the deceased, Mrs. West. It was identified by her daughter and by her grandson. It is a buckskin purse, about seven inches long, and two and a half or three inches broad. The principal mark by which it was identified, is the "overwhipping" at the top, or mouth. But its general appearance was satisfactory to the witnesses; that it is the very same. Jacob proved by his mother, that he owned a purse some two years before, and she thought the purse found in his possession, when arrested, was the same; but she could not tell why she thought so, and did not recollect that it was "overwhipped" at the mouth. He also proved by her that he had a good deal of silver money 18 months before—money that he should have received from the two gentlemen whom he named—the same money that he could not prove he had ever received. In fine, Jacob could not show his innocence of the crime with which he stood charged; and there were several very strong and uncontradictory circumstances going to establish his guilt.

The jury retired about 12 o'clock at night, and very early next morning despatched a messenger to the Judge informing him that they were prepared to bring in a verdict. They came in and returned the prisoner guilty. Guilty of the burglary, guilty of the murder, and guilty of the arson.

The prisoner heard the verdict almost with perfect indifference. Indeed, he had kept up, throughout the whole trial, an air of careless indifference, and on several occasions found matter to excite his resentments.

On the last day of the Court, the prisoner was again brought before his Honor, and heard the sentence of death passed upon him. He is to be publicly hanged, at Mocksville, on the 24th day of October, instant.

On Friday night after his conviction, the prisoner made a confession. He implicates three other persons, two of whom (Peyton Hasket and David Valentine) were immediately arrested and committed to jail.

NOT YET.—The negro fellow, David, who had been sentenced to be hanged on the 2d inst., at Concord, N. C., for an attempted rape upon the person of his young mistress, has been respited by the Governor for four weeks.

From the N. Y. Courier & Enquirer.

An "Anti Texas Convention" was held at Lowell, Mass., on Monday last. Dr. Elihu Huntington of Lowell presided, and a series of resolutions were reported by the Business Committee, composed of H. Wilson of Natick, E. R. Hoar of Concord, Bartlett of Medford, Leland of Sherburne, and Stetson of Medford, and after a long debate was adopted. The following are the only portions of them which can be deemed by any one of any special consequence:

Resolved, That the act of the two Houses of Congress, at their last session, inviting the slaveholding nation of Texas to enter the Union, is a clear and palpable violation of the Constitution—an assault on its compromises—a subversion of those principles upon which the Government was founded; and demands our most vigorous and united efforts to prevent its consummation and defeat its purposes.

Resolved, That Massachusetts should adhere with unshaken fidelity and firmness to her declaration that the "Act of Congress inviting Texas into the Union will have no binding force upon her," and that she will "use every lawful and constitutional measure to annul its conditions and defeat its accomplishment," and that she should by every appropriate act of legislature, continue to regard Texas as a Foreign State.

Others were adopted announcing the purpose of the Committee, if Annexation is consummated, "renouncing all compromises, without restraint or hesitation, in their private relations and in their political organizations, by their voices and their votes, in Congress and out, in the Union or out, to use all practical means for the extinction of Slavery upon the American continent."

The following amendment to one of the resolutions was proposed, but under a vote of order it was referred to the business committee:

"That the consummation of the plot for the annexation of Texas will be a dissolution of the Union and the Government, and that the Governor of the Commonwealth be requested on its completion, to direct our delegation in Congress to return home, and to call a convention of the people of the State for the purpose of taking the preparatory steps for forming a new Government and a new Union."

The Convention was still in session at the latest advices.

A person in company said in a violent passion to another, "You are a liar! a scoundrel!" The other with great composure turned round to the company, and said to them, "You must not mind what this poor fellow says: it is a way he has; he was only talking to himself."

A PALPABLE HOAX.—The driver of a stage coach from Bridgewater for Abington, Mass., tells the remarkable fact that he recently conveyed ten ladies at a time in his coach neither of whom had a bonnet!

From the Union.

COTTON—THE GREAT STAPLE.

We lay before the public this evening one of the most interesting papers which has ever appeared in the Union. Our regular correspondent in New York furnishes a clear, full, and decisive description of the result of the celebrated experiments made by the East India Company in the cultivation of cotton in the East. We recommend it to the attention of our countrymen, particularly of the South:

New York, Sept. 22, 1845.

The Zenobia, which arrived at this port on Saturday morning last, from Calcutta, East Indies, brought home one of the American cotton-plants, who, some five years since, entered the service of the Hon. East India Company, as a superintendent of cotton farms, in their extensive experiment to grow American cotton in that region, and to improve the cultivation of native cotton. I have had much conversation with Mr. T., who went from Mississippi; and after having served the government for five years, the term of his engagement, has returned, as stated, in the Zenobia. He has communicated to me much valuable and interesting information in relation to India.

He estimates the experiment has cost the government \$500,000, and that it has resulted in the most complete and signal failure!

In 1840, an agent of the government came to the United States, and repaired to Louisiana and Mississippi, where the growing of cotton has been carried to the greatest state of perfection, and where he engaged ten Americans, who had been employed in superintending cotton estates in that section of the Union for several years. They were well recommended by the most respectable planters. They left with the agent for India, via England, and took with them large quantities of the best American cotton-seed, agricultural implements, cotton-gins, presses, &c.

The planters were engaged at an average salary of about £300 each, with an allowance for subsistence of £100 more. Each entered into a contract to remain in the service of the company five years, and to conduct the experiments in such parts of India as the government should point out. Of the ten persons thus engaged, three after the first year returned home, being paid their salaries up to the time of leaving; but were left to bear their own expenses home; while, according to the agreement, those who remained five years were to have all their expenses borne from America to India, and from thence, at the expiration of the service, back to the United States. Seven of the party remained to the end of their engagement—one of whom is Mr. T., who has just arrived in the Zenobia.

He says, on reaching India, their party were distributed to different parts of the Indian empire, in order that the experiment might be tested in reference to the different soils and varieties of climate in that vast empire.

One (Mr. T.) was placed at Calpee, in the district of Bundelcund. Another was stationed at Goruckpore, under the Nepal hills; another in Doob; another was located in Soomapore; another at Hameepore, in the dist. of Banda; another at Raatch, in Bundelpore; another in Colmabator and at Surat, on the western side of the peninsula. After experimenting a year or two at each place, without a prospect of success, they were changed to other localities, so as to give every district in India, as far as possible, a trial. Mr. T. was changed from Bundelcund to Rangpore, Northern India—near the base, and in full view of the Himalaya mountains, which were covered with perpetual snow. Others were changed to Dahvar, in the southern Maharratta country.

The American planter placed at Raatch, during a rebellion which commenced with the Deccols, (robbers,) had his premises attacked, his houses sacked and burnt, barely escaping with his life and the clothes he wore.

In every part of India, where the Americans tried the cultivation of cotton, and endeavored to instruct the natives in the best mode of culture, they most signally failed! Those who remained used every possible exertion to succeed, as they were liberally paid, having every facility granted that they could ask, with the expectation of being handsomely rewarded if they succeeded.

Mr. T. thinks the two great and insuperable difficulties in the way of cultivating cotton in India, are attributable to the two great extremes of dry and wet weather, either of which is peculiarly fatal to cotton. During the continuance of the rainy season, the cotton plants grow with unwonted luxuriance and rapidly, to be as suddenly checked and cut off by the intense heat of the sun, which pours upon them during the succeeding dry season. When the dry weather sets in, the sun ripens the bolls prematurely, when apparently not more than half grown; while the leaves of the plant are crisped and burnt to a brown color by the intensity of the solar heat.

In lower Bengal, the rainy season commences late in May, and continues till October. In central India, the rainy season begins about the middle of July, and lasts from the 1st to the 15th of September.

In lower Bengal, as much as 76 inches of rain usually falls in 12 months. In central India, no crops can be anticipated with much less than 13 inches of rain. Eleven inches never fails to result in a famine, which is dreadful in its effects upon the natives.

In addition to the unconquerable difficulties of the climate, the cotton-plant is exposed to the fatal attacks of destructive insects. There is one which lays an egg in the flower of the plant. Before the boll matures, the worm forms within it, which feeds upon the green and tender fibres of the cotton, eating out all the cotton within the boll before it matures; leaving only a lock or two in some bolls, or pods, while, in others, not a fibre is left. In some parts of India it is also subject to the attacks of white ants, which cut down the plants while young, or attack the young pods, and cut them off.

All that the Americans could do, with their best exertions, only enabled them to raise, on the average, about ten pounds of clean cotton to the acre from the best American cotton-seed, and only seventy pounds of clean cotton to the acre from native India cotton-seed.

Mr. T., before leaving Mississippi to go to India, superintended a cotton estate near

Rodney, in that State, in 1839, on which he raised over nine hundred parts of clean cotton to the acre! He says, that year he made a fine crop, actually sending to market two hundred bales of good cotton, averaging four hundred and fifty pounds each, from ninety-six acres of land! What a contrast, this, to cropping in India!

Mr. F., one of the American cotton-growers who went to India, and was stationed at Goruckpore, put two hundred acres in cotton, from which he gathered only two hundred pounds of clean cotton! The most those sent to Calcutta could do, was to raise, in a favorable year, two hundred pounds of seed cotton to the acre—equal to about fifty pounds of clean cotton! The most Mr. T. could do, was to raise, the first year, ten pounds of clean cotton from American cotton-seed of the Mexican variety, (the best,) and seventy pounds of native cotton, to the acre! He says the American seed carried out from about Rodney, (the best in America,) deteriorated every year; the staple or fibre growing shorter, while the yield grew less.

It is his firm opinion, that if the American seed be planted over and over again in the same soil, in India, in five years it will totally cease to mature any cotton whatever! He also says, by changing it to other districts, it may be made to yield something a few years longer, but would ultimately run out.

He thinks the resources of British India greatly overrated, and that its produce of all kinds is growing less; accompanied with an immense diminution of the Indian Government revenues, which (like the parent power) is immensely in debt; and, like her, has gone largely into banking and loaning operations. Paper issues are affoot all over India, put in circulation with little hope of ultimate or future redemption.

The Afghan, and other recent wars, have added £13,000,000 to the Indian government debt. During Mr. T.'s residence there, they issued a loan for 5,000,000 rupees, at 5 per cent., have other large outstanding loans made at 4 per cent. The fact is, there is no government which has been so wastefully and extravagantly managed as the Indian government. The most enormous salaries have been paid to its public officers, from the governor general down to the collector of revenues in a district.

He says that India never can become settled with a European population, on account of the extreme heat preventing their laboring in the open fields beneath a burning sun, without destruction. Such is the overwhelming oppressiveness of the heat, that all the travelling is done at night. The traveller is carried in a sedan or palanquin, supported by six or eight men, who relieve each other at the end of every eight or ten miles. They set off, usually at 4 o'clock in the evening, travelling all night, and until 9 or 10 o'clock next morning, when they lay by for the remainder of the day. It was in this way the American cotton-growers were carried from one part of India to another. Troops march at night, and often fight their battles at night.

Mr. T. says that such is the destructive character of the white ant in many parts of India, they actually level mud houses in a few years—which are the only kind of houses that can be used in the interior, on account of scarcity of timber. Machinery made of wood and carried into the country, after a while is liable to be attacked by them and destroyed.

At this station, in Bundelcund, he found the heat so great as to be compelled to sleep out of doors—the common practice in India. In such cases, it is necessary to hire the natives to keep watch all night, at 12 cents each per night, to keep off jackals, hyenas, and wolves, with which the jungles abound, and which often venture upon the abodes of the people in the most ravenous manner.

When one attempts to sleep in a house, the heat is so severe, that it becomes necessary to hire two natives to fan you all night, by turns, with a contrivance something similar to that used for keeping flies from the table in this country, which the natives put in motion by pulling a rope on the outside of the house.

THE TRUTH ARRIVED AT AT LAST.—It is now about a year and a half since we published an account of the trial of a Catholic Priest in Indiana, (Romain Weinzepplin,) for an aggravated crime upon a female of his Church, (a married German woman,) while at Confession.—The testimony was of a revolting character, and the wretch was consigned to the Penitentiary, loaded by all except a few friends who believed him innocent. Several months elapsed, when circumstances led others to apprehend that he was a victim to conspiracy. An effort was about to be made to obtain a Pardon, but he interposed against this, unless his innocence could first be established, saying that liberty and life were of no value to him without his good name. Recently, facts have come to light which fully establish that innocence. Schroll, the prosecutor, who had gone off to Missouri, there confessed the conspiracy to four German acquaintances, who disclosed the facts in a letter to the Rev. Mr. Deuyder, of Evansville, Indiana. One of the Counsel of the imprisoned Priest went to Missouri, and obtained affidavits setting forth that the wife of Schroll, who swore against the Priest, had been suborned to do so by her husband. The following is the concluding part of a statement from which we condense these facts:—N. Y. True Sun.

"We appreciate this providential interposition in behalf of suffering innocence, as an occasion of the most profound gratulation to the whole body of the unprejudiced community, to the Catholic Church every where, to the poor victim himself, and last though not least, to his venerated Bishop, who left him in the penitentiary, on a visit from which he is just returning, and who is known to the writer of this, after having drained his treasury, to have borrowed funds for his defence, to have authorized the pledge of his private fortune for his security, and to have shed tears of bitterness for his fate.

The letter above alluded to, and the depositions, are deposited at the office of the undersigned, one of the counsel of Mr. Weinzepplin, for the inspection of all who feel an honest desire to investigate the truth of the affair.

R. M. THOMAS.

Communications.

For the Carolinian.

Mr. Bayne: To the remarks published in the Carolinian of the last week over the signature of Si-Vis, there were appended some which seemed to convey an indication of a suspicion that the writer would throw an obstacle in the way of the talked-of road from Raleigh to this place. Such was by no means the intention of the writer. The design was to endeavor to do away the impression entertained by many that the construction of that road is indispensable to the welfare of this place, and that the town is nearly ruined if constructing the road it is left out of the line.

That the road would be of some advantage to the place, we admitted, but that leaving us out of the line would ruin us, we deny. The people of Raleigh may tell us flattering tales of the advantages we should receive, but who that has watched the course of things, can for a moment suppose that such tales would be verified? We ventured to suggest in opposition to this, that there was another way in which the interest of this town would be much more effectually served. Our views on this subject have been in some measure anticipated by remarks in the last paper, to which we have referred. To add more, may seem superfluous. Indeed, so little is the probability of the construction at present, of any road, that it may seem useless to waste words about the matter. We are not, however, without hope; but even if nothing is done at present, the discussion may do good, leading the people to think upon the subject, and thus make them better prepared to act in future.

The suggestion, we would throw out, is that instead of turning our attention to the Raleigh route, we should seek an union with the Wilmington. We had intended to have gone into a minute examination of the comparative advantages of this route to us, above that which would unite us to Raleigh, but so much of what we would say, has been anticipated that we shall deem it prudent to be brief.

We lay it down as a fundamental principle that as respects trade, the interests of Fayetteville are identified with those of Wilmington. With Raleigh as a place of business we never have had, and shall never have much to do; but with Wilmington we are indissolubly connected. Indeed, strike out the intervening space, Fayetteville and Wilmington are one. The more we can shorten this space, the nearer we bring the two towns together, the more closely will business be connected. Cape Fear River, unfortunately for us, like all southern rivers, often becomes unnavigable through the scantiness of water. Great interruptions, therefore, are occasioned in the transportation of goods. This occasions a great annoyance to the merchants. Those of the interior, in particular, impatient of delay, and making no allowance for the cause, cry out against Fayetteville, as if she were culpable for the defects of the river, or as if no other river were so defective. Threats are continually thrown out that some other channel for the conveyance of goods shall be sought, and they, whose proximity to Railroads will permit, have forsaken the river and transported their goods through those roads, some by way of Petersburg to the depots on the Raleigh road, and some by way of Charleston and Columbia. The reason assigned in these cases, is the uncertainty of our river navigation. Suppose then a Railroad were constructed from Fayetteville to Warsaw, of some point on the Wilmington road, the evils complained of might then be remedied. When the river failed, the road, for all light goods at least, might remedy the defect. And we think it might be clearly shown that no small advantage to the transportation would be derived from the course. All uncertainty would then be removed. Merchants from the interior, as well as our own, would be able to make precise calculations, and could obtain their supplies without loss of time. The same facilities for communication with the north would be afforded that could be had by a road to Raleigh. But it is said, we should probably lose the line of stages to Raleigh. Suppose we should, it would be only changing the route. But, it may be said, such a step on the part of Fayetteville, would form a strong inducement on the part of the projectors of the continuation of the Raleigh road, to leave Fayetteville out of the line. We think otherwise, but even if they did, the branch to the Wilmington might be continued to a junction with that, and thus a double advantage of communication and transportation would be secured. We are aware that many things may be said concerning the effects of such a junction, and of the whole project. We shall not enter into a minute calculation of advantages and disadvantages, though we believe it might be easily shown that there would be little to fear and much to expect in its favor. It is enough for the present to rest the matter on these general hints. The main object we have in view, is to try to awaken attention to the importance of a western turnpike road from this place. This, as we have before expressed, we believe to be of vital importance, but at the same time, we believe that the importance of that would be much enhanced by a more sure and perfect union with Wilmington. Could we see one or two good roads leading from Fayetteville into the interior, and then an easy communication from Fayetteville to Wilmington, sure at all times, by water or road, we should feel confident that Fayetteville would not only hold her own as a place of trade, but that the amount of business would be greatly increased.

As relates to the comparative expense of constructing a road to either place, the advantage by far, would lie on the side of that to Wilmington. The distance would be much less; the cost of grading would be much less, and the materials from abroad would be less, and the materials from abroad would be brought upon the spot at a much less expense. By no practicable route could Raleigh be reached at a distance less than from 60 to 65 miles, while to Warsaw, the distance would not be over 50, and by striking at another point, the distance would be less. The cost of constructing a road from Raleigh to this place would exceed that from this to the Wilmington road by one-fourth of the amount. Suppose, then, from Raleigh to this place the expense to be \$5,000 per mile, that to the Wilmington road would be \$6,000, making in the aggregate, a sum not less than 150,000

dollars difference of cost. A Road constructed with heavy iron rails—and by the way, no other ought ever to be built—would probably cost more than this estimate by the mile.

These general hints we have thrown out rather for the sake of eliciting inquiry, than with any expectation that they will lead to action. A railroad, we fear, will not soon be constructed, either to the one place or the other. However desirable it may be, the cost of construction will be so great as to forbid, for the present, the hope of a profitable investment of capital. We hope and believe the time will come when such an undertaking will be affected. For the present, we shall probably be compelled to make the best of the river as a means of transportation between this and Wilmington. The efforts now making to constitute light boats, will, we trust, have the effect to remove some of the difficulties of which complaint is made.

Fayetteville has no reason to despond. Admit that some towns have taken the start in the race of prosperity, let her not be discouraged. A little patience and perseverance, and more reliance on her own strength will bring her up in the race. Her peculiar advantages for manufacturing, if rightly improved, cannot fail to give her pre-eminence. Good roads into the interior will help much to secure a good position of the trade of the State. These can be had if we will take hold of the work with energy. Instead of wasting words about constructing Fayetteville with Raleigh by Railroad, go to work and open a good way into the interior. Rise on our own independence; make our own calculations; take the business on our own shoulders; make an effort to do what we can. If we cannot accomplish all we would, we can accomplish something, and that little will encourage us to do more. Wait not for others, but go forward in our own strength. Enterprise will beget courage, and courage will overcome difficulties, and thus in a little time, with perseverance, we shall gain a height, which, under a feeling of dependence, can never be reached.

The remarks which we publish to-day from the pen of Si-Vis, we like better. We hope he took no offence at our editorial appendage of last Saturday. Although it is impossible to foresee how matters of this kind would work when completed, we are loth to believe that a railroad could be supported between this and Warsaw in the present thinly settled condition of our country. Nevertheless, we feel the force of the views of the writer when he urges the importance of a certain communication between this and Wilmington. Nature has furnished us with a river, which is unfortunately uncertain; but at the same time, the very circumstance of there being a navigable river, seems to bar the prospect of supporting a road.

But we are sorry that we anticipated the views of our correspondent; and we hope he will pursue the subject regardless of any of our interferences.

THE TARIFF OF 1842.

Table with columns: Nominal duty, Actual duty, and per cent. Items include Perfumery vials, Cut-glass, Tumblers, Window-glass, Demijohns, Brown sugar, Refined oil, Molasses, Salt, Rolled iron, Hoop do, Smoothing irons, Wood screws, Ingrain carpets, Backing and Baize, Plain cotton goods, Dyed and colored goods, Fustians, Plain silks, Taired cables, White lead, Whiting and Paris white, Anchors, Anvils, Chain cables, Trace chains, Ox chains.

We quote the above table from the New York Post, made up by personal investigation and examination of invoices of actual ad valorem duties upon the important articles of common use there enumerated, as compared with the apparent or nominal duties by the quality, as laid by the act of 1842. This system of deception pervades the whole law, and renders its action and effect so unjust and unequal, that, should its real operation be laid bare before the people, it would meet with universal condemnation. To remedy this injustice will be the duty, and we doubt not the pleasure of the next democratic Congress, under the recommendation and plans which will be presented to them by President Polk and his indefatigable Secretary of the Treasury.

Painful developments were made in Richmond, Va., on Saturday last, relative to alleged fraudulent transactions by Mr. H. Jurey, a merchant of that city. He was arrested, and after a brief examination before the Mayor, committed. A further examination was to be had on Monday. He is charged with successful forgeries on three Banks in Richmond to the amount of \$10,000.

He has since confessed his guilt, and will suffer the penalty of the law without trial. It is said his effects will pay all the amounts he committed forgery to obtain. Him and his wife were members of the Church, and she urged him to plead guilty, which he persisted in doing against the advice of his counsel.

A quack doctor, quarrelling with a neighbor, swore in a great rage that some time or other he would be the death of him. "No, doctor," replied the other, "for I shall never send for you."