

JEWISH LEGEND.

An emperor, who had little or no religion, called together the Jews of his court, of whom there were many, and stated his determination that they should all come into the presence of his people, and prove whether Judaism or Christianity were the best religion...

THE ORIGIN OF THE PRAIRIES.

In a late passage through the prairie country we were at some pains in searching for geological facts by which to account for the formation of these vast level plains and their destitution of timber. The result has satisfied us that they were once covered with water...

A LONG STRICH.—Some time about the 1st of July last, a lady of Springfield, Mass., 65 years of age, accidentally introduced a fine sewing needle into her hand...

THE TRUTH IS OUT—AT LAST.

Cassius M. Clay's advent to this state on the eve of the last presidential contest, is well recollected, and all the incidents and speculations which grew out of it at the time. Every thing however in relation to the origin of his mission has until now rested on conjecture.

From the official returns of the Militia of Florida, it appears that the aggregate number of officers and men exceed twelve thousand. A requisition has also been made upon the General Government for arms for 900 cavalry, 500 riflemen, and 1000 infantry...

ABBE BRIGALIER, lived during the reign of Louis XIII. The superstitions of his time are displayed by some passages in his life. He was attourner to Mademoiselle de Montauban, and spent 80,000 crowns to become an adept in the magic art...

BOSTON AND TEXAS.—A meeting of the citizens of Massachusetts without distinction of party was held in Faneuil Hall on the evening of November 4th, for the purpose of devising means to resist the admission of Texas into the Union as a slave State.

MORALS OF NEW HAVEN.—At the late term of the Superior Court sitting at New Haven, five divorces were granted.

BEAUTY.—A French editor, writing from Paris, expresses disappointment at the beauty of the French females, compared with those of the United States...

PARADOXICAL.—In Elkton, Maryland, a man of the name of Nathan Green was lately indicted as a white man for larceny. His counsel succeeded in quashing the indictment on the ground that Green was not a white man, but a negro.

FROM THE NATCHEZ FREE TRADER.

THE FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

Is of a rather important character, both politically and commercially. Another defeat of the French in Algiers, the activity in the English dock yards, the spread of the new German reformation, the full confirmation of a failure in the European Potato crop...

The new and unexpected feature of this intelligence is the impeded quarrel between the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel. It is a very probable event. The Duke entertains ultra notions as relates to the protection of English agriculture.

There is no visible diminution in the general healthiness of trade. The depression in the cotton market would be the natural result, independently of other circumstances, of the intense excitement and large absorption of funds by the railroad fever...

UNINFLAMMABLE TIMBER.—The Quebec Gazette publishes a correspondence relative to a plan for depriving timber of its inflammable properties. The invention appears to be of much importance.

THE PLANETARY SYSTEM.—Four of the planets (there are 11 of them in all) are now visible in the heavens, to wit: Jupiter, Mars, Saturn, and Venus. The earth is the observatory from which they are seen.

MORALS OF CINCINNATI.—During the year ending 31st Oct. last, 873 prisoners had been in confinement at the jail of Hamilton county, in Cincinnati. Of these 39 have been sent to the State prison, 61 to the County Chain Gang, and 3 to the dungeons.

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MESSAGE OF GOV. SLADE.

We have before us the Message of this functionary, and it is such a document as would have disgraced the most ignorant and blinded bigot of the dark ages. The New York News says:—One of those solemn judges that pronounced judgment upon the Salem witches, was an enlightened philosopher, compared with this epitome of whigery.

He next fires up about the matter between Massachusetts and South Carolina, and thinks it very hard that the South will not let the fanatics of the North come and cut their throats. His ferocious excecency threatens nullification for this. He then "pitches into" the free trade notions of the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury.

The mere statement of this doctrine is sufficient to show that it strikes a fatal blow at the principle of protection; because that rate of duty can obviously furnish no stable protection, which is made to depend, not on the degree of protection it will furnish, but on the amount of revenue it will yield.

But the great crime of the Secretary is as follows:—"Nor is this the only aspect of danger. The Secretary of the Treasury, whose purpose to destroy the protection afforded by the Tariff of 1842 is not attempted to be concealed, is engaged in an unprecedented work of collecting, without the authority of Congress, and by replies to certain questions propounded to manufacturers and others, to be answered without oath or cross examination—information, to enable him to carry his destructive work into execution."

The whole message is disorganizing, incalculating hostile to the laws, infraction of the Constitution, opposition to individuals—a distillation of all the dogmas of the vilest despots of past ages.—Buff. Republican.

WE have read of the fabled Ups and its deadly effect upon vegetable as well as animal life; but, until we perused the recent report of that highly intelligent body, the French Academy of Sciences, we knew not that the proximity of the Walnut tree was injurious both to animal and vegetable existence.

THE LAW martial applies to soldiers in actual service, and in England as well as in the U. States, is founded upon particular statutes. Chief-justice Hale, in his History of the Common Law, chapter ii, says, it is a body of rules, and a jurisdiction rather indulged by the law than constituting a part of it.

THE next witness I will cite, is the "god-like" champion of protection—no less a personage than Daniel Webster. This gentleman, in a speech in the United States Senate, on the subject of the tariff, in 1824, says:—"Our whole annual consumption of this article (iron) is supposed by the chairman to be 48,000 or 50,000 tons. Let us suppose the latter. The amount of our own manufacture he estimates, I think, at 17,000 tons. The present duty (1824) on the imported article is \$15 per ton; and as this duty causes, of course, an equivalent augmentation of the price of the home manufacture, the whole increase of price is equal to \$75,000 annually. This sum we pay on a raw material, and upon an absolute necessity of life. The bill proposes to raise the duty from \$15 to \$22 50 per ton, which would be equal to \$1,125,000 on the whole annual consumption. So that, suppose the point of prohibition, which is aimed at by some gentlemen, to be attained, the consumers of the article would pay this last-mentioned sum every year to the producers of it, over and above the price at which they could supply themselves from other sources."

I will next cite the testimony of the venerable ex-President John Quincy Adams, also a distinguished advocate of protective duties. In a report made by him, as Chairman of the Committee on Manufactures, to the House of Representatives, in 1832, he says:—"The doctrine that duties of import cheapen the price of articles upon which they are levied, seems to conflict with the dictates of common sense. The duty operates as a bounty or premium to the domestic manufacturer. But by whom is it paid? Certainly by the purchaser of the article, whether of foreign or domestic manufacture. The duty constitutes a part of the price of the whole mass of the articles in market. It is substantially paid upon the article of domestic manufacture, as well as upon that of foreign production. Upon the one it is a BOUNTY—upon the other a BURDEN; and the repeal of the tax must operate as an equivalent reduction of the price of the article, whether foreign or domestic."

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FROM THE NATCHEZ FREE TRADER.

WHIS IS TO DECIDE?

The National Intelligencer has upon several occasions, made it a favorite object to endeavor to convince its readers that high-tariff duties make low prices. We have noticed its attempts upon several occasions, and we believe some one or two of its articles were republished in its pocket edition in this Town, the Observer.

The following from the Intelligencer went the rounds of the whig press. "Now, if free traders, whether they live in the North or the South, the East or the West, would predicate their arguments upon facts and figures, and throw aside theories and abstractions, can it be doubted that they would, yea, every man of them, concur with us in the confident assertion that tariffs do not raise prices of goods, foreign or domestic; but that tariffs do actually raise the prices of all products of the soil, and at the same time give employment to many branches of industry to those who have no soil to cultivate?"

There are such small quantities of grain and flour exported to Great Britain that they are scarcely worth speaking of; but of the latter we will say another word. For the last year the price of flour in this country; on the seaboard, averaged from four dollars and fifty cents to five dollars, whilst shipments to England have not generally netted more than about three dollars and fifty cents, and the last quotation (nineteen shillings) nets only about three dollars per barrel."

Thus much for the Intelligencer. The whig maxim is, among those who either don't understand the subject, or are full willing to mislead others, that the consumer does not pay the duty or tax always. This sort of gull-trap will not deceive many, but in case there are some who may believe that the tariff or tax is never paid by the consumer of the article purchased, we will give some good whig authority bearing upon the subject. There are, no doubt, some instances, peculiar in themselves, where the imported article may cost the consumer no more than if it had paid no duty. But these instances are rare.

The correspondent of the Washington Union has arrayed Messrs Clay, Webster, and Adams against these specious pleadings of the National Intelligencer. Mr Clay, in one of his speeches in regard to a protective tariff, says:—"The exporter of an article, if he invests its proceeds in a foreign market, takes care to make the investment in such merchandise as, when brought home, he can sell with a fair profit; and consequently, the consumer would pay the original cost, and charges, and profits."—Vol. 2, p. 36, Life and Speeches of Henry Clay, published by Greeley and McClure, 1844.

AGAI:—"If there is duty truth in political economy, it cannot be that the result will agree with the prediction, for we are surrounded by all experience, that the consumption of any article is in proportion to the reduction of its price, and that in general it may be taken as a rule, that the duty on an article forms a portion of its price."—Same volume, page 144.

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FROM THE WILMINGTON CHRONICLE.

"IN UNION IS STRENGTH." This is true, and the union of the towns of Wilmington and Fayetteville, will develop their strength and resources to an extent of which perhaps the people of either town have any idea at present. These two towns are of the same age—of identical interests, and mutually dependent upon each other for permanent prosperity. Why, then, can they not work together for the common good? That mutual jealousies should exist is absurd! How can the prosperity of one injure the other? Why should the people of either place look with any other than the most friendly eyes upon those of the other? How can one of them prosper to any considerable extent without in some degree adding consequence and credit to the other? Why is it then that they do not combine in putting forward their mutual and identical interests by promoting those objects of immediate concern to each? It is a subject of absolute sorrow, that they should not lay aside all little trifling local jealousies and doubts, and move on in concert and hearty good will for the promotion of their common prosperity, and the development of their wealth and resources!

Mr Editor, let us advance a step and ask our friendly neighbors a question or two. What is the reason that the navigation of the Cape Fear River between the two towns is so much more uncertain than it used to be? Where are the improvements and works of the "Navigation Company?" What is that Company doing? Can they not with their resources and chartered privileges, do something—more than they are doing, or have done for the benefit of the State at large, and for the immediate benefit of this particular region? Down here we know nothing of the particulars of the case and ask for information. We know that our part of the country has been embarrassed—really afflicted with a drought of extraordinary long continuance, but we suppose the like has been known before; and we do not remember to have heard of so long a delay of produce and merchandise in transit by way of the Cape Fear, as the past spring and summer. Have the improvements injured the river? or has nothing been done? We have suffered in Wilmington most severely by this suspension of navigation, and we dare say that our up-river friends have felt it more than we. Is there no remedy for this embarrassment, or are we to stand still and see our trade languish and die.

This must certainly not be. Our river is not the smallest or the worst one on the Continent, and many a less stream, by enterprise and energy and united efforts, has been rendered generally navigable, and the people become prosperous by the facility of transportation and intercourse. We do not entertain a doubt that proper measures would remedy these evils of which we complain, and which tend to our ruin. Without actual surveys, made by scientific persons, nothing definite can be stated, but it is a common remark that four or five locks and dams on the River would render it passable all the year round for all descriptions of rafts and boats of not more than three feet draught. If this be so, why not accomplish it? Shall we wait for stronger reasons to begin? Will we be any better prepared next year, or the year after, or two years hence, to remedy these difficulties and embarrassments, when they may perhaps have become worse than they are at present? It must be remembered that our neighbors on the South are aware of our situation, and are pushing every scheme for their aggrandizement and to our injury. They already live upon our resources, and will not hesitate, and at an early day too, to seize the little remnant that is left to us! It does seem as if the present is the fittest time for us to begin to do something, and we must begin very soon or it may be too late! Means of transportation are various, adapted to different regions. We have a River, and it may be a good one and a sure means of transportation! What will be the cost? Shall it be done?

RALEIGH AND GASTON RAILROAD It appears by the following from the Raleigh Register of the 11th, that Gov. Graham has determined to go in his bid to the maximum amount for the Raleigh and Gaston Road:

Governor Graham has returned from his examination of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad. He was accompanied to Gaston by the Public Treasurer, by George W. Mordecai, Esq., the temporary President of the Company, John D. Hawkins, Esq., of Franklin, one of the Directors, and Mr. Hollister, Superintendent of the Road. We are gratified to learn, that the Governor found the Road, excepting the section between Raleigh and Forestville, on which workmen are now operating, in much better condition than he had expected; and that, after a personal survey of almost the entire track, and the Depots, Aqueducts, and noble bridges of the Company, and on the inspection of the Reports of its income for the past two years, made to the Court of Equity of Wake, he determined without hesitation, as the Agent and Representative of the State, at the sale of the Company's property, to bid the maximum amount prescribed in the Act of the General Assembly at the last Session, viz: \$300,000, and the interest accrued thereon since the Bonds for this amount, endorsed by the State, were issued—which will be in all about \$381,000.

OREGON.—Slavery has been abolished in Oregon. P. H. Burnett, a citizen of that territory, in a letter in the last Plate Argus, says:—"The Legislature have passed an act declaring that slavery shall not exist in Oregon, and the owners of slaves, who bring them here, are allowed two years to take them out of the country, and in default, the slaves are to be free. The act prohibits free negroes or mulattoes from settling or remaining in this country, and requires them to leave in two years; and in default to be hired out to the lowest bidder, who will bind himself to remove them from this country for the shortest term of service, and within six months after the expiration thereof. The object is to keep clear of this most troublesome class of population."

A very considerable number of slaves accompanied the last expedition to Oregon.