THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C.,

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1866.

National Troubles.

It must be apparent to the minds of every one that it is the determination of the radical party to prevent, if possible, the settlement of our National difficulties upon any basis tending to peace and harmony.—They prefer war and discord; they care more for the success of their party than for the interests of the country, and are willing to go to any extreme to perpetuate their power. In all of their public meetings, recently held at various points at the North, there has been a spirit of malevolence, and of the most intense hatred exhibited toward the Southern people, entirely unwarranted and unprovoked by any action on our part. Wendell Phillips threatens us with the block and the axe; that hideous abortion, Brownlow of Tennessee, shouts for the torch and turpentine; the Beast of Massachusetts, demands the gibbet and the rope; and Thad. Stevens, with the smile of a hyena, consigns us all to the penitentiary of hell. We are threatened with a war, in comparison with which our recent struggle will appear but child's play, and all the appliances that ingenuity can conceive, or malice invent, are brought to bear upon the minds of the Northern people, to urge them on to this carnival of blood.

What has the South done since the termination of hostilities to cause this state of feeling on their part towards us? We accepted the terms proposed with the most perfect good faith, promptly ratified every demand made upon us, have rigidly adhered to all the conditions imposed, and have faithfully observed the obligations of the oath we took. In fact, our submission has been abject to the national authority. We venture the assertion that, within the limits of the late Confederacy, there is no feeling but that of a universal desire for peace. Not a single warlike ripple disturbs the calm that prevails, our people are hard at work endeavoring to bring order out of chaos, to build up their ruined homes, to provide, if possible, even by the sweat of their brows, a means of support for those dependent upon them, and all they ask is to be let alone. They have had miseries enough to almost make them wish to "curse God and die." Is it generous, is it magnanimous, is it in keeping with the character of a people claiming to be educated and refined, thus to traduce a fallen foe and to excite the worst passions of the multitude against him?

The intention of the leaders of the radical party to place the South in a position antagonistic to the government, is evident, and has an apt illustration in the well known fable of Æsop, and would be amusing, were it not for the vindictive spirit exhibited. The idea of charging upon us the desire to inaugurate another civil war, is simply absurd. We have not the disposition, even if we had the means or the ability, to carry it into effect, and if the minds of the majority at the North were not poisoned by the leaders of the republican party, they could not for a moment entertain such a suspicion. We have done all that a people could do to convince the most sceptical of our sincerity; we are anxious for peace and quietness; have no disposition for any further strife and bloodshed, and are determined to discharge our duty as good citizens of a common country and entitled to equal protection under its laws.

If there is to be no peace; if the future is to be but a continuation of the miseries of the past, the radical party will alone be responsible. We can bear it with fortitude whatever fate may be in store for us; can submit with dignity to any suffering that may be imposed upon us; can make every sacrifice, except to compromise our honor. That we will never surrender, for it is all that makes life valuable. We will cling to it at al' hazards—will cling to it like the shipwrecked mariner to the solitary plank that bears him up, amidst the wild waste of waters around him—the last and only life-buoy left him in the terrible disaster which has befallen him.

Raleigh.

We were glad to notice, during our recent visit to Raleigh, evidences of improvement in that city. We were especially gratified with the repairs and improvements to the Capitol. It has been thoroughly cleansed, painted and repaired, and the entire furniture renovated, and the building properly lighted with gas. Mr. Best, the energetic Secretary of State, to whom this work has been entrusted, deserves credit for the manner in which it has been done.

The Messrs. Tucker, of that city, are building a magnificent store-house on the "Burnt District," to meet the demands of a large wholesale and retail trade. Above the store-room there will be a Hall for public exhibitions, of ample dimensions. This will supply a want long felt in that city.—We noticed several other substantial buildings going up on the burnt square near the Market House.

The most interesting feature we noticed in Raleigh, was an unusual large number of maimed citizens, who lost their limbs during the war, while gallantly serving their State as soldiers, having measures taken or receiving artificial legs. We felt much pride, as we saw that these noble men who had suffered and lost so much in the service of North Carolina had not been left unnoticed, but that the State was displaying its gratitude in the most substantial manner. The greatful feelings with which her gallant but unfortunate sons receive this evidence of the appreciation of their services by the State, must be gratifying to the eminent member from Craven, in whose patriotism this action was conceived and carried out, as it is to every honorable citizen of the State. The thorough manner in which the work is executed, and the very general satisfaction given thus far, reflects credit upon Governor Worth, and Mr. Ryan, who has special charge of the matter.

Some political excitement, of course, exists about Raleigh—more of a local than State character, however—the issues being the Howard amendment and Repudiation. We believe nearly, if not all, the candidates are opposed to the former, but divided in reference to the latter. We were told that Wake county, which gave Gov. Holden upwards of fourteen hundred majority last Fall, will give a majority for Governor Worth at the ensuing election.

Raleigh can boast of the very best hotel we have ever stopped at in the South. The Exchange Hotel, under the new management of Mr. J. M. Blair, of Asheville, is most excellent in the neatness and cleanliness of its rooms and furniture, the quality and quantity of its fare, and the urbanity and attention of its employees, and is an ornament to the city.

The Trial of Ex-President Davis.

The manner in which this case has been delayed, and made the subject of judicial jest by high officials, has become a reproach to the Government. Journals, the most radical in their hatred to the South and the eminent prisoner, who languishes in unlawful confinement, begin to grow uneasy and restless in reference to the course being pursued in regard to the trial of ex-President Davis. It has become a mere shuttlecock to be knocked about at random by the hatred of Congress, the political aspirations of Chief-Justice Chase and the malignant and reckless ignorance of Judge Underwood.

In his message to Congress, in December last, the President represented it as most desirable that the trial should take place, but stated that the Chief-Justice was unwilling to hold a Court for that purpose in Virginia, in which State only a trial could be had, as long as the military law was superior to the civil. So long as we believed this officer to be influenced by honest motives, we gave him credit for a position we thought commendable in a bold and incorruptible Judge. The President, however, in April last, issued his proclamation which removed this objection, but still the Chief-Justice did not try the case. True the Court was held by Judge Underwood and the case called, when the eminent counsel who represented the prisoner, declared themselves ready, but without a single reason being given, and with an unseemly jest, the trial was postponed until the next term, which was to be held on the first Tuesday in October, at Richmond.

It now appears that the Chief-Justice again desires to shirk responsibility in the matter of this trial, this time upon a mere technicality. He now thinks that it is not explicitly understood that martial law is abrogated in Virginia, and has advised the President to issue another proclamation making it clear that civil law is supreme in that State. He himself interprets the late peace proclamation as the President does, that it abrogates martial law, but on account of the misinterpretations put upon the proclamation by various military commanders, he declines to try the case unless another and more explicit proclamation is issued.

We more than suspect the truth to be that the Chief-Justice shrinks from the ordeal of the trial inasmuch as his secession record is worse than that of ex-President Davis, and not only as a politician and lawyer, but as Governor of Ohio in 1859, he is committed to the most ultra States' rights doctrines, having at that time repeatedly threatened, *if necessary, to resist the Federal Government by force*, in the difficulties then pending between the Federal and State Courts in relation to the celebrated Oberlin fugitive slave rescue cases. The delicate sensibilities of the Chief-Justice regarding the sacredness of the judicial ermine, and in view of the exposures to be made by the talented counsel of the prisoner, can well be appreciated.

We now learn from the *National Intelligencer*, that "Judge Underwood and the Chief-Justice have come to the conclusion, that because of the legislation of the last Congress, the adjourned Court cannot be held, consequently the case of Mr. Davis, with all others, must be postponed to a future day." The Chief-Justice and his District Judge do not inform us what the legislation is that renders necessary this farther delay. In the meantime, the prisoner languishes in steadily declining health, and his family is rapidly coming to want, while the honor of a great country is being sacrificed at the hands of its highest judicial officers to protect personal reputation, advance personal aspirations, and appease political animosities.

It seems never to have been definitely settled whether Mr. Davis is in military or civil custody—whether he is to be tried for complicity in the assassination of President Lincoln, or for treason against the United States. We can hardly believe that President Johnson regards him as being held under military authority, for he would long since have released him on parole or ordered his trial before a military tribunal; nor do we think, after the Conover exposures, there is any danger of the assassination charges being pressed. For the sake of the reputation of the high officials involved, and of the Government itself, we hope this chapter, which records one of the most cold-blooded and high-handed transactions which has ever disgraced the archives of a country, shall not be indelibly stamped upon the history of the times by the solemnity and sacredness of a trial.

If, on the other hand, he is to be tried before the proper civil tribunal for treason, he should be handed over to the civil authorities to answer the complaint that will be brought against him. There can possibly be no legal or honest difficulty in the way of prompt action, and he is entitled to a speedy trial, and his continued imprisonment is a scandal to the country.

The Charleston *Courier* learns from a private letter received from the estimable wife of the distinguished prisoner, that Mr. Davis' health continues to decline, and that the pecuniary circumstances of his family are becoming very embarrassing.—Friends who have lately visited him are becoming satisfied that if the seventeen months imprisonment to which the Government has already subjected him, is much longer continued, that a trial before an earthly tribunal will never take place, but that his prison doors will soon be opened and his chains will fall from about him, and he will be summoned before the great Court above, before which, Judge and Prisoner, Captor and Captive, will alike be ordered to appear.

Slander! Slander!

"Gen. Wright, of Georgia, says he was on the Committee that drafted the resolutions in the Johnson Philadelphia Convention in favor of duly rewarding Union Soldiers, and that he took care to have them so worded as not to commit the Government; for, if the South ever gets into power again, all pensions to Union Soldiers shall be cut off unless the Confederate Soldiers are put on the same footing."

We clip the above from the editorial columns of the *Standard*. We have often thought that paper, under the baneful influence of its senior editor, was, with reckless indifference to both truth and results, giving *editorial* sanction to the mischievous falsehoods of the Radical presses and orators in their bitter warfare against the honor and interests of the South.

It required no denial of the above from the gallant gentleman to whom it was attributed, to prove to us that it was totally false. An acquaintance with General Wright in the trying ordeal of the past few years enables us to endorse him as the very type of honor and truthfulness. His conduct as a gentleman and officer was such as would convince any one that deception was not an element in his nature. His course, unlike his slanderer, has been such as not to deceive Northern citizens or *soldiers* during the war, or since its termination.

Gen. Wright, through the columns of the Augusta *Chronicle & Sentinel*, of which he is an editor, thus refers to this matter:

"The above statement we find in the Troy *Daily Times* of the 22nd. It is perhaps useless to deny a statement so absurd, for denial here is unnecessary, as indeed it is anywhere that the character of the *Troy Times* is known. We have no idea that one who is base enough to perpetrate such a slander will have the manliness to publish a denial of its truth, and, if he did, would be sure to invent some other canard equally mischievous. General Wright never wrote a line that could be tortured into any such sentiments. He does not expect to cut off the Union soldiers from their pensions, nor has he any hope that Confederate soldiers will ever be allowed any place in the pension list."

It thus appears that the *Standard* has given *editorial* sanction to the base slander of the Troy *Times*. We can well understand why these Radical papers publish such willful falsehoods upon our leading citizens, for such is the capital by which they are attempting, and we fear with too much success, to break down the Administration of President Johnson and the efforts of the Conservatives to restore the Union upon honorable and constitutional grounds, but we cannot appreciate what truthful and honest motive a North Carolinian, who has held high civil position and has yet higher aspirations, nay even conscientiously desires to be respected among his fellow-men, can have to give publicity to the statements of these false witnesses against our own people. The *expectations* which prompt such conduct must be truly fascinating, but alas what have we to say of the *heart* which conceives it.

Onerousness of the Method of Taxing Cotton.

The *National Intelligencer* of the 22d says practical difficulties have arisen in the collection of the tax of three cents a pound upon the cotton crop. A memorial of planters and others set forth that, under the present law, planters and cultivators cannot move a bale of cotton until it passes the satraps of the Internal Revenue Commissioner Department. They cannot even send a wagon-load to market to purchase provisions for plantation supplies until they go, hat in hand, and beg some assessor or tax collector to weigh their cotton and grant a permit to send it to market.

These assessors or collectors cannot be found in the planting districts. They are in the towns. They do not go to the cotton plantation. The planter must send it to them, and, with much delay and expense, obtain his certificate of the payment of the tax, before he can sell. The producer has generally exhausted all his means, and has no money to advance to the Government before his crop is marketed.

The memorialists say that the restrictions at present imposed to moving the cotton, in addition to the heavy tax assessed upon it, will tend seriously to discourage further production of that staple, and will thus act injuriously upon the entire financial condition of the country. If the planter cannot ship his crop to market without being compelled to sacrifice a large part of it to the rigors imposed by onerous regulations, he will naturally turn his attention to a different system of agriculture.

The remedy proposed for the consideration of the Treasury, is to include in one collection district all the cotton-growing regions, and allow the producer or factor to send his cotton to any shipping point in the district. The Goverument, by establishing suitable regulations for receiving the cotton at the points of delivery, for weighing it where every facility for that purpose exists, and for bonding it until sold, or for receiving the tax from the merchant or other holder, would secure a prompt payment of the tax, with less liability to fraud, at a smaller cost to the Government, and in a way less expensive and annoying to the planter and to the merchant.

That this remedy will be resorted to is very probable, for it is quite within the power of the Secretary of the Treasury to adopt it.

If the cotton crop should amount to two million of bales, of four hundred and fifty pounds each, the tax payable to the Government will be twenty-seven millions of dollars, which will fall chiefly on the domestic purchaser and consumer. Such is the scarcity of currency in the cotton-growing States that the Government tax cannot be paid in advance of the shipment and sale of the cotton.

Address.

We are requested to state that Colonel Walter L. Steele of Richmond county, will deliver an Address before the Duplin County Vine-Growing and Agricultural Society, at Kenansville, on Friday, 26th of November next.

We congratulate the Society in securing the services of a gentleman so capable of giving the proper impetus to their new association, and whose reputation as a scientific agriculturalist will warrant them in expecting an address worthy the great interest they have manifested in the objects of the Society.

Manufactured News.

The *N. Y. Journal of Commerce*, in an elaborate article under the above head, speaks of the custom practiced by many papers in the North and West, of manufacturing special dispatches, purporting to be from the South, and which speak in no favorable terms of the Southern people. That paper denounces the custom, and speaks of it as contemptible in the extreme, and says that the Louisville papers have recently exposed a large number of special dispatches of that character.

Many papers at the North are overflowing daily with such dispatches, which, by the majority of their readers, are gladly taken for the truth, when really they are the grossest falsehood.

The fact is, the publication of news of this character pays, and observing the avidity with which it is perused, when not obtained through false-hearted, unprincipled Northern men at the South, bogus dispatches are manufactured in the office of publication, in order to pander to the popular appetite.

No doubt, in the majority of cases, these dispatches are written at the North, but we have many instances of their having been written on Southern soil, but are none the less manufactured for all that. We have not forgotten the memorable communications concerning our own city, written by Beadle and Ashley of Freedmen's Bureau repute, nor the correspondence with "deown East" papers, from employees of other departments of the government, in our midst, the whole of which abounded in falsehood from beginning to end, and were calculated to heap oppression upon the heads of a people who were innocent of the wrongs thus imputed to them.

Would that the attention of the people of the North was directed to the examination into, and the correction of their own domestic evils, with that fervor which they display in endeavoring to remodel, in their own peculiar way, the internal affairs and government of the South.

Battle's Digest.

We are glad to see that the Law Volumes of Battle's Digest have been issued and are for sale. The volumes before us are complete and very full. The learned and indefatigable Judge, who has prepared this work, after years of most devoted labor, has placed the profession under obligations, which we hope they will be prompt in acknowledging.

The entire work is to be published in three volumes, the first two containing the Law, and the third the Equity cases. The third volume will be ready for delivery in a few days. The Law cases comprising the first and second volumes, in some editions are bound together, giving the purchaser a choice of procuring the entire work in two or three volumes.

All who have examined the work, are highly pleased with the Digest. The points decided are distinctly stated, and the arrangement of the cases is simple and natural. No lawyer should be without a copy.

The work can be purchased of Nichols, Gorman & Neathery, Raleigh.

Gen. Dockery Declines.

We had not supposed for an instant, that Gen. Dockery would accept the nomination tendered him by the little caucus which assembled lately in the *Standard* office, but thought he was only mentioned in this connection to enable certain "unmistakably" *patriotic politicians* to make up their record, in order to secure Federal patronage in the event of a Radical Administration succeeding that of President Johnson. Mark our word, that a majority of the caucus and the Executive Committee, expect to secure appointments or reap the benefit of the proscriptive clause of the Howard amendment.

We give the correspondence between Gen. Dockery and the Committee:

RALEIGH, Sept., 21, 1866.

To the Hon. Alfred Dockery:

DEAR SIR:—The undersigned were appointed a committee, by the Union Meeting held in Raleigh on yesterday, the 20th, to inform you of your nomination for the office of Governor of North Carolina, and to request your acceptance of the same.

You were selected without a dissenting voice as the most suitable citizen to represent the Union sentiment of North Carolina. The restoration of the Union was felt by the meeting to be the paramount, all-absorbing question of the day. We have no doubt you concur with us in this view, and we trust the resolutions adopted by the meeting will receive your approval.

With your assistance at the helm, the ship of State, though surrounded by breakers, on every side, will yet weather the storm, and reach the only safe haven for her people—the great national government founded by Washington.

Sincerely trusting, sir, that you will accept the nomination thus tendered, and devote what time is left to canvassing public questions, we have the honor to be, with high respect,

Your obedient servants,

J. F. TAYLOR, of Wake.
H. J. MENNINGER, of Craven, } *Comm.*
E. T. BLAIR, of Randolph,

RICHMOND COUNTY, Sept. 27, 1866.

Messrs. J. F. Taylor, H. J. Menninger, and E. T. Blair:

GENTLEMEN:—Yours of the 21st instant, by the hand of our friend Mr. Logan, has been received. Accept the assurances of my regard for this additional manifestation of trust and confidence reposed in me, by our friends assembled in Raleigh on the 20th instant, and my thanks for the very complimentary terms in which you have been pleased to make known to me the action of the meeting.

I regret, gentlemen, to say that after mature reflection, circumstances of a personal character, connected with the few days that will intervene before the day of election, precluding the possibility of even a partial canvass of the State, compel me most respectfully to decline the candidacy tendered me by the meeting in Raleigh. Allow me, however, to assure you that the resolutions and most excellent address adopted by the meeting, in the main have my most cordial approval.

I greatly prefer the Howard amendment, with its reference of negro suffrage to our own Legislature, than to risk the next Congress, which, in all probability, will pass a much more stringent law upon that subject.

I also vastly prefer the restrictions upon office-holders, about which the secession organs clamor so much, to more general proscription, with the confiscation of our lands, of which there is great danger, should the proposed amendment be rejected.

The argument in favor of immediate representation in Congress cannot be answered. As well might a General be expected to resist a well-appointed army, or storm a stronghold without soldiers, as for our interests in Congress to be defended until our members shall have been admitted. And as President Johnson and Secretary Seward, as well as the Congress, have repeatedly declared the test-oath to be a pre-requisite condition of admission, the people ought to invite all our members elect who cannot comply with the required condition, to retire, and let others who can comply be elected, as an indispensable step towards harmony and restoration.

Most respectfully yours,

ALFRED DOCKERY.

Judge Barnes.

A correspondent from Duplin county speaks in the highest terms of Judge Barnes, who presided at the term of the Superior Court for that county held last week. He is represented as a prompt and determined officer, and a most efficient Judge. The law-abiding people of the county were much pleased with him.

THE CHOLERA.—Three cases of fatal sickness have occurred during the last few days, which the Medical Faculty pronounce to be Cholera. The subjects were negroes of the same family living on the premises of Mr. H. A. Bagg, corner of Fourth and Chestnut Streets. We have been reliably informed that no other cases have occurred and none now exist. The last death happened yesterday morning.

The city authorities have taken every precaution to prevent the spread of the disease, and we think there is no cause for alarm. Our citizens, however, should be prudent. We publish in this issue a few simple, and, we believe, salutary directions from a gentleman of great experience in the disease.

Our country friends need feel no uneasiness in visiting the city as usual. We will advise them should the disease be pronounced epidemic.

THE CHOLERA.—Of course the report of the cholera being in our city created considerable excitement, and gave rise to many unfounded rumors in regard to the spread of the disease. It is a noticeable fact, that if but one case of an infectious disease is officially reported to be in a place, every person who is taken sick at or subsequent to that period, is said to be laboring under the effects of the infectious complaint. It was rumored that two cases of cholera had occurred at the Seamen's Home, but we have been officially informed by Mr. Williams, Superintendent of the Home, that there was not a particle of truth in the rumor; that there had been two sick seamen brought to the Home, but their complaint was nothing but common chills and fevers

We have been very particular in our inquiries, and we are informed by several of the Medical Faculty, that no case of the disease now exists within our city; that it has from the first been confined to the lot upon which the first case occurred; and that there is no danger of its being communicated to other localities, as it will probably be entirely eradicated within a day or two.

The public need have no fear. The progress of the disease is rendered improbable, and there need be no anxiety in regard to the occurrence of other cases. All exaggerated and unofficial rumors should not be credited. Should other cases be officially reported, or discovered to exist, we will advise the public.

LODGED IN JAIL.—Wm. Wright Parker, the murderer of Wm. Childress, of whom we spoke as being held in the jail at Greensboro', arrived here Monday night under charge of officer Sellers, and is now safely lodged in jail. After Mr. Sellars arrived in Greensboro' and had taken Parker in custody, the prisoner informed him that had he (Mr. Sellars) arrived twenty-four hours later, he would have been too late, as he (the prisoner) would have by that time escaped from jail, that he had been cutting a hole in the side of the prison, with a fair chance of success. An examination was made and Parker's statement found to be correct. He is a daring fellow and it will be well to take every precaution to guard against his escape.

THE JOURNAL.—The Wilmington Journal entered upon its 15th year on the 28th ult. It is a valuable paper, and deserves an enlarged circulation.—*Goldsboro' News.*

We are somewhat surprised that our cotemporary of the *News* should have no more veneration for old age than to try to detract from the number of years which entitles it to veneration. The error which he has, no doubt, inadvertently made, we would take occasion to correct. The *Journal*, instead of recently entering upon its *fifteenth* year has entered upon its *sixteenth*.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The Impending Trial—The Obstacles in the Way—A Succinct Statement.

A special dispatch to the Baltimore *Sun* gives the following additional intelligence in relation to the trial of this distinguished State prisoner:

THE NEWSPAPERS AND THE TRIAL.

The various speculative paragraphs published within the past week with reference to the trial of Jefferson Davis are calculated to mislead rather than enlighten the public mind. So far as the President is concerned, Mr. Davis can be tried without let or hindrance, whenever Judges Chase and Underwood, or either of them, signify their readiness to take charge of the prisoner, who is held subject to the proper legal process—capais or habeas corpus.

THE TRUE STATE OF THE CASE.

Of this fact both the judges named and the attorneys for the prosecution and the defence are well aware. From the highest authority I learn that there is no conflict of opinion between the attorneys as to the proper course to pursue. All agree that whenever the court is ready to try Mr. Davis, he will be delivered at once to the custody of the United States Marshal of Virginia, to whom a writ will be issued at the proper time, directing that the prisoner be brought before the court. There are but two obstacles in the way now to the trial of Mr. Davis in October. The first is found in a doubt among the lawyers, and in this the judges are understood to participate, as to the egality of a trial in October session, because it is not a regular term of the court.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

On account of this doubt it is proposed not to bring Mr. Davis to trial until the regular term in November. So far as Judge Chase is concerned, the same objections are urged by him to presiding in the trial as were mentioned by the Chief Justice last spring, viz: That he does not think it is explicitly understood that martial law is abrogated in Virginia, and hence he has advised the President to issue another proclamation making it clear that civil law is supreme in that State.

THE PEACE PROCLAMATION.

Judge Chase himself interprets the late peace proclamation as the President does, viz: That it abrogates martial law, but on account of the misinterpretation put upon the proclamation by various military commandants, the Chief Justice insists on another proclamation. The foregoing embraces all we have of an authoritative character with regard to the Davis trial. One of the objections raised by the civil officers of the United States Court to taking custody of Mr. Davis was that they had no safe place to keep the prisoner.

To this the President responded that Mr. Davis could be kept in Fortress Monroe, under the control of the United States Marshal, with the aid of the military.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The Conspiracy to Hang Him—Letter from Judge Holt, the Chief Conspirator.

WAR DEP'T, BUREAU OF MILITARY JUSTICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 27, 1866.

Mr. James Gordon Bennett:

Sir—I have to acknowledge your prompt compliance with my request, in having given a place in your columns to my communication to yourself of the 22d inst., in relation to the calumnious charges against me in connection with the "Conover testimony;" but, while doing so, I regret to find in your editorial notice of this communication, in the *Herald* of yesterday, that you have altogether misapprehended its meaning, and in speaking of "comparing the original letters with the manuscript of his (my) denial," have inadvertently laid me open to an accusation utterly undeserved. I did not call in question at all the genuineness of my own note to Conover of the 15th of December, 1865, but fully admitted it throughout my letter to yourself, but I did complain that this genuine note had been adjusted to the two fabricated notes (those of Conover and Harris) so as to give it an unwarrantable signification. A careful reading of my communication to yourself will clearly show this. The same exposure had been before made by me in reference to other notes of mine, which had been previously treated in the same way by your correspondent and others; but I have not denied, and do not now deny, the genuineness of any note that within my knowledge has thus far been published, purporting to have been written and signed by me.

J. HOLT,
Judge Advocate General.

Mr. Harlan and the Cherokee Lands.

Mr. Harlan's contract with the Connecticut Emigration Company, in relation to the "Cherokee neutral land," is getting him into inextricable difficulties. He is openly and on all sides charged with fraud. The price at which he sold to the company was $800,000—$1 per acre—the payments to run through a period of nine years. It is said that the Cherokees paid the Government $500,000 for it thirty-one years ago.

The *Constitutional Union*, in its issue of Saturday, distinctly charges this transaction as a flagrant fraud, and devotes two columns to its exposure. We make the following extracts from it:

"LO! THE POOR INDIAN!—INFAMOUS OFFICIAL CONDUCT OF JAMES HARLAN, THE LATE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR—THE CHEROKEES THE INNOCENT SUFFERERS—CONNECTICUT LAND SPECULATORS THE GAINERS BY THE CUNNINGLY DEVISED SCHEME.

On the 30th day of August, 1866, *the last day but one* that Hon. James Harlan, Ex-Secretary of the Interior, held the Portfolio of that Department, he executed, by virtue of his official authority, a contract on the part of the United States through himself or their representatives, passing the title of the reserve lands of the Cherokee Indians in the State of Kansas to the Connecticut Emigrant Society. 800,000 acres of the best land in the State of Kansas—for $800,000, *one dollar per acre*, in regular installments as below, with the privilege to the company of taking the whole, receiving the deed upon payment of the stipulated funs.

Now, the question naturally arises, *why* did the Secretary Harlan make this contract on the last day, but one, of his official position?

It will be seen that the price paid for these lands by the Cherokee Indians, in 1835, was a half million dollars in gold, *equal at the present time to nearly nine hundred thousand dollars*. It will be remembered that thirty-one years ago land in Kansas was worth about one-tenth of what it is now—in five years it will be worth *ten times* what it is worth now. What capitalist but would say that that land *now* is worth *ten* dollars per acre?

* * * * *

Here, then, is the question of *fraud*, which we, with the evidence before us, in our judgment, pronounce to be a *fraud* upon the American people—and worse than a fraud, a glaring imposition, an infamous transaction to the detriment of our fellow-citizens, the Cherokee Indians.

* * * * *

This appears to us the most cold-blooded swindle, and the most flagrant violation of the spirit and obvious intention of a sacred trust, that has lately come under our observation. It will be seen from the date that this digraceful contract was one of the last official acts of the late Secretary of the Interior. It is of itself well calculated to arouse serious suspicions of the *honesty* of the transaction. In view of all the facts, we think the contract should be set aside as illegal, unjust, and contrary to the plain intent of the treaty.

The *Union* charges that he "committed this fraud *for his own benefit*."

The New York *Herald's* despatch on the same subject thus closes:

It is alleged, with how much truth I make no pretensions to knowing, that Mr. Harlan is interested in the Connecticut Emigrant Society. The matter is now undergoing legal examination, and it is probable that the contract of sale will be set aside.

Cotton Estimates.

The monthly report from the Agricultural Bureau says that, upon a fair analysis of the cotton reports, the crop of cotton may be estimated at 1,500,000 bales. The National Intelligencer publishes the following, showing that in some of the cotton-growing districts the prospects for a good crop is very poor, while the accounts from some sections show that there will be a fine crop of both cotton and corn.

The following statistics are sent from Mississippi:

	Plantations.	Hands.	Acres Cultivated
1860	323	7,624	84,306*
1866	323	3,495	32,222

*Made 46,631 bales.

The estimated yield of the land this year. is one bale to four acres, which would make about one sixth of the yield of 1860.

The crop will not reach 800,000 bales, (in the United States.)

PERRY COUNTY, ALA., Sept. 10, 1866.—On the Christian place they (the freedmen) have nineteen dogs, and a hog is gone if they get after him. Negroes are wandering all the time through the country with guns and pistols, and it is impossible to raise hogs here as formerly.

On Monday last the army worm reappeared, and now scarcely a leaf is to be seen. Blooms, forms, leaves have disappeared and nothing is left but the bolls on the stalk. On the 14th of April my prospects were as good for 300 bales as they now are for 50 bales. All the old planters say they have never seen such a year before for all sorts of crops. The worm is everywhere throughout this section, as far as I can hear. No place is exempt; it is universal.

The crop of corn is miserable. Many will not make enough to last until Christmas. There is more stealing than ever. It has been very sickly.

Statistics of Cotton.

Cotton is so important a crop that we feel it to be our duty to give all information concerning it that may be of use or interest to our readers.—We give below the statistics of the ordinary and the Sea Island crops for the last decade, ending 1860:

THE CROP.

1850–'51	2,353,805
1851–'52	3,007,586
1852–'53	3,260,241
1853–'54	2,929,139
1854–'55	2,855,729
1855–'56	3,524,242
1856–'57	2,944,805
1857–'58	3,117,496
1858–'59	3,851,691
1859–'60	4,664,417

SEA ISLAND CROP.

1853–'54	39,689
1854–'55	40,841
1855–'56	44,512
1856–'57	45,314
1857–'58	40,566
1858–'59	47,592
1859–'60	46,413

The crop this year, from all indications, will be much less than that of any year given in the above table. One million, or thereabouts, will probably be the product of this season, and this will be hampered by a three per cent tax.

The New York Episcopal Convention.

The Episcopal Diocesan Convention, of New York, adjourned Friday afternoon, after a session characterized by perfect harmony. The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia *Ledger* says:

The Bishop's address, in its references to the South, is a model for the politicians of all and every party, but the trouble is, the politicians never adopt or follow such models. Conciliation and kindness have brought the once fractured parts of the Episcopal Church together again in the bond of peace and unity of spirit, and one cannot help thinking if the politicians would but try the same experiment, "just once," like happy results would enure to the State. The question of a division of the diocese goes over for another year, the Bishop's recommendation meanwhile being concurred in, that the whole matter be referred to a special committee. The committee is composed of some of the ablest clergy and laity connected with the church.

It ought to be added, pending the discussion of the "division" question, Rev. John Henry Hopkins, of the Church Journal, announced that he was authorized by an eminent layman to say that he was prepared to give $50,000 for the endowment of two new Bishoprics within the diocese. The announcement created a sensation, but no action was taken upon it.

So great is the demand for the Scriptures in the Turkish empire, and in various parts of the Eastern world, that it is in contemplation to build a Bible House at Constantinople. One gentleman in New York has offered to be one of five to give $25,000 for the purpose.

A California paper notices the birth of a child "with one arm under peculiar circumstances." Queer place for an arm.

From the N. Y. World, 28th Sept.

OBITUARY.

Death of Dr. Francis Lister Hawks.

Rev. Francis Lister Hawks, D. D., died at his residence in this city yesterday morning, aged 69 years. He was born in Newbern, North Carolina, June 10, 1798. He was graduated at the University of North Carolina in 1815, and was admitted to the bar in 1819, and practiced in North Carolina. He was elected to the Legislature of his native State at the age of 23, but soon after turned his attention to theology, and was ordained in 1827. He first officiated in New Haven, Conn., as assistant minister to Dr. Harry Croswell, in Trinity Church, and was, in 1829, assistant minister at St. James, in Philadelphia. In 1831 he was rector of St. Stephen's, in this city, and was next called to St. Thomas', where he remained till 1843. In 1835 Dr. Hawks was appointed to the missionary bishopric of the Southwest, at the same time that Bishop Kemper was put in charge of the Northwest; but no provision being made for his support, he declined the appointment.—Having been appointed historiographer of the American Episcopal Church, Dr. Hawks, under the authority of the General convention, went to England and obtaind copies of a number of valuable and important papers relating to the early history of Episcopacy in America. In 1837, in conjunction with Dr. Henry, he founded the *New York Review*, of which he was for some time editor and a principal contributor. About the same date he founded St. Thomas's Hall, at Flushing, L. I., an enterprise which involved him deeply in debt. When he was afterwards chosen Bishop of Mississippi, his indebtedness was made an objection to his consecration by the House of Bishops, but he was triumphantly exonerated, and then declined the position. At the close of 1844, he became rector of Christ's Church in New Orleans, succeeding Rev. Dr. Wheaton. Here he remained five years, and was, during that time, elected President of the University of Louisiana. In 1849, he came to New York, and became rector of the Church of the Mediator, which was soon merged in Calvary Church. In 1854 he was elected Bishop of Rhode Island, but declined the office, preferring to retain his rectorship in this city.

Six pleasant years followed, and during that time Calvary Church, which was much in debt when Dr. Hawks assumed charge of the congregation, was entirely freed, and become one of the largest and most notable congregations in the city. The doctor, too, meanwhile, had been relieved from his embarrassments, and seemed to have settled down for life, free from care, and other than that imposed by the duties of his situation, in a loved and loving home. But 1861, with the secession of the Southern States, brought dissensions and divisions in the congregation and vestry of Calvary, and for days it was discussed whether Dr. Haws, Southern born, and a known sympathizer with secession, should be asked to resign. At the annual Easter meeting of the vestry in that year it was as good as decided that the doctor must go. The proceedings of several subsequent meetings were published in the daily papers, and Dr. Hawks finally resigned, virtually exchanging parishes with Dr. Arthur Cleveland Coxe (now Bishop of Western New York), Dr. Hawks going to Christ Church, Baltimore, and Dr. Coxe coming to Calvary, in this city. Dr. Hawks managed to "keep out of the papers," so far as expressing his opinion about the political situation was concerned, and, like most clergymen of the Episcopal Church, he never preached politics in the pulpit; and during the four years of war he retained the love and affection of his old friends, alike at the North and the South. Soon after the peace last year he was recalled to this city by some of his former parishoners, and it is only a few days since the corner-stone of a new and splendid church of which he was to be rector, was laid in Madison avenue.

Doctor Hawks's position in his church was among the very first and most eminent divines of that denomination. We can recall no clergyman who has had more honors actually thrust upon him—honors which he has almost invariably declined. He seemed satisfied with the simple charge of a congregation, and in his connections with different parishes in widely-separated sections of the country he has won all hearts. No rector was ever more beloved in his priestly capacity and as a man. His ministrations in the desk and in the pulpit will be long remembered by all who heard them.—To a scholarship of the highest order he added the winning ways with which nature had endowed him. There was a persuasive earnestness in his preaching, a solemn sweetness in his voice, and an impressiveness in his diction that always enlisted the attention and the admiration of his hearers; as a mere rhetorician he was surpassed by few on the stage, and by no one in the church, unless by Wainwright and by Doane. In private life he was warm, genial, a charming companion, and an ever faithful friend. His conversation, rich with illustrations gathered from extensive study, travel, and observation, was lighed up at times with flashes of the purest and most sparkling wit. Every one will recall the time when he was overwhelmed with the difficulties resulting from his educational enterprise at Flushing. The future seemed dark enough. A friend consoled him with a quotation from the Psalmist, that the Lord would "feed the young ravens." "Ah, yes," said the doctor, smilingly, "but there is nothing said about the young Hawks." Hundreds of like sayings are treasured up by the doctor's friends, and these flashes are the reliefs to more solemn and sacred hours in houses of mourning and affliction, where the doctor came sometimes as an everwelcome, genial guest, and again as a ministering angel, with the consolations of his priestly office for all but broken hearts. There are many mourners for him now.

As a scholar and author, Dr. Hawks will be remembered by his "Contributions to the Ecclesiastical History of the United States" (2 vols. 8vo., embracing Virginia and Maryland, New York, 1836–'41); "Egypt and its Monuments" (8vo., 1849); "Auricular Confession in the Protestant Episcopal Church" (12mo., 1840.) He translated Rovero and Tschudi's "Antiquities of Peru" (1854,) and has edited the "Official and other State Papers of the late Major General Alexander Hamilton" (2vo., 1842.) Before he entered the church he published "Reports of Cases adjudged in the Supreme Court of North Carolina, 1820–'26" (4 vols. 8vo., Raleigh, 1823–'8); and "Digest of all the Cases Decided and Reported in North Carolina;" and he was an industrious and frequent contributor to religious and other periodicals.

Whatever views may have been expressed or entertained with regard to Dr. Hawks' position in respect of the rebellion, no one will now speak of him with any other thoughts than those of reverence and respect. His name was absolutely without a stain; his character without a spot; and his memory will be cherished as long as his many acts of charity and kindness are remembered, with the grateful affection of his hosts of devoted friends.

A Texas editor has been presented with an onion a foot and a half in circumferance. There was a great cry raised over the matter in that office.

Brownlow fainted at Erie, Pennsylvania, when about to speak. He unfortunately recovered.

Mr. Daniel Drew has given ground and buildings in New York for a Method