



"The Old North State Forever." - Gaston.

Single Copies Five Cents

WHOLE NO. 213

Lewis Haner Editor & Proprietor. VOL II. NO 42.

SALISBURY, N. C. TUESDAY, JULY 9, 1867.

THE OLD NORTH STATE. (TRI-WEEKLY.)

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From the New York Tribune. The Ealing of Jefferson Davis - Examination of Mr. Greeley before the House Judiciary Committee.

WASHINGTON, July 1. Mr. Greeley was in Washington today pursuant to a subpoena from the House Judiciary Committee.

Q. Have you at any time had a conversation or communication with the President, or with any member of the Cabinet, in reference to the trial or release of Jefferson Davis?

A. No, sir, not directly. I once talked with, or rather had a conversation with, Mr. Speed about the case, but with no other member of the Cabinet.

A. Mr. George Shea was the only third person present. He was counsel for Jefferson Davis.

Q. What was the nature of the conversation so far as Mr. Speed took any part in it?

A. The object of Mr. Shea was to ascertain whether, if an application were made for bail, the Government would resist it.

A. None at all; he was very non-committal; I could not make out anything from his conversation; he did not know, or did not wish to say, why the views of the Government were on the subject at all.

Q. Did you ever have any communication with or information from the President in reference to the matter?

A. No, sir; Mr. Speed is the only member of the Cabinet by whom I remember having heard the name of Jeff. Davis mentioned.

Q. At the time of the release of Davis on bail in May last, did you have any conversation with any member of the Cabinet?

A. No, sir; on my way to Richmond and back I did not stop at Washington.

Q. At the time you went to Richmond had you any previous information as to what the policy of the Government would be in reference to the releasing of Mr. Davis?

A. I had none; I had no information until we came into court as to what the Government would do; I do not know whether the Government was going to resist the application for bail or not.

Q. You had no communication with any Government officer soliciting you to become bail for Jefferson Davis.

A. No, sir; nor any information that it would be desirable.

Q. You had no communication on the subject with the President or any of his officers?

A. No, sir.

Q. Were you, after you came here or after you went to Richmond, solicited by any officer of the Government to go bail for Jefferson Davis?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you see Mr. Shea present at the time you signed the bond?

A. Yes.

Q. Had you any communication with Jefferson Davis about going bail for him?

A. No, sir; I had never any communication by letter word; I did not know him until I saw him in court.

Q. Did any one, after it was known that you proposed to go bail for Mr. Davis, apply to you not to do so, or write to you about it?

A. Well, sir, there was a hubbub about it at the time I was here, and Senator Wade and Senator Chandler talked with me about it. I think Senator Crosswell, of Maryland, was also present. I do not recollect any other person.

Q. On what ground did they advise you not to go bail for Jefferson Davis?

A. There was a conversation of half an hour between us on the subject. I cannot state definitely what particular reasons they urged. They thought it would be

had policy, and that it would have a bad influence.

Q. That it would have a bad effect on the Republican party?

A. I believe so; that was the impression I had.

Q. Were there any other persons endeavoring to prevent your going bail for Jefferson Davis?

A. I do not recollect; there may have been one or two personal friends doing so, although it was not generally known that I intended to go bail.

Q. Did they put their objections on party grounds alone?

A. Generally.

Q. There was no principle involved in it?

A. I do not recollect; they made no impression on me other than that it would be injurious to the party.

Q. Did you tell them that was a party question to bail Jefferson Davis, he having been imprisoned so long?

A. No, sir; in the first place I was desirous to bring on the trial; the first year I thought we could compel the Government to bring the prisoner to trial by a writ of habeas corpus; finally I thought the time for a trial to any good purpose had passed.

Q. Did you go bail for Jefferson Davis with a view of never having him tried?

A. No; I wished to have him tried if the Government should ever wish to try him.

Q. I understand you as saying that you thought the time for trying him to any good purpose had passed away?

A. That was my judgment.

Q. Is that your opinion now?

A. Yes, so far as I know the facts; if he had anything to do with assassinating President Lincoln, or poisoning or starving prisoners, I wish him to be tried; I do not know any facts that justify either charge.

Q. You know of no facts on the subject of his connection with the assassination of President Lincoln?

A. No, sir, none that would connect him with it.

Nearly One Hundred Persons Prostrated by Lightning - Last Thursday afternoon, as a large crowd were assembled in the fair grounds of the Springfield Union agricultural association, a thunder shower came up, and the people present sought shelter in the exhibition sheds.

The lightning struck one of these sheds, which contained men, women and horses. About one hundred persons were paralyzed in an instant, falling on their faces, and as many as fifty were rendered insensible for five or ten minutes, while about a dozen were seriously burned.

Two horses were killed on the spot. An old gentleman named John Gordier, and two or three others were not expected to recover. One woman was prostrated and deprived of her senses but not of her power of locomotion; she instinctively gathered herself up and ran to the bus and was conveyed to Holmes' Hotel, and declared she had no recollection of what took place after the flash until she found herself in a room at the house.

The lightning struck a post in the centre of the shed, against which Henry Tilton, the landlord of the West Falls Hotel, was leaning, and to which a horse was attached by a chain halter. The horse was killed instantly, while Mr. Tilton escaped by being stunned and knocked down. A singular fact mentioned in connection with this strange freak of electric fluid is that all the persons rendered insensible fell upon their faces.

A young lady, named Miss Nellie Cassey, was quite seriously injured, and her dress was scorched, but did not take fire. Another woman was struck on the shoulder, the fluid passing down her side, causing a blister in its course. A man from Ohio was hit on the right side of the head and on his recovery the mark was found to commence at the right eye, and could be plainly traced down the neck, across the chest, and off the left arm. The most fearful contumacious animosity among the people until it was discovered how light the injuries were.

THE SURRETT TRIAL - Since the commencement of the Surratt trial a fact has come to light regarding the court which tried and sentenced Mrs. Surratt that deserves to be made public.

It seems that after the trial and sentence the court joined in earnestly recommending her to mercy, and that all the members thereof, except the Judge Advocate General, signed the recommendation. The paper is said to be in the handwriting of the Hon. John A. Bingham.

A Kentucky correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette has such a poor opinion of the loyalty of that State that he says: "Jefferson Davis, as a candidate for the Presidency to-day, would carry Kentucky even over such a mild radical as U. S. Grant by 50,000 majority, and John C. Breckenridge, in a like contest, would beat the hero of Nashville and other hard-fought fields - General George H. Thomas - by even a greater majority."

Freedom and their Contracts.

The political agitation and long-continued struggle to work fearful mischief in the rural district, as might have been, as was by all calm and sagacious persons anticipated.

Mr. William Allen, of Chatham, had a very large crop of wheat, and just as it was ready for the sickle, the freedmen employed by him, or a large portion of them, left the place.

Mr. Allen immediately reported the matter to the sheriff, and brought before him. The acknowledgment of the freedmen established the fact that he had broken his contract without cause, and had with his colleagues, left Mr. Allen's very large crop to be lost so far as they were concerned.

The General had the whole of them arrested and conveyed back under guard to the plantation, where they were required to go on with the harvest, the guard remaining to see the work done.

It is plain that if such faithlessness is permitted, the crops of the State must be generally curtailed. We learn from many districts and accounts of the irregularity of the freedmen. The party "missionaries" are paving the way for the perpetuation of the Bureau and the "raucous."

The Pulpit Quarterly - A correspondent of the Petersburg Index writing from Baltimore says:

"But there was a pulpit prodigy here the same day, who is growing into such fame as his hair is rival that of Spurgeon. His name is Ramsey, and he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church south.

He has not been long at this calling, and was an unlettered man in humble life but comparatively a few months back, when his talent was revealed to a friend, who aided him to the short culture with which he is producing such wonderful effect. His power of memory is said to be miraculous, and his reasoning faculties no less so.

People here and in the valley flock to hear him, and his influence is talked of and felt everywhere. I could not gain a seat in the church in which he held forth Sunday night; but several friends who were more fortunate reported that all the pews they had previously heard bestowed upon him fell for want of the real height of his power. Certain it is, that hereafter he will be so famous as to cause interest even to this humble notice of his ministerial beginning.

Damages by the Freshet.

The accounts from different parts of this and the eastern sections of the State, of the effects of the late heavy rains, are, we regret to say, very disheartening. The lowland crops everywhere have been completely flooded with water, and the prospects hardly so promising and cheering, as with many planters, blighted and put to naught.

From all along the Cape Fear, information comes to us of the fine crop ruined, corn and cotton submerged, and the hard year's labor of the industrious farmer totally lost.

We have recently been shown a letter from Lumberton, representing the prospect to be as bad, if not even worse, in that part of North Carolina, and on the border of South Carolina. Stock has been drowned, produce washed away, and other property destroyed; the Charlotte & Rutherford Rail Road has been seriously damaged and rendered impassable by high water in several places; cross ties floated off, embankments broken down, and the trains stopped.

The Wilmington & Manchester R. Road, it is feared, is in even worse condition, and as will be seen by reference to our columns, the Wilmington & Weldon R. Co., has sustained great loss by the heavy rains.

We are glad to be able to mention, as some set-off for the above gloomy news, that the crops on the high lands of Cumberland, and so far as we have heard, other neighboring counties, especially corn, are looking well, and promise a good yield.

Let us hope for the best, and look forward with unflinching spirits to the chance which is yet left of beautiful harvests throughout the South.

FOR THE LADIES - As the season for wearing light-colored fabrics is at hand, I send you an excellent method for washing dresses of colored muslin, lawn, &c., so as to preserve the colors, whether the pattern be printed in black or variegated hues.

The dress should be washed in lather, and not by applying the soap in the usual way - directly upon the muslin. Make a lather by boiling some soap and water together; let it stand until it is sufficiently cool for use, and previously to putting the dress into it, throw in a handful of salt; rinse the dress without wringing it in clear, cold water, into which a little salt has been thrown; remove it and rinse it in a fresh supply of clear water and salt.

Then wring the dress in a cloth and hang it to dry immediately, spreading as open as possible, so as to prevent one part lying over another. Should there be any white in the pattern, mix a little blue in the water.

THE WAY VOTERS ARE MADE. - On yesterday a negro appeared for registration here, and when the challenger asked, "Where do you live?" "Down here," he responded, "on Mr. Lynch's street."

"Where do you work?" "Up the canal, down at the Rolling Mills." "That's four miles from the town. Do you come here every night to sleep?" "Yes, sir."

"Have you a wife or children living at this place?" "No, sir."

"Have you a father or mother who are living here?" "No, sir."

"Whose house do you live at?" "I do not know; I sleep with a man."

"What is his name?" "I do not know, sir."

Registrar to Challenger. - "Do you insist on his proving his residence?" "I think the statement so absurd that any proof is unnecessary; but if you insist upon registering him I insist upon proof of residence."

Of course the proof was brought, and the darkey left a full-blown suffragan, though it is more than doubtful whether he was ever in the city before.

In another instance, a negro named Wm. Balls applied for registration, and being challenged, announced as to his residence that he "lived in Mr. Mountcastle's house."

He was asked how long he had lived there, and replied, "since this morning." He was told to wait until to-day, and he could register; notwithstanding he had moved into the city only for the purpose of registering, and will be out of it in less than a week.

During a recent discussion in the British Parliament, when the debt of the United States was the subject, it was said that the payment of interest rather than principal was the true policy. Mr. Cass approved this view and said: "When he was in America, before the war, he spent all the time he could among the slaves, and he was introduced to one who was very rich and abundantly able to buy his freedom. He asked him why he did not do so. 'No hurry about that,' said the sagacious darkey, 'I'se growin' older every day, and growin' cheaper.'"

A young lady school teacher of Indianapolis, was last Sunday endeavoring to impress upon her scholars the terrible effects of the punishment of Nebuchadnezzar. She told them that for seven years he ate grass just like a cow. Just then a small boy asked: "Did he give milk?" We are not informed whether the teacher gave any further bovine information to the small boy.

Two English women not long since called at the studio of Randolph Rogers, in Rome, and in the course of their survey of the rooms, one of them asked the name of a statue before which she and her companion had paused, in evident admiration of its beauty. Mr. Rogers politely informed her that the figure was called "Nydia, the blind girl of Pompeii," when she turned to her companion and repeated the information that the statue was called "Nubia, the Wild Girl of Bombay."

Some time ago the War Department called on the commanders of the five military districts for estimates showing what amount of money would be required to carry out the reconstruction acts in their several districts. These estimates have been rendered, and it appears that General Sheridan's estimate is more than double that of any other commander. From the fund of \$500,000 appropriated by Congress to defray the expenses of reconstruction, under the act and its supplement, the following sums have been apportioned to the districts mentioned: Gen. Schofield's \$29,444; General Sickles', \$29,454; General Ord's, \$7,222; General Pope's, \$97,222; and General Sheridan's, \$166,666.

A BEAUTIFUL EXTRACT. - The velvet moss grows on sterile rocks; the misletoe flourishes on the naked branches; the ivy clings to the mouldering ruins; the pine and cedar remain fresh and fadeless amid the desolation of the receding year - and heaven be praised, something green and beautiful to you and grateful to the soul, will, in the darkest hour of fate still twine in tendril arches the crumbling altars and broken arches of the desolate temple of the human heart.

About these days manufacturers of almanacs have their annual opportunity to record the fact that, for a while, it is now perpetual day at the north pole, since the sun at this season does not dip behind the horizon. The Boston Transcript says: - "In Iceland the finest print can be read at any hour for many weeks to come." The same phenomenon obtains in the remote regions of Walrusia and if it lasts "many weeks" it would seem to afford a favorable opportunity for some otherwise unoccupied Walrusian to get through with Sumner's speech.

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