

# KING'S WEEKLY.

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## JOTTINGS.

THERE are five Smiths in the lower house of the Legislature. And not one a blacksmith.

KANSAS will probably send a new man to the United States Senate. Kansas is nothing, if not changing.

WAKE county's grand jury said rattling was gambling and made presentments against many. That grand jury is about right too.

OUR Senator A. A. Forbes made one mistake the other day. He moved to adjourn to a certain time. The mistake was that he did not make it SINE DIE.

A bill has been introduced in the Legislature to allow trust security companies to bond officers. The man who cannot bond at home had better give up.

SENATOR TELLER says that if a Populist had introduced the Carlisle bill, it would have been considered the "height of lunacy." Does the man make the measure?

THE prospective election of Thomas Carter, a Roman Catholic as U. S. Senator from Montana arouses the ire of the A. P. A. "America for Americans" is good doctrine.

THE fusion State Senate proposes to violate all precedents and ignore its presiding officer in the appointment of the committees. Such a measure, like most of its members, bears the stamp of originality.

JUDGE RUSSELL was in bad shape just after the election. He was so well pleased with the result, and so mad with himself that he didn't run for something that he didn't know what to do. Perhaps he found out when he got in the Senatorial race.

THE Cape Fear river had its up to date freshest in 1865, the biggest then known and called the "Sherman" freshest. It now has one larger still and the Messenger says it is the "Populist" freshest. Let them claim everything.

AND now they are talking that President Cleveland may call an extra session of Congress if this one fails to pass a suitable financial measure. The President will have lots of his friends (the Republicans) to help in the next Congress.

J. C. DAVIS, the all around swindler, of Wilmington, who cheated the penitentiary by the insanity dodge, and was sent to the asylum, escaped from that place last week, made his way to Wilmington, was rearrested and taken back to the asylum. And thus justice becomes a mockery.

## LAST DAYS OF THE U. S. A.

### Experience of the Last Command East of the Mississippi.

At the meeting of the Confederate Association of Kentucky the feature was an address by Major W. J. Davis, who gave an account of his personal relation with the last command of the civil war. In the course of his address he said:

"The news of Lee's surrender came to us at Christiansburg, Va. early in April, 1865. Gen. Echols was in command of about 2,400 men, four brigades. Gen. Duke's brigade was dismounted cavalry. Our horses had suffered so with foot evil, etc., that they had been sent, under charge of Col. Napier, to North Carolina. We were often ordered about as infantry. Gen. Echols had moved forward, intending to unite with Lee at Danville. At Christiansburg came the news of Lee's surrender. It was a cold drizzly afternoon. We were all greatly depressed. Gen. Echols called a council of war and stated that he proposed to march to Gen. Jo Johnston at Raleigh, N. C. He offered us all the option to remain or go with him. The infantry decided to remain. Cosby's and Giltner's brigade concluded to go to Tennessee. Duke's and Vaughn's brigades started to go to Jo Johnston.

"A rush was made for the wagon trains, from which the mules and horses were taken, and men rode on mules and sore-backed horses with ropes for bridles. About 225 paroled prisoners came along and joined our party that morning. A notable incident occurred to me that night; a soldier accosted me and asked to go along. It was Champ Ferguson, the noted guerilla, who played the part on our side that Tinker Dave Beatty did on the Federal. I asked Champ Ferguson how many men he had killed with his own hand, and he replied ninety-two in all.

"The next morning we found ten or twelve officers, with their men, and they went with us. That night a calamity occurred. Two years before a negro had appeared in camp; Capt. Murrell said he bought him—I knew his owner never gave him to Capt. Murrell; he may have bought him. The negro's name was Alfred, and he was invaluable. He was our cook, and when chickens were \$35 each and eggs \$12 a dozen and pigs would not bite, our table had all the delicacies. Alfred did his marketing at night. He was invaluable, and when he disappeared we were as dismayed as when Lee surrendered.

"We marched to Statesville without a square meal since Alfred left. Capt. Murrell went ahead to find something to eat. I found him on a porch surrounded by young women. He beckoned and I went; a fine meal had been prepared. Just then Capt. Harry Clay, of Giltner's command came up; I was marching to the dining room, a young woman on each arm, and Capt. Murrell was doing likewise. I introduced Capt. Clay, and the woman asked: "Are you Henry Clay's grandson?" "Yes," he replied. Immediately all the young women left us and surround-

ed Capt. Clay. They put him at the head of the table and we got places at the foot; they passed the fried chickens, batter cakes, foaming buttermilk, and everything went by us to Capt. Clay. We called in vain. They replied: "We are waiting on Capt. Clay." I saw something had to be done. I asked Capt. Murrell to stand by me. He agreed: Then I called a young woman and said: "You may have forgotten that Mr. Clay had another grandson. His daughter married a Mr. Murrell. Here is Capt. Murrell, her son, who is also a grandson of Mr. Clay. They turned and asked Mr. Murrell if it was true. He said 'yes,' and they gave us all we could eat of the best on the table.

"We marched toward Lincolnton, and found that Col. Napier with forty-five men and 215 horses had been driven away by Stoneman. Gen. Echols had passed on to Raleigh. We marched on to Charlotte, arriving there April 16 or 17. Johnston and Bragg were negotiating. We found Jefferson Davis and his Cabinet with Dibrell and William's brigades, the latter in command of Col. Breckinridge, of Kentucky. We were there ten or twelve days, and received the news of Lincoln's assassination before we left. Gen. Johnson telegraphed that his agreement with Sherman had been signed, but that Andrew Johnson, who succeeded Lincoln, had repudiated it, and Jefferson Davis had better leave. Davis proposed to take the cavalry across the Mississippi and form a nucleus around which the South could rally and secure their rights.

"There was a crowd of unattached officers and men who decided to remain and surrender. Davis wanted to put Gen. Bragg in command, but the Kentucky officers went to Davis and said that Breckinridge had not resigned his major generalship to be Secretary of War, and that they wanted him as their commander. Davis assented. Breckinridge took charge and did me the honor to select me as his adjutant general. We went with four or five clerks and destroyed all the records of the war office save five or six boxes—that is one reason there is a lack of official documents in the publication of the rebellion records. I greatly regret that destruction. The last destruction was on the banks of the Savannah River.

"We marched about twelve miles a day. At Union Court House we found Col. Napier with the 215 horses, and the command were soon all mounted. Forage was very scarce on account of Sherman's raid, but a new crop of hay was found occasionally in barns. One old woman as she objected to our taking the hay said: "You are Kentuckians; why don't you go home like our boys? Go and decently surrender. Why don't you do that?" "You spoke out of your turn," replied an old Kentuckian. "You South Carolina people brought on this war and we Kentuckians took the contract to close it, and are going to do it."

"At Union Court House was the first time I had met Mr. Davis. He looked like his picture on the postage stamp, and was the game cock style of man, full-chested square-shouldered, only 5 feet 8 inches high; next to Breckinridge he was the gamest looking man I ever saw; I ate breakfast with him

at Col. Mean's. They had sweet milk, buttermilk, curds, etc., and six kinds of corn bread, but no meat. We proceeded on to Abbeville. Riding with Breckinridge I met all the Presidential Cabinet. Judge Reagan talked about the condition of the country. Judah P. Benjamin and Breckinridge quoted Tennyson and criticised the verses. Breckinridge was royal looking, Benjamin was about 5 feet one inch high, heavy and rotund; he rode a horse seventeen hands high, and was a ridiculous figure, but when in his soft voice he quoted poetry you forgot his appearance. Mr. Mallory, Secretary of the Navy was about such a figure as Benjamin and rode a large horse. The soldiers often geyed them, calling on them to 'Come down; I know you ate up there.' They also geyed Bragg on every occasion. One day as we rested in a road, Bragg and his staff rode by, a Kentucky soldier shouted: "Oh, Gen. Bragg, Gen. Bragg!" The general and his staff halted; then the soldier asked: "General, what do you think of the prospect of a war with Mexico?" They laughed and rode on.

"At Abbeville we found it was no use to go any further. The officers told Davis that the soldiers would go with him as long as he desired, but it was useless to prolong the war. He said he could escape unaided. Gen. Duke, who was at the conference, told me that he never saw Davis so crestfallen. After the conference I was sent to tell the men they could disband, that Davis did not need them as an escort, and each man could strike out for himself. The Kentucky and Tennessee soldiers said they would march home in a body. That night four or five trains loaded with money and bullion came from Charlotte with some treasury agents. Gen. Duke with forty-five men was put by Breckinridge to guard them. The following morning Duke asked that fifty men from each brigade be furnished him as a guard for the cars; this was done. A treasury agent was seen taking a bag of gold away, and he was brought back. We went on to Vienna on the Savannah River. Davis and his Cabinet started for Washington, Ga. There Ferguson's Mississippi brigade and Vaughan's brigade decided to wait and surrender.

"There was \$108,000 silver bullion on hand. It came from the Southern households, who in the last four or five months of the Confederacy sent their silver plate to be melted and need to carry on the war. The Farmers' or Planters' Bank at Danville had \$200,000 of their own coined money and \$75,000 of the Tennessee school fund. They traded all this for our bullion. Breckinridge, knowing we could not hold out much longer, determined to have the money divided, and had me write a letter to Davis. In it I gave the reasons. Breckinridge said he did not want to give any reasons? The letter was changed and sent. When I took our field list we had only 3,500 men, but when I took the list to divide the money there were over 4,000. Each man was to get \$32, but they only got \$25. Davis sent in hot haste to inquire about taking the Danville Bank money, but Breckinridge did not reply until the next day.

TO BE CONTINUED.