

The Weekly Star.

TOBACCO.

The number of persons engaged in the manufacture of tobacco is very much disproportioned to the amount of capital employed in that business. Bonds of tobacco manufacturers, over the minimum of two thousand dollars, are computed according to the number of machines and instruments employed, and, with the aid of other reliable statistics, they furnish an approximate estimate of the extent of production.

Virginia presents in this branch of industry a list of 178 factories and exhibits manufacturer's bonds aggregating \$2,883,000. These figures indicate establishments much beyond the average size of tobacco manufactories. North Carolina exhibits 191 factories and \$911,000 of manufacturer's bonds; New York 85 factories and \$721,000 of bonds. In New York, since the war, the tobacco manufacturing interests has become very considerable, and the inducements of capital and command of trade there, have attracted many thoroughly experienced Southern manufacturers. As a consequence, New York is now seen to be inferior, in this branch of manufacturing industry, only to the two leading tobacco states. Missouri reports more factories but a smaller amount of capital employed than New York, the figures in Missouri being 92 factories and \$668,000 of manufacturer's bonds. Maryland reports a still smaller interest and West Virginia one smaller than that of Maryland.

In the manufacture of cigars the proportions are different. The cigar manufacturer's bond is for a minimum of \$500, and an additional \$100 for every registered cigar maker employed. The number of persons or firms owning cigar making establishments in the United States is 10,827, and the total of their annual bonds is \$12,874,100. The number of persons registered as cigar makers is 45,858. Virginia stands among the lowest in this branch of industry, with 74 factories, and bonds amounting to \$57,000; and North Carolina has only 2 factories, giving \$2,300 in bonds. New York, which is third in the manufacture of tobacco and snuff, is the first in cigar making, having 2,896 factories, giving \$3,154,100 in bonds, thus representing over a fourth of this entire business. Pennsylvania comes next, with 2,518 factories, giving \$2,504,100 in bonds. Ohio has 884 factories and \$1,003,200 in bonds; California, 157 factories and \$763,500 in bonds; Illinois, 558 factories, \$504,800 in bonds; Missouri, 452 factories, \$412,700 in bonds; New Jersey, 569 factories, \$394,400; Maryland, 427 factories, \$365,000 in bonds; Massachusetts, Indiana, Connecticut, and other States with smaller amounts. The District of Columbia has 63 factories, giving \$43,000 in bonds. The native tobacco is mostly prepared for chewing or cut up for smoking. In the manufacture of cigars imported tobacco from the West Indies is largely employed.

It is erroneously supposed that the taxes upon tobacco effect only the manufacturers. In effect, the tax upon the manufacturer is a tax upon the agricultural product, and tells seriously upon the planter and the labor employed in production. If the planter is to make a reasonable profit, the wages of laborers must be deducted in order to meet the heavy taxation. It is contended, however, that the consumer, after all, pays the tax. Conceding this to be true, the fact of the injurious effects upon tobacco production, of the present system of taxation, is not altered. Consumption is diminished by heavy taxation, and the planter and the laborer are both injured by reduction of the demand for their joint production.

THE OPPOSITION IN CONGRESS.

The hermaphrodite character of the New York Sun, in its present position, causes it at times to tell ugly truths regarding both of the great parties, each of which it alternately cajoles and abuses. Without being in any sense a cadid paper, the Sun yet frequently tells the truth, and perhaps in a majority of instances just because the truth promises to be disagreeable. It assails the Grant administration, and yet talks glibly of the "Rebel Democracy." In one day's issue it shows the

Democracy how to win victories, and on the succeeding day proves that a Republican victory in 1872 can certainly be achieved with good management.

The Sun has recently given some attention to the status of parties in the next House of Representatives, and its articles have been exceedingly thoughtful and very entertaining. It claims the House for the Republicans by at least thirty majority, yet, in the same breath, forbids Republican exultation by suggesting the possibility of a coalition between the Democracy and a portion of the Republicans. Sixteen Republican votes, in alliance with the powerful Democratic minority, will defeat the Republican programme for the organization of the House.

It is claimed that there will be in the next House between twenty-five and thirty Revenue Reformers, classed now as Republicans. These men are said to be willing to make the test at once with the Republican members, and assert their strength in the organization of the House of Representatives. In confirmation of this view, the New York Journal of Commerce says "news highly encouraging to the Revenue Reformers" has reached it from Washington as follows:

The Republicans of that school, looking over their numbers, find themselves so strong that, with the aid of the Democrats, they think they can elect the House Speaker, and so control the chairmanship of the important Committee of Ways and Means. We are advised that it is their plan, the Democratic Congressmen being willing, to give General Farnsworth the Speakership and make General Logan or some other acceptable man chairman of that committee.

The Journal of Commerce thinks that the Republican Revenue Reformers and the Democrats are not yet ready for "a complete political fusion," but that concessions from both sides "will pave the way to other mutually good offices; and that which began with the determination that no fossil party principle should be sacrificed, may end in throwing overboard all the petrified issues, and form a new party on such a healthful basis as we have previously suggested."

The same paper adds: Thus far we have spoken only of the House. In the Senate the Republican Revenue Reformers are so strong that it is thought practicable, by enlisting the votes of the Democratic Senators, to carry the proposed revision of the tariff in that branch. The strife between the new Republican school and the old one will be bitter in the Senate, on account of the entrance by the brilliant Senator Schurz upon the leadership of the reform wing, of which he will deservedly be the head. The Missouri Senator's late, and seemingly irreconcilable quarrel with President Grant, will make the Democratic Senators the more willing to join hands with him and his associates, on reform questions where the administration espouses the other side.

WARONA VENTURE.

If Louis Napoleon had died while an inmate of the dungeon of Ham, the living world would long since have forgotten even his name, and the historian of the future would have given the barest record of the life of one who had died the most obscure of all heirs to a princely title. If the Emperor Napoleon the Third had died twelve months since, during his tedious and critical illness, he would have been ranked among the most illustrious of sovereigns and the most able of statesmen. The "reckless adventurer," confined at Ham, outlived his evil name and fortune, and subsequently the Emperor Napoleon outlived the inheritance of power, which has genius and audacity seemed to have secured. The magnificent fabric, which dazzled the nations with its splendor, and for which the Malakoff and Solferino had brilliantly aided a masterly foreign and domestic policy, to create an enduring foundation, has disappeared, and amid the ruins of the once splendid imperial structure, History will discern only the figure of the luckless "Man of Sedan."

How shall Louis Napoleon be adjudged in a historical sense, is already an interesting and difficult question. Are we at liberty to believe that, for nineteen years, a charlatan and an adventurer imposed upon and deluded forty millions of the shrewdest and most sensitive people on earth? And did a jealous and vigilant nation, in nothing more conspicuous than in its appreciation of the true kingly character; according unlimited faith to genius, and marvellously prompt to expose and punish imbecility, during all these long years accept this wretched

sham? Has Europe, too, for twenty-years, stood in awe of a mere *ignis fatuus*, the merest shadow, without the substance of power?

The facts of the war now raging between France and Prussia, must go far to confirm into a historical verdict the condemnation of Napoleon's abilities upon which his enemies have always insisted. Whatever may be the military or political eventualities of the war, there are certain stubborn facts, which must powerfully aid before the historical tribunal, to convict him as the merest gambler in politics and statesman. That a hapazard temerity, attended by extraordinary good fortune, made the fair and false semblance, which so long deceived the world, and that he was at last overtaken by the fate of all desperate gamblers—a change of luck, seems now to be the historical verdict in waiting for Louis Napoleon.

Some of the military results of the current war are almost beyond belief. Omitting all account of the more recent engagements near Paris and in the neighborhood of Orleans, in which the captures made by the Germans have been considerable, there are yet in the hands of the Prussians four Marshals of the Empire, one hundred and forty generals, ten thousand inferior officers, and largely more than three hundred thousand of the rank and file of the French army. In brief it may be assumed that the entire military system of the Empire was swept from the face of the earth. Such enormous captures are unexampled, and on a hasty view they might be interpreted to signify an attempt, at least, by the Imperial government to meet the long impending shock of conflict of war with Prussia.

The fact that the imperial array was not adequate to meet that of Germany might be extenuated, if a monarch could ever be forgiven for undervaluing the strength of his enemy, or if it could be proven that Napoleon had endeavored to grasp and utilize all the military resources of his Empire. Neither of these conditions can be conceded. Since the culmination of his disasters, Napoleon has compared the war, in its surprises and startling denouements, to an "earthquake." He as good as acknowledges that he did not know the military resources and preparations of Prussia, and that he did not utilize the power of France, results subsequent to Sedan and Metz have abundantly proven. How can it be doubted that the long train of calamities from Woerth to Metz would have been avoided, had the armies of Bazaine and Mac-Mahon been strengthened by such a force as that which Trochu is about to surrender at Paris, and that which manoeuvres in impotent endeavor in the vicinity of Orleans? Yet how promptly have these forces been organized and how easily have they been made serviceable for defence. Far more easily could Napoleon have created them into an enthusiastic army of invasion, had he appreciated the enormous power of the adversary from whom he so promptly accepted the gage of battle, or comprehended the means at his own command by which that adversary might have been overwhelmed.

No gambler falls, at some period of his career, to experience the reverses of fortune, and Napoleon's adversity is neither tempered nor graduated. War is the last of all games in which to depend blindly upon luck, to see only the cards in one's own hand, and to miscalculate or despise the trumps in the hand of the adversary.

GRANT'S MESSAGE.

If matters shall not mend with General Grant, and he shall continue to travel, with unexampled rapidity, the down grade in public interest and estimation, his next annual message will want both commentators and readers. On last Monday the President's message was submitted to Congress, and although several days have passed since the appearance of the document, the signs are yet wanting of that popular interest in the Executive recommendations, which is ordinarily so eager and manifest. And the popular estimate of Grant's messages as documents wanting in value to the general public, is not mistaken.

Grant's recent message is eminently characteristic of its putative author, (we have serious doubts as to his ability to write half-a-dozen pages of consecutive matter,) in one particular at least. With

mulist obstinacy he still clings to his San Domingo annexation scheme. He is reluctant to abandon the expectation of splendid profits from that gigantic speculation. Despite the signal failure of his previous bullying and cajoling efforts to induce acquiescence in his proposition to annex the mongrel republic, Grant still refuses to surrender. Whenever Grant arouses from his chronic stolidity and ordinarily insuperable dullness, and makes a display of energy or earnestness, the public verdict is that there is speculation in the Presidential eye. Nothing but the hope of pecuniary profit has heretofore been sufficient to arouse the Executive energies, and people are not to be censured, if they shall now shrewdly suspect that the President, or some of his own, or his wife's relations, have good investments along the Bay of Samana.

Excepting the reference to the San Domingo scheme, the message nowhere displays either urgency or even decided interest in matters which now claim popular attention. Especially non-committal regarding the incipient issues of the coming Presidential contest, the President betrays his eagerness to be re-elected, by studious avoidance of any discussion which can remotely damage his prospects as a candidate. The question of Revenue Reform, latterly assuming such large proportions, he flippantly disposes of with a string of glittering generalities, as devoid of meaning as is the President himself of appreciation of any subject above the dignity of horseflesh, or "black and tan pups." Other questions of general concern are briefly and superficially mentioned in paragraphs of platitudes, which show no improvement in Grant's mind, save a growing appreciation of the least reputable shifts and subterfuges of politicians.

Regarding foreign relations the President, like orator Fall, has "two tones in his voice, the one speaking, thus; the other down so." Vague references to the inviolability of this continent from European occupation, meet the popular expectation of an annually renewed endorsement in the executive quarter, of the "Monroe doctrine." This reaffirmation of the "Monroe doctrine" is always most strenuously made when no European power has either capacity or inclination to insist upon its abrogation. Truulent hints about Mexico in the message will appease the braggart American spirit, which delights to flaunt defiance in the face of those who are helpless and non-aggressive. Yet how gently, like a "sucking dove," roars the message regarding relations with the only power, with which we have even a pretext for a quarrel. That power, of course, is Great Britain, and as to the Alabama claims, Grant recommends that they be paid by the United States, and so held till "Her Majesty's government shall entertain a desire for a full and friendly adjustment."

In one feature alone—the recommendation of encouragement to American ship-building, does this omnium gatherum of platitudes and "ridiculousities" present any claim to general public approbation.

VANCE AND THE RADICALS.

If Senator Vance is an anxious aspirant for increased celebrity, his cup of bliss must at the present moment be full to overflowing. Rarely has a man been elevated to the United States Senate, or indeed to any office short of the Presidency, whose personal and political merits and antecedents have received such thorough ventilation. North Carolina is justly proud of the son whom she has so highly honored, and whose fame and character have run the gauntlet of discussion by the press of the whole country, without the development of one single circumstance bringing reproach upon himself or his mother State.

We have been especially struck with the complimentary notices of which Senator Vance has been the subject in prominent Radical newspapers. These references are sufficient evidences of his almost unexampled personal popularity. There is a magnetism about Vance which no generous nature can resist. Able and shrewd as a politician, he has yet an ardent and sympathetic nature. We are convinced that our newly-elected Senator will be one of the most popular and influential of the Democratic and Conservative members of the body to which he has been chosen. He will rank in ability with the gifted

and faithful Senator from Ohio, Judge Thurman, and his frank and genial companionship will secure for him the same degree of personal regard which the bluff and witty "Old Jack Hale" of New Hampshire always had from all classes of his Senatorial Colleagues.

That Gov. Vance was a "Rebel," the Radical newspapers leave us no room to doubt. All of them insist, indeed, that he is still a "Rebel." Senator Vance can stand abusive epithets admirably at the present moment, and especially can he afford to be indifferent to the application of a term which has lost much of its former effect upon Northern sentiment. Coupled with these opprobrious epithets is usually found a handsome tribute to Senator Vance's character and qualifications.

The New York Sun not much given to kindly reference to anybody, says of our Senator: "Personally, Mr. Vance is an unexceptionable man. He is able, honest, dignified, and has never been accused, even by his most violent enemies, of trickery or corruption."

These are the very qualities which should ensure Vance's prompt admission to his seat in the Senate. That body sadly needs an infusion into its weak and unworthy organization of such personal virtues as the Sun ascribes to Senator Vance.

The New York Tribune closes an article in which some severe strictures are passed upon Governor Vance's political and "rebel" performances, with the following words:

He denounces proscription and retaliation with commendable vigor. He declares that every law, both State and National, should be obeyed and respected by all. He is an honest, courageous, hard-headed man, with good intentions and imperfect lights. We believe that such a man in the Senate can do more good than harm; and it might be difficult to find any one who would more adequately represent the average intelligence and conscience of his State.

We are greatly encouraged by these favorable references of the Northern press to our Senator-elect. They are favorable auguries regarding the question of his admission to the Senate.

THE DECLINE OF NEW ENGLAND.

The New England States are progressing, relatively at least, in the wrong direction for the maintenance of that aggressive and insolent domination which they have hitherto asserted.

To us of the South it has sometimes seemed that the "mills of the Gods grind slowly," in the matter of bringing home to New England the curses which she has so plentifully sown for our section. Nevertheless the retribution is at hand, and it is moving far more rapidly than we could have expected. By the new census, New England loses six members of Congress, or in other words, the aggregate voting strength in the House of Representatives of Rhode Island and Connecticut. Is not this "delightful to contemplate?" At the very period, too, when New England needs acquisition of power to enable her to resist the aspirations of antagonistic interests, her strength diminishes, and at the same time, the whole country forsakes her.

The Western States gain seven members. They have an addition equal to another State of Iowa. The Middle States lose a member. Thus in the next Presidential Conventions and elections for members of Congress, the West, as against the East, is reinforced by a strength equal to that now possessed by the State of Indiana. The Southern States hold their own. This exhibit is a very satisfactory one for the friends of Democracy and constitutional principles. The loss in New England is a Republican loss, and most of the gain in the West will be Democratic.

Under the influence of "great moral ideas," this country has become the abode of piety and the refuge of virtue. During the war Billy Wilson kept his commission as Colonel of Zouaves in the powder magazine, to prevent his "lamb" from stealing it, and recently Grant refused to let his message be taken out of his sight, lest it should be stolen by representatives of the Northern press.

Otto Goldschmidt, Jenny Lind's husband, having squandered his wife's fortune, the nightingale is now so reduced as to be compelled to teach music for a living. The ill-matched pair have separated by mutual consent, and the spendthrift must now shift for himself.