

The Plattsmouth Daily Herald.

VOL. I.

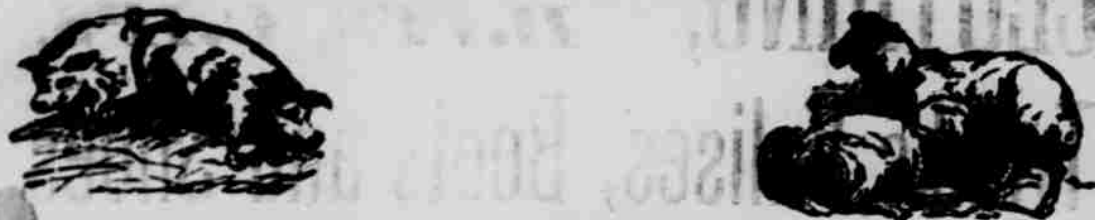
PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY EVENING, AUGUST 23, 1883.

NO. 152

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PLATTSMOUTH HERALD

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We have received and examined with much curiosity and interest Mr. Jefferson Davis' *Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government*. The book is curiously and unaccountably constructed. Jeff Davis from the first page to the last; and were it not for the great age and evidently childish whims of the author it would in some respects be as ridiculous as it is at times in this late day—whimsically comical. In treating of the origin of African slavery in this country the writer premises his remarks by saying "no subject has been more generally misunderstood or more persistently misrepresented." This he says of an institution that has occupied the minds and serious attention of not only the American people of every grade and rank in private life from the days of Thomas Jefferson down to the date of its abolition by the outpouring of the best blood of the nation, but of our wisest statesmen and national legislators during all the years of the irrepressible conflict, which called out ex haustive controversy from the best minds of the nation, upon either side of the question, of every shade of opinion; involving the moral, sentimental, legal and historical features of that institution. Again speaking of the irrepressible conflict Mr. Davis solemnly asserts:

"No moral nor sentimental considerations were really involved in either the earlier or later controversies which so long agitated and finally ruptured the Union. They were simply struggles between different sections with diverse institutions and interests." This would be a very fair argument for the slave driver of ante bellum days with which to beat down the abolitionist, but for an historical work written, in this late day by a man of acknowledged culture and ability, a man of the experience of Jefferson Davis in public affairs connected with the political and social history of his country it indeed sounds strangely ridiculous to say that Gerrit Smith and Hale, and Lovejoy, and the long line of—so called—abolitionists who agitated the slavery question in this country upon purely moral grounds were actuated by local and sectional interests, it is a twain an argument too flimsy for cultivated minds among the pro-slavery advocates of the days of John C. Calhoun. Yet these are but samples of Mr. Davis' views at the outset of his book and which constitute the bedrock upon which he rears his historical argument in "vindication," as he terms it, of "those who 'staked all and lost all save life and honor in the cause of the confederacy.'"

That his book in the main is an honest sketch of the Confederacy and its history from Mr. Davis' stand point, there cannot be a doubt; at the same time it is an evidence of the utter impossibility for Jefferson Davis and men of his stamp, educated in the school of States Rights in the south, to understand and acquiesce in the rightful solution of the cause which led to the attempted disruption of the American union.

In that portion of his history which treats of the management of the war upon either side, and the parts taken by the opposing captains and statesmen, the childishness of the author most strongly appears; his bitter flings at Sherman, Sheridan, Grant, Stanton, and the successful officers of the Union Army, are decidedly in bad taste. His reflections upon Joseph E. Johnson and other able and fearless Confederate officers are inexcusable; he censures Johnson for surrendering his army to Sherman, claiming that he should have retreated, and accompanied the President of the Confederacy and his cabinet to the west banks of the Mississippi, there to continue the useless struggle. He bitterly comments upon this action of Joseph E. Johnson in refusing to continue the struggle, expressing the absurd belief that had he done so—he (Mr. Davis) would have been enabled to either achieve the independence of the Confederacy or could have obtained for the southern States their own terms upon their assent to again return to the Union.

Another feature of the book is the slavery with which Mr. Davis seizes upon every small point where he has been criticised on account of his administration of the affairs of the Confederacy, and attempts personal vindication. This is, evidently, one of the cardinal objects of this great work, which this

remarkable man has undertaken and accomplished at his advanced age, and, with this exception, we believe candid critics, irrespective of their individual beliefs and opinions, will pronounce it an able history of the Confederacy, written by a thorough disciple of the school of John C. Calhoun, who has no respect for, nor belief in, the Union of the States in a national point of view, who detests the thought of a centralized government where restraint and authority is to be exercised over the individual States by the general Government. It demonstrates the fact that Jefferson Davis is an able representative of the "States Rights Doctrine," honest and fearless enough to advocate, in this late day, even though it leads to the inevitable result which have left the author of that work a political outcast among the people, and in the land, which he risked his all to separate and divide.

THERE is nothing like accuracy among that class of statesmen who constantly espouse every lame hobby that springs up with the hope that a new issue may be found upon which to lead the country in newly discovered paths and the advocates of such issue into the fat offices at the disposal of the government. Col. William Springer, of Illinois, who has been so pugnaciously anxious to discuss economic questions with Senator Callom is a specimen of this class of statesman. William is a free trader, a bounding reformer not unlike our anti-monopoly friend of Arbor Springs notoriety and conceives like him of Arbor Springs fame that he had mastered all the intricacies of the great questions which are likely to disturb this country in the great hereafter. Mr. Springer recently rushed into print in an article in the North American Review entitled *Incidental Taxation* in which he discusses our "unprofitable industries." Mr. George B. Dixon an economist of Boston and a gentleman who has made these questions a study from a non-partisan stand point takes up the bounding Springer in an article in the Boston Commercial Bulletin and conclusively shows that Mr. Springer has only made an error of some sixty thousand million dollars in his estimate and conclusions which are demonstrated to be both silly and fallacious. In closing his article which is too long to reproduce here Mr. Dixon pictures the Illinois statesman as follows:

The fact seems to be that in the present condition of the world those industries which Mr. Springer calls "unprofitable" are by far the most profitable that men apply themselves to. Too many people almost everywhere are engaged in agriculture, and consequently to sell their product at a disadvantage, and the means of paying for their products, which are produced by water power and the steam engine. That the industries in question can in England turn out products for somewhat less money signifies nothing to us, for we have not the means of paying for the products of our labor, which would otherwise have been thrown away, and worse than thrown away in diminishing the exchangeable value of other products.

We owe every year had an additional value of \$2,440,000,000 to divide the billions for the twenty years from 1860 to 1880, inasmuch as we have not lost \$57,000,000 a year, but have gained \$2,440,000,000 as compared with what we could have done without protection, and the result has been brought about by enjoying the means of paying for their products, which are produced by water power and the steam engine. That the industries in question can in England turn out products for somewhat less money signifies nothing to us, for we have not the means of paying for the products of our labor, which would otherwise have been thrown away, and worse than thrown away in diminishing the exchangeable value of other products.

HERALD CLIPPINGS.

The battle flag of the 3d Iowa infantry, which was captured before Atlanta by General Pat Cleburn and presented by him to Miss Laura J. Massengale, then living near Columbus, Ga., has been returned to the Adjutant General of Iowa, by that lady's brother. The flag was accidentally found in a chest where it had lain undisturbed for twenty years, and is sent back just in time to receive an ovation from the survivors of the regiment, who are to hold a reunion at Cedar Falls on September 12th.

The internal revenue receipts for the year ending June 30 were \$14,553,000, and the cost of collection was \$5,120,000 or 35 per cent. This is really a very low cost and shows how little foundation there is for the democratic and protectionist denunciation of the internal revenue system, as maintaining a costly army of spies and informers,—we believe these are the usual terms in which they characterize it. The cost for collecting the British "land revenue" is about 4 per cent. The tax on spirits fell but little short of \$75,000,000, being an increase, which on tobacco was \$17,391,000, a decline. The reduction of taxes which took effect July 1 is expected to throw off about \$42,000,000, mostly from tobacco, banks and molasses.

Dr. Brown Sequard is said to have discovered a new anesthetic which destroys sensibility, but not consciousness or physical activity, for an entire day or more. When it is administered to a man by the hypodermic injection process, he is not incapacitated for work or enjoyment, yet he can submit to having his flesh cut without feeling any pain. It is obviously a marvelous gain for medical science. It is some form of carbolic acid.

The friends of Mr. Parnell announce that it is the gentleman's intention to contest Dublin City at the general election. It is now represented by a whig and a nominal home ruler. The Parnellites are determined, if possible, to get rid of both, and are taking very effective measures with that end in view. The population of Dublin according to the last census is nearly 300,000, but the number of voters is but 13,380. An effort is being made in the instance of Mr. Parnell to add about 5,000 to this number principally of the lodger or single young men class. Over 7,000 applications have been made, and it is expected that not more than 2,000 will be rejected, even if so many. The new voters will be mostly Parnellites, and as they have already 6,000 voters in the city they will have no difficulty in electing their candidates, who will be Mr. Parnell and ex-Lord Mayor Dwyer Gray.

Republican State Convention.

The Republican electors of the State of Nebraska are hereby called to meet in State Convention at Lincoln, Wednesday, September 26, A. D. 1883, at 10 o'clock, p. m., for the purpose of placing in nomination candidates for the following named offices, to-wit: One Justice of the Supreme Court. Two Regents of the University. One University Regent to fill vacancy. The several counties are entitled to representation in the Convention, as follows: Based upon the vote cast for E. F. Rogers for Secretary of State, giving one delegate to each one hundred and fifty (150) votes. But one delegate for the fraction of seventy-five (75) votes or over; also one delegate for each organized county.

BANKS.

JOHN FITZGERALD, A. W. McLAUGHLIN
President. Cashier.
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CORNER OF PEARL AND SEVENTH
—DEALERS IN ALL KINDS OF—

Lumber, Sash, Doors, Blinds,
MIXED PAINTS, LIME,
Cement, Plaster, Hair,
BUILDING PAPER
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Fancy brands of
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Will Exchange for Country Produce. Lined Oil Meal Always on Hand.

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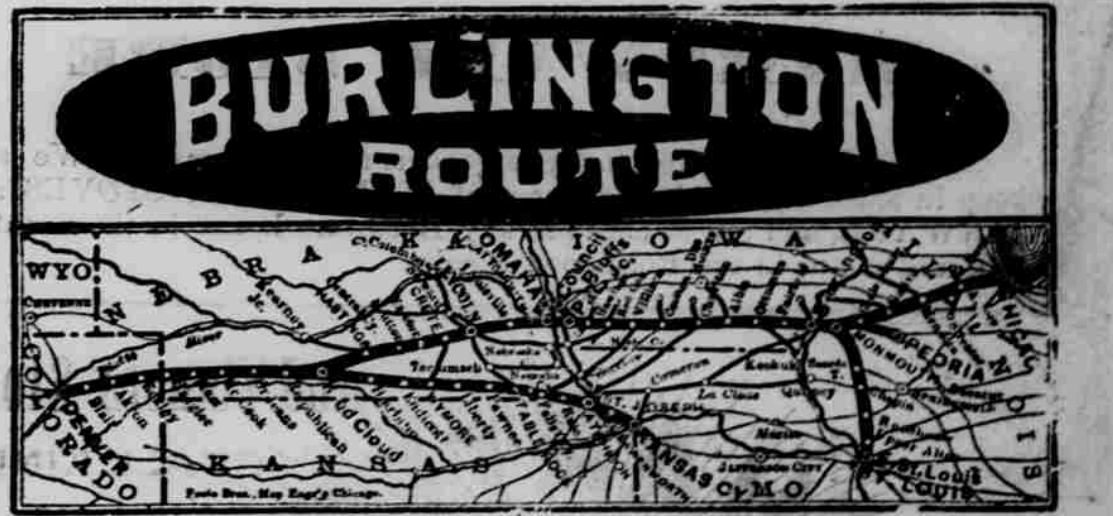
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