

Nebraska Herald.



"If any man attempts to haul down the American Flag, shoot him on the spot."—JOHN A. DIX.

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THE SECRET TESTIMONY.

The following is a part of the testimony, hitherto suppressed relative to the Rebel leaders, taken at the assassination trial at Washington:

Sanford Conover testified as follows: I am a native of New York; have resided in Canada since October last; was conscripted into the Confederate army, and detailed to service in the War Department of the Confederacy at Richmond, under James A. Seddon, Secretary of War; while in Canada was intimately acquainted with G. N. Sanders, Jacob Thompson, Dr. Blackburn, Tucker, Wm. C. Cleary, Capt. Castleman, Mr. Cameron, Potterfield, Capt. Magruder, and others; I also knew Clement C. Clay and Gen. Carroll of Tennessee; I knew Mr. Surrat also, and J. W. Booth, and visited these gentlemen in Canada; saw Surrat there on several occasions last April, in Mr. Jacob Thompson's room, also in company with George N. Sanders, and other Rebels in Canada; Surrat is about five feet nine or ten inches high, a fair-complexioned man with light hair; I saw him about the 6th or 7th of April, with Thompson, Sanders and Booth; at that time he delivered to Thompson in his room, in my presence, dispatches from Richmond to Thompson, from Benjamin and Jefferson Davis; the latter either a cipher dispatch or a letter, Benjamin was Secretary of State of the Confederacy. Previous to this, Thompson conversed with me upon the subject of a plot to assassinate President Lincoln and his Cabinet, of which I gave notice, before the assassination, in the N. York Tribune, the paper for which I corresponded. I had been invited by Mr. Thompson to participate in that enterprise. When Surrat delivered these dispatches from Davis, Thompson laid his hand upon the papers and said, referring to the assassinations and to the aspect of the Rebel authorities, "This makes the thing all right." The dispatches spoke of the persons to be assassinated: Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Johnson, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of State, Judge Chase and Gen. Grant. Mr. Thompson said on that occasion, or on the day before that interview, that the assassination proposed would leave the Government of the United States entirely without a head; that there was no provision in the Constitution of the United States by which they could elect another President. Mr. Wells was also named, but Mr. Thompson said it was not worth while to kill him; he was of no consequence. My first interview with Thompson on this subject of assassination was in the early part of February, in Thompson's room in St. Lawrence Hall, Montreal. He then spoke of a raid on Ogdensburg, New York, it was abandoned, but that was because the United States Government received information of it, he said he would have to drop it for a time but, added, "We'll catch them asleep yet" and to me he said, "There is a better opportunity to immortalize yourself, and save your country," meaning the Confederacy. I told him I was ready to do anything to save the country, and asked them what was to be done; "some of our boys are going to play a grand joke on Abe and Andy," which he said was to kill them; his words were "remove them from office," and he said that the killing of a tyrant was not murder; that he had commissions for this work from the Rebel authorities, and conferred one on Booth, or would confer one; that everybody engaged in this enterprise would be commissioned, and if they could not be successful, they claimed under the Extradition Treaty; I know that Thompson and the others held these commissions in blank; they commissioned Bennett Young, the St. Albans raider; it was a blank commission filled up and conferred by Mr. Clay; as it came from Richmond it was only signed "James A. Seddon, Secretary of War;" Mr. Thompson called me to examine these blanks so that I might testify to the genuineness of Seddon's signature in the case of Bennett Young, before Judge Smith. The signature was genuine. In a subsequent conversation, after the first referred to in February, Thompson told me that Booth had been commissioned, and every man who was em-

gaged in it would be. I had a conversation with Wm. C. Cleary, on the day before, or the day of the assassination, at St. Lawrence Hall. We were speaking of the rejoicing in the States over the surrender of Lee and the capture of Richmond. Cleary said they would have the laugh on the other side of the mouth in a day or two. I think this was the day before the assassination. He knew I was in the secret of the conspiracy. It was to that he referred. The assassination was spoken of among us as commonly as the weather.

Before that, Sanders asked me if I knew Booth very well, and expressed some apprehension that Booth would make a fizzle of it—that he was desperate and reckless, and he was afraid the whole thing would be a failure. I communicated to the Tribune the intended raid on St. Alban and the proposed assassination of President Lincoln, but they refused to publish the letter. I did this in March last, as to the President's assassination, also in February, I think—certainly before the 4th of March. Surrat delivered the dispatches in Thompson's room, four or five days before the assassination. The whole conversation flowed that Surrat was one of the conspirators to take the President's life. That was the substance of the conversation. It was also understood that there was plenty of money when there was any thing to be done. The conversation indicated that Surrat had a very few days before, left Richmond—that he was "just from Richmond."

I heard the capture of the President talked of in February. When Mr. Thompson first suggested the assassination to me, I asked him if it would meet with the approbation of the Government at Richmond; he said he thought it would, but he would know in a few days. This was early in February.

Thompson did not say in April, when these dispatches were delivered, that this was the first approval they had received of this plot from Richmond, but I know of no others; I only inferred that that was the first approval. Thompson said, in his conversation with me, that killing a tyrant in such a case was no murder, and asked me if I had read a letter called "Killing, no Murder," addressed by Thos. O. Cromwell; this was in February; Mr. Hamlin was also named in February as one of the victims of this scheme; in April, the persons before named were mentioned, but Mr. Hamlin was omitted, and Vice-President Johnson put in his place. I ran the blockade from Richmond. These commissions were all blank but the signature; they were to be given as a cover; so that in case of detection, the parties employed could claim that they were rebel soldiers, and would therefore claim to be treated as prisoners of war; it was understood that they would be protected as such. Thompson said if the men who were engaged in this enterprise were detected and executed, the Confederate Government would retaliate; that it was no murder, only killing. I think Booth was specially commissioned for this purpose; I saw Booth in Canada in the latter part of October, with Sanders, at Mr. Thompson's, at the St. Lawrence Hall, where he was strutting about, dissipating and playing billiards; I have heard these men talk of the burning of New York, and other enterprises which they have under consideration now.

There was a proposition before the agents of these rebels in Canada to destroy the Croton Dam, by which the city of New York is supplied with water. It was supposed it would not only damage manufactures, but distress the people generally. Mr. Thompson remarked that there was plenty of force, and the city would be destroyed by a general conflagration, and if they had thought of this sooner they might have saved a great many necks. This was said a few weeks ago. Thompson, Sanders, Castleman and General Carroll were present. They had arms concealed, and a large number of men concealed, in Chicago—some eight hundred—for the purpose of releasing the rebel prisoners there. The Dr. Blackburn, charged in Nassau with importing yellow fever into this country, is the same person referred to by

me as intimate with Thompson in Canada; I saw him in company with G. N. Sanders, Louis Sanders, Castleman, Wm. C. Cleary, Potterfield, Captain Magruder, and a number of other rebels of less note; Blackburn was recognized there as an agent of the Confederate States, and so represented himself. In January last Dr. Blackburn employed a person named Cameron to accompany him, for the purpose of introducing yellow fever into Northern cities, to-wit: the cities of New York, Philadelphia and Washington; he went from Montreal to Bermuda, about a year ago last fall, for the purpose of getting the clothing infected with yellow fever; I saw him after his return in Canada, and heard Jacob Thompson and Wm. C. Cleary say that they favored his scheme, and were much interested in it; this was last January.

About the same time it was proposed to destroy the Croton Dam, Dr. Blackburn proposed to poison the reservoirs, and made a calculation of the amount of poisonous matter it would require to impregnate the water so as to make an ordinary draught poisonous and deadly. He had the capacity of the reservoirs, and the amount of water generally kept in them. Strychnine, Arsenic, prussic acid, and a number of other things I do not remember, were named. Mr. Thompson feared it would be impossible to collect so large a quantity of poisonous matter without suspicion, and leading to detection. Thompson approved of the enterprise, and discussed it freely. Mr. Cleary did the same; it was also spoken of by Mr. Montrose A. Pallen, of Mississippi, and by a person who had been a medical purveyor in the rebel army; John Cameron, who lived in Montreal, told me that he was offered large compensation; I think Mr. Thompson was the moneyed agent for all the other agents; I think they all drew on him for all the money they required; I know some of them did; when Thompson said it would be difficult to collect so much poison without detection, Pallen and others thought it could be managed in Europe; Pallen is a physician; I think I have heard Hauris also mentioned in connection with the pestilence importation; I think he lived in Toronto. There were other parties in Montreal that Blackburn employed, or endeavored to employ, but I do not remember their names.

REMARKABLE WORKS.
Nineva was nineteen miles long, eight miles wide, and forty-six miles around, with a wall one hundred feet high, and thick enough for three chariots to go abreast. Babylon was fifty miles within the walls, which were seventy-five feet thick and one hundred feet high, with one hundred brazen gates. The temple of Diana, at Ephesus, was four hundred feet to the support of roof. It was one hundred years in building. The largest of the pyramids was four hundred and eighty-one feet in height, and one hundred and fifty three on the sides. The base covers eleven acres.

The stones are about sixty feet in length and the layers are two hundred and eight. It employed three hundred and twenty thousand men in building the labyrinth in Egypt, and it contains three hundred chambers and twelve halls. Thebes, in Egypt, presents ruins twenty-seven miles around. Athens was twenty-five miles around, and contained three hundred and fifty thousand citizens and four hundred thousand slaves. The temple of Delphos was so rich in donations, that it was plundered of \$5,000,000, and the Emperor Nero carried away from it two hundred statues. The walls of Rome were thirteen miles around.

How to Kill Ants.—Take a large sponge, wash and dry it, sprinkle sugar upon it, and place it where the ants are most troublesome; by and by dip the sponge in hot water, and a lot of dead ants will be the result; dry the sponge, put on more sugar, and catch some more.

A rascal, going under the name of Davis, has realized about four thousand dollars in Wisconsin in the execution of forged title deeds to real estate within a few days past. The lands were owned by non-residents, and this man was unknown and personated the owners.

IRONING OF JEFF DAVIS.
Why and how Jeff Davis was manacled, or whether he was manacled at all, has been enveloped in some uncertainty. It is true that irons were placed on his feet, but they were subsequently removed—when they had answered their purpose.

Not only was he imperious and haughty, as usual, but he became absolutely obstreperous, insulting the guard, abusing the officers and their Government, throwing his food at his attendants, and tearing a secession passion to tatters generally—sometimes threatening others, sometimes melodramatically courting a bayonet puncture of his own breast.

As a necessity (and possibly as a punishment and warning) orders were given to place manacles on his feet.

The Captain in charge, attended by a blacksmith and menaces, approached, saying, "Mr. Davis, I have a very unpleasant duty to perform." "My God!" exclaimed Jeff, "you do not intend to put those things on me." Such were the orders; the Captain could only obey. Jeff remonstrated.—"They should never be put on." The Captain must go to Gen. Halleck and have the order countermanded.—"The Captain replied, "But, Mr. Davis, the order came from General Halleck."

Davis insisted that the order must be countermanded. The Captain said, "You are a military man Mr. Davis, and know that my only course is to obey orders." Jeff then went off in a moody towering passion than before, and declared he would never be ironed alive. After becoming a little cool, and mechanically placing one foot on a stool, the Captain told the blacksmith to proceed.

Loaning forward to take to his arms the heels of his Rebel majesty, Jeff seized him, and with a vigorous push tumbled him backward on the floor, while the blacksmith, justly indignant, luried his hammer at "the President," but missed him. Davis then attempted to seize a gun, and asked to be bayoneted. The guards presented bayonets, and the Captain feared he might rush upon them, and so ordered the guard to fall back.

The Captain then called in four stout men, and ordered them to lay Jeff on his back, which they did, the prisoner resisting with almost preternatural strength, and writhing in their grasp while the blacksmith hammered on the rivet, with a will. When placed in his chair again Jeff looked in utter despair upon his manacled limbs and burst into tears.

This medicine had the desired effect and the great Rebel became comparatively docile, far less defiant, but more depressed, and the irons have since been removed.

It was feared that he would starve himself to death, refusing persistently to eat soldiers' rations (which C. C. Clay munches without a murmur), and his physician prescribed a more agreeable diet, which the "President" ate with great avidity—and still enjoys this extra fair.—Washington Republic.

NEGRO SUFFRAGE.
Refuse this, and the Southern States will make such laws as will allow the freedmen only to be "hewers of wood and drawers of water," and, united with Northern Copperheads, will control the legislation of the country.

Secure to the colored man the full right of citizenship. And his vote, united as it naturally will be with the loyal vote of the South, will always control State legislation, and hence will make certain to them fair treatment.—That is all they need.

The Border-State Union men, generally, are ready for this: One of the most influential and wealthy planters recently urged and urged this measure upon his neighbors, saying that without it no loyal man's life or property would be safe in the Southern States for twenty years.—Boston Commonwealth.

For the gout, use toast and water, for bile, exercise; for corns, easy shoes; for rheumatism, new flannel and patience; for the tooth-ache, pluck it out; for debt, industry; and for love, matrimony.

Josh Billings on Shanghai.
The Shanghai reuster is a gentle, and speaks in a forin tung. He is bit on piles like our Sandy hill crane.— If he had been bit with legs he wud remember the peruvian lama. He is not a game animal, but quite often comes off seckond best in a ruff and tumble fite; like the injuns the kant stand civilization, are fast disappearing. The roost on the ground similar to the mud turtle. The often go to sleep standing, and sum pitch over, and when the dew the enter the ground like a pick-axe. Their feed consist of corn in the year: They crow like a jackass, troubled with the bronchees- Cuss. This will eat as much to onst as a district skule upster, and generally sit down rite off weep from tipping over. Tha ar dreadful unhandy tew kook, you have to bile one end ur them to a time, you kant git them awl into a potash kittle to onst. The female reuster lays an egg as long as a kokernut, and iz sick for a week afterwards, and when she hatches out a litter of young shanghai she has tew brood over them standing, and then kant kivit or bur 3 ur them, the rest stand around on the outside, like boys around a circus tent gita a peep under the kanvass whenever tha can. The man who fast brot the breed into this country ought to own them awl and be obliged tew feed them on grasshoppers, caught bi hand. I never owned but one, and he got choked to death bi a kink in a cloze line, but not till he had swallowed 18 feet ur it. Not any shanghai for me, if you pleze; I wud rather board a traveling colporter, and az for eatin one give me a biled owl rare dun, or a turkee buzzard roasted hole, and stuffed with a pair of injun rubber boots, but not enny shanghai for me, not a shanghai.

Dangerous Counterfeit.
A prominent bachelor politician, on the Kennebec, remarked to a lady that soapstone was excellent to keep the feet warm in bed. "Yes," said the young lady, who had been an attentive listener, "but some gentlemen have an improvement on that, which you know nothing about." The bachelor turned pale, and maintained a wistful silence.

Among the rules of the hotel in the "diggins," at Reese River, are the following: "Lodgers inside arise at 5 A. M., in the barn at 6 o'clock; each man sweeps up his own bed; no quartz taken at the bar; no fighting allowed at the table; any one violating the above rules will be shot."

A carefully executed counterfeit of United States legal tender \$100 greenback note has made its appearance and is likely to disturb the circulation of the whole of that denomination of legal tenders on account of the perfection of its workmanship. It is hardly recognizable except by an expert, or on the closest examination. One of these counterfeits was paid out to one of our county officials a few days ago, by the Bank of the Metropolis which had received it from some unknown source, and had not recognized it as a counterfeit. He also received it as genuine, and paid it over to a well known lawyer, by whom it was also taken without suspicion. This latter gentleman deposited it on his account at the Mount Vernon Bank. It underwent the scrutiny there of the receiving teller, who did not recognize it as counterfeit, but credited it to the depositor. On a second glance, however, he detected its character and threw it out. It was then returned to the Bank of the Metropolis, where, upon careful and critical examination it was pronounced to be good. But being taken from there to the United States Sub-Treasurer, it was there pronounced to be counterfeit.—Boston Transcript.

Cure for Drunkenness.—John Vine Hall, commander of an English steamer, who had become a confirmed drunkard cured himself completely by using the following mixture instead of his usual potations: Sulphate of iron five grains; magnesia, ten grains; peppermint water, eleven drachms; spirits of nutmeg, one drachm, twice a day. This preparation acts as a stimulant, and so partially supplies the place of the accustomed liquor, and prevents that absolute physical and mental prostration that follows a sudden breaking off from the use of stimulating drinks.

HUNGARIAN GRASS.
Among the late crops that may be put in to advantage by almost every farmer, we consider Hungarian grass among the most important. Where other crops fail from poor seed, the drought, or the chinch bug, this grass may be sown and a full return for the land and labor be obtained. It may be sown for ten days or two weeks yet and will fully mature. If the hay crops threaten to be light its loss can in no other way be so easily made up as by a few acres of Hungarian.

On fair soil it yields enormously and cut before the seed ripens, and well cured, is a most admirable feed for sheep, cattle and horses. All are fond of it and its nutritive properties are excellent. If left to stand until the seed ripens so as to secure both seed and forage, it will also yield a large profit. If fed in the seed state should be taken not to give too liberally. From too lavish feeding in this way, there are doubtless many cases on record where horses have been greatly injured, and very many once strong advocates of the grass have thus become prejudiced against it. Fed sparingly, as any other rich grain should be, in conjunction with hay, (prairie or timothy) all danger can be avoided.

The seed alone gives a fair remuneration, as it always brings a fair price in the market and yields abundantly. Hungarian leaves the soil in fine condition light and free from weeds. We council our farmers to sow a patch of Hungarian.—Prairie Farmer.

A Talk About Grapes.
At a meeting of the N. Y. Fruit growers Club the principal matter discussed was the Pruning of grape vines, by A. S. Fuller, with examples. With a yearling vine he showed how to clip the roots to prepare for planting, leaving none over fifteen or eighteen inches, because it is important to get fibrous roots started near the main trunk. In planting, if in Autumn, set the roots about four inches deep leaving the cane a foot or two long, which should be cut away in the Spring level with the earth. Grow but one cane the first year, which—of strong-growing sorts—will reach ten feet in length. Cut this cane down to four feet in November, and allow the two lower ones to grow next Spring, and train them upright. These two canes are to be cut back in November to about five feet, and tied to stakes or wires or slats of a trellis, to grow fruit-bearing canes. Plants being set just eight feet apart, the ends of arms from each will meet and fill all the space. If the vines are of the short-jointed varieties, every other bud may be jointed, and every one upon long joints thus giving five or six uprights to each arm. The third year from planting, each upright may ripen two bunches, say twenty-four bunches to a vine. Next March cut back each upright to two buds, which are to grow two new canes. This keeps the bearing wood down to a low head, the arms being trained to any height desired.

A well-established vine will produce 50 to 75 bunches a year upon a trellis only four feet high, which allows rows to be set six feet apart, or nearer upon very valuable land. Some prefer arms three feet long and a two tier trellis.

After the fruit is set, stop the growth of the canes at the third leaf above the upper cluster of fruit.

The cheapest and best way to make a trellis is by nailing light slats to light posts, with light upright wires between the slats at each cane. These wires should be galvanized. With tender sorts which it is desirable to lay down in winter, his process would be to incline a single arm at an angle of 45 degrees, and spur prune as in the double arm system. They can then be readily laid down and covered in winter.

STAGGERS.
The usual form of staggers which occur among horses in this part of the country, are Stomach Staggers and Sleepy Staggers; in the first case, the animal is usually the subject of over distention of the stomach, and, when urged to move, staggers like a drunken man; in the latter case, the function of the stomach is paralyzed, and the animal is somnolent or sleepy.

The usual exciting causes of such affections are, overfeeding and want of proper exercise, yet it may arise from hard work when the animal is the subject of an over-distended stomach.

Treatment.—Both the above affections may be treated as follows: Give the patient six ounces of table salt, one ounce ginger, in a half pint of hot water. Then dissolve half pound of Glauber salts in hot water and throw the same into the rectum. In the course of a couple hours the dose may be repeated. The diet should consist of sloppy brand mash, well seasoned with salt.

New-York is having a virtuous turn and wants to get rid of her conceited saloons and frail water girls.