in a measure, part of that story, but now the volume is closed forever. The greatest actor in the tremendous drama has left the stage, never again to reappear, and the curtain goes down, never again to rise, on the scenes of that awful tragedy. In a historical point of view, therefore, even in this busy, rushing age of ours, the death of Jefferson Davis arrests the attention not only of his countrymen but of all the world within the circle of civilization. He lived to be over eighty-one years of age, only nineteen less than the entire life of the Constitution. When he was born, in the Summer of 1808, Thomas Jefferson was in the last year of his second administration and James Madison was planning to inherit the succession and preserve the Virginia ascendancy in the National Administration. The Federal Union consisted of only seventeen States, so that Mr. Davis has seen twenty-five stars flash into the blue of the flag. He could easily remember the close of the second war with England, and he was a youth of twelve or thirteen when the first great battle between the friends and opponents of slavery was closed with the Missouri Compromise. Mississippi was still a Territory when the father of Mr. Davis migrated to it from that part of Christian now Todd County, Ky., where the future President of the Southern Confederacy was born. It is a curious coincidence that six months later the martyred Lincoln was born in the same State. When this change of residence took place Mr. Davis was a mere child, but some years later he was sent back to Kentucky to the Transylvania University to be educated. In 1824, when he was only sixteen years old, he had made sufficient progress in his studies to be able to pass the examination for admission to the Military Academy at West Point as a cadet. President Monroe gave him the appointment. Four years later, in 1828, he was graduated. Among his contemporaries at the Military Academy were Robert E. Lee, Albert Sidney Johnston, Leonidas Polk, John B. Magruder and others who in later years won high military distinction.

WAR AND LOVE.

As a boy and a young man he was ambitious and he believed that the path to distinction could best be carved out with the sword. Andrew Jackson was then the idol of the country, and it may be easily imagined that the hero of New Orleans had indirectly no small share in determining Mr. Davis's choice of a profession. The young soldier was soon in active service. The Indians on all our frontiers were at that day very troublesome neighbors, and young Lieutenant of Infantry Davis's command found foemen worthy of them in the fierce Comanches and the terrible Pawnees. Davis was brave, daring and impetuous. He was a favorite with officers and men, and a brilliant future was predicted for him. At the end of five years in the infantry service he was promoted to the cavalry as First Lieutenant of Dragoons. The transfer brought enlarged opportunities which he was quick to improve for gratifying his ambition. Temperate, careful, a model soldier and officer, in fact, it was only a question of time and of life when he should attain to the highest army honors and commands. Suddenly, however, to the astonishment of his fellow-officers and friends, his resignation from the army was sent to the War Department. This was in 1835.

A letter which the fortunes of war during the rebellion threw into the hands of an Illinois soldier, and which was published some years ago, shows that the young Lieutenant of Dragoons was at this period deeply in love with the daughter of Gen. Taylor, who subsequently became President of the United States. It was dated at Fort Gibson, Dec. 10, 1834. Gen. Taylor opposed the marriage of the young people at first, but finally consented. His objection was that, being a soldier himself, he knew the dangers and perils of the profession, and wished his daughter, if she married at all, to wed in civil life. Very many romantic stories have been published in regard to this first marriage of Mr. Davis, but, however pretty they may read, they must be set down as untrue. It is said there was an elopement, and that during long years Gen. Taylor never spoke or held communication with his son-in-law; that after brilliant acts of heroism in the Mexican war, old "Rough and Ready," as Taylor was called by his soldiers, sent for Col. Davis, asked his forgiveness and clasped him to his bosom. The pretty story is pure fiction. Mr. Davis himself disposed of it some years ago in this way: "I was one of the two officers selected from the First Infantry for promotion in the new regiment of dragoons organized in March, 1833, which separated me from Col. Taylor's regiment. In 1835 I went to Kentucky, where Miss Taylor was with her father's sister, his son-in-law and daughter (Dr. and Mrs. Wood), with many others, members of the Taylor family." The Lochinvar romance was, however, utterly destroyed in a despatch to THE WORLD from Atlanta a year ago last September. It read:

"The published details of the first marriage of Jefferson Davis are contradicted by Major John P. Edwards, of this city, at the home of whose grandmother the wedding took place. Mrs. Allison was the sister of Gen. Taylor, and, at Taylor's request, the marriage took place at her house. The license was procured by Mr. Allison. Gen. Taylor's objection to the marriage of his daughter sprang from his reluctance to part with her company, and not from dislike to the man of her choice. The wedding took place quietly at my grandmother's house with the consent and good wishes of all the relatives of the young people. The witnesses were Col. Hancock Taylor, Gen. Taylor's brother; Capt. Allison, his brother-in-law, and my brother and grandmother."

The story was the invention of personal and political enemies, who strove to make it appear that Gen. Taylor did not wish to have Mr. Davis as a son-in-law.

COTTON PLANTER AND STUDENT.

Twenty-eight years of age, the sword, as he then believed, surrendered forever, Mr. Davis, far away from all his old friends, began the life of a cotton planter eighteen or twenty miles from Vicksburg. But at the same time he began another and a higher life—that of a hard student in every branch of literature, but more especially history and the problems of human government. As a planter he was unusually successful. Every year saw his possessions grow larger and larger, and when he came to hold the highest positions in public life, in Congress, in the Cabinet and at the head of the Confederacy, friend and foe alike were compelled to admit that intellectually he was among the foremost men of his time in any country. Eight years were passed in what may be called this withdrawal from the world. He rarely left his plantation except on business—to sell his rich crops of cotton and to provide supplies for his numerous slaves. In the society around him he took little or no part. He was not a recluse, but he found more pleasure among his books than among his fellow-planters. It is not surprising, therefore, that this young soldier-planter was deemed by the rich planter class proud and unsocial, cold and severe. By his slaves he was beloved, for no slaves in all the Southland had a better master, unless, perchance, those of his brother, Joseph Davis, on an adjoining plantation. In the community in which he lived, his scholarly attainments gave him, of course, commanding influence when he chose to exercise it; but, nevertheless, he possessed few of the elements that win popularity among his fellowmen. When the war came, the two Davis estates comprised between twelve and fifteen thousand acres, and the number of slaves on them was nearly eight hundred. The "quarters" for the negroes were the finest in any of the Southern plantations except perhaps on the Hampton properties. A physician was constantly employed by the two brothers to attend to those on their estates, and the greatest care was exercised in providing for their health and comfort in other ways. The confidential, trusted man of Mr. Davis and his brother was a slave, Ben. Montgomery, to whom the ex-President sold his property after the proclamation of emancipation in 1863. In 1874 or 1875 there was still a balance due to Mr. Davis, and he took the property back, but Montgomery was still retained in charge and managed the estate. These eight years of retirement, Mr. Davis used to say in after days, were the happiest of his existence. Amid all the glitter of official life at Washington and Richmond, he turned back to them with an affection and fondness without a particle of alloy.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

[From His Last Photograph.]

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTOR.

The defeat of Martin Van Buren, in 1836, and the election of the Whig candidate, William Henry Harrison, to the Presidency, was a stunning blow to the Democratic party, North and South. John Tyler, between the Whigs and Democrats in the other side gave, it is true, the Democrats the possession of the Government that they had fairly lost, and enabled them to reform their broken and shattered lines. But the Whig victory convinced the party everywhere, and especially convinced the politicians, that their interests were in peril and that to save themselves from possible overthrow they must put forth every resource at their command. In 1843 there was an exciting Gubernatorial campaign in Mississippi, and Mr. Davis suddenly emerged from his retirement to take the stump. His success was so marked and brilliant in that first of his political engagements that the following year he was made a Presidential elector on the Polk and Dallas ticket. Thirty-five years of age, or three years older than Jefferson when he wrote the Declaration, he came into the political arena the best equipped man intellectually of his age perhaps in the country. In December, 1845, he made his first appearance in National politics as a member of the House of Representatives. This was an extraordinary and almost unprecedented act at that time in a State like Mississippi for a young man who had never taken even the humblest part in local politics, who had not been inside the walls of the State House except perhaps as a visitor.

The questions under debate in that Twenty-ninth Congress were of the greatest moment. There was the Oregon dispute, threatening another war with England, the tariff and the adjustment of the details of the Texan acquisition. The debates are among the most interesting in the annals of Congress. Stephen A. Douglas was then beginning his great career, and in the House with him were John Q. Adams, R. M. T. Hunter, of Virginia; James A. Seddon, Brinkerhoff, Washington Hunt, George S. Houston, and Andrew Johnson of Tennessee. "Mr. Davis," says one of his biographers, "became prominent less by the frequency with which he claimed the attention of the House than by the accuracy of his information, the substantial value of his suggestions and the easy dignity of his demeanor. His speeches were characterized by great perspicuity, argumentative force and propriety of taste, and frequently rose to the dignity of true eloquence. Among other topics upon which he spoke was that of Native Americanism, which he resolutely opposed, and the reorganization of the army. When Mr. Davis spoke for the first time in the House John Quincy Adams, the old man eloquent, sat near him, an attentive listener, and at its close crossed over to his friends and said: "That young man, gentlemen, is no ordinary man. He will yet make his mark."

HEROISM AT MONTEREY AND BUENA VISTA.

Representative Davis had been only a short six months in Washington when the Mexican war came. Gen. Taylor, Mr. Davis's old commander, was ordered to the Rio Grande. Mississippi, like the rest of the country, was aglow with enthusiasm. The Mississippi rifles were quickly enrolled and as quickly sent to the front, not, however, before they had unanimously elected as their Colonel the soldier-planter-Congressman who had, eleven years before, retired from the army as he thought forever. To him the old military enthusiasm of his younger years had returned, and when the news came that his countrymen had chosen him to lead them his resignation from Congress was quickly written. He overtook his regiment at New Orleans and by mid-Summer was with Taylor on the Rio Grande. Never, it may be, fought under the flag of the Union than Jefferson Davis in that memorable Mexican campaign which brought so much glory to the American arms. At the battle of Monterey he performed with his command one of the most brilliant military exploits of the war. Without bayonets on Fort Lenaris, and leading his men through the streets almost into the Grand Plaza. At every foot of his march he was opposed by a storm of musketry and grape in front and from the houses on either side. In manoeuvres and fight the incidents advanced marvellously, as though they saw for the first time the dark shadows of the fate that was impending over them. Col. Davis had thrown his men into the form of a wedge, the sharp angle facing the known. The famous V movement, both flanks resting on ravines, the knowing came down on the intervening ridge. Volley after volley was poured in, and the instant they came within rifle range each man singled out his object, and the whole head of the column fell. A more deadly fire never was delivered, and the brilliant gray reeled and retreated, paralyzed and dismayed.

It was the Marengo of the Mexican war!

Buena Vista, that might have been a defeat, became a glorious victory—a victory to thrill the hearts of countless American generations that were to come through all the revolving years! The name of Davis and his Mississippi Rifles filled all the land half a century ago. Col. Davis was severely wounded, but he remained in the saddle until the close of the action. He was offered a Brigadier Generalship by President Polk, the commission meeting him at New Orleans on his way home, but he declined. And why? Because he believed that being an officer of State troops he could not constitutionally accept command from the General Government. Here was a sacrifice for State Right!

IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

Back in Mississippi with his heroic Rifles, there was no reward, no honor, in the gift of the State that it was not ready to confer on him. The popularity which he would not condescend to seek by the grovelling methods prevailing then and prevailing now, he at last commanded by the splendor of his achievements in the field, by his services to the State and to the Union of the State. A vacancy in the Senate of the United States opportunely presented itself soon after, and he went back to Washington a member of the upper branch of Congress.

The first session of the Thirty-first Congress, which assembled in December, 1849, is one of the great political mile-stones on the long highway of constitutional agitation over which the nation has traveled from the formation of the Government to the close of the Civil War. Mr. Davis in his book, "The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government," begins his history at that point. The negotiations with Mexico had then been concluded, the treaty of peace signed, and New Mexico and California were awaiting legislation by Congress which should decide their future condition as part of the territory of the United States. Mr. Davis was a member of the Senate. Several bills were reported by the Committee on Territories, and a select committee was formed, with Henry Clay as Chairman, to consider the whole subject. The terms of adjustment presented by that Committee are known in history as the Compromise Measures of 1850. Mr. Davis vigorously opposed them. He took the ground that the true basis of settlement was the division of the new territory by an extension to the Pacific Ocean of the Missouri compromise line of 36 degrees and 30 minutes, north latitude. This was not, he says, "because of any inherent merit or fitness in that line, but because it had been accepted by the country as a settlement of the sectional question which thirty years before had threatened a rupture of the Union, and it had acquired in the public mind a prescriptive respect which it seemed unwise to disregard. A majority, however, decided otherwise, and the Missouri Compromise line was then obliterated, so far as it lay in the power of Congress to do so. An analysis of the vote will show that this result was effected almost exclusively by the representatives of the North and that the South was not responsible for the action which proved to be the opening of Pandora's box.

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independence and the dependence of the Union upon the communities of which it consisted. It was an American declaration of the inalienable right of man; it was a general truth, and I wish it were accepted by all men. But I have said that this State sovereignty—this community independence—has never been surrendered and that there is no power to coerce a State."

Power or no power to coerce a State under the Constitution, could Mr. Davis have only lifted the veil of the very near future he would have seen that night a mighty army rising up and in its ranks many of the men he then addressed—an army gathering on the hillsides and pouring out of the great cities to assert with their blood the majesty of the Union.

At this point, there is a great parting of the ways in the long agitation. When the Democratic Convention of 1860 met to nominate candidates for the Presidency, Mr. Davis received many votes, and he was in his seat when Congress met in the following December. A committee of thirteen was appointed in the Senate to consider and report on the actual condition of the country, and he was a member of it. He asked to be excused. The vote was afterwards reconsidered, when Mr. Davis said: "If, in the opinion of others, it be possible for me to do anything for the public good, the last moment while I stand here is at the command of the Senate. If I could see any means by which I could avert the catastrophe of a struggle between the sections of the Union, my past life, hope, gives evidence of the readiness with which I would make the effort. If there be any sacrifice which I could offer on the altar of my country to heal all the evils, present or prospective, no man has the right to doubt my readiness to do it."

Mississippi seceded from the Union Jan. 9, 1861, and Jan. 24 Mr. Davis took his leave of the Senate. It was perhaps the most dramatic event that ever took place in that body. His speech was brief—only about a page of the *Congressional Globe*. There was no passion in it, no argument; the time for argument had passed away. The one point in it that lives to-day in memory and almost in history, is the affecting passage wherein he asked his fellow-Senators to forgive whatever of offense he might have given them in the heat of debate as he forgave them.

He returned to Mississippi. His State had made him Major-General of her troops. When the Confederate Congress met at Montgomery, Feb. 4, 1861, it organized a provisional government, electing him temporary President. Five days later Mr. Davis was elected "President of the Confederate States of America." He was inaugurated Feb. 18, and delivered his inaugural address the same day.

Then came the war. Mr. Davis's management of the long struggle has been criticised by friend and by foe. The story belongs to history, and a newspaper is not the place in which to open the debate on that great part of Mr. Davis's life work. The war over, he was a prisoner near Irwinville in Georgia by a body of United States troops and confined in Fortress Monroe, where he arrived May 19, 1865. Horace Greeley went on his bail bond, and in May, 1867, the case against him was abandoned by the Government in the United States Circuit Court at Richmond. The charge of treason was never brought to trial. After a brief stay in Richmond he went to Canada, and in the Summer of 1868 to England, where he was offered a partnership in an English mercantile house. The offer was not of a character that he would accept, and after a brief visit to France he returned to the United States. He became President of a Southern insurance company, residing at Memphis, Tenn. The amnesty proclamation of Dec. 25, 1868, he was included, but he never renewed his allegiance to the United States. In 1871 he had a public reception in Atlanta, Ga., and made a speech, in which he reaffirmed his adhesion to the doctrine of State sovereignty. He has led a quiet life at Beauvoir in Mississippi, coming out of his retirement occasionally on great public occasions in the South.

While the public life of Mr. Davis was in many respects one long storm, his private one was full of peace and sunshine. His wife and children have been happier in their domestic relations. His first wife, Miss Taylor, lived less than three years and his union with the present Mrs. Davis took place Feb. 26, 1845. She is a descendant of the Virginia Howell family. Her father, William Howell, served with distinction in the Revolutionary war and in the war of 1812. He served under McDonough, on Lake Champlain, on the Saratoga. The Captain of his ship, White Youngs, in his official report, wrote of him: "Second Lieut. William B. Howell, of the Fifteenth Infantry, in the United States Saratoga, rendered me every assistance, notwithstanding his having been confined for the days of a fever, yet at the commencement of the action he was found on deck and continued until the enemy had struck, when he was borne to his bed. I would recommend him to your notice."

The family consisted of eleven children, the youngest being that Cart. Jefferson Davis Howell who lost his own life in 1875 while in command of the steamer Pacific, off the Victoria coast, after saving the lives of 150 of the passengers.

Only two of Mr. Davis's children are now living. One is the wife of Mr. Addison Hayes, of Colorado, and the other Miss Winnie Davis, who was born in Richmond during the war and educated abroad. She is at present in Europe.

A SLUR ON CLEVELAND, HE SAID.

The Chamber of Commerce Wants the Chinese Question Reopened.

The Chamber of Commerce Committee on Foreign Commerce and the Revenue Laws made its report yesterday on the subject of the Chinese Exclusion act. Collis P. Huntington took it upon himself Nov. 24, 1888, in a letter to A. Low, to suggest that the Chamber of Commerce should put itself on record against the bill, in the expectation that a reconsideration of it might be obtained in Congress, Mr. Huntington claiming that the bill was a "heavy price to pay for the hoodlum vote of California." The Foreign Commerce Committee, composed of Edward H. Ammidown, F. B. Thurber, Charles Watrous, Gustav Schwab and S. F. Carey, after deliberating for more than a year, came to the conclusion, expressed in a lengthy report, that measures ought to be taken "to reopen the negotiations which were unfortunately interrupted and terminated by the act of Congress, approved by President Harrison on October 1, 1888."

The report says that it is believed that the change in the administration which has taken place since that act was passed will probably permit a renewal of negotiations at the point where they ceased in September, 1888, and that the Government of China will reciprocate favorably the friendly overtures on the part of the United States looking to a speedy and friendly adjustment of all questions in dispute and to a restoration of the cordial feelings that have always till now marked the intercourse of the two Governments." The explanation is made that it is not proposed to have the United States should open the way for the revival of Chinese immigration in violation of the convictions so long entertained by the people of the Pacific States.

James F. Henry and G. Waldo Smith both objected to the adoption of the report without a chance for a full discussion, the latter especially warming up into an elaborate speech against Chinese immigration. The members of the Chamber, however, were not in the mood to listen to long arguments, as they had heard Major J. W. Powell, of the United States Geological Survey, to address them, and Mr. Smith was choked off by loud calls of "Question!"

Mr. St. John made a strong appeal against the striking out of all political allusions, particularly those to Mr. Cleveland's administration. He claimed that it was not becoming to place on record in which the late Administration was alluded to in a manner that some took the idea of a slur. The report was adopted in its original form, however, by a viva voce vote.

Major Powell talked until long after 6 on the subject of the irrigation of the arid lands of the United States.

The Torrey National Bankrupt bill was indorsed, and the following gentlemen were elected to membership: John H. Boyd, Cartledge, Wood Gibson, George W. Quintard, James S. Inglis, Silas B. Isley, Eugene Jr., Adolph Kuttroff, William Lyon, Lyle, Theodore Rosenberg, Robert A. Frank Tilford, Bernard Wendt.

Disguised Herself as a Dude.

[SPECIAL TO THE WORLD.]

ST. LOUIS, MO., Dec. 5.—Jennie J. ran away from a fashionable seminary in the ladies at Galesburg, Ill., several days ago, disguising herself in boy's clothes. The father, who is a wealthy farmer near Ottumwa, got word that she was on her way to St. Louis and telegraphed the Chief of Police to arrest her. She was met at the train by a sergeant, who saw her alight, with a cigar between her teeth. She was a chippy little girl and her disguise, though very complete, was fashionable in cut and fit, was not calculated to deceive any one. Her father has been communicated with.

Catarrh

Is a complaint which affects nearly everybody more or less. It originates in a cold, or successive colds, and is generally combined with impure blood. Disagreeable discharges from the nose, tickling in the throat, offensive breath, headaches, dizziness, ringing and buzzing in the ears, are the more common symptoms. This disease is cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla, which strikes at its cause by removing all impurities from the blood, building up the diseased tissues and giving health and vigor to the whole system.