

and passed the act of May 18, 1872, which provided that the secretary of the treasury should return the proceeds derived from the sale of cotton illegally seized after June 30, 1865. A large number of claims were filed under this act, but in nearly all cases it was found that the claimants had sold the cotton to the Confederacy, and it was, therefore, Confederate cotton when it was seized.

In reply to the specific inquiry of your correspondent I will state that confiscation through the courts, as nearly as can be ascertained, amounted to less than \$200,000.

You state that my reply will not be made public without my consent. As the facts above stated are public history you are at liberty to use this reply as you may deem proper.

Respectfully,

L. M. SHAW, *Secretary.*

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DAVENPORT.—We had the pleasure, two weeks ago, of visiting this, one of the most flourishing towns in Iowa. No one, we will venture to say, has visited it without being highly pleased with the beauty of location, its cleanliness, its evident prosperity, and the energy and enterprise of its inhabitants. Indeed, the beauty of its location can hardly be surpassed on the river. The town, built on a natural levee, running from the water's edge to the bluffs, presents an unequalled landing the whole length. The bluffs rising behind the town, crowned by the fine building of the Iowa college, and some beautiful residences, Rock Island a little above on which is Fort Armstrong, Stephenson, or Rock Island City, opposite in Illinois, the islands below, with the majestic Mississippi to fill up the picture, present a view unequalled. Davenport has a large number of fine buildings, among which are the court house, college, and several churches. She also has considerable machinery in operation.—*Western Democrat, Andrew, Iowa, June 21, 1850.*

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