Miahland

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THOS. W. ATKIN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. January 4th, 1845

Six-In compliance with a promise to me some time since, Dr. Mitchell, of sa University, has sent me the enclosed curnmunication. As it contains matter interest. ing to many of your readers, you will oblige me much by giving it a place in your next

Very respectfully, yours, T. L. CLINGMAN. THOS. W. ATRIN, Esq.

To Hon T. L. Clinomon .

My Dean Sig-I promised my friends western counties that they should have from me through the Highland Messens and to the Editor of that paper that he should receive one or two come person who undertakes to inform the pub on subjects not strictly in the line of his p. seion is likely to fall into some errors, and to say some things which will not be thou very wise, I have wished that what I have to offer might, before going to press, pass under the eye of one who, like yourself, has long in ken a deep interest in every thing connected with the mountain region, is well acquain ed with the larger part of it, and on which friendly feeling I could fully rely. The state ments and remarks that are to follow will a naturally under the four heads of Elenation the Country and Height of the Mountain sail and Agriculture; inerale, and Scenery

The elevation of the highest mountain peaks was ascertained by me within cert ts of accuracy, about eight years age So little was known about them before the ine that the Grandfather was community in ded us the highest of all. With the wes ming somewhere near the truth, An was stationed at Morganton and en elevation above that village was the certained, but in order to get their heigh above the level of the sen, that of Morgne or must be known, and for this there were data on which implicit confidence could be slaced. I figuily fixed upon 968 feet as dernie estimate, and in my desire to askid on extravagant and incredible result it now bo ure that the elevation assumed to Margan a, and therefore to all the heights measured, as successful too small.

In the first report of the President and Diperfection Railroad it is stated as one of the esuits of the surveys and measurements. nade with reference to that work, that "the systion of the summit of one mountain sames above a line drawn along what may be ded as their base, about 20 miles believ ot exceed 1054 feet." This will leave 1114 feet for the height of that lide above the or 146 feet more than I had allowed for

But the surveys referred to were carrie og the French Broad River, in the im vicioity of Asheville, and therefore afd's bess or starting point from which all beights in that region could be convenby ascertained. Dr. Dickson having en to observe the barometer at Ashee, and knowing that in his hands it would and results in which confidence could be and I determined to try the Black once te, in which mountain I was well satisfied that the highest points are to be found, as was also that I had never yet been upon

a long, curved ridge, 15 or 20 miles in length its been having somewhat the form of a common fish hook, of which the extremity of the shank is near Thomas Young's, in Yancey. It sweeps round by the heads of the South Fork of Toe, of the Swannanor, Reem's which is the highest, as we cannot tell how arent elevation is affected by the ent points. The geneat elevation of the ridge may be stated at of feet. The following are the heights which are likely to have most in-

road at Asheville Lower Ford of Pigeon Head of Scott's Creek

ASHEVILLE, N. C., FRIDAY, JANU

Gullywhee Gup Blue Ridge hend of Turkawige Col. Zichary's, Coshier's Valley, m in Chimney Top Chimaey Top, above Zichary's, Top of Black Morganton - -Table Rock Grandfather Broad is a trough, or depression, extending

ed States, having the parallel but considers. bly higher vallies of the Nolachucky and Pigeon on its two sides. Ly ridge is the bound. ary of this valley on the northeast-the ford of lvy creek, near Salom on Corter's, having very nearly the beight of Asheville. The difference of temperature an I climate corres. punis to the indications of the barametergrain and wild truits ripening sooner about Asheville than in the neighborhood of either Burnsville or Waynesville. At the ford of the Turkuseign, on the road to Frankli are at the bottom of another deep and warm valley; but this does not, like that of the French Broad, extend across the whole range

of the Alleghanies. vithout value to the people of Haywood an Macon, shewing as they do, what is the mount of obstacle that has to be oversor in carrying a road from Tennessee into ! Carolina, along the Tuckassige. Se ved and the route tered in some places. There is likely to be a good deal of travel along it, but the gap in the Blue Ridge where it will pass, is about 1500 feet higher than that at the head of the

webed, without an umount of labor which w people are willing to undergo. One is by be head of Swannano-this brings us to a aint a little higher than the top of the White Mountains in New Hampshire. The other is from the south fork of Doc-it is represented as quite practicable, and leads to the high

cey, Ashe, Buncombe, Henderson, Haywood fully these modes of culture which are the best suited to their soil and climate, and which are likely, ultimately, to prevail. Fo his two rensons may be assigned:

1. The great amount of travel through the counties of Ashe, Henderson, and Buncombo (but especially the two last,) between the At luntic states and the West, has created a de mand for the different kinds of grain, and given a direction to the industry of the popul ation of those counties, which, but for the circumstance mentioned, would be peither ctors of the Louisville, Cincininti, and natural nor profitable. The coads have consumed all the corn that could be raised. The practice of the farmers living pear the roads, which will answer very well for them, (espe cially if somewhat more attention be paid to the cultivation of the grasses,) may be expected to have an undue influence in the remide parts of those couplies.

2. The families by whom these cour were settled were from below the Ridge, and carried with them juto the mountain region the kind of husbandry to which they had been accustomed in the warmer and driver part from which they came. It is only gradue that men change the habits and practices their earlier days. T is influence of custoe sexhibited in the northernmost range of conties in North Carolina, along the Virginia line, where the culture of tobacco preval much more extensively than a little farthe south, where the soil is equally well adapted to the growth of that noxious weed.

The latitude and elevation-and of cours the temperature of the mountain counties, so far as it depends upon these two-are very nearly the same with those of ancient Areadis the country of herdsmen and shepherds. visit with more advantage than the ge Their soil is different, having been formed by Yanker land-the New England states. The the decomposition of primitive rocks-gran- soil is to a great extent the same with his ite, gneiss, and mice slate-whilst limestone abounds in Arcadia as well as other parts of sition of primitive rocks; elevation of Greece. But it is to the rearing of cattle sating for difference of latitude there is a con-Creek, and Lvy, and ends at the Big-Butt, or and sheep and the making of butter and cheese Yealls' Knob. Cancy River drains, by a for the counties below the ridge, that it may seeing what the labor of two centuries has acinber of forks, the hollow of the curve. - be expected there will be a tendency in the complished, then he shall pass through the The nummit of the ridde is depressed at some industry of the mountain region for many mountain reigion of North Carolina, whilst be nd rises at others into peaks or kools, years. The quantity of rain falling there is two, three, or four hundred feet higher than greater than in the eastern parts of the state, in his own section-he will fix upon more the rest; and it is a matter of considerable and luxuriant mendows of the most valuable difficulty to determine, before ascending, gransa, but especially of Timothy, may be eastly form d. This is for winter food. But the summer pastures, too, are susceptible of

Whilst the Indians held possession of the ing to swamp in the neigh country it was burnt over every year. The ville, the valley of Scott's creek, but fire destroyed the greater number of the young the road, the head waters of the Tuc for the readers of the Messenger; | trees that were springing up, and the larger and those of the Savannah, on the ec ple-trees in an orchard, with large open spa. cause they fell under my individual obs 1977 cas between. In these the different kinds of tion. 2475 pative vines and other wild plants, pen vine Closely connected with ag

1109 after the Indians had been removed and large Spring turnpike has its inequalities, clevation and depressions, even between the village the and horses lent their aid in this contest of Asheville and the point where it first contest of the different vegetable species, and in favor into contact with the river, that would not of the worst kinds. They are out and de. permitted to continue for a year if this ex 5719 stroyed such as they found palateable and suit. fent labor-saving instrument were on able for the nourishment of animals, whilst come into use. For re It appears that the valley of the Prench such as are worthless were permitted to grow short distances-from one hu Broad is a trough, or depression, extending and occupy the ground. In the mean time hundred yards—there is nothing comparable units across the great b ck hone of the Unit the annual firing of the woods that had been to it. A single man and horse will accompractised by the Indians having ceased, bush. plish as much as six or eight men with the es and small trees have overspread and sheded ordinary tools. a large space that was formerly covered with herbage. For these two reasons, thereforebecause the best kinds of vegetables have been in a great measure eater out and destroyed, and because of the thickening of the the Cotton-grower with food for foresis the range (even if the population were reflection. The fact of Polk's still the same) would be greatly inferior to President had been a what it was fifty years ago.

It is necessary here, as in other cases, that the subject of general the industry and logenuity of man should By the Radical press come in to direct, and to some extent control, with exultation; by the operations of nature. The best grasses, mingled emotions of pain and pleasure. The best for pasturage, must be introduced, and Tories were delighted with the argument made to take the place of such as are worthimproved in quality as well as increased in pantity. As the wild onion when eaten by rive it a will and savage teste, that it will be licans,' was the tenor of their co oferior in purity and richness to such as is 'that you desire the yielded when the sweetest and best grasses are the only fond. It appeared to me as I the most competent and ill de down from the Fiat Rock to Asheville ern part of Buncombe ow almost waste and worthless, which would in the course of a few years be converted into artificial pastures, not the most fertile generally with opposite sensations, there in the world, but such as would amply repay an outlay of capital from them-that the marshes and low grounds would be drained. and rank Timothy take the place of sedae and other coarse grasses that afford no hment. In the immediate peighbo he Flat Rock I saw that the good work had

will have any permanent value. The soil that is exposed would be washed away. But there are tructs, some of so incon extent, and especially near the crest of the ridge and along the head springs of the western waters, where the surface is compa ly level, the soil sufficiently moist and fertile and where capital might be advantage nveited for the purpose of converting their nto meadows and pastures. The tons of the countains, also, where the ridge is broad or single summit has a rounded surface instead of a sharp peak, will afford a few grazin farms. I do not altogether despair of living a see the time when the highest summit of the Black shall be enclosed and covered with fine coat of the richest grasses, and when he cheese of Yancey shall rival in the market of the lower quanties that which is imported

been begun and made a considerable pro-

For accomplishing this a good deal of labor will be required. But the person to whom has happened to visit Burnsville soon after was fixed upon as the sent of justice for Yancey county, and during the present your, wi have good hopes of very rough and laces. A more deleful spot than it the year 1534 cannot well be imagined, and though there is ample room for improv yet, it is not difficult to see that the time i car when there will be a range of meadow ssing by and ocar it; alike productive and

If an inhabitant of the mor desirous of calling in the expe parts of our widely extended ea purpose of directing his own labors, there is If they would just usuall the no section of the United States which he would own, having been produced by the de siderable similarity of climate. And if after will be pleased to see how much has been done spots that are now in a great mensure as ed, as those which a patient industry w the course of a few years render the m productive and valuable. Extensive tracts to Henderson county, the moist grounds inclin ones remained thinly scattered, like the ap- of the Blue Ridge, are cited as examples be

2722 &c., contended for the mastery, and each pre-8240 vailed and excluded the other according to and it was with some surprise that I noticed body has set three months. The Locofoc

B MITCHELL

The last arrival from Europe out Great Britain and me persons, so it may be expected that bit- with a view to a permanent effect on the table weeds of every kind will public mind, 'You say, Messrs. Repubat there were very extensive tracts in Hen- at the head of alliers. We point you to the riumph of Polk over Clay as a knock down

But while the election of Polk was regarded one point on which a cordial una d Chartist, appear, with rare except to to consider this consequence, and to exult over it. While, then, the unfurtunate holders of our unsound State Stocks were plunged into a lower deep of despair by the succe syowedly hostile to the Land Distri and to any measure calculated to encor integrity, it would naturally be an Cotton interest had experienced a correct

Calhoun or McDuffe would have calculated doubtingly on an elation in the Cotton Marvery low point, almost ective Tariff, and that, say the Free Traders, has depressed the So taple. All at once when little Cotton is gong forward, the unexpected news arrives of at of the great champion of Protecti er, and a candidate of the Free Trade, Ultra Slavery, Cotton growing interest. At once d here for British goods. Of course Cutton rely anticipate, and yet so it is not. Cot-

We have the more of all this will not be st on the Planting States. They are grossdescived with restoral advantages to enter skills rry, &c., manfact own fabrica, and grow their own hey would do infinitely better. grow Wool on the m beep high up in the

rum Polk. Their buder, instead of solicitny office that is tendered him to the Cabinet

the vigor of its growth. Macon county still certain indications that the vigor of its growth. Macon county still certain indications that the western part the whole back country of North Carolina of the state, but that all the difficult passes in the supposed to have borne when the first in the mountains had been wrought out with the plough, the hoe, and shovel. The Warm come, to be prudent, and they will come in the o er in 1846, beyond a doubt.-Raltimo

> The Georgians couldn't stand this -they went for the land.

> The author of the "Junius Tracts." Rev. Calvin Colton, is engaged in The Life and Times of Henry Clay."

> e from any other building, and who l ises for an apprentice:

" He says," A boy from the country would

ndent of the New York American thus speaks of the recently developed diplomatic correspondence:

Our President sends a Minister to Mexic with a club in his hand, instead of sense in his nd, as if he were lord-to be-of all he sured. And this he thinks is statesman He takes the seals off the long closed bags of our Mexican and Texian diplomacy, and thrown it at one fling into the face of Minister on, and says: " Well, what do you of that ?" To this, the Premier cour lies : "The civilized world will de-The exceeding smallness of Mr. Shannon's diplomatic ability can be determined by an inch rule, his bold blustering and assumption defice

LEGISLATIVE

The bill to fruitsfer the fund for Interments to the Literary Fond of North olina, was taken up, and offer adopting he amendment proposed by the Finance nmittee, passed its second and third read ngs, and was ordered to be Engro

The Engrossed bill to authorize the Wi nington and Ruleigh Ruil Road Con put upon its second reading.

Mr. Cameron proposed the following amend-

Provided, That in addition to the Mort age which the state has upon the Road, the akholders, in said Company, shall give hele individual Bonds to the state, in a sum or ne sufficient to cover the liabilities of the vidual Stockholders for the amount which the said Road, and for their proportion of the onte is now liable for, with the accruing i

The amendment was rejected by the castor vote of the Speaker, the Senate voting 24

YEAS .- Mesers. Albright, Bogle, Boyde owner, Dockery, Elliott, Francis, Hale Hargrave, Hellen, Jefferson, Joyner of Halifax, Joiner of Pitt, Lindsoy, McMillar Moody, Pharr, Shepard, Smith, Tayloe, Thompson of Bertie, Waddell, Woodfin, and Worth -- 24

Nave .- Messrs. Biggs, Boyd, Camer Drake, Eaton, Edwards, Etheridge, Exun Gavin, Gwinn, Hester, Hill, Holmes, Jeffre Melvin, Pasteur, Reich, Speight, Stalling towe, Thompson of Wake, Tomlinson, alker and Wilson -24

Whereupon, the bill passed its second and aird readings by the same vote, and was or-

pany shall enter into Bonds, in a s count payable to the state of North Co na, and approved by the Governor and At of any loss or damage that may come to tate in consequence of her endorsement of hich Honds may be put in suit at any tim when the state shall be compelled to pay any part of the Bonds endorsed as aforesaid. recovery effected for the amount of the londs so given by the Stockholders as afore.

Mr. Waddell, from the Judiciary Co. ee, reported the bill to provide for holding on of the Supreme Court, once is year in he Western part of the state, and recom-

The Boground bill to ameno eand time, and on motion of Mr. Worth ont to the 4th of March next.

On motion of Mr. Be llen, Senate re-considered the vote passing the 4th Installment

irst time and passed. in profits in the Bant of the St

Mebane referred to the Com

The House ordered the Enrollment of umber of bills among which, the bi

To authorize the Portsmouth and Ro Rail Road Company to charge toll on their bridge, over Roadonko River, near the town

More effectually to prevent the impriso

SENATE -FRIDAY, JAN. 3. The Speaker laid before the Senate the

Whereupon, Mr. Biggs moved that he b tion, Mr. Hellen called for the Year an

Aves .-- Messra. Albright, Bis Boyd, Cameron, Cowper, Drake, Ester Edwards, Elliott, Etheridge, Exum, Gavin Gwynn, Hargrave, Hester, Hill, Holme Lindsay, Melvin, Pasture, Reich, Spe Stallings, Stowe, Thompson of Wake, Tor linson, Waddell, Walker, Wilson, Woodfi Worth .- 34.

NAYS .- Messra. Boyden, Duckery, Fran cie, Halary, Hellen, Jefferson, McMillan Pharr, Taylog .- 10.

Mr. Bonett was then qualified agreeable to law, and took his seat.

Mr. Wilson, from the Com ation, and the Literary Fund, reported the

Resolved, That the Literary Board he and hey are hereby instructed to lend \$1500 of the Literary fund of this state to the Ashevil Pemale Boarding House Company, on their giving good and unquestionable curity for the same.

Mr. Francis introduced a bill for lavis taxes to meet the extraordinary demaon the Treasury of the state, which was ordered to be printed. [The bill proposes to tax Watches, Pleasure Carriages; &cc.]

The Engrossed bill to authorize the fore closure of the mortgage of the Raleigh and Gaston Rail Road, was read the second

Shepard to the 9th Section, was adopted : " Provided. That personal accordly here alluded to, shall be for the full as sum the Road may sell for, and the lien on the

Mr. Cameron then moved as a further mendment, to strike out all from the 4th to the 10th section of the bill inclusive. Pend ing the question, the Senate took a recess to half past 3 o'clock.

The Senste proceeded to the unfinish iness of the morning, the question pending, ag the amendment proposed by Mr. Came. ron, which was decided in the negative.

Ayes .- Mexers. Biggs, Boyd, Camer Drake, Euton, Enne Drake, Estan, Ennett, Etheridge, Exum, Gavin, Gwynn, Hester, Hill, Holmes, Jeffreys, Melvin, Pesteur, Reich, Speight, Stall. s, Stowe, Thompson of Wake, T. s., Walker, Wilson-24.

Nava -- Mesers, Albright, Bogle, Boyd owner, Dockery, Edwards, Elliott, Franc of Halifax, Joiner of Pitt, McMillan, ly, Pharr, Shopard, Smith, Taylor, The n of Bertie, Waddell, Woodfin, Warth

On motion of Mr. Shepard the following ad-

And he it further courted. That the ceeds arising from the foreclosure of the mortgage herein directed to be made, shall paid into the public Treasury, subject, the to discharge all the liabilities the state has curred under the Act, ratified January 1841, entitled an Ast to secure the and for the relief of the same; and los, if any, shall he retuined in Treasury, to socore the state noning

2.39 entitled an Act for the weigh and Gaston Rail Road Co Be it further enacted, That should the said