

SCIENTIFIC.

Lightning-Rods.—In the American Journal of Science and Arts for June, we find a valuable essay on the use and construction of lightning-rods, which was read by Dr. Van Rensselaer before the Lyceum of Natural History, in New-York. A brief abstract of it will be interesting at this season of the year, when a little precaution would prevent the destruction of many lives and much property, particularly in our cities.

It has been fully proved by experiments, that the higher the rod is elevated in the air, other things being equal, the greater will be its efficacy. It is found to protect a circular space, whose radius is about twice that of the height of the conductor. Hence we learn the reason why, in so many cases, it affords no protection to the building to which it is attached. It is placed at one end of a house or other building, thirty or forty feet in length, and extends perhaps six or eight feet above it; whereas its position should be nearly central, and its elevation three times as great. The most advantageous form for the extremity, is a very sharp cone placed perpendicularly. In Europe, particularly on the continent, it is constructed in this manner; while in this country it usually terminates in three diverging points. A portion of the top should be a conical form of brass or copper, gilded at its extremity, or terminated by a small needle of platinum or standard silver, two inches long. The size of the stem, namely, the part projecting above the roof, must depend on its length; two and half inches square at the lower end being sufficient for an elevation of thirty feet.

The conductor, extending from the stem to the ground, should be an iron rod, three-fourths of an inch square. If it is too small, there is danger that the heat of the lightning, the intensity of which depends on its velocity, will dissipate it, or greatly raise its temperature. It should be supported parallel to the roof, about six inches from it, by forked stanchions, and after turning over the cornice without touching it should be brought down the wall, to which it should be fastened by means of cramps. At the bottom of the wall it should be bent at right angles, and carried from the building, twelve or fifteen feet. But as iron in immediate contact with moist earth, is soon covered with rust and in time destroyed, let this part of the conductor be surrounded with charcoal. The conductor should terminate in water, or in moist earth, by two or three branches. This gives the fluid, a ready passage to the ground, in which the efficacy of the lightning-rod chiefly depends.

If a building contains any large masses of metal, as sheets of copper or lead on the roof, metal pipes and gutters, iron braces, &c. they must all be connected with the lightning rod by bars of something less than half an inch square; without which precaution the lightning might strike from the conductor to the metal, to the injury of the building, and danger of its inhabitants.

Scuppernon Wine.—The editor of a Pennsylvania provincial paper having had a taste of the Scuppernon wine from North-Carolina, extols it in the highest terms, and declares it fit for the President's table, and thinks that nothing is wanted but a general knowledge that it is manufactured in our country, to insure a good market. There you are wrong, Mr. Editor. Rather let it be prepared with great care, (for every thing depends on that)—put up in bottles, sealed with a French motto, packed up in chesnut or beech wood boxes of the capacity of a dozen bottles, call it Frontinac (which it resembles in some degree) or any other outlandish name you may please to give it, and it will sell readily, provided the price is not less than a dollar a bottle—but by no means let it be known that it is home made,—for, "a prophet hath no honor in his own country."

Norfolk Herald.

SAVANNAH, JULY 9.—Several articles have recently been published, relative to a cruiser somewhere on the coast of North-Carolina, supposed to be a pirate. Now this, if true, would be an alarming circumstance, considering the great trade carried on, and the number of passengers who are transported, especially at the present season, along our coast. The following extract from the log-book of Captain Varnum, of the ship Georgia, recently arrived here, is handed to us to show that the supposed pirate is a merchant vessel, and of course that alarm will be groundless.

Extract.—June 7th, lat. 34-42, long. 67. Spoke the schooner Tripper, Capt. Evered, 9 days from New-York, bound to Cartagena—had experienced heavy gales of wind from the N. E. which had driven her out of her course—requested to be reported. Captain Varnum describes the above mentioned vessel, as being about sixty tons burthen, sharp built, with a gaff top-mast and topmast stay-sail, sweeps, top-boards and nettings, and a numerous crew, having altogether a cruiser-like appearance, and which it is not doubted was the same vessel that has recently been seen in the vicinity of Cape-Hatteras, and mistaken for a pirate. The late files satisfactorily account for her being so near the coast.

Georgian

The Journal.

CHARLOTTE:

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1825.

THOMAS RUFFIN, Esq. of Hillsborough, has been appointed by the Governor and Council, one of the Judges of the Superior Court, in the place of George Badger, Esq. resigned. Mr. Ruffin, we learn, has accepted the appointment. He was heretofore, it will be recollected, one of the Judges of the Superior Court, but resigned.

We observe in the last Carolinian, proposals for publishing a paper in the town of Wilksborough, to be entitled, "The Western Farmer." Terms, \$3 per annum, paid in advance, or \$3 50, at the end of the year. It will be edited by WILLIAM AUSTIN.

In the last Western Carolinian, we find the following:

"A rail-way is now commenced in the state of New-York—a survey for one is now going forward in Pennsylvania."

Catawba Journal.

Where, in the state of New-York, has a rail-way been commenced.—Ed. West. Caro.

Our correspondent "Mentor," out of whose communication the above scrap was picked, has doubtless anticipated a little—it is, however, a matter of no consequence—a mere lapsus penne, of which, if we chose, we might furnish many much more striking examples, without a long or a very distant search. But the answer to the question more properly belongs to "Mentor;" and to him we leave it.

The accounts from all parts of the state, in relation to the corn crops, are very encouraging. In this quarter, with some few exceptions, the crops of corn are unusually promising. The season, thus far, has been propitious, and we have every encouragement to expect an abundant harvest. Cotton also looks well, and promises a liberal reward to the farmer. The wheat crops, in some parts of the country, suffered severely from the rust, and in some instances they were not cut, not being considered worth the labor; but on the whole, the cultivators of the soil have abundant cause for gratitude, and little cause for murmuring or discontent.

It will be seen from an article in this week's paper, that the heat has been exceedingly oppressive at the north, and in many instances it has been attended with fatal consequences. In a small pond in Rhode Island, in which the water was between two and three feet in depth, all the fish were suffocated by the excessive heat; and hundreds of perch, pickerel, &c. some of them weighing a pound and a half, were found floating on the surface, and large quantities were taken from the bottom, entirely lifeless. After this instance of the sun's power of annoying the finny tribe, who can say, that the poet, when he broke out into the following sublime strain, was dealing altogether in impossibilities?

"The sun's perpendicular heat Illumines the depth of the sea; And fishes beginning to sweat, Cry, blast it, how hot we shall be!"

FOR THE JOURNAL.

MR. BINGHAM: Viewing you as the editor of the Catawba Journal, a paper of extensive circulation, and the medium through which much very useful information is to be collected; I hope you will not consider it as presumption in me, or a trespass on your good nature, to request an insertion of the following, which I accidentally stumbled on in the course of my desultory reading.—It may perhaps do some good. If a single individual should be benefitted thereby, the highest expectation of your neighbor, (in the country,) will be gratified.

IPS AND OPINIONS OF DR. MONROE.

"If a man would be a-dry, let him drink—drink, drink, if a man would be wise, he must think—think, think, if a man would be rich, he must work—work, work, (And if he would be fat, eat) pork—pork, pork. But—if— A man—with ease would study, he must eat—eat, eat, But little at his dinner of his—meat, meat, meat, A youth to be distinguished in his—art, art, art, Must keep the girls away from his—heart, heart, heart."

Till he's gotten him a character for—life, life, life, And a pocket full of cash, then—a wife, wife, wife."

LOSS OF THE SCHOONER HERALD.

Captain Doane, of the schr. William, arrived here on Friday evening last reports, that on the 20th ult. 40 miles South of Cape Henry, he boarded the wreck of the schr. Herald, (of Plymouth, Mass.) bottom up, which had been scuttled in two places—saw several casks of Rice floating in the hold.

This vessel sailed from this port on the 29th of May last, for a port in Massachusetts. It is probable that she was capsized in the severe gale of the 3d of June; & as this is the only account of her since the day of her sailing, it is feared that all on board have perished. In addition to her crew she had about thirty passengers, mostly of that class of industrious persons who emigrate to the south in the winter season, and after earning a handsome sum, return in the summer months to share their hard earnings with their families. Chas. Cour.

A letter from Buenos Ayres, dated 11th May, received at New-York, states that Monte Video was expected to be placed in a state of siege on the 3d of that month: on which evening the patriots were only 6 miles distant, the guns of the town of Candoras, 3 miles from Monte Video, had been spiked, and the garrison had arrived in the latter city, the gates of which were to be closed on that day. All the fine country of Banda Oriental, stretching north-east from Buenos Ayres, is up in arms, and determined to assert its independence of Brazil.

At Buenos Ayres a most splendid ball took place on the 15th February. The Consulado was illuminated with variegated lamps, representing the names of Washington, Bolivar, and Sucre. The Ball-room, 45 feet square, was most magnificently planned and adorned, above seven hundred of the most respectable inhabitants being present. Liberty, with the emblems of the United States on the right, and Britannia on the left, supporting the genius of South America, formed the subject of one of the transparencies. The dancing commenced at 10 o'clock, and the supper was served at 2 in the mornig. The number of ladies present was about 250. Nat. Journal.

ASCENT OF AN AERONAUT AT NEW-YORK.

NEW-YORK, JULY 11.—Mr. Robertson made his promised ascent in a balloon from Castle Garden on Saturday, to the great gratification of the many thousands who witnessed the performance. By an error in filling the balloon, the ascent was delayed about half an hour too late, or it would probably have been one of the handsomest ever seen. The balloon began to rise just at dusk, and rose quite slow at first. As soon as it was above the garden walls, the Aeronaut threw out some of his ballast, took a graceful leave of the company, and then arose more rapidly amidst the shouts of the multitude. The wind was from the westward, and took him in a direction over nearly the whole length of the city, so as to be visible to nearly every inhabitant—in the lower part he skimmed apparently about 50 feet above the tops of the chimneys, and continued to rise so long as he was seen, when the balloon appeared like a small black spot high in the horizon.—It was visible about seventeen minutes, and did not appear then to have begun to descend. The darkness obscured further view.

The Aeronaut, we are happy to state, alighted in safety in a corn field on the farm of Mr. Abraham Remsen, at Newtown, L. I. which is stated to be 10 or 11 miles from the place of his ascension. The car struck the ground gently, close by a fence, which Mr. R. laid hold of with his hands, and secured the balloon without having recourse to his grappling irons. He returned safe to the Garden about 11 at night, and received the congratulations of numerous citizens who were in waiting.

We understand that the time occupied in the voyage was less than half an hour.

The passage of the balloon over the city was exceedingly beautiful, grand, and interesting. The Aeronaut was distinctly seen most of the way employing himself in throwing out slips of paper. Merc. Adv.

SOME OF KID'S MONEY FOUND.

On Saturday morning, the workmen engaged in digging a vault for a new house, at the corner of Fayette-st, and Chatham square, New-York, discovered at the depth of 10 or 12 feet from the surface, a closed arched vault of brick work, which on being opened was found to contain an iron chest, with a considerable sum of money in gold and silver. Reports state the amount to be from 30, to 50,000 dollars.—The building which had stood on this ground it is said, was about 50 years old. Ball. Patriot.

A remarkable instance of superstition and administration of justice occurred at Barcelona, in Spain, a short time since. That military commission condemned a man to the galleys for ten years, for having said that the image of the Virgin

Mary at Montserrat was made of Wood. During the trial the counsel for the prisoner remarked, that there was no more harm in saying that the image of the virgin at Montserrat was made of wood, than in saying that her image at Saragossa was made of marble. For this expression he was sentenced by the commission to six months imprisonment in a fortress. Franklin Gazette.

OHIO CANAL.

A Chillicothe paper furnishes us with the following information in relation to the commencement of the Great Canal, which is to connect the waters of Lake Erie with those of the Ohio river:—"We learn from a gentleman who last evening returned from the Licking summit, that the commencement of the Ohio Canal, and the 4th of July, was celebrated in a manner worthy of the event and of those engaged in it. The Hon. Dewitt Clinton, the great champion of Internal Improvements, was present and threw up the first spadeful of earth. It is thought there were at least ten thousand persons who witnessed this interesting scene.

AFRICAN MANUFACTURES.

A cotton shawl, manufactured from the growth of their country, has been received at Baltimore. It consists of five pieces, woven two yards in length, and six inches in width, sewn together, and is considered a favorable specimen of arts yet in their infancy among that rude people. Cotton, of the quality of which this shawl is manufactured, is said to grow in abundance over a tract of country extending over forty degrees of latitude, and sixty or seventy of longitude, inhabited by many millions of naked human beings.

GREAT LUCK IN LOTTERIES.

In the Lotteries drawn 11th May last, Mr. Aaron Clarke, who keeps a Lottery office at 132 Broadway, sold to a young merchant in pearl Street, one quarter of a splendid capital prize of Fifty Thousand Dollars! and Mr. Clarke also sold, to the very same gentleman, one quarter of the Twenty Thousand Dollar prize in the next succeeding Class of the same Lottery, which was drawn last week on Wednesday.

Stage Coaches.—The Stage Register, published in the American Traveller, a new semi-weekly paper, gives a list of sixty-eight which take their departure from Boston. Many persons are now alive who remember the time when there were only two lines of stages from Boston—one to Salem and Portsmouth; the other to Providence; and when the great mail was carried on horse back, one week by Mr. Hyde, and the next by Mr. Adams. Of those now running, four leave Boston every day, twenty-three every day except Sundays, thirty-four three times a week, one five times a week, one four times, and three twice, making in all two hundred and eighty-three departures every week. Twenty-six stages lead out of the State, viz. Four daily, and eighteen of those which depart three times a week, making too every week. Four others which go six times a week, thirteen three times a week, and one twice a week, go various distances, from twenty to one hundred miles—and the remainder go to the neighboring towns, including six daily to Salem, and two to Cambridge. Most of these stages are handsome and convenient carriages drawn by four horses, and many of them, when the roads are heavy, have six horses.—The punctuality of their arrival, even in towns beyond the high hills of New-Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, &c. is proverbial; and the proprietors appear to be well compensated for their enterprise. Boston Centinel.

HYDROPHOBIA.

A London paper states that several persons at Brighton, England, have been bitten by mad dogs. One of the number was Mr. White, a surgeon. This gentleman does not believe that the disease called Hydrophobia can be communicated in the way generally supposed, and has resolutely refused to adopt any of the precautions recommended in such cases; and his wound, which was in the arm, has been suffered to heal. The dog was secured and subsequently died in his keeping; exhibiting the various symptoms of hydrophobia.

Mr. White, in reference to this case, says—"That a bite from any dog, dying under similar circumstances, can infuse a specific poison in the human system—let it be called by any name—I deny. I have, in the minds of medical friends, staked my life on my opinions; I have every confidence, short of bigotry, in their correctness; and, with (what others have been pleased to term) the most dreadful of human maladies presumed to be hanging over me, feel competent to declare that imagination will, at least, have no share in the result.—Nat. Journal.

From the New-York American.

PURITY OF ENGLISH JUDGES.

In looking over the debates in the British Parliament, under date of May 16th, I was surprised to see the following passages:

"Mr. Scarlet moved, for fixing the salaries of Chief Justices, by the average

of the emoluments for the last twenty years."

"The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that the plan was not so fair as it appeared to be. Some of the Judges in the succession profited largely by the sale of the offices under them; with others, none fell vacant to sell during their whole public life. The present Chief Justice has as yet made nothing of his offices, &c."

I was aware that this was the fact, but had no idea that it would be thus publicly alluded to, without producing some animadversion. On the contrary, not one of the most rigid of the reformers, not even Mr. Hume, made the least remark upon the sale of judicial offices by the Chief Justice; and although the debate is recorded in one of the most radical of the English Journals, the Editor does not seem to be aware of there being any impropriety in this system of venality. What would be said of our Chief Justice if he were to sell the offices of Clerk, Marshal, Tipstaff, and Crier of his Court, to the highest bidders?

Fidelity and sagacity of the Dog.—We have never read a more interesting anecdote of the fidelity, attachment and sagacity of the dog than what is contained in the following occurrence:—A son of Mr. John Stevens, Navy, Vermont, only five years of age, went out to gather flowers on Tuesday, 7th June last, and was sent for in about half an hour. He was tracked more than half a mile, but not discovered until the Friday following. The first day and night was warm. The second and third night it snowed. The faithful dog which accompanied the child, came in on Thursday night. He was then fed, and the people taking torches the dog followed his tracks (there being a light snow) and found the child soon after sun rise. He was under a log on his face, bedded in leaves and brush, and was literally frozen to death. The dog's bed was by the child's head, and marks where the dog had fondled and lapped him were discovered. He had nothing on but a tow shirt and trousers. The dog, when within ten rods of the spot where the child lay, went all around and set up a most hideous and mournful howling, and would not go nearer, and seemed to be as much affected, if possible, as a human being.

It is stated in the Troy N. Y. Farmers' Register, that Lafayette will most probably take a passage to France in a New-York packet, in order to prevent any unpleasant feelings which the French government might entertain towards our own, should he return home in an American frigate. This information the editor of that paper, Mr. Adancourt, derived from the General himself, while in Troy, last Friday. The Register says—"It was precisely 41 years from the day, that the editor of this paper first saw and embarked with the Marquis de Lafayette, at L'Orient, in France, for the United States, to the day, (last Friday) on which he took leave of him, in Troy, forever."

MARRIED.

In this county on the 21st ultimo, by the Rev. John Williamson, Mr. Thomas McDonald to Miss Susan M. Alexander.

Notice.

I WILL attend at the Court-House in Charlotte, on the last Saturday of this month, to take in the tax return in the bounds of Captain Sloan's company. It is requested that town lots be returned by their number. W. M. DAVIDSON, J. P. July 14, 1825.—2438

State of North-Carolina, MECKLENBURG COUNTY, Court of Equity for Mecklenburg county, May Sessions, 1825.

Samuel Roach, vs. Andrew Heron, James Moore, &c. In this case it is ordered, that publication be made six weeks in the Catawba Journal, that unless Andrew Heron and James Moore, two of the defendants in this case, appear at the next Superior Court of Law and Equity, to be held for this county, on the seventh Monday after the fourth Monday in September next, and answer, the bill will be taken pro confesso and heard ex parte as to them. D. R. DUNLAP, c. j. 649.—price adv. \$2.

Last Notice.

I HAVE this day closed my books against all, except those to whom I stand indebted; and request all those indebted to me, either by note or book account, to come forward on or before the first day of August next, and settle up, as I am determined to place all my accounts in the hands of Wm. L. Lucky, and Allen Baldwin, for collection, after that date. EDWD. M. BRONSON. Charlotte, July 12, 1825.—3144

Runaway.

RAN away from the subscriber on the 26th ult. a negro girl, named MILLY, rather light complexion, slim made, and in her 17th year. She was bound to me by the last February County Court, until she should arrive at the age of twenty-one years; and all persons are forbid harboring her under the penalty of the law, as it will positively be put in force against any one so doing. Whoever will apprehend and confine her, so that I get her again, shall be handsomely rewarded. WILLIAM H. SMITH. July 13, 1825.—3144

A BARGAIN.

A FAMILY of Negroes, consisting of a fellow, his wife, and several children, would be disposed of upon the most accommodating terms, by applying to W. J. Polk, or to Dr. Samuel Henderson. July 9, 1825.—31