The North Carolina Whig.

"Be true to God, to your Country, and to your Duty."

VOLUME 2. CHARLOTTE, N. C., JANUARY 3, 1854. NUMBER 47.

HOLTON & WILLIAMSON,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

TERMS:

The North-Carolina Whig will be afforded to subscribers at TWO DOLLARS in advance, or TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS if payment be delayed for three months, and THREE DOLLARS at the end of the year. No paper will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid, except at the option of the Editors.

Advertisements inserted at One Dollar per square (16 lines or less, this sized type) for the first insertion, and 25 cents for each continuance. Court advertisements and Sheriff's Sales charged 25 per cent. higher; and a deduction of 33⅓ per cent. will be made from the regular prices, for advertisers by the year. Advertisements inserted monthly or quarterly, at $1 per square for each time. Semi-monthly 75 cents per square for each time.

☞ All letters on business must be directed to the Editors. Letters must be post-paid or they will not be attended to.

☞ Payments can be made to either.

☞ Postmasters are authorized to act as agents.

CAROLINA INN.
BY JENNINGS B. KERR,
Charlotte, N. C.
February 16 1853. 3tf

JOHNSTON'S HOTEL,

Lincolnton, N. C., Still Open.

IT having been reported to some extent in the surrounding counties, that the above establishment is closed, (and not by some designing character,) the subscriber therefore takes this method of informing the community at large that the sign of said house is now Thankful therefore for past favours with an experience of some twelve years in the business he asks a share of patronage. Having thoroughly refitted and improved said establishment, he feels assured that his guests shall not leave dissatisfied.

B. S. JOHNSON.
Lincolnton, August 16, 1853. 28 6m

Hagler's Hotel.

THE subscriber begs the indulgence of informing his friends and the public generally, that he has recently refitted and opened for their accommodation the large Brick Building on Morganton street, in the Town of Lenoir, now occupied by Col. Wm. Davenport, of the Happy Valley. The subscriber hopes by an assiduous attention to his duties to merit the confidence of all who stop with him to comfort, and agreeable. Persons travelling in the mountains, and wishing to spend a few days, weeks, or months, in the pleasant village of Lenoir, may find his house a pleasant resting place.

A. E. HAGLER.
May 4 1853. 1 6m

AMERICAN HOTEL,
CHARLESTON, S. C.

THE undersigned begs respectfully to inform her friends and the public generally, that she has taken a lease of the above HOTEL, which she will open on the reception of Boarders and Travelers between the 25th instant and the 1st September. This long established and well known House, has undergone a thorough alteration throughout, and furnished with new and fashionable furniture, and being situated in the centre of business, and in the most fashionable part of the city, solicits a call from her country friends and former patrons of the House; and will say in conclusion, nothing will be left undone on her part to make them comfortable while in the House.

MRS. A. J. KENNEDY.
August 18 3 3m

Removal.

THE Branch of the State Bank has been removed from Elms' Building to the Office on the corner of Dr. Ashby's lot, Main street.

THOS. W. DEWEY, *Cashier.*
August 16 26t

S. P. CALDWELL,
Attorney at Law,

WILL practice in Mecklenburg and the adjoining counties and prosecute Bounty Land and Pension Claims. Office—Johnston's brick building between Kerr's Hotel and the Post Office, up stairs.

January 19 1853. 32-1Y

Dissolution.

THE co-partnership of Fox & Caldwell is this day dissolved by mutual consent. All persons indebted to the late firm are requested to make immediate settlement with the subscriber, who alone is authorized to settle the same.

C. J. FOX.
September 1 1853. 3t

Tobacco and Cigars.

CHEWING Tobacco of the most superior brand—best in the State. Cigars unsurpassed. For sale by

PRITCHARD & CALDWELL,
Physicians & Druggists.
October 18, 1853. 37tf

FINE HAVANA CIGARS, Genuine—Regalia, Cabinetas, Veros, Havanas, the largest and most of stock in the State.

IRWIN, HUGGINS & CO.

Hampton's Vegetable Tincture.

DESERVEDLY celebrated for its wonderful effects in the cure of Scrofulous diseases and all impurities of the Blood. Just received and for sale by PRITCHARD & CALDWELL.
Oct. 18 27tf

Cowan's Vegetable Lithontriptic.

THE greatest invention of the age for Gravel and other diseases of the urinary organs—by it, and you will see wonders. For sale by

PRITCHARD & CALDWELL.
Oct. 18 27tf

DR. ROGERS' Liverwort, Tar & Chamomile, for the cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds, &c., &c., for sale by

PRITCHARD & CALDWELL,
Physicians & Druggists.
October 18, 1853. 37tf

ALMANACS

For 1854, for sale by T. J. HOLTON.

PASS THIS OVER,

HAND IT TO YOUR NEIGHBORS,

LET every one know, that FULLINGS & CO. will have a neat STORE wherever they go; and not only that, they SELL GOODS very LOW, and every one is satisfied that this is just so; and now kind reader, as we've had a little know, I think I'll quit and go to work, for that I've got to do, because we have been moving in our

NEW STORE,

next door to Sadler's New Hotel, where we have a fine large room, a fine stock of

GOODS,

comprising everything that is to be found in a

Gentlemen's Furnishing House,

to which we would invite your attention before purchasing. To say we

Sell Goods Low,

would be telling you no more than every one knows. But we will say we have the largest Stock we have ever had, at prices so low that we can not fail to please every one—and in conclusion we will say to you one and all, that we thank you for your patronage heretofore bestowed upon us since we have been with you; and if fair and honorable dealing, low prices and good goods, will insure a continuance of the same it shall be done at the mammoth sign of

FULLINGS & CO.
August, 16, '53 26tf

Cabinet Warehouse.

HORAH & TERRIS

INFORM the public generally, that they are still carrying on the

Cabinet Business,

at their old stand, one door North of the Jail where they are prepared to execute all orders in their line at the shortest notice. They have on hand

Sideboards, Bureaus, Sofas,
CHAIRS, WASHSTANDS
WARDROBES, &C.
ALSO

They inform the public that they have purchased the right of the county for manufacturing the

HOB BEDSTEAD,

and are now prepared to furnish them to any one. They are certainly an improvement on the old style both as regards comfort and facility in getting out and taking down. They also warn all persons from infringing on their right, as the law will certainly be enforced against any one who may do so.

N. B. COFFINS furnished at the shortest notice and on the most reasonable terms.
Charlotte, September, 1853. 31tf

CHAMBERS, JEFFERS & CO.,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
CHARLESTON, S. C.

THE undersigned beg leave to return thanks to their numerous friends for their past liberal patronage, and inform them that they still continue the business as heretofore, and hold themselves ready to serve their friends and all who may favor them with consignments or business, to the best of their skill and ability and that no effort on their part, will be wanting to give satisfaction.

CHAMBERS, JEFFERS & CO.
Charleston, S. C., July 28 1853. 27tf

RANKIN, PULLIAM & CO.,
IMPORTERS AND WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
Foreign & Domestic, Staple & Fancy
DRY GOODS,
No. 131, Meeting Street,
CHARLESTON, S. C.
W. D. RANKIN of Asheville, N. C.
R. W. PULLIAM, late of —
F. M. RANKIN, late of Georgia
A. D. SMITH, late of Asheville, N. C.

Just Received,
AT GILMER'S DRUG STORE,
MEXICAN MUSTANG LINIMENT,
PERRY DAVIS'S PAIN KILLER,
DR. GUYSOTT'S EXTRACT OF YELLOW DOCK AND SARSAPRILLA,
JULES SARSAPRILLA,
WESTON'S BALSAM WILD CHERRY,
DALLEY'S MAGICAL PAIN EXTRACTOR,
DR. HOOFLAND'S GERMAN BITTERS.

Hardware.

OUR stock of HARDWARE can not be equalled in the Town.

IRWIN, HUGGINS & CO.,
No. 1, Granite Row.

MARCH & BLACK,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS
AND
AUCTIONEERS,
COLUMBIA, S. C.

WILL give their personal attention to the sale of Cotton, Rosin, Flour and Corn, and also attend to buying any description of Merchandize on reasonable terms, and solicit a share of patronage from Charlotte and the surrounding country.

T. H. MARCH. J. A. BLACK, JR.
REFERENCES.
Wm. Johnston, John Wells, W. W. Rose
Fomerset county, North Carolina.

BEBEE'S latest Style of Hats and Caps. Wool, Coney, Silk and other Hats and Caps.

IRWIN, HUGGINS & CO.

Wanted,

500 BUSHELS of new and well cleaned WHEAT, at my Mills 10 miles below Charlotte, weighing not less than sixty pounds to the bushel. The White the May and the White bearded Wheat preferred. For which the CASH will be paid.

WILLIAM JOHNSTON.
August 30. 30tf

☞ Notice.

THE Notes and Accounts due the late firm of Ross, Beal & Co., have been placed in my hands for collection, and those indebted to said firm MUST not expect longer indulgence, as it CAN NOT be given.

J. P. SMITH.
July 18, 1853 24t

☞ Notice.

ALL those that do not pay their Town Taxes by the 20th instant, will have to pay cost without respect of person.

S. A. HARRIS, *Tax Collector.*
August 2, 1853. 27tf

Poetry.

The Workingmen.

The noblest men I know on earth,
Are men whose hands are brown with toil,
Who hack'd by no ancestral graves,
Hew down the woods and till the soil,
And win thereby a prouder name
Than follows King or Warrior's fame.

The working men, what'er their task,
Who carve the stone or bear the hod—
They wear upon their honest brows
The royal stamp and seal of God,
And worthier are their drops of sweat,
Than diamonds, in a coronet.

God bless the noble working-men,
Who rear the cities of the plain,
Who dig the mines and build the ships,
And drive the commerce of the Main:
God bless them, for their sweating hands
Have wrought the glory of all lands.

Miscellaneous.

A PHYSICIAN'S STORY,
OR
A New Way to Cure a Drunkard.

I was sent for in great haste to attend a gentleman of respectability, who had been discovered in his room lying senseless on the floor. On arriving at the house I found Mrs. H—— in great distress of mind.

"What is the matter with Mr. H——?" I asked on meeting his lady, who was in tears and looking the picture of distress—"I'm afraid it is apoplexy," she replied: "I found him lying upon the floor, where he had, to all appearance, fallen suddenly from his chair. His face is purple, and though he breathes, it is with great difficulty."

I went up to see my patient. He had been lifted from the floor, and was now lying on the bed. Sure enough his face was purple and breathing labored; but somehow the symptoms did not indicate apoplexy.—Every vein in his head and face was turgid, and he lay perfectly stupid; but still I saw no clear indications of any actual or approaching congestion of the brain.

"Hadn't he better be bled, doctor?" asked the anxious wife. I don't know that it's necessary." I replied. "I think if we let him alone it will pass off in a few hours." "A few hours! He may die in half an hour." "I don't think the case is so dangerous, madam." "Apoplexy not dangerous?" "I hardly think it is apoplexy."—"Pray what do you think it is doctor?"

Mrs. H—— looked anxiously into my face. I delicately hinted that it might possibly have been drinking too much brandy; but to this she indignantly objected. "No, doctor, I ought to know about that," she said. "Depend upon it the disease is more deeply seated. I am sure he had better be bled. Won't you bleed him, doctor? A few ounces of blood taken from his arm may give life to the now stagnant circulation of the blood."

Thus urged, I, after some reflection, ordered a bowl and a bandage, and opening a vein and received him of about eight ounces of blood. But he lay as insensible as before, much to the distress of his poor wife. "Something else must be done, doctor," she urged, seeing that bleeding had accomplished nothing. "If my husband is not relieved quickly he must die."

By this time several relatives and friends who had been sent for arrived, and urged upon the adoption of some active means of restoring the sick man to consciousness—One proposed mustard plasters all over his body; another a blister on the head, and a third his immersion in hot water. I suggested that it might be well to use a stomach pump. "Why, doctor?" asked one of his friends. "Perhaps he has taken some drug," I replied. "Impossible, doctor," said the wife; "he has not been from home to-day, and there is no drug in the house." "No brandy?" I ventured this suggestion again. "No, doctor, no spirits of any kind, nor even wine in the house," returned Mrs. H——, in an offended tone.

I was not the regular family physician, and had been called in to meet the alarming emergency because my office happened to be nearest to the dwelling of Mr. H——. Feeling my position to be a difficult one, I suggested that the family physician had better be called. "But the delay, doctor, urged the friends. "No harm will result from it, be assured," I replied. But my words did not assure them. However as I was firm in my resolution not to do any thing more for the patient until Dr. S. came, they had to submit.

I wished to make a call of importance in the neighborhood, and proposed going, to be back when Dr. S. arrived; but the friends of the sick man would not suffer me to leave the room.

When Dr. S. came we conversed aside for a few minutes, and I gave him my views of the case, and stated what I had done and why I had done it. We then proceeded to the bedside of our patient; there were still no signs of approaching consciousness.—"Don't you think his head must be shaved and blistered?" asked the wife anxiously. Dr. S. thought a moment, and then said, "Yes by all means; send for a barber and a fresh fly blister, four inches by nine."

I looked into the face of Dr. S. with surprise; it was perfectly grave and earnest. I hinted to him my doubt of the good that mode of treatment would do; but he spoke confidently of the result, and said that it would not only cure the disease, but he believed take away the predisposition thereto, with which Mr. H—— was affected to a high degree.

The barber came. The head of H—— was shaved, and Dr. S. applied the blister with his own hands, which completely covered the scalp from forehead to occiput.—"Let it remain on for two hours, and then make use of the ordinary dressing," said Dr. S. "If he should not recover during the action of the blister don't feel uneasy; sensibility will be restored soon after."

I did not call again, but heard from Dr. S. the result. After we left the friends stood anxiously around the bed upon which the sick man lay; but though the blister began to draw, no signs of returning consciousness showed themselves, further than an occasional low moan or an uneasy tossing of the arms. For full two hours the burning plaster parched the tender skin of H.'s shorn head, and was then removed; it had done good service. Dressings were applied, repeated and repeated again, but still the sick man lay in a stupor. "It has done no good; hadn't we better send for the doctor?" suggested the wife.

Just then the eyes of H—— opened, and he looked with half stupid surprise from face to face of the anxious group that surrounded the bed. "What in the mischief is the matter?" he at length said. At the same time, feeling a strange sensation about his head, he placed his hand rather heavily thereon. "Heavens and earth,!" (he was now fully in his senses.) "Heavens and earth, what ails my head?" For mercy's sake keep quiet," said the wife, the glad tears gushing over her face. You have been very ill; there, there now!" and she spoke soothingly, "don't say a word, but lie very still." "But my head? It feels as it scalded. Where's my hair? Heavens and earth! Sarah, I don't understand this. And my arm, what's my arm tied up in this way for?" "Be quiet, my dear husband, and I'll explain it all. Oh, be very quiet; your life depends upon it."

Mr. H—— sank back upon the pillow from which he had risen, and closed his eyes to think. He put his hand to his head and felt it tenderly all over, from temple to temple, and from nape to forehead. "Is it a blister?" he at length asked. "Yes, dear; you have been very ill; we feared for your life, said Mrs. H—, affectionately; "there have been two physicians in attendance."

H—— closed his eyes again; his lips moved. Those nearest were not much edified by the whispered words that issued therefrom. They would have sounded very strangely in a church or to ears polite and refined. After this he lay for some time quiet. "Threatened with apoplexy, I suppose?" he said interrogatively. "Yes, dear," replied his wife. "I found you lying insensible upon the floor, on happening to come into your room. It was most providential that I discovered you when I did, or you would certainly have died."

H—— shut his eyes and muttered something with an air of impatience; but its meaning was not understood. Finding him out of danger, friends and relatives retired, and the sick man was left alone with his family.

"Sarah," he said, "why in the name of goodness did you permit the doctors to butcher me up in this way? I'm Laid up for a week or two, and all for nothing."

"It was to save your life, dear."

"Save the devil."

"Hush! there, do for mercy's sake be quiet; every thing depends upon it."

With agesture of impatience H—— shut his eyes, teeth, and hands, and lay perfectly still for some minutes. Then he turned his face to the wall, muttering in a low petulent voice, "too bad! too bad!"

I had not erred in my first and last impression of H.'s disease; neither had Dr. S., although he used a very extraordinary mode of treatment.

The facts of the case were these. H—— had a weakness; he could not taste wine nor strong drink without being tempted into excess. Both himself and friends were grieved and mortified at this; and they, by admonition, and he, by good resolutions, tried to bring about a reform; but to see was to taste, and to taste was to fall. At last his friends urged him to shut himself up at home for a certain time, and see if total abstinance would not give him strength. He got on pretty well for a few days, particularly so as his coachman kept a well-filled bottle for him in the carriage house, to which he not unfrequently resorted; but a too ardent devotion to this bottle brought on the supposed apoplexy. Dr. S was right in his mode of treating the disease after all, and did not err in supposing that it would reach the pre-disposition. The cure was effectual.

H—— kept quiet on the subject, and bore his shaved head upon his shoulders with as much philosophy as he could master. A wig, after the sores made by the blister had disappeared, concealed the barber's work until his own hair grew again. He never tentured upon wine or brandy again for fear of apoplexy. When the truth leaked out, as leak out such things always will, the friends of H—— had many a hearty laugh; but they wisely concealed from the object of their merriment the fact that they knew any thing more than appeared of the cause of his supposed illness.

UGLY VS UGLY.—In the eastern part of Delaware Co., in this State, there resided a man named B———, now a Justice of the Peace, and a very sensible man, but by common consent the ugliest looking individual in the whole country, being long, gaunt, sallow, and awry, with a gait like a kangaroo. One day he was a hunting and on one of the mountain roads he met a man on foot and alone, who was longer, gaunter, uglier, by all odds, than himself. He could give the "Square" fifty, and beat him. Without saying a word, B——— raised his gun and deliberately levelled it at the stranger.—"For God's sake don't shoot," shouted the man in great alarm. "Stranger," replied ———, "I swore ten years ago that if I ever met a man uglier than I was, I'd shoot him, and you are the first one I've seen."—The stranger, after taking a careful survey of his "rival," replied, "Wal, if I look worse than you' do, shute; I don't want to live any longer!"

THE LEGAL VALUE OF A MAN'S NOSE.—On thanksgiving day an affray occurred at Hillsboro' N. H., in which one of the combatants had his nose bitten off. The jury decided that the morsel was worth $70.

Common Schools.

TO HIS EXCELENCY DAVID S. REID:

SIR: I propose in this letter to touch off certain points which I feel it to be my duty to handle rather plainly. And in the outset I wish it to be distinctly understood that I do not believe that it is necessary to play the demagogue, even to kill off demagogues.

There are some persons, more graven than wise, who regard every appeal, made pleasing to the people, as savoring of demagogueism, thus indirectly and often unconciously, accusing the masses of blindness as to their own interests. Every maxim in common use is not a wise one, and certainly when we speak of fighting the devil with fire, we forget that we would be pelting him with the element in which he lives.

The most learned infidel can find nothing improper in sentiment or manner in the discourses of Him who speak as never man spake; and yet they generally excited the likely sympathies of the people, for fear of whom the Scribes, Pharasees and Rulers were long deterred from their wicked purposes.

Truth, Sir, is mighty and will prevail; but unfortunately it has generally to fight with indifferent weapons placed in its hands by injudicious friends. We will not permit it to appear to the people in its native charms—its friends generally strip off these and put upon it some ungracious mark of their own. This they call naked truth, and it is no longer God's truth, clad in its divine and pleasing perfections, but, disfigured and disguised with the mantle of bigotry or prejudice, often appears as the invention of man's ill-nature.

The Common School system of North Carolina has had to contend against an evil growing out of the anti-republican feelings of some of our people; and yet, because this evil fights with the weapons of the demagogue, the democratic-republican friends of education have been sometimes afraid to meet it. Now, it seems to me, these latter have but to state the case truly to gain the popular mind, and this is the way it should be stated: Common Schools are republican in their nature, on account, 1st, of their object; 2ndly, of the mode of conducting them.

Their object is to bring education within the reach of all, and thus to issue an education to all; to practically carry out our theories of political equality by enabling all to read and understand for themselves, to think and act for themselves in public matters, and to push their private fortunes with the intelligence and skill now or heretofore possessed only by part of the population.—The mode of conducting these Schools is republican—it invests additional trusts in the people, familiarizes them with their own general condition, and enhances their self-respect. Now, the true republican, anxious to insure the blessings of free government, ever ready to give dignity and importance to the popular character. He knows that discussion, disputes, and often angry feelings are the necessary results of a system of things managed by all; he will naturally look for a contrariety of opinions and apparently slow action; but all this he prefers to submit to, rather than to the worse evils of a despotism whose machinery, all in splendid order, runs smoothly, vigorously and with certainty. He will make up his mind to bear and forbear, to work with patience and energy, to make allowances for necessary imperfections, and to assist in applying remedies. He will do all he can to give the masses confidence in themselves, to accustom them to the use of authority and to get them to exercise it, to enhance their estimate of their own work, and encourage them to continued effort to fix their own institutions deep in their affections, to make them proud of them, and as tenacious of them as of their own lives.

Now, look on that picture and then on this; you, who fear to defend Common Schools before the people, when opposed by demagogues. "I am for the people—I love you," begins the disguised Monarchist; now put him to the touchstone—"Your Common Schools are a common nuisance!" Why? the real answer is because the people have made a miserable failure. "They never can be well managed!" Why? Because the people at large cannot manage such business! "There is an eternal clamor about them." Why? Because there is free discussion, free opinion, and every man has a right to be heard. So is there an eternal, uproarious clamor about the people's government, is this a reason to abolish it? You clamor about it, yourself, good demagogue, you are fond of clamoring in all places and on all occasions; therefore, to carry out your real course of reasoning, the whole thing should be knocked in the head and a quiet despotism established.

"They have done mischief?" How?—Where? Your Select School where your children were taught is no more; and now, in its stead, are the wretched Schools of the people where Tom, Dick, and Harry get a smattering of knowledge. And alas, alas! you have to send your children among these rabble, to be taught by a fellow taken from the plough-handles, and governed by a committee of boobies—that is to say, by a committee of that dear people whom you began by praising. And now, you must submit to this, or else what a fall to dignity! you must go out among your neighbors and try to explain things, try to help them to have a good School!

"These wretched schools never will be well managed, for in the nature of things they can't be." What is that opposing nature of things? It is the fact that the people manage these schools; that's the difficulty alluded to.

And think you good men of all parties, the people cannot be made to understand and appreciate this mode of reasoning?

We have all been in error; some have done all they could to intimidate and confuse the people, to destroy their confidence in themselves, and make them disrelish power.

And we, fearing the people could not comprehend their own interests, have been afraid to speak, and so this child of freedom has been disowned, ridiculed, spit on, shoved out of decent society.

Nevertheless, it has grown apace, and its lineament's and its step betray a freeman's soul. And if we had but nursed it as we nursed our government, if we had but fed it on that food most wholesome to free men, confidence, affection, honor, what a proud growth it might have attained?

"Now, in this connection permit me to remind each despairing friend of the cause, who thinks he stands alone, of a passage in the history of Elijah during the reign of the wicked Ahab, King of Israel: "And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts, because the children of Israel have forsaken thy Covenant; slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only am left, and they seek my life to take it away." "And the Lord said, Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed to Baal and every mouth which hath not kissed him."

You are not so entirely alone as you think; what you want, I say it in kindness, is not numbers, but courage and confidence. Suppose every well-wisher to Common Schools were to step boldly forth, armed for the combat; I tell you, as at the whistle of Rhoderick Dhu,

"Bonnets and spears and bended bows"

would appear from copse and heath, and bush and rock, aye, in the plains and on the mountains, a proud, invincible array.—And if all these would confide in themselves, in each other, and in the CAUSE; if we would, as we have in every conceivable form done in regard to our Constitution, take pains to talk, and write, and speak for Common Schools, to encourage the people in their own undertaking, to make them pleased with their own work, to make them proud of the power of governing the Common Schools and emulous to excel, to palliate inevitable errors, to be to their good management "very kind" to occasional blunders "a little blind," to give them confidence in themselves, and to plant their institution deep in their hearts, what a change would come over the face of Common Schools.

Statesmen, republicans, freemen of North Carolina, will you act and speak upon these hints? Will you feed this bantling of free institutions on the food of freemen? Will you tear from its noble limbs the clownish garments with which its persecutors have arrayed it to disguise it, as the martyrs were led to the stake flattering with rags and paste-boards, with painted devils on their backs?

Will you acknowledge and proclaim its illustrious paternity, clothe it as a son, and by the fireside among your children, in your neighborhood meetings, on the stump and in your legislative halls recognize it as the first born of freedom? Or will you "tear the demagogues," the enemies of popular rights and popular advancement? Will you permit them to bastardize it, and finally put it to death?

The issue is with you—behold your offspring! If you will properly honor it, it will in return be your protection; if you permit it to be sacrificed, it will be a first fatal step towards your own final subjection.

The idea that teachers can be raised up from the plow-handles has been publicly criticised; would any one dare to do the same if I were to make a similar assertion as to President of the United States?

Why do not the friends of Common Schools and of popular rights expose these inconsistencies? That an ignorant plow-boy is a good teacher no one asserts; that an ignorant and bigoted citizen makes a judicious committee man is not pretended.

But plow-boys may become and do become excellent instructors; and ignorant, honest men, placed on Committees, and encouraged and advised by more intelligent neighbors, become better citizens, gaining as they do new and more enlarged ideas in regard to the wants and situation of society, of their own position as members of a self-governing country, and of the duties, responsibilities and necessary qualifications of each integral part of a free government.

Why, Sir, the children are by no means all the persons instructed and improved by our Common Schools; the system furnishes a plan for the whole training of the whole population—it may be like our militia system to some extent; the equipments are not so complete nor the discipline and manoeuvres so perfect as those of mercenary bands who do the will of tyrants, but it is one which puts arms in the hands of all the people, and it enables them to be their own protectors.

Our militia regulations not unfrequently afford themes for the wit and denunciations of a certain smartish sort of people, but is there a true statesman in this whole country who values its freedom that would desire to see our militia system abolished, and a large standing army, dangerous alike to friend and foe, substituted in its stead?—Do we do not all know that when we cease to be our own protectors with arms in our hands, we will cease to be free at that very instant? We might have a standing army of a million of soldiers; and this million of armed men would just be as likely, a little more likely, to get food, occupation and power, by fighting, plundering and enslaving us, than to attempt such enterprises in more distant and difficult fields. Who then would dare to advocate a disarming of the militia?

It is still more unwise and dangerous to strip the citizen of those rights which under our Common School system help to fortify his mind, to enlarge his ideas, and to dignify his character.

During the settlement of this country the colonists all went to school, and Nature and Divine Providence were their masters. The powers of the old world left them to contend, as best they could, with the difficulties around them; their position was such that from the start each one had practical experience of all the attributes of sovereignty.

Their arms were ever by them, loaded and ready for use, wild beasts and wild savages threatening on all sides, and there being no standing army, each one was often called on to adjudicate, to legislate, to counsel for common safety and common improvement. They learned to reflect; new ideas dawned on them, their hearts were enlarged, and their minds disciplined, and they in time acquired that moral stamina, that independence and courage, self-knowledge and knowledge of others, that mental fortitude and physical bravery, that sturdy self-respect and indomitable love of freedom and right—which carried them successfully through the grand Drama of the Revolution, and founded that glorious Republic which is our inestimable inheritance.

Under our Common School system, responsibilities somewhat similar are thrown upon the people; they are required not merely to vote, but to act and think for themselves. In the exercise of their duties they are all going to school; and some of them, in two terms of Committee-ship, learn more than they ever knew before of the relations of citizens to each other in a republic, of reciprocal duties and corresponding advantages, of public necessities and of their bearing on individual prosperity and happiness.

The most ignorant sometimes become acquainted with general affairs, and are forced to *think*, to enquire and look about; and all are losing those habits of absolute dependence on others, so pernicious to their own welfare.

They become accustomed to the practical exercise of authority—they are taught to feel responsibilities which come home to the conscience of each, as each father feels or ought to feel that he has an immediate stake in the matter—they learn how the world is governed, the necessity of individual sacrifices, zeal and action, the importance of each unit in the sum total of the State, while they carry on wholesome and invigorating exchange and commerce of ideas and opinions, becoming acquainted with the wants of the community, and with the habits of thought and feeling of their neighbors.

Why, Sir, our Common School system has set more people to thinking than all our other laws put together; and while those who would have the popular mind stripped of all arms and left defenceless before the weapons of their own cunning, are trying to laugh the people out of countenance with their efforts at thought, are caricaturing their trainings at their mental musters, and using every effort to induce them to abandon the attempt to arm and protect themselves, why are not the hosts of better republicans as active and clamorous in exhortation to persevere, to respect themselves, and by their action put to confusion those who have no confidence in their ability to govern themselves?

The people were naturally diffident, backward, ready to believe they were making a failure, as the whole thing was new to them, as they were conscious of their lack of information and opportunities, and as darkness brooded over the operations of the system; similar difficulties our ancestors had to encounter in starting the Republic.

The opponents of that system were divided into two classes, to *wit*: the patriotic and friends of humanity who feared the result of an attempt at popular Government would not last or succeed, and the friends of despotism who feared it *might* succeed if encouraged.

When the enterprise was started, each, therefore, acted the part which his principles taught him—the timid and doubtful, because they were timid and doubtful, laid to with greater energy, working diligently with their hands, and in their prayers fervently supplicating success.

So should it have been—so should it now be with respect to our efforts at Common Improvement. Triumph and not failure should be held perpetually before our eyes; and those who are ever preaching the latter and giving out evil prophecies, should not be allowed to sow, uninterrupted, their pestilent doctrines. They should be answered that their theories are in conflict with a proper respect for popular discretion, justice and energy; and the people should be called on to refute them by their actions, and encouraged to believe that they *can* judiciously exercise power—that they can and will improve by experience, and that the difficulties in the way, by no means insuperable, will soon be conquered by perseverance and patience.

The Almighty, though omnipotent, took six days to create and fashion the world—a lesson to man's impatience. The Common Schools of Massachusetts are the growth of nearly three centuries; we have had experience in such matters for about one thirtieth part of that time.

There is a plain course for the true men who doubted about our Common Schools—they recognize the vast importance of the undertaking, and see the magnificent goal in prospect, while they only dread the intermediate dangers.

The course for these men now is to join those who were for the Common School at first, and the course for both is to combine with the people against those who think they see a selfish interest in the ignorance and defenceless situation of their fellow-beings.

The ship is on the waters, and whatever doubts there might have been as to the propriety of the launch or the mode or the construction of the craft, it is too late now to discuss them, while we all agree that the freight is of inestimable value. A wreck would shed a gloom on every republican heart—it would be a mighty triumph to the opponents of popular rights.

It would be almost equivalent to a failure of one of the State republics; and would be hailed by the advocates of the king-craft as the first of a series of explosions that are to cover this magnificent continent with the dismal ruins of freedom.

To all good men, then, I make my appeal—to those who planned our system.—Come out from those who mock because they despise the people. Come out, and by the strength of your numbers, by your prayers and by your energies! Come out with your banners to the breeze and your trust in God, and you will not be disappointed!

Behold who stands before you—it is the Genius of Despotism, with the pen clutched ready to write that word upon the face of all our institutions which has not yet occurred in our republican lexicon. That hateful word is *Failure*; and let us resolve that the hand which holds the pen shall