

## THE MOUNTAINS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

We make the following extract from a late article by Professor Buckley, published in Silliman's Journal. The Professor made several surveys of the highest peaks of the mountains, the results of which he communicates—(they are in the main familiar to our readers)—and then adds the following particulars, which will be interesting, in view of the interest awakened, and increasing, in the mountain scenery of our State:

The months of September and October were uncommonly dry, which enabled us to continue exploring nearly the entire time. The soil was great, and the difficulties to be encountered can only be imagined by those who have ascended the steep slopes of the unfrequented Southern Alleghenies, through laurel thickets (Rhododendrons and Kalmia), and multitudes of the prickly leaved (Robinia hispida), which has a *penchant* for scratching the face and hands, tearing the clothes, and occasionally the skin beneath. We found the Viburnum lantanoides or hobble-bush with its straggling branches, very troublesome on the Smoky Mountains. Notwithstanding all this we have the mountains and their glorious scenery. We encamped eleven nights on their tops; and saw that the stars were brighter, and the planets apparently larger than when seen from the valleys below. Then also the wonderful comet (Donati's) made the northwest luminous with its bright head and mysterious tail, soon after the setting sun.

The scenery of these mountains, especially those in the Smoky Range, abounds in precipices and deep chasms, surpassing any thing we remember to have seen among the White Mountains of New Hampshire. The spectator on the highest Smoky Peaks can enjoy a more varied view than from any other point in the Southern Alleghenies. East Tennessee with its towns, rivers, and the Cumberland mountains in the distance, is spread beneath at the west. On the north can be seen the Clinch mountains extending into Kentucky. At the northeast, east, and southeast, in full view, are all the higher mountains of North Carolina, and at the south the smaller ones of Northern Georgia. Such prospects pay the explorer for his toil; their remembrance is always sweet. The country on the Tennessee side is much lower than in North Carolina, and the descent of the Smoky mountains is generally more abrupt and precipitous into the former State, than into the latter.

The highest Smoky mountains are near the head waters of the Oconee-luttee and Little Pigeon rivers, being accessible from Tennessee via Sevierville, and via the Little Pigeon to a Mr. Hawkins, who lives eight miles from the top of the gap road, which is near the alum caves; and from North Carolina by the road up the Oconee-luttee to Mr. Collins's house, seven miles from the top of the afore-named gap-road.

The geology of the mountains south and west of Asheville has a good deal of sameness, they being composed of crystalline rocks, with the exception of a narrow strip, extending southwest along the Unaka or Smoky mountains which belongs to the taconic system of dark colored shales in which we do not remember to have seen any organic remains. The strata of these rocks are in many places nearly and often quite vertical. They are well exposed along the Middle or Straight Fork of the Ravensfork in descending from Mount Guyot to the Oconee-luttee. They also occur at the summit of the gap-road near Mount Mingus, and extend two or three miles down the road into North Carolina. The chief rocks of the Haywood mountains are granite, gneiss and mica slate, excepting a small portion near the Smoky Range, where the taconic rocks are again found. The Shining-Rock mountain about eleven miles south of the Forks of the Pigeon is entirely of white or milky quartz, and is probably the largest mass of that rock at any one point in the Alleghenies. It has a fine appearance in the distance and is deservedly becoming quite a place of resort. We believe that Haywood and Jackson counties, N. C., have not as yet afforded any paying mines to those who have been at the expense of working them, but it must be admitted that they have been little explored for that purpose. Prof. Emmons, the State Geologist, contemplates a survey of those mountains next summer, and we suspect that he will destroy the golden dreams of a few who build castles upon undeveloped mineral wealth.

This region has long been a favorite place of resort for the botanist. Here there is a strange mixture of northern and southern species of plants, while there are quite a number which have been found in no other section of the world. In the months of May and June when the Kalmia, Rhododendrons and Azaleas are in bloom, these mountains and valleys present an array of floral beauty which is indigenous to no other section of the United States. The much vaunted western prairies with their interminable sameness, are by no means as beautiful. The Rhododendron Catawbiense, Kalmia latifolia and Azalea calandulacea, are not excelled by any native floral beauties; the two last abound in nearly every section of these mountains, but the first rarely descends into the valleys. Besides these the Rhododendron maximum, (laurel), Rhododendron punctatum, Azalea arborea and nudiflora, Oxydendron arborescens, Chionanthus virginica, Halesia tetrapetala, Clethra acuminata, Robinia hispida and viscosa, Sturtia pentagyna, Liriodendron tulipifera, Magnolia acuminata, Umbrella, and Fraxini, grow there more or less abundantly, and they are all ranked as among the most ornamental trees and shrubs of the Atlantic States. The Pyrus Coronaria is very common south of the French Broad river; Catalpa occurs in several places along the same river and in the mountain valleys near the Warm Springs; Cladastis grows at Paint Rock, Tenn., which is near the Warm Springs. Most of the highest mountain tops are covered with the Abies nigra and Abies Fraseri; the former is the black spruce, and is erroneously called the balsam; the latter is the true balsam with blisters in its bark, from which balsam is collected. It attains a greater size than Pursh or Nuttall have given it in their works. We measured some on Wilson's Balsam and near Cathey's Peak, which were more than three feet in diameter and from eighty to one hundred feet high. The black spruce appears to grow at a lower elevation than the balsam, but neither of them are often met beneath an height of 4000 feet.

The banks of streams and coves of these mountains have some of the largest trees in the United States east of Mississippi river. There is a Tulip tree or Poplar (Liriodendron tulipifera), near the Pigeon river in Haywood Co., N. C., about eight miles from the Tennessee line, thirty-three (33) feet in circumference at three feet from the ground, or eleven feet in diameter, and upwards of one hundred feet high. Another on the western slope of the Smoky mountains in Tennessee, on the Little Pigeon river, is twenty-nine feet in circumference at three feet from the ground. Near this locality we also measured a chestnut (Castanea vesca), thirty-three feet in circumference at four feet from the ground. It is a noble living specimen, apparently sound, and of nearly a uniform diameter upwards, for forty or fifty feet. About two miles farther up the same stream there is a hemlock, or spruce pine, (Abies Canadensis) nineteen feet and two inches in cir-

cumference at four feet from its base. Here also the Halesia tetrapetala attains an uncommon size, being from two to three feet in diameter, and about sixty feet high. On Jonathan's Creek there is a white oak (Quercus alba), nineteen feet in circumference at three feet from the ground. This list of large trees could greatly be extended, but enough have already been cited to show the richness of those coves and valleys.

On the Haywood mountains we saw a few specimens of the Betula excelsa (yellow birch), and Mr. Curtis says he found it on the Black Mountain. Among several shrubs which we obtained for cultivation the Pyralia oleifera or oil-nut is peculiarly interesting. It grows to the height of from five to ten feet, and bears a pear-shaped fruit little more than an inch in diameter, which is so oily that it will burn like a candle if a wick is drawn through it. Squirrels are fond of it, and the young and the old eat it with relish. In the edge of some woods fenced into a wheat field, and in October we again went there after the fruit; but the harvest was past, the field had been pastured with cattle, which had destroyed nearly all of the Pyralia. Hence it has already become rare, and the general occupancy of the mountains with herds of cattle and flocks of sheep would soon destroy it entirely. Mr. Durand of Philadelphia thinks that the oil expressed from it is superior to the best olive oil. Our specimens of the Pyralia have been planted at Philadelphia, New York, and at the botanic garden of Cambridge, near Boston, and also some of them have been sent to Paris to the Acclimating Society of France, whose object it is to acclimate useful trees, shrubs and plants.

On Mount Mingus we first met with the Rugeia, a new genus of Shuttleworth, in the natural order Composite, which has not yet been described in American works on botany. It is frequently found along the Smoky mountains to the extent of twenty-five or thirty miles. Dr. Gray recognized it at once, he having received it from Mr. Shuttleworth, a European botanist to whom Rugeia sent plants. Sixteen years before, in the early spring, we had visited those same mountains near Dr. Rugeia, a German botanist, and we were right glad to learn that his name was affixed to one of their interesting plants. The Solidago glomerata grows on most of the Balsam mountains, and the Potentilla tridentata of the New England mountains also grows on the bald peaks of Macon county, North Carolina.

The Carolina mountains have a great variety of huckleberries (Vaccinium and Gaylussacia) ripening in succession from July to September. When we first met with acres of those bushes, in September, covered with large delicious fruit, the temptation was so great that we partook rather freely, expecting to pay the penalty of over-indulgence, but were happily disappointed. Judging from the experience of others and our own on many occasions, those berries are remarkably healthy. Most of them were larger than any we ever saw at the south. The Vaccinium Constabile of Gray, which sometimes grows ten or fifteen feet high (on Shining Rock), was covered with ripe fruit as late as the middle of October. There are several species of the huckleberry which are worthy of cultivation. The common high blackberry (Rubus villosus) is often found in dense patches on and near the mountain tops, with its stems smooth, and destitute of prickles. This rule is constant. We do not remember to have met with an exception. The same species growing in the valleys has its stems armed with prickles.

In the month of September many of the women and children dig "sang," (Aralia quinquefolia), in the valleys and on the mountain sides. The dry roots of the ginseng or "sang," as it is always there called, are worth at home twenty-five cents per pound. We met with one man who had bought 30,000 pounds, and we remember being with one family whose children sold seventy pounds of dried sang. These roots are dug with a long narrow hoe called the "sang hoe."

Snow birds (Fringilla nivalis) we saw on the Black Mountain, and also on many of the other Balsam mountains south and west of Asheville. They were solitary or in pairs, showing evidently that they breed in those places. Another species of bird, whose summer habitat is generally supposed to be confined to the north, also breeds and summers in those Balsam mountains. It is the Crossbill (Loxia curvirostris) whose curious bill is well adapted to extract seeds from the cones of the black spruce and balsam trees. In the mountain valleys we frequently met with many northern birds, among which was that sweet songster, the rose-breasted Grosbeak (Fringilla Ludovician). The tedious of the night, when camping on the mountains, is almost always enlivened by the stories of the guides and their adventures in hunting. They all positively assert that the bears in early spring, when first emerging from their winter quarters, are as fat as when they first retire for the winter. During the winter they shed the soles of their feet, which renders their walking difficult in the first of spring, when their food consists of the young plants, on which they feed soon become lean, and remain so until the ripening of berries in August and September. They are very fond of hogs and pigs, pork and honey being their favorite diet. Why they bite and scratch the bark and limbs of the balsam and black spruce we cannot tell. It cannot be for food, because they do not generally leave the marks of their teeth on a tree, except in one or two places. Sometimes they rise on their hind legs and make long deep scratches in the bark with their fore paws. It may be done for sport, or to let their companions know their whereabouts. We have seen those fresh bites and scratches on different trees at all seasons of the year. The bears show great sagacity in feeding at the leeward of the paths on the mountain ridges, along which the hunter is almost obliged to travel; hence if the wind blows it is almost impossible to get a shot at them, their keen scent discovering the hunter long before he gets within shooting distance. They are stupid and unwary about traps, entering without fear the log pens; these are shallow, with a depth of not more than two feet, over which is raised a very heavy top, which falls and crushes the bear when he disturbs the bait. Hundreds are caught in this manner every year. In the unfrequented parts of the mountains the large steel trap is concealed in the bear trail; but this is dangerous, and liable to catch dogs, of which we saw two caught in one morning to our great sorrow. The piteous yells of those unfortunate dogs rang in our ears long afterwards. The bears rarely disturb calves or young cattle, but in one locality of the Smoky mountains we were told that they did much damage in killing young cattle, and that there could be no mistake about it, because a large bear had been caught in the act of killing a young steer. The panther, wild cat, and wolf are all troublesome to the mountain farmer of those regions. The panther destroys sheep and hogs; the wild cat, lambs and pigs. Both are cowardly and thievish, being rarely seen.

We were told by a travelling fur merchant, whom we there met, that the skins which he bought among the mountains, equal in fineness and goodness those of the north, and that northern merchants could not tell the difference; still in order to get the highest price he was obliged to send his skins to New York, through Ohio and via the Erie Railroad as if they had come from the northwest. The principal furs obtained in

the southern Alleghenies are the skins of the otter, mink, black fox, red fox, raccoon, and muskrat. From the great height of the southern Alleghenies, there being twenty-four peaks higher than Mount Washington, it will be readily inferred that they have a northern climate. Some years ago, our guide to the top of Roane told us that he had been on its summit when it was covered with snow on the 17th of June. There is a table land extending from near the Roane to the head of Turkey Cove and Linville Falls, a distance of twenty or thirty-five miles, on which the inhabitants succeed with difficulty in raising Indian corn sufficient for their own consumption. Occasionally they have frost during every month in the year, and then they resort on horse-back or on foot to the valleys for corn. About the first of last May we saw the mountains in Haywood covered with snow about six inches deep. The wheat harvest at the Forks of Pigeon begins about the first week in July; and we know of no better criterion for isothermal lines than the time of ripening wheat. We kept a record of it in western New York, and in ten years the annual time of beginning the wheat harvest did not vary three days from the 16th of July.

The valleys in the Carolina mountains vary in elevation from two thousand to upwards of three thousand feet, hence a few miles travel will often take one to a much warmer or colder climate. This we experienced very sensibly in going from the valley of Jonathan's Creek to that of the Soco River. The former has a mean elevation of about three thousand feet and the latter near two thousand. The Chinese sugar-cane (Sorghum) is extensively grown, and may be regarded as a decided success. There are few portions of the Union where such a production is more needed. The absence of railroads and the cost of transportation render sugar and molasses dear; hence the introduction of the Chinese sugar-cane in that section is a great blessing, and will enable many a poor family to have sweet coffee.

In no section of the United States have we seen finer apples, and they are mostly from seedlings originally planted by the Indians. Silas McDowell of Franklin, in Macon Co., has devoted more than twenty years to the selection and grafting of those best native apples, and he now has an orchard of more than 600 apple trees, which bear fruit equal if not superior to the best northern kinds. There is said to be a line or belt on the mountain sides about three hundred feet above the adjoining plain or valley, and extending upwards several hundred feet, where fruit trees always bear, because the belt is free from frost. If this be true, and we believe its truth has been pretty well tested by experiment, the mountains of North Carolina might supply the South with an abundance of the choicest fruit, if the means of transportation were good. By the cultivation of more grass, and the introduction of the improved breeds of cattle into those mountain valleys, butter and cheese might also be made for the southern market. One great drawback to the raising of sheep is that they are destroyed by wild animals, and also killed by the dogs. Still we think it would even pay well to keep sheep, herd them at night, and have a shepherd with his dog to guard them by day, and thus revive old Arcadian times among those delightful mountains.

An American Printing Establishment.—The New York Tribune was eighteen years old the 10th of April, and the following statistics taken from its issue of that day, will show the progress even a bad thing can make in this free and go-ahead country.

The Tribune now appears on a sheet 44 by 33 1/2 inches in area, giving an extent of surface of 2,948 inches. Our aggregate consumption of paper is 518 reams (44,000 pounds or twenty cart-loads) per week, mainly manufactured expressly for us at the Niagara Falls Mills. Our average weekly expenses have gradually risen from \$525 to \$7,500; we pay 44,000 per year to Editors, Correspondents and Reporters; \$46,000 per year for labor in the department of Printing, nearly \$16,000 in that of Mailing; average about \$13,000 for Telegraphing, employ one hundred and eighty persons besides carriers, clerks, &c. &c. We have used during the past year 60,049 pounds of ink, costing over \$8,000, and have, during that period, employed 2,340 pounds of Glue and 11 barrels of the best refined China Syrup in the manufacture of the Rollers whereby that ink is applied. The Steam Power Presses and other machinery used in the rapid production of our issues have cost us over \$70,000, and we pay about \$10,000 per annum for Type, which those Presses, owing to the extent of our editions, rapidly reduce to a defaced and inexpensive metal.

AGGREGATE CIRCULATION.  
Daily Tribune, 35,750; Weekly Tribune, 153,000; Semi-weekly do., 19,000; Do for the Pacific, 4,000; Grand total of our issue, 211,750 copies.

Origin of Odd Fellowship in the U. S.—On the 26th day of April, 1819, just forty years ago, at the house of William Lupton, sign of the Seven Stars, Second street, Baltimore, Thomas Wildley, and four others, being the only five members of the Order who could be found in that city, met and formed themselves into Lodge No. 1. Very soon after this, foreseeing the evils that would ensue, if the system of self-institution was continued, they applied to and obtained from a competent legal authority—the Duke of York Lodge, of Preston, England—a charter by which they were legally constituted and duly authorized as the head of the Order, to grant charters and exercise supreme authority within the United States. From this humble commencement originated the Grand Lodge of the United States, and the State Grand Lodges, and contributing members. From so small a germ has sprung that mighty tree whose branches have spread throughout every State in the Union.

Petersburg Express.

What People Die of.—In regard to the diseases of which American people die, it is stated that consumption destroys one-fifth of all who die in the Northern, and one-twelfth of all who die in the Southern States. Apart from consumption, other respiratory diseases occasion a large proportion of mortality in the warmer section. Pneumonia, croup and whooping-cough show a large excess of mortality at the South, and the various fevers, intermittent, remittent and continued, are 1,030 per cent. in excess there. Scarlet fever showed 49 per cent. more at the North, and deaths from jaundice and diseases of the liver are more frequent there.

Males and Females born.—There seems to be a universal law that more "males than females are born." This is sustained by the records of every nation where records have been kept. The excess of males varies with different people, but, so far as known, the excess is greatest in the United States. It varies widely among the different States, the excess in South Carolina and Kentucky being more than three times as great as Massachusetts. The effect of climate and other appreciable causes in producing this disproportion in the sexes, is not settled. The excess is greatest in extreme climates—Russia and South Carolina.

According to the Detroit Advertiser, the population of that city now numbers 75,000. The population of Cincinnati is estimated by the Gazette at 200,000.

No man is so insignificant as to be sure his example can do no hurt.

## FROM THE GREENSBORO PATRIOT.

### WHIG CONVENTION AT GRAHAM.

At the hour of eleven, the delegates assembled in the Court House, and on motion of S. H. Christian, Esq., of Montgomery, the Convention was organized by calling W. P. Taylor, Esq., of Chatham, to the Chair. Mr. Taylor, in short but eloquent speech, thanked the Convention for the honor conferred upon him, and urged upon the delegates the great necessity of harmony in their deliberations.

A. A. Patillo and Jas. A. Long were appointed Secretaries.

On motion of Giles Mebane, Esq., it was ordered that all good Whigs present from any of the counties composing the District, should be considered as delegates and have seats in the Convention.

The counties were then called, when the following gentlemen came forward and enrolled their names as delegates:

PRESTON.—James C. Holman, Jr., Capt. O. C. Fowler, Joseph S. Totten, Dr. John H. McAden, A. A. Patillo, Dr. Wm. H. Henderson, A. G. Henderson.  
CHATHAM.—William P. Taylor, Dr. L. W. Gorrell, Thomas C. Dickson, J. T. Brooks, D. H. Albright, L. T. Weathers, John H. Hildreth, Dr. J. A. T. Moore, A. B. McAden, Richard Street, Jas. C. Dowd, A. B. McAden.  
MONTGOMERY.—Jesse Saunders, D. Coggins, S. H. Christian.

ALAMANCE.—Isaac Holt, A. Thompson, Eli Murray, George Harlow, Dr. R. W. Denny, S. White, Dr. Eli Watson, Dr. S. Holt, Wm. Albright, John Bason, Mebane Morrow, H. Clay Hurdle, Archibald Boyd, James Hunter, Col. David Clapp, John A. Murray, Chesley Fancett, H. Crawford, Thomas C. Foster, R. Hamer, William H. Hildreth, Dr. S. G. Coffin, Dr. L. J. Cole, J. H. Johnson, Harper Donnell, P. Y. Hatt, Green B. Lamb, A. G. Clapp, William S. Gilmer.  
RANDOLPH.—A. G. Foster, Col. A. Brower, John Branson, Jesse G. Hinchaw.

The following Committee, consisting of two from each county, were appointed to prepare business for the action of the Convention:

A. G. Foster, Abram Clapp, O. C. Fowler, Jesse Saunders, Jno. T. Brooks, James C. Dowd, Rufus Y. McAden, James Holman, Jr., Abram Brower, John H. Hildreth, Dr. S. G. Coffin, T. C. Dickson, R. Street, Isaac Holt.

The Convention adjourned till two o'clock.

The Convention having re-assembled, the Committee not being ready to report, D. F. Caldwell, Esq., was called out, and for nearly an hour entertained the Convention by an eloquent and stirring speech. He contrasted those States where Democracy had always been in the ascendant, with those where the opposition ruled,—showing that wherever democracy prevailed, the sure result had been high taxes, distress and a loss of public credit.

At the close of Mr. Caldwell's speech, the Committee, through their chairman, A. G. Foster Esq., reported the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously passed:

WHEREAS, We recognize as a fundamental principle of all free Governments, and especially of ours, that all power is vested in and derived from the people; and considering that the Government, make it indispensable and consult as to the best means of perpetuating our Republican Institutions, and to give expression to the result of our deliberations; therefore be it

Resolved 1st, That the demoralizing tendency of Democracy, the ruinous extravagance of the present and past Administration, and the corruption pervading every department of the Government, make it indispensable and necessary that the democratic party should be defeated, and that there should be a union of all patriotic men for the sake of the Union and the common good.

Resolved 2d, That while we are fully sensible of the great importance of securing such a union, we are equally determined to make it in a peaceable manner, in accordance with National honor, and without any breach of National faith, yet under existing circumstances, we are utterly opposed to the measure of the present administration of appropriating thirty millions of dollars for the purpose of securing such a union, as such a measure is not only absurd and accompanied by an indirect insult to Spain, but also tending directly and immediately to interrupt our friendly relations, and to involve us in hostilities with the great commercial and christian powers of the world.

Resolved 3d, That the democratic party is controlled by a clique of corrupt politicians, who are actuated solely and entirely by selfish purposes, and many of whom are disunionists at heart; that the slavery agitation, which has so long distracted the country, often reducing us to the verge of civil war, was conceived and brought about, and has been kept up, by these same corrupt democratic leaders, either with the view of dissolving the Union and establishing a separate Southern Confederacy, or with the view of strengthening their power in the South, and retaining the spoils of office. Resolved 4th, That we consider the public lands as a rich inheritance, belonging in common to all the States, and that we denounce as unjust and iniquitous, the shameful manner in which this domain has been squandered on corporations, and in building State colleges in many of the States, to the entire exclusion of North Carolina. That the bill introduced in the last Congress, by our able and faithful Representative, the Hon. John A. Gilmer, providing that when any portion of said lands should hereafter be granted to any State, for any purpose whatever, that then and there should be made to all the other States in proportion to the number of their Representatives, was just and fair in its provisions, and well calculated to do equal justice to all parties.

Resolved 5th, That the bill passed by the last Congress, appropriating a certain amount of the public domain to each State to aid in building up and establishing agricultural Schools and Colleges, was not only Constitutional, but was a wise and prudent measure, well calculated to aid in developing the resources of the country; and that the Executive, by vetoing said bill, exercised the Executive prerogative to the oppression of the citizen, and in wanton disregard of the wishes of the people, expressed through their Representatives in Congress assembled.

Resolved 6th, That the annual expenses of the General Government having, since the Administration of Fillmore, increased from fifty to upwards of ninety millions of dollars; it is dishonest and corrupt in the democracy to deceive the people by pretending that this extravagance is the result of our increasing population, the admission of new States, and a new territory; and that said increase can only be accounted for in the unjustifiable extravagance of the Administration, and in the shameful expenditure of money, by the Executive and other Federal office-holders, to reward dishonest and corrupt politicians, as is fully shown by the reports of the various investigating committees.

Resolved 7th, That we are opposed to direct taxation, and in favor of a revision of the Tariff, so as to bring in a sufficient revenue, to support an economical Administration of the Government, and at the same time afford incidental protection to American Industry.

After the above resolutions had been adopted, Mr. A. R. McDonald, of Moore, rose, and after a chaste, eloquent and appropriate speech, complimentary of Mr. Gilmer, submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That we approve and endorse the course of our faithful and worthy representative, the Hon. John A. Gilmer; and as an evidence of our confidence in his ability and integrity, we hereby nominate John A. Gilmer as a candidate to represent this Congressional district in the next Congress of the United States. This resolution was passed by acclamation and amid the greatest enthusiasm, putting it beyond all doubt that Mr. Gilmer was not only the first choice of the district, but that by his firm, independent, conservative course, he had endeared himself to his constituents.

Messrs. A. G. Foster, R. Y. McAden, N. A. Ramsay, and S. H. Christian, were called out, all of whom entertained the Convention with able and interesting speeches. Several others were called up but excused themselves from speaking.

adding a few words, however, by way of encouragement, to their brother delegates.

Mr Caldwell offered the following resolution, which was passed:

Resolved, That a Committee of Correspondence, consisting of two from each county, be appointed.

The Chairman appointed the following gentlemen a Committee to inform Mr. Gilmer of his nomination and to request his acceptance: J. S. Tatum, James Holman, R. Y. McAden, Jesse H. Lindsay, Jesse G. Hinchaw, N. A. Ramsay, A. R. McDonald, S. H. Christian.

The following is the Committee of Correspondence, with their Post offices:

A. R. Kelly, Dr. S. C. Bruce, Carthage, Moore; Hon. Edmund Deberry, Clark's Creek, Montgomery; E. C. Chambers, Pekin, Montgomery; Dr. John H. McAden, Dr. William Henderson, Yanceyville, Caswell; A. G. Foster, Thomasville; A. J. Hule, Asheboro; Dr. E. F. Watson, Watsonville, Alamance; Abel Griffith, Graham, Alamance; Jed. H. Lindsay, Peter Adams, Greensborough; Dr. L. W. Gorrell, Goldston, Chatham; Dr. N. A. Ramsay, Pittsboro, Chatham; Green B. Saterfield, and J. A. Barnett, Roxboro, Person.

The thanks of the Convention were tendered to the officers, the proceedings ordered to be published, and, after an appropriate address from the Chairman, the Convention adjourned.

WM. P. TAYLOR, Ch'n.

A. A. PATILLO, } Secretaries.  
Jas. A. LONG, }

Masonic History.—For some time, Jas. Banks, Esq., of Fayetteville, has been employed, at the instance of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, in preparing a history of Free Masonry in this State, of the progress of this ancient order, and of its Lodges and most prominent members. The material ought to be abundant, but it is feared that time, and an indolent and indifferent spirit, which so characterizes our people, in regard to the preservation of historical data, have greatly retarded the means for preparing such a history as would be desirable. A better selection for the historian, than Mr. Banks, could not have been made. If a well tutored mind, a discriminating judgment, ability as a writer, enthusiasm as a Mason and consequent interest in his subject, and a full share of good old Scotch industry and perseverance, can accomplish any thing, the order may be sure of a rich volume from Mr. Banks's pen. Mr. B. has recently been on a visit to some of the old Lodges of the East, collecting materials. We wish him eminent success.—Wash. Dispatch.

Bank of North Carolina.—There seems to be no doubt now that one million of dollars, the amount necessary to put the bank in operation, will be subscribed by the 1st of June. About \$675,000 have been subscribed here, including the Literary Board and University subscriptions. Charlotte is expected to subscribe \$200,000, Edgemore \$75,000 to \$100,000, and large subscriptions are expected at Milton and other points. It is more than probable that \$1,500,000 will be subscribed before the books are closed on the 1st of next month. That will leave \$1,000,000 still to be taken, and under the charter the books will be opened and kept open until this amount is subscribed. The Bank of North Carolina may be regarded as a "fixed fact."—Rat. Standard.

Bank of Wadesborough.—At the annual meeting on the 3d inst., the following were elected Directors: W. R. Leak, W. C. Smith, S. W. Cole, P. Richardson, G. W. Little, T. Robinson, J. White.

At a meeting of the Board, W. R. Leak was re-elected President, H. B. Hammond Cashier, and N. Beverly Clerk.

The Bank is in a very prosperous condition. A semi-annual dividend of 5 per cent. has been declared.—Wadesboro' Argus.

Bank of Lexington.—The Charter of the Bank at Lexington, granted by the last Legislature, has been secured, and the Commissioners have called a meeting of the stockholders on Monday next, for the purpose of organizing and putting the Bank into operation. We learn that some \$27,000 of specie has already been paid in, (obtained from the North.) The stockholders contemplate reopening the books sometime during the year, to increase the capital stock.—Greensboro Patriot.

Dan River Coalfield Railroad.—An enthusiastic meeting was held at Leaksville on Saturday last, where able speeches were made in favor of the Dan River Railroad. Another meeting was held in Wentworth on Tuesday night, and able and interesting speeches made by Chalmers L. Glenn, Thomas Settle, John H. Boyd, and others, and a very handsome subscription obtained.

We fear the importance of this Road is not fully appreciated by the citizens of Rockingham, though they are, perhaps rather slowly, subscribing the stock to build it.—Greensboro Patriot.

The Wheat Crop.—This crop, which was so likely a few weeks since, now promises nothing! It is ruined! The rainy, cool weather has been the cause of rust, and at this time the crop is at least injured seventy-five per cent. Within the past few days we have seen several wheat farms in Chowan, Perquimans and Pasquotank counties, and many of them are almost red with rust, which seems to be animalcule covering the blades.

We regret that our farmers will meet with so general great loss.—Edenton Express.

The White Shad.—It has been a source of much anxiety to the people of Eastern North Carolina, to witness for some years past the evident decrease of shad and herring in our waters. Albemarle Sound at one time furnished more shad and herring to the commerce of the country, than almost all the other fishing grounds in the Union, and all the streams in North Carolina had them in abundance. But of late years they have been growing less by degrees, until it has become a hazardous business to embark largely in fishing. We think in proportion as they have left our waters they have gone North. Nova Scotia seems now to be the great rendezvous for herring. No one can divine the cause of this.

Wash. Dispatch.

The Fisheries.—The fishing business has almost proven a failure, and already some of our fishermen have stopped.—Edenton Express.

Sentenced to Death.—A negro named Over, formerly of Leesburg, Va., has been sentenced to death in Canada for mail-robbing and murder.

Sentimental Youth.—"My dear girl, will you share my lot for life?"

Practical Girl.—"How many acres in your lot, sir?"

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Agent for the sale of BENBOW'S COTTON YARN, TWINE, CANDLE WICK, &c. Store formerly occupied by W. F. MOORE, Esq., North-East Corner of Market Square. Call and see.  
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## LATER FROM EUROPE.

HALIFAX, May 5.

The Niagara, from Liverpool on the 23d ult., arrived yesterday.

The news is alarming. Austria has sent its ultimatum to Sardinia, demanding the disarmament and dispersal of volunteers. Three days were given for reply. If a refusal is the result, war will be declared.

Eighty thousand more Austrian troops had been ordered to Ticino. Austria had rejected England's final proposition.

The three days given Sardinia expire at the evening of the 24th.

The English Government had telegraphed to Vienna a strong protest against Austria's menace. It is reported that Austria had replied, refusing to re-consider, and has already prepared a manifesto, to accompany the declaration of war.

The French troops were concentrating on the frontiers of Piedmont.

The holidays in England prevented the full development of effect of the news.

The Paris Bourse had fallen three per cent. All the powers, except Austria, had agreed upon England's peace proposition.

Commercial.—LIVERPOOL, April 22.—Cotton declined from a sixteenth to an eighth. Sales five days 39,000 bales. Middling and lower qualities declined most. Speculators took 1,000 bales, exporters 3,500. Orleans middling 7 1/2, Uplands 6 1/2. Stock in port 432,000 bales, including 370,000 American. Flour steady; wheat quiet; corn advanced one penny higher; rice firm and steady and six-pence and nine-pence; rosin heavy at 4s., medium 4s. 6d and 5s. 6d; turpentine higher at 43s.

The Very Latest.—The cotton market observed holiday (Easter) but it has evidently a declining tendency. Breadstuffs and provisions advancing tendency.

NEW ORLEANS, May 5th.

Expeditious against Cuba!—Disastrous Result!—Filibusters Week!—The Quaker City's mails bring Port au Prince dates of the fifteenth April. The Brig African, from New York, arrived there on the 12th, with 35 filibusters and 240 guns, and other munitions. They attempted to land at Neuvitas, Cuba, but failed. An attempt was made on the 7th, but the boats were swamped, and the munitions all lost.

The Spanish Consul had notified Gen. Concha, who despatched a steamer to capture them, but nothing had been heard of the filibusters' other vessels.

The Utah Anomaly.—President Buchanan, referring in his last annual message to the disturbances which had previously existed in Utah, represented the then existing condition of the Territory as "a subject for congratulation," and expressed his happiness at being able to inform the Congress that the Governors and other civil officers of Utah were performing their appropriate functions without resistance. "The authority of the Constitution and of the laws," he added, "