



The "Tarborough Press,"

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Letters addressed to the Editor must be post paid, or they may not be attended to.

DOMESTIC.

Superior Court.—The Superior Court for this county commenced its Spring Term on Monday last—Judge Norwood presiding. The only case of importance on the State Docket was that of Murphy, indicted for the murder of Mrs. Sugg. In consequence of the supposed insanity of the prisoner, the trial was continued to next Term.—*Ral. Star.*

Cooper at Reading, Pa.—A cooper at Reading, Pa. by the name of Samuel James, aged about 40 years, died on the 18th ultimo, who starved himself to death; having voluntarily abstained from food, and drink of every kind except water, for upwards of fifty days. He left a wife and five children to deplore his rash act.—*ib.*

Casualty.—On the 22d ultimo, a boat, in attempting to cross from Charleston to James Island, was capsized, and eleven Negroes, out of the twelve that were on board, were drowned.—*ib.*

Government Patronage.—A Correspondent of the *National Intelligencer*, who signs himself "A North-Carolinian," states the remarkable fact, that out of 969 Offices in the several Departments of Government, only eleven are filled by citizens of this State! In the State Department, comprising 206 appointments, four are filled by North-Carolinians. In the Treasury Department, embracing 174 appointments, we can boast of one Clerkship. In the War Department, where there are 396 appointments, we count three subordinate offices filled from this State; and in the Navy Department, with 47 appointments, we have two Clerkships. In the Post Office Department, comprising 92 appointments, there is not one from North-Carolina.—This State, being the fifth in population in the Union, ought consequently to be entitled to one fifth in the division of offices and emoluments, if she asked it; instead of having meted out to her, with a sparing hand, an inconsiderable number of appointments of the very lowest grade.

We regard however, the naked fact, that North-Carolina enjoys so few of the "crumbs of patronage" as an honorable testimonial to the independent character of her citizens. It proves too, what we have before asserted, that fewer applications, for offices of any sort, are made from this State, in proportion to its population and territory, than from any other in the Union.—Long may it be so—long may North-Carolina be distinguished for this indifference to patronage—for this lofty independence which spurns the shackles of office.—*Ral. Reg.*

Early Times of Virginia.—It is both pleasant and instructive, to recur occasionally to the early times of Virginia.

The manner of getting wives, in those days, was truly a novel one; and it will be perceived, from the fact of giving precedence to debts contracted for these indispensable comforts, that they were considered, as they ought always to be, the highest objects of man's solicitude.

We have no doubt many young

gentlemen would, even now, readily exchange tobacco, luxury as it is, for wives. Mr. Burke says, in the appendix to the first volume of the History of Virginia.—

"I find in the proclamation of the Virginia Governors and Councils, the rates of some commodities, and something like a scale of exchange between specie and tobacco. During the administration of Capt. Argall, Tobacco was fixed at three shillings the pound. In 1623, Canary, Malaga, Alicante, Tent, Muscadell, and Bastard wines, rate at six shillings the gallon payable in tobacco. Sherry, Sack, and Aquaviva, at four shillings, or four shillings and six pence tobacco. Wine vinegar at three shillings, or four shillings, and six pence in tobacco. Cider and beer vinegar at two shillings, in tobacco. Loaf sugar one shilling and eight pence per pound or two shillings and six pence in tobacco; butter and cheese eight pence per pound, or one shilling in tobacco. Newfoundland fish per cwt. fifteen shillings, or one pound four shillings in tobacco. Canada fish, two pounds, or three pounds ten shillings in tobacco. English meal sold at ten shillings the bushel, and Indian corn at eight. After a careful inspection of the old records, I cannot find any rates of labor specified, although they too are mentioned, as forming a part of the subject of proclamations."

Holmes, in his Annals, supplies one deficiency in Burke's price current, namely, the price of passage from Europe.

"The enterprising colonists being generally destitute of families, Sir Edward Sandys, the Treasurer, proposed to the Virginia Company to send over a freight of young women to become wives for the planters. The proposal was applauded; and ninety girls, 'young and uncorrupt,' were sent over in the ships, that arrived this year, (1620) and, the year following, sixty more, handsome and well recommended to the company for their virtuous education and demeanor. The price of a wife, at the first, was one hundred pounds of tobacco; but, as the number became scarce, the price was increased to one hundred and fifty pounds, the value of which, in money, was three shillings per pound. This debt for wives, it was ordered, should have the precedency of all other debts, and be first recoverable."

The Rev. Mr. Weems, a Virginia writer, intimates that it would have done a man's heart good, to see the gallant, young Virginians, hastening to the water side, when a ship arrived from London, each carrying a bundle of the best tobacco under his arm, and each taking back with him a beautiful and virtuous young wife.

Remarkable.—A dog belonging to a gentleman in Wilmington, was missed some weeks ago, and nothing was heard of it, until one day last week, when a boy passing by an ice house near the premises of the owner of the animal, was attracted by the whining of a dog, and upon making search, the missing dog was found at the bottom of an ice house, into which it had fallen about 25 feet below the surface of the ground, where it had remained no less than three weeks without sustenance of any kind. The dog is now alive and doing well.
Wilmington Press.

A few weeks ago we stated our belief that the stock required to put the *Merchants' Bank* into operation would be subscribed for and paid. We now have the pleasure of informing those interested that more stock has been subscribed for than the charter requires to give legal existence to the corporation.—The town will experience the beneficial effects of this new institution when the next cotton-buying season comes. It will be emphatically what its

name imports—a merchants' bank—conducted by experienced and liberal men, and our country friends may rest assured that they will feel its influence in the increase of their next year's receipts.—*Newbern Spec.*

We learn from the papers that a College for young ladies has been established in Kentucky, in which degrees are to be conferred. If the founders of this institution wish to make it really useful, they will add to the degrees which we have seen mentioned, M. C. D. (Mistress of the Culinary Department), M. N. (Mistress of the Needle), M. F. C. (Mistress of Fireside Comforts), and especially and above all, P. M. O. T. (Perfect Mistress of her Own Temper,) should stand pre-eminent in the diploma of every petticoated graduate whom the Kentucky alma mater shall send forth as beau catchers.*ib.*

The Spring Term of the Superior Court of Law, for Duplin County, was held last week—Judge Strange, presiding. Solomon, a slave, was indicted for the murder of his wife, and found guilty. Nathan, a slave, was indicted for highway robbery, and also found guilty.—Both convicts will be executed on the 24th day of this month.—*Newbern Sen.*

No less than 31,998 persons have signed a memorial to the Pennsylvania Legislature urging the abolishment of public schools.

Burden's Patent Horse Shoes.—We became accidentally in possession of a horse shoe manufactured at the Troy Iron and Nail Factory, by a machine lately invented by Mr. Burden, which, in addition to the rich reward the inventor cannot fail to realize, is conferring a lasting benefit on the country. These shoes will be put up in casks of assorted sizes, (similar to nails) and sold at a price but little above that of horse shoe iron in bar—thus saving the laborious process of pounding them out with the hammer, as has been done from time immemorial. Probably a greater curiosity is not to be seen than to witness the number of useful inventions introduced by Mr. B. within the last thirteen years, and which are now in operation at the Troy establishment.

We truly condoled with Mr. B. in the recent loss of his steam boat, at a moment when he was about to realize his expectations; but on the whole we think he has no cause to regret his success in the mechanic arts, as we are creditably informed that in every attempt to improve he has succeeded to the utmost of his wishes, which is seldom the lot of an inventor—and we do not hesitate to predict that his plan of steam boat will yet succeed to his most sanguine expectations, being founded on principles which to us appear to be as immutable as the fixed laws of nature.

We are happy to learn that a gentleman is now in this city for the purpose of ordering two engines for a boat at present building at Troy, on Mr. B's plan, intended to ply on the Farmington, Hampden, and Hampshire canal, which (so far as the size goes) will prove the great value of the invention. We understand the boat will be in operation sometime in May next. Mr. Burden has also, we learn, received authentic letters from Paris relative to a late meeting there of scientific men on the subject of his steam boat—one constructed on his model being, as we have already stated in our paper, about to be placed on the Seine, to run between Paris and Rouen.

As to his horse shoe, one of which is in our office, the machine turns out thirty horse shoes, curved, regulated and uniform, in one

minute, the greatest of all modern improvements.—*N. Y. Star.*

A scene of horror.—The Execution of Charles R. S. Boyington, for the murder of Nathaniel Frost, took place yesterday, pursuant to sentence, about two and a half miles from the city. A large crowd of spectators assembled to witness the dreadful spectacle. Two-thirds of the population of the city were on the ground; and many hundreds, we might almost say, some thousands, from the country. Different computations vary the number from six to nine thousand. The smaller number, is doubtless nearer the truth—but the concourse was really immense, considering the size of the town. The public mind had been so intensely excited by the circumstance of the crime; the place, so open and frequented, the broad sunshine, so audaciously chosen for the deed—the mode, so savage and cold blooded,—the victim, a confiding helpless invalid,—the motive so base and sordid,—by the flight and pursuit of the accused, his extraordinary coolness and self possession on his apprehension, and at the trial; and the rumors that have prevailed since, of his hardihood in all respects, relating to the crime and the punishment, to life, death, judgment, and eternity—that a case never was presented, combining more of the elements of fearful interest, of curiosity deepened by wonder and horror. The expectation was universal, that he would address the public, either in confession or denial of the offence, and as it was known that he had been engaged in prison, in drawing up a long document, many, who in general avoid executions, were induced to swell the number of spectators.

The demeanor of the prisoner on his way to the scaffold, corresponded with these intimations. Declining assistance and refusing to ride, he walked with a step as firm and unwavering, and a mien as undaunted, as any one among the escort.—Not a muscle seemed to shake, or a feature to be moved; and it was remarked that his foot kept time perfectly to the dirge that followed him.

The procession marched so slowly, as to be more than an hour in reaching the place of execution; during all of which time Boyington seemed, by his deportment, more like the chief personage in a grand mourning procession for another, than a condemned criminal, carried to a certain and ignominious death. Indeed, his subsequent conduct, leaves a general impression that he did not believe himself going surely to his death; but expecting, without the slightest ground for such a delusion,—but nevertheless expecting, a reprieve, or some other chance for safety; and had prepared himself to go through the ceremonies without shrinking, so as to produce a public impression of his innocence, and popular sympathy for his sufferings. This is the only rational interpretation of his whole conduct. His hope was the heated and fervent conclusion of an over sanguine disposition, persuading itself irrationally of what was impossible, or among the most improbable of possibilities; yet upon such delusive speculations did he rely to the last minute of his existence; discarding for it, every atonement for earth, and every thought of eternity.

When the scaffold was reached, he was permitted, as a matter of course, to address the multitude, and commenced the expected address. Its particular character we cannot speak of, except by report, not having heard any portion of it, or seen it.

It is described as an ingenious and elaborate comment upon the testimony which convicted him, designed less to show that he was innocent, than that he was not legally convicted. But the true purpose of preparing it was to produce delay. Among his calculations for delay, was one formed on the notion, that, if by any chance the execution of the sentence should be protracted beyond the hour appointed by the Court, his life would be safe. Notwithstanding the warnings he received that this would not avail him, he seems to have clung to it to the last, eagerly repeating the enquiry while standing on the scaffold, and still persevering to believe at least that there was a chance for postponement.

He was permitted to proceed, until the hour of four had nearly arrived. He was then informed of the necessity of closing and directed to prepare for the final scene. The shroud and cap had not been put upon him, and this announcement appears to have been the first circumstance that wakened him to the reality of his fate.—Standing under the gallows, with the instruments of death around and above him, his preternatural resolution and sanguine hope of pardon, reprieve, or delay, never gave way until the ministers of the law commenced robbing him for death, and fixing the noose about his neck. His whole soul steeled and nerved, as it had been up to that minute, covered and sunk at once into abject desperation.

A more sudden and fearful transition, according to all accounts, cannot well be imagined. When his abrupt and eager inquiries of the attending ministers of religion.—Is there no hope?—must I die? were answered solemnly in the negative, the dreadful certainty overwhelmed him. His nerves were apparently shattered; the blood forsook his cheeks, and despair was written in awful marks upon his ashy features. As a wild chance for the life which he coveted, now that death was so close to him, he dashed from the foot of the scaffold, in the frantic hope of escape among the crowd. This futile effort was easily defeated, and it is remarked as a proof of the universal detestation of the foul crime for which he suffered, that there was no movement of sympathy with his desperation among the crowd. Had there been a doubt of his guilt—had it been less atrocious—less sordid—less cowardly in its unprovoked mercenary blood guiltiness, there would have been an expression at least, of commiseration for his agony. But the thousands that surrounded the pole were passive, and the fugitive who, in his bewilderment, rushed among the military escort, rather than among the multitude, was easily secured, and reconducted to the spot of execution.

Some are of opinion, that even then the attempt to escape was in accordance with all his other course of conduct, and designed to obtain the delay which he imagined would carry the time beyond the hour named in the sentence, and thus save his life. This is corroborated by the fact of his having inquired of his counsel after he was shrouded, whether, if he could keep the execution off till after 4 o'clock, he, the counsel, would interfere in his behalf. The reply simply admonished him that no such procrastination could take place. When he leaped from the scaffold, he told the Sheriff he would escape if he could.

Then ensued a scene of horror, which we pray may find no parallel hereafter in the execution of laws. The hopeless agony of the

criminal was displayed in obstinate resistance to the performance of the necessary duties of the agents of the law; and even when at last suspended from the fatal cord, his desperate clinging to the life he had forfeited, was shown by struggles to free his arms from the pinions, and clutching at the rope. He succeeded in thrusting his hands between the rope and his throat, and thus resisting and struggling to the last—died despairing, and for aught human eye could read, impenitent. The last five minutes of his life were marked by a horror of dying, a prostration of energies, as remarkable as the sternness of nerve and reckless levity of carriage which had signalized him during the whole of the trial, and in the interval between condemnation and execution, up to that moment.

Such was the end of Charles R. S. Boyington,—a dreadful end of a bloody tale. The horror of the punishment with which it closes, compares fitly, in tragic intensity of interest,—with the terrible atrocity of the crime. The victim—a gentle and confiding invalid, fell by the hand of an assassin,—that assassin his professed friend,—in an open thoroughfare, beneath the walls of the grave yard,—the busy hum of human voices warning him of the neighborhood of busy life, and the tombs of the dead speaking to the murderer of the end of life,—the beginning of eternity.

Mobile Register.

A Sensible Verdict.—A man named Hunt was found frozen to death under a shed, in New Bedford, on Sunday, 22d ult. with an empty bottle by his side. The Coroner was called to view the body, but he did not deem it necessary to hold an inquest. The editor of the New Bedford Gazette has, however, rendered the following verdict: "That he came to his death by taking poison, in the shape of New England Rum, administered by some person or persons unknown!"

On Tuesday last (St. Patrick's Day) a desperate affray took place between some of the inhabitants of West Troy, New York, and the Irish population of East Troy, in consequence of the former having chosen to suspend an effigy to the branch of a tree, at which the national feeling of the latter took umbrage. Not contented with forcing the West Trojans to cut down the saint, they determined in their wrath to cut down the tree also. While they were in the act of laying the axe to the root of the tree the Trojans rallied, and rushed to the rescue, but were valorously repelled with many broken heads. Determined, however, to gain the day, they mustered a strong reinforcement, and finally succeeded in overpowering the Irishmen, and chasing them to Gibbonsville, doing much execution upon them in their flight. Two cartloads of the rioters were brought into town on Tuesday evening, who, after being confined all night, and receiving a wholesome rebuke, were discharged yesterday morning.
Albany D. Adv.

Death from the Bite of a rat.—Last week, the infant son of Mr. Passmore, saddler, of Truro, died in consequence of having been bitten by a rat. The poor babe which lay asleep in a cradle in an adjoining room was heard by its father to cry, and on his going to look after it, a large rat escaped from the cradle. On examination, it was found that the rat had severely bitten two of the fingers. Every attention was paid to the case, but in vain; a severe inflammation took place, and mortification at length terminated the life of the innocent sufferer.