

The Tarborough Press,

BY GEORGE HOWARD,

Is published weekly at *Two Dollars and Fifty Cents* per year, if paid in advance—or *Three Dollars* at the expiration of the subscription year. For any period less than a year, *Twenty-five Cents* per month. Subscribers are at liberty to discontinue at any time, on giving notice thereof and paying arrears—those residing at a distance, must invariably pay in advance, or give a responsible reference in this vicinity.

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

VARIETY.



THE MERRY HEART.

By the Rev. Mr. Milman.

I would not from the wise require
The lumber of their learned lore;
Nor would I from the rich desire
A single counter of their store—
For I have ease, and I have health,
And I have spirits light as air;
And—more than wisdom, more than wealth—
A merry heart, that laughs at care.
Like other mortals of my kind,
I've struggled for dame Fortune's favor,
And sometimes have been half inclined
To rate her for her ill behaviour.
But life was short—I thought it folly
To lose its moments in despair;
So slipp'd aside from melancholy,
With merry heart, that laughs at care.
And once, 'tis true, two witching eyes,
Surprised me in a luckless season,
Turn'd all my mirth to lonely sighs,
And quite subdued my better reason.
Yet 'twas but love could make me grieve,
And love, you know, 's a reason fair,
And much improved, as I believe,
The merry heart, that laugh'd at care.
So now from idle wishes clear
I make the good I may not find;
Adown the stream I gently steer,
And shift my sail with every wind.
And half by nature, half by reason,
Can sail with pliant heart prepare,
The mind, attuned to every season,
The merry heart, that laughs at care.
Yet, wrap me in your sweetest dream,
Ye social feelings of the mind,
Give, sometimes give, your sunny gleam,
And let the rest good humor find.
Yes, let me hail and welcome give
To every joy my lot may share,
And pleased and pleasing let me live
With merry heart, that laughs at care.

From the Asheville Messenger.

TOO MUCH LAND.

One of the greatest evils which besets, afflicts, and prevents the prosperity of a great portion of the Southern and Western country, is to be found in the fact, that nearly nine-tenths of those who have land at all have too much. Thousands upon thousands of acres are lying unimproved—the owners refusing or unwilling to improve, & utterly refusing to sell any to those who will. We know land holders in this section of the State, who perhaps twenty or thirty years last past, have owned thousands of dollars worth of land which has not yielded them in that time, either by its products or increase in value, one per cent. on the original investment. They still hold on to it, and in all probability in the next twenty years the increase in value will not be more than ten per cent. above what it now is. A little reflection, it seems to us, would serve to convince such that they are acting contrary to their own interest. Here, for instance, is a man who owns eight thousand dollars worth of land—three thousand worth of which is all that is really yielding him any thing worthy of notice at present, or that will yield any profit during his life. He expects it for his children, and of course at his death, some ten, fifteen, twenty or thirty years hence, his children come in possession of it when it is worth but little if any thing more than at present. They have five thousand dollars worth of badly improved, unproductive land. But suppose he sells the land and puts five thousand dollars at interest—the first year he has 5300—the second year 5618—the third year in round numbers he has 5937. Thus he goes on compounding, until in thirty years he has about forty thousand dollars in cash to leave his children, in place of five thousand dollars worth of land, situated, perhaps, where they may not wish to occupy it, and may sell it at much less than its real value.

The prosperity of a great portion of Western Carolina is, and ever has been, greatly retarded in this very way—and while the same course is pursued on the part of the land holders that has characterized them in years past, the country only will be improved by themselves—tenants rarely ever do it, and consequently it goes unimproved—much to the detriment of the

owner's interest, as well as the interest of the whole community. There never was a more erroneous idea than that a man prospers most when he invests all his capital in landed estate. We could mention a number of gentlemen who would now, in all probability, have been in possession of large fortunes if, thirty years ago, they had invested and continued to use their capital of five or ten thousand dollars otherwise than in lands. We will mention one case:—In an adjoining county there is a certain tract of land, estimated to be worth ten thousand dollars; it has belonged to the same family for some thirty or forty years, in which time the clear profits arising from it have not amounted to fifty dollars a year, if indeed so much;—a young man has lately taken possession of it by inheritance, and now wants almost every thing but land. He wants horses, hogs, cattle, household furniture, farming tools, and indeed almost every thing; and there, like those who have gone before, he is to drag out a life of poverty on a tract of land of several hundred acres, and estimated to be worth ten thousand dollars! To sell it all except some two or three hundred acres, which would be altogether sufficient for him, would be contrary to the tradition of his fathers; and Naboth of old never held on to his beloved little vineyard more firmly than he holds on to every foot of his ten thousand dollar tract of land."

We know another family in the western part of this State, whose boast it is that they are "the greatest land holders in all the region round about," and who have as few of the comforts of life about them as if they were not worth five hundred dollars. They have thousands upon thousands of acres of excellent land, and on the whole there is perhaps not one hundred acres in a proper state of improvement. They of ten have to buy corn and bacon for their own families—and yet, strange to tell, these very persons whenever they can, are buying land! Their houses, fences, and in fact their entire premises, wear evident marks of dilapidation and decay—their dwelling-houses unceiled—their windows without glass—almost without furniture in their houses—no houses for what stock they have, except, perhaps, an open badly covered stable, with the mud 12 or 15 inches deep where the floor ought to be—and yet they want land! Like the daughters of the horseleech, they cry give! give! land! land!! LAND!!!

Three things we believe absolutely necessary to the prosperity of North Carolina:

1. A more general diffusion of useful knowledge among the people—more interest of feeling and greater efficiency of action on the subject of general education.
2. Less monopoly and more manufacturing.
3. More work and less idleness—strict economy and consequently less extravagance.

Amos Kendall.—The New York Journal of Commerce has the following just remarks on the subject of the late Postmaster General's imprisonment for liabilities incurred by him in the conscientious discharge of his duties: It is a fact Mr. Kendall is, and has been for several months past, restrained within the jail limits of Washington city; but it is on account of debts due by the government. In form they may be due by him, (for the Court has so decided) but in fact they are due by the Government. The case is this: Mr. Kendall, while Postmaster General, withheld from Messrs. Stockton & Stokes, mail contractors, certain amounts which they claimed, believing that they were not justly entitled to the same, and that faithfulness to his trust forbade him thus to expend the public money. It was to him personally to withhold the payment. If the claim was just, it was not against himself, but against the Post Office Department, i. e., against the American people as represented in that Department. Yet it is precisely for this claim or these claims, that Mr. Kendall is now in durance. As against him it is a case of rank injustice, and requires the immediate interference of Congress. We trust there are no Whigs in that body so unreasonable as to be willing that an individual should be compelled to pay the debts of the nation, or in default thereof, be subjected to personal inconvenience and damage. If any such there are, they are more to be pitied than Mr. Kendall. We are glad to see that he has presented a memorial to the Senate, praying for relief. It has been referred to the committee on claims.

Progress of Morality in N. Orleans.—Mr. James H. Caldwell the great mainstay of the drama in the South, has just opened a new theatre in New Orleans, and in obedience to public opinion, as he says, he is determined that his theatre shall not be left open for performance on Sunday night as heretofore. New Orleans is a curious place—the military parade on Sunday—the horse races take place on Sunday—the theatres, except Mr. Caldwell's, are opened Sunday, and indeed, by the larger portion

of the population; Sunday is only observed as a day for sport and amusement.

Balt. Sun.

Water running up hill.—Dr Smith, in a recent lecture on geology, at New York, mentioned a curious circumstance connected with the Mississippi river. It runs from north to south and its mouth is actually four miles higher than its source, a result due to the centrifugal motion of the earth. Thirteen miles is the difference between the equatorial and polar radius; and the river in 2,000 miles has to rise one third of this distance, it being the height of the equator above the pole. If this centrifugal force were not continued, the river would flow back and the ocean would overflow the land.

On the 4th instant, the lower branch of the Alabama Legislature was thrown into utter disorder by a personal fight by two of its members, Messrs. Calhoun and Hubbard—the latter having assaulted the former for some insulting remark in a heated debate. Neither party appears to have been armed, but they were not separated until after Mr. C. had received a wound in the head. A committee of investigation was raised to report on the subject.

Battle of Mier.—We have already published a brief account of the capture of Col. Fisher and Green, of the Texan Army, at Mier, by Gen. Ampudia, at the head of the Mexican force; but we did not know at the time, that the Col Green mentioned, was our old acquaintance and friend, Thomas Jefferson Green, of Warren County, who has greatly distinguished himself by his gallantry in this and numerous other engagements. We annex from a late New Orleans paper, the following particulars of the capture:

During the night the Texans, to the number of about 260 men, commenced their attack upon the town, under the command of Col. Fisher and Green. They cut their way through every obstacle till they reached the artillery. At this point daylight appeared, when the Texans took to the houses of the town, from the doors and windows of which they kept up a continual fire upon the Mexicans, whom they cut down as fast as they were brought up to the guns. This kind of fighting was continued from house to house and from street to street, the Mexicans being piled up in heaps in every spot where they attempted to form. In consequence of their smaller numbers, the Texans, however, were unable to sally out upon their foes, but they kept their fire late in the afternoon. At this time one of the Texan captains, without consulting his brother officers, hoisted a flag from one of the houses. The Mexican General thereupon sent in one of the prisoners he had taken during the day, to ascertain if the Texans had surrendered. A consultation was then held, amidst much excitement, among the Texan officers; the firing on both sides falling off in the meanwhile. By agreement word was at last sent to Gen. Ampudia, that the fight should cease on the part of the Texans, if they were allowed to retire unmolested. This proposal was refused by Ampudia, who however promised them fair and honorable terms, should they capitulate. Col. Fisher then asked two hours' time for consultation, threatening that if this time were not allowed he would recommence his firing. This was acceded to, and by the expiration of the time named, the capitulation was drawn up and signed, although it was grievously feared it would not be respected by the Mexicans.

The battle lasted seventeen hours, during which the loss of the Mexicans was 420 killed and 130 wounded, many of the latter having since died. The Texans lost but 11 killed and 19 wounded, but one of whom has since died.

Gen. Ampudia had returned to Matamoras with such of his favorite regiment as had survived the severe battle, bringing with him about 212 Texan prisoners. He was to leave for Mexico with them immediately.

We have heard it conjectured, that Col. Fisher and his comrades will be shot on their arrival at the City of Mexico, but we cannot for one moment entertain such a belief. Even if so disposed, which we much doubt, the Government of Mexico would never dare to commit such an outrage.

An Elopement, &c.—We have learned a few more particulars in relation to that elopement of man and wife noticed in another place to-day. It appears that some twelve months ago, Mr. Charles F. Miller, of New York, was married to the beautiful daughter of Lyman Wells, Esq., a wealthy gentleman of Yonkers, by which marriage, he became possessed of a large fortune. In a short time after the marriage, the feelings of the young wife were seduced from her husband, and she induced to leave him and return to her relatives. The husband endeavoring by force to regain possession of his wife, a quarrel ensued, and the husband

was defeated, flogged and bound over in \$6,000 to keep the peace.

Well, Mr. Miller was a man of too much spirit to stay defeated, and he, on Thursday afternoon, procured of Dishrow, of the Vauxhall Riding School, one of his fastest teams, and drove to Stamford, Conn., where he learned his wife was stopping. He stopped at Seely's tavern to get some refreshments. He was somewhat surprised however, to learn that the object of his search was under the same roof with himself. He had his team in readiness at the door, and then went into the room where his wife was sitting, and seeing him, she became alarmed and screamed for help.

Mr. Miller, without more ado, seized her in his arms and rushed towards the door. He was interrupted in his flight by the bar-keeper, whom he prostrated with a blow, and safely lodged his charge in the carriage, and ordered the driver to speed for New-York. For a time she struggled to escape, but before reaching the city she became reconciled, and consented to reunite her fate with her liege lord, and render to him due obedience. In one hour and thirty minutes the parties were in safe concealment in New York city. In one hour after, the brother of Mrs. Miller, accompanied by an officer reached town, and procuring the aid of the Police, commenced searching for the supposed fugitives. Search, however, was in vain, for the next morning they were safely embarked on board of a vessel, and are now before a spanking breeze, winding their way to the sunny climes of the West Indies.

The New York Commercial Advertiser states that on Wednesday week two ladies belonging to the family of Mr. Creighton, who resides near the Clifton House, at Niagara Falls, had a narrow escape from an awful death. They were in a sleigh, driving a horse belonging to Mr. Creighton, and when near the well known Table Rock, by some mismanagement on the part of the ladies, the horse backed towards the precipice, and fell over into the dreadful gulf below. Providentially the ladies sprang out before the horse made the leap. Of course the horse and sleigh were dashed to pieces, the height from which they fell being more than one hundred and sixty feet.

Elijah M. Amos, Esq., of Knoxville, Crawford county, Georgia, was accidentally killed on Wednesday, the 1st inst. in consequence of his horse taking fright, and running away with the sulky in which he was riding. Mr. A. was either thrown, or attempted to jump from the vehicle, when he became entangled, and was dragged near a mile before he was disengaged. He was taken up immediately, but was dead, and his head horribly mangled by dragging over the ground. He was probably about 43 years old, and had been a resident of the county; was a highly respected and influential member of the community, and for many years Clerk of the Superior Court of the county, and Postmaster at Knoxville at the time of his death.

Messenger.

Awful Calamity.—On the 17th instant, a great land slide occurred at Troy, N. Y. by which many houses were destroyed and buried and forty persons killed!! It presented a scene of great horror and desolation. A similar calamity happened to the same place in 1837.

Great Flood in Red River.—There has been a freshet in Red river unprecedented in the memory of all the present inhabitants of the country. At Jonesborough the river was ten feet higher than it was in the flood of 1840. The steamer *Belle of Red River*, which arrived last evening, brings the information received at the raft by several boats which came down in advance of the rise. Several persons were known to have been drowned—among them, Col. Thomas and his family, near Jonesborough, and Mr. Melan, of Kentucky. Many others were taken from trees, and came down in the boats. Between 5 and 600 bales of cotton have been floated off and lost; and immense damage will have accrued in the destruction of stock of all sorts. It is stated that more than a mile of new raft has been made this season, and there appears to be no prospect of removing it at present.—Ex. Pa.

Wonderful Discovery.—The system of artificial memory, invented by Mr. Gouraud, and partially exhibited by him in its results, at the close of his evening lectures in the Planetarium, is not only exceedingly curious but rich in promise of most valuable consequences, if, as M. Gouraud alleges, he can teach others how to acquire the same extraordinary power that he possesses of charging the memory with unlimited details of facts, dates, calculations, names, formulae, &c. His own exploits in this line are perfectly astonishing; matters of the most complex and heterogeneous char-

acter he pours forth with surprising facility and accuracy; and it really does seem that his system is adequate to the retention of any thing and every thing which it may be desirable to remember. He proposes soon to give a course of lectures specifically on this subject, in which the plan will be fully developed; and he pledges himself that any person of ordinary intelligence, shall be enabled speedily to accomplish wonders of recollection greater even than any of those he has yet exhibited.

As a test of his method's unerring power, he says that he will distribute among his audience fifty slips of paper, on which shall be written, by fifty different persons, whatever they choose to put down: scraps of metre, rows of figures, uncouth names, dates of events, &c.—and that, after only twice reading, he will repeat all these fifty things, backward or forward, without a single error or omission. This seems hard to believe; but we do not know how to disbelieve it, after seeing what Mr. Gouraud has done and does night ly before his audience.—Comm. Advertiser, N. Y. City.

The Cincinnati Gazette states that Lord Oil business was never in a more flourishing condition than at present: There are four factories now in that city, driving the business successfully. R. W. Lee & Co. keep two gangs of hands constantly at work during the whole 24 hours, one set relieving the other at stated periods. They last week executed an order for their Oil to be shipped direct to France. Various improvements in the machinery and economy of the works daily suggest themselves at all the factories.

General Tom Thumb, jr. is the cognomen of a little gentleman now being exhibited to admiring crowds in New York and other cities, and of whom a correspondent of the Baltimore Sun speaks as follows:

"He is very handsome, of perfect proportion; and the cleverest, bright eyed, rosy cheeked little Lilliputian ever seen.— Though but eleven years old, he got long since got his growth, and now stands 22 inches high. His head comes up to the knee pan of a man of ordinary size, and his limbs, hands, feet, &c. are faultless. He weighs fifteen pounds!

I cannot describe the sensations with which one looks upon this diminutive specimen of humanity. Were he deformed, or sickly, or melancholy, we might pity him, but he is so manly, so handsome, so hearty, and so happy, that we look upon him as a being of some other sphere. He was discovered in Lancashire, England. He came out in the Britannia, accompanied by his parents, who were common farming people. They are of the ordinary size; and have two other children younger than this, who are growing up as children usually do. Gen. Tom Thumb, jr., as you may well imagine, attracted crowds; indeed not less than thirty thousand persons visited him at the American Museum. Gentlemen of the first distinction invited him to dine at their houses—charming ladies came in their carriages, and made him valuable presents; and he was for six weeks the lion.

The Mormon delusion is not likely soon to come to an end—for it is said that Joe Smith has recently sent out a large number of female preachers, of great talent and surprising beauty. They will do more to keep up the delusion than could all the men in Christendom.—Fay Car.

Nashville, (Tenn.) February 11.

Payne, Kirby, and Carroll, the first convicted of murder in the county of Franklin, the second of the same offence in the county of White, and the last of the same offence in the county of Sumner, were yesterday executed by hanging, on the common near the Murfreesborough Turnpike a mile from this city. An immense crowd, which commenced gathering from a distance the night before, and continued to pour in until noon, witnessed the execution.

Whig.

An Invasion of Mexico.—Reports are in circulation, says the New Orleans Bulletin, and pretty generally believed, (even though denied by some) that in the eastern counties of Texas, several influential men are actively engaged raising forces to invade the eastern provinces of Mexico. It is said that Gen. Rusk and Col. Mayfield have already engaged several hundred men from Nacogdoches, Houston, San Augustine, and other eastern counties, who will be prepared to march westward in a short time, and several other officers are raising forces in the Red River counties to join them.

Florida.—A woman in Rankin county, Florida, who last year presented her husband with four children at one birth, on a recent occasion added five more to the family.