

THE STAR, and North-Carolina State Gazette, Published weekly, by LAWRENCE & LEMAY.

TERMS. Subscribers, three dollars per annum. No paper will be sent without at least one year in advance, and no paper discontinued, but at the option of the Editors, unless all arrears are paid.

Watches, Jewellery and Silver Ware. BEHARD DUPUY respectfully informs his friends and the public in general, that he has received an elegant and general assortment of the above articles, which he offers at very reduced prices for cash.

New and Cheap Goods. R. TUCKER. Tenders his sincere thanks to his friends and the public in general for the liberal encouragement he has received while in partnership with his father.

New and Fashionable Fall and Winter Goods. Goods which are Superior Cloths, Calicoes, Linens, Muslins, Bombazines, Silks, elegant and Palmyrene for dresses, Stockings, Ladies' Gentlemen's Silk, Horse Skin and Beaver Hats, Cassimere Shawls, Imitation Merino Scarfs, Plain Cloaks, red and white Flannel, Immitation Blankets, Plaid for Ladies' Dresses, Sheetings, white, striped and mixed Donegal Cloths, Silk, Cashmeres, Rose and Striped Hosiery, Cotton Bagging, an elegant assortment of Hats, and Shirts of every description.

List of Revenue Officers. Who have failed to account for the public tax and other monies due the State of North Carolina for the last year, and which by law are payable into the Treasury on the first day of October, 1828, and not paid on the first day of November, 1828. This list is made out in pursuance of the act of Assembly, 1827.

Trust Sale. By virtue of a Deed of Trust, executed by Samuel Averis on the 14th day of January last, and proceeded to expose at public sale to the best bidder, on Wednesday, the 10th day of November next, at the Court House in the city of Raleigh, two tracts of land near the said city, to-wit: female slaves, and ten Cotton Gins.

State Bank of North-Carolina. Raleigh, Nov. 4, 1828. Agreeably to the 2d section of the Act incorporating the State Bank of North-Carolina, a election of nineteen Directors of the Principal Bank is to take place annually on the first Monday in December.

The Parrot and the Abbot. A parrot belonging to Count Frescot, was one day detected by the cook, stealing roast beef. The cook exclaiming, "So you've been at the roast beef, d—n you," threw a ladle of boiling water, which scalded all the feathers from his head.

TOBACCO.

Tobacco found its way slowly into Europe; the intoxicating effect of its smoke must have been accidentally discovered, and the same use was made of that discovery as of the deleterious exhalations from the chasms at Delphi. "As the devil," says Montaigne, "is a deceiver, and hath the knowledge of the virtue of herbs, so he did show the virtue of this herb, that by the means thereof they might see their imaginations and visions that he hath represented unto them." But this was not a secret which the priests could keep to themselves; what they did for their craft, the chiefs and people did for their gratification; they smoked to pass away time—to abate pain—to take away the sense of hunger—to refresh themselves after fatigue—and as much, perhaps, for any or all these reasons, to make themselves drunk withal, and to see visions and things that represent themselves, "wherein they do delight,"—a sort of intellectual sensualization.

But after Oviedo's time, it appears to have fallen into disuse. The negroes were forbidden to smoke, for some unexplained reason, but probably because it was regarded as intended to produce intoxication, and therefore sinful; they were punished if detected in it, and their plantations of the herb were destroyed. Still, however, they smoked in secret places. Perhaps the many and extraordinary medicinal virtues which were ascribed to the herb, and its real utility as a specific (which it seems to have been) against the poison of the Carib arrows, made the Spaniards regard it as having been intended for other purposes than those of mere gratification; for such a feeling was in the spirit of those times. Beckman says, the seeds were brought to Portugal in 1599; this is probably an error of the press here, for it obtained its once well-known appellation of the Nicotian herb long before that time. Nicot, the French ambassador at Lisbon, having carried it from Portugal to France in 1561.

At Montreal, on Monday last, a most extraordinary darkness overspread the city, which many portended some dreadful convulsion of nature. The sky appeared of a dismal ashy hue, similar to what it assumed during the dark day of November, 1219. The darkness for a short space was so great, that lights had to be employed in the court house and other public offices.

The best, and at the same time, the worst anecdote concerning this "Indian weed," is what Franklin has related of the Attorney-General Deymour, in William and Mary's reign, who opposed a grant of £2,000 for a college in Virginia; and when he was requested to consider that it was to educate young men for the ministry of the Gospel, and that the people of Virginia had souls to be saved as well as the people of England, replied, "Souls! d—n your souls! make tobacco!" An attorney general in the English Translation.

worthy to have been initiated in the modern science of meta-politics, and in that jurisprudence which ought, in honor of its egregiously founder, to be called "Sylvestriana." worthy also to have delivered lectures to the Utilitarians! Tobacco guzzler.—Joshua Sylvester calls it, when he thundered his volley of holy shot from Mount Helicon, and shattered pipes about the ears of those "that lily idolized so base and barbarous a weed." In his days —Don Tobacco had a swifter reign. Juan Don Philip, the great king of Spain, and he himself had once been "Jemmy-captive to his puffing pride." He questioned whether the devil had done more harm in latter ages by means of fire and snake, through the invention of guns, or of tobacco pipes; and he conjectures that Satan introduced the fashion, as a preparatory course of snaking for those who were to be matriolated in his own collage.

Feelings before a Battle.—Upon a return to the camp I found the men had been ordered to take a few hours rest, preparatory to the business of the morrow. I took advantage of the order also, and retired to my tent; but my mind was in a state of too much excitement to permit me to sleep.

Masonry "in the tented field."—While a popular stream is running strong against Masonry in one of the largest States in the Union, and some adjoining communion with the institution, it may be pleasant to the faithful to read an occurrence which evinces its generous spirit, in the midst of the tumults of war. In one of the memorable events of our revolutionary war, the Constitution of a British Auxiliary Lodge fell into the hands of the American Army; the generosity of a patriot and a mason instantly restored it, accompanied by a letter of the following import: "When the ambition of monarchs, or the jarring interests of contending States, call forth their subjects to war, as Masons we are disarmed of that resentment which stimulates to undisturbed desolation; and however our political sentiments may impel us in the public dispute, we are still brethren, and (our professional duty apart) ought to promote the happiness, and advance the weal of each other. Accept, therefore, at the hands of a brother, the Constitution of the Lodge Unity, N. 18, held in the 17th British regiment, which your late misfortunes have put in my power to restore to you."

Weyer's Cave.—In Virginia.—This celebrated cavern is situated three miles above Port Republic, in Augusta co. near the boundary line. It is classed by those who visit it, among the greatest curiosities of the world; and surpasses even the most sanguine expectations of those who have not previously visited it. Weyer's Cave is certainly a curiosity worthy of the traveller's notice. It is in the same hill, and parallel to Madison's cave, from which it is about two hundred yards distant.—This last is made a sort of classic ground by Jefferson's description of it in his Notes, but is inferior to Weyer's in every particular. The part of Madison's cave which is conveniently accessible, is about one hundred and fifty yards long. Weyer's is from nine hundred to a thousand; fourteen large rooms have been opened, which have received imaginary names; the most spacious of which are Washington's Hall, and the Ball room. The former is ninety-one yards long, twenty feet wide, and the arch sixty feet high; the latter sixty yards long, thirty feet wide, and the arch fifty feet high. The variety and grotesqueness of stalactites are most strongly exhibited in the Tower of Babel; weighing, probably, thousands of tons, semi-circular in front, and full of fluting.—The most beautiful apartment, because the whitest and most transparent, is the Ladies' Toilet; in the size of the room, in the variety and magnitude of stalactites, in the elasticity, and consequently musical sounds of many of its spars, (its tambourine room, music gallery, &c.) Weyer's Cave is a probable unique; certainly very superior to the famous grotto of Antiparos, one of the small Cyclades Islands in the Grecian Archipelago, situated two miles in the West of the Island of Paros. Weyer's Cave exhibits many beautiful white transparencies and reflecting surfaces; but in some places the spars are discolored by clay on the surface, and some of them by the rust of iron in the substance.

Mississippi Guards.—The traveler and historian as far as I am informed have passed by unnoticed one of the most useful of all the various tribes of insects—the Mississippi Guards. In Mississippi, and the States in the same parallel, there are large tracts of country which abound with such numerous swarms of flies, commonly known by the name of horse-flies, that the herds of cattle would be compelled entirely to leave their pasture grounds were it not for the kind protection they receive from the Mississippi Guards. The Guards inhabit the dirt and hottest sand knolls. They live on the various species of flies which infest the stock. They resemble very much the yellow jacket, both in size and appearance; there are, however, larger and smaller guards adapted to the different kind of flies on which they prey. The earth for some distance around the sand hill that constitutes their barracks, is trodden firmly by the cattle of the neighboring country, forming what the herdsmen call a stomp. Hither the cattle repair, with wild and headlong fury, whenever they are beset beyond further endurance with the large horse flies and other tribes of insects that infest their pasture bounds.

At the sound of their approach, the guards turn out of their subterranean barracks and parade over their sand hills, moving to and fro, resembling swarms of bees. So soon as the infuriated herd of cattle arrive, they arrange themselves around the sand hill, and become almost as still as statues, though literally covered with flies, which are drawing blood from almost every pore; not a cow is seen even to quiver her tail. At this moment the guards rally forth on the flies which surround the cattle. Each guard seizes a fly; chips off his wings in the first place, jerks out the proboscis, though buried in the skin of the beast, and bears off the fly, a struggling, wingless

prisoner, in a constant state of pleasurable excitement. Barely entering Washington's Hall I was struck mute with astonishment. Here were disposed hundreds of burning candles all in full view, twinkling through the space of ninety-one yards before us. Here the beholders stood, as they entered, wrapped in a momentary wonder, that such a scene should have been elected, subterraneously. Indeed, if there is any thing to strike fancy with astonishment the liveliest fancy, and the most brilliant imagination, it is this grand apartment properly illuminated. Music was introduced into the several apartments. In retracing my steps as far as the ball room, I found a number of ladies and gentlemen amusing themselves in a collation. He that had read of the adventures of the twelve princes and twelve princesses, who continued so long their fairy dances under ground, would conclude the Ball room of Weyer's cave to have been the identical spot in which they tripped the light fantastic toe. Being now highly gratified, I retired to the house of entertainment kept at the cave by Mr. Mansfield to whom I am much indebted for his polite attention.

A VISITANT. Witchcraft.—We extract the following excellent remarks from Judge Story's Centennial Discourse: "There is one other circumstance in the history of the Colony, which deserves attention, because it has afforded a theme for bitter sarcasm & harsh reproach—and as the principle scenes of the tragedy took place on this very spot, this seems a fit occasion to rescue the character of our forefathers from the wretched attacks of the scoffer and the satirist. I allude to the memorable trials for Witchcraft in this town in 1692, which terminated in the death of many innocent persons, partly from blind credulity, and partly from overwhelming fraud. The whole of these proceedings exhibit melancholy proofs of the effect of superstition in darkening the mind, and stealing the heart against the dictates of humanity. Indeed, nothing has ever been found more vindictive and cruel than fanaticism, acting under the influence of preternatural terror, and assuming to punish offences created by its own gloomy reveries. Under such circumstances, it becomes itself the very demon whose agency it seeks to destroy. It loses sight of all the common principles of reason and evidence. It sees nothing around it but victims for sacrifice. It hears nothing but the voice of its own vengeance. It believes nothing but what is monstrous and incredible. It conjures up every phantom of superstition, and shapes it to the living form of its own passions and fancies. In short, insanity could hardly devise more refinements in barbarity, or profanity exert them with more malignant coolness. In the wretched burthen of these times, (for so they in fact were) in which law and reason were equally set at defiance, we have shocking instances of unnatural conduct. We find parents accusing their children, children their parents, and wives their husbands, of a crime which must bring them to the scaffold. We find innocent persons, misled by the hope of pardon, or wrought up to frenzy by the pre-ordained sufferings of others, freely accusing themselves of the same crime. We find gross perjury practiced to procure condemnations, sometimes for self protection, and sometimes from utter recklessness of consequences. We find even religion itself made an instrument of vengeance. We find ministers of the gospel and judges of the land stimulating the work of persecution, until at last, in its progress, its desolations reached their own fire sides.

And yet, dark and sad as is this picture, it furnishes no just reproach upon this ancient town beyond what belongs to it in common with all New England, and, indeed, with all Christendom. Thirty years before this period, there had been executions for witchcraft in this and other colonies, in Charlestown, Boston, Springfield, and Hartford. It has been justly observed by an intelligent historian, that the impudence given to the New England trials proceeded more from the general panic than from the number executed; more having been put to death in a single county in England, in a short space of time, than have suffered in all New England from the first settlement to the present time.

Our forefathers were sincere believers in the reality of witchcraft; and the same opinion then prevailed throughout all Europe. The possibility, nay, the actual existence of a commerce with evil spirits, has had in its support the belief of many enlightened nations of the world. Mr. Justice Blackstone has not scrupled to declare, that, to deny it, is at once flatly to contradict the revealed word of God in various passages both of the Old and New Testament. I meddle not with this matter of controversial divinity. But it is certain, that, from the earliest times, it has been punished as a crime in all Christian countries, and generally as a mark of peculiar horror and detestation, with death. Such was its punishment in England, at the time of the emigration of our ancestors;

and such is continued to be used by the reign of George the Second. Surely, when we read of convictions before so mild and enlightened a Judge as Sir Matthew Hale, it should excite no surprise that our own judges were not superior to the delusion that they possessed not a wisdom beyond the law, nor a power to resist the general credulity. My Lord Coke, in the simplicity of his own belief, loads witches with the most odious epithets, as "horrible, detestable, and wicked offenders;" and the parliament of King James the First has enumerated in six hundred detail divers modes of conjuration and enchantment, upon which it has inflicted the punishment of death. Lord Bacon has lent the credit of his own great name to preserve some of the wonders and ornaments of witchcraft, with sundry wholesome restrictions upon our belief of their efficacy. And we have high authority for saying, "it became a science, every where much studied and cultivated, to distinguish a true witch by proper trials and symptoms."

"We may lament, then, the errors of the times, which led to these persecutions. But surely our ancestors had no special reason for shame in a belief, which had the universal sanction of their own and all former ages; which counted in its train philosophers as well as enthusiasts; which was traced by the learning of prelates, as well as the countenance of kings; which the law supported by its mandates, and the purest judges felt no compunctions in enforcing." Let Witch Hill remain forever memorable by this sad catastrophe, not to perpetuate our dishonor, but as an affecting, enduring proof of human infirmity; a proof, that perfect justice belongs to one judgment Seat only, that which is linked to the throne of God."

Sir William Wallace.—During the brief career of the celebrated Sir William Wallace, and when his arms had for a time expelled the English invaders from his native country, he is said to have undertaken a voyage to France, with a small band of sturdy friends, to try what his presence (for he was respected through all the countries for his prowess) might do to induce the French Monarch to send to Scotland a body of auxiliary forces or other assistance, to aid the Scots in regaining their independence.

The Scottish champion was on board a small vessel, and steering for the port of Dieppe, when a sail appeared in the distance, which the mariners regarded with doubt and apprehension, and at last with confusion and dismay. Wallace demanded to know what was the cause of their alarm. The captain of the ship informed him, that the tall ship which was beating down, with the purpose of boarding that which he commanded, was the ship of a celebrated rover equally famed for his courage, strength of body, and successful piracies.

It was commanded by a gentleman named Thomas de Longueville, a Frenchman by birth, but by practice one of those pirates who call themselves friends to the sea, & enemies to us, who sailed upon that element. He attacked and plundered vessels of all nations like one of the ancient Norse sea Kings, as they were termed, whose dominion was upon the mountain waves.—The master added, that no vessel could escape the rover by flight, so speed was the bark he commanded; and that no crew, however hardy, could hope to resist him; when, as was his usual mode of combat, he threw himself on board at the head of his followers.

Wallace smiled sternly, while the master of the ship, with alarm in his countenance, and tears in his eyes, described to him the certainty of their being captured by the Red Rover, a name given to de Longueville, because he usually displayed the blood red flag which he had row hoisted. "I will clear the narrow seas of this rover," said Wallace. Then calling together some ten or twelve of his own followers, Lord, Kerlie, Seaton, and others to whom the dust of the most desperate battle was the breath of life, he commanded them to arm themselves, and lie flat upon the deck, so as to be out of sight. He ordered the mariners below, excepting such as were absolutely necessary to manage the vessel; and he gave the master instructions, upon pain of death, so to steer, as that while the vessel had an appearance of attempting to fly, he should in fact permit the red rover to come up with them and do his worst. Wallace himself then lay down on the deck, that nothing might be seen which could intimate any purpose of resistance. In a quarter of an hour, de Longueville's vessel ran on board that of the Champion, and the Red Rover casting over grappling irons to make sure of his prize, jumped on the deck in complete armour, followed by his men, who gave a terrible shout, as if the victory had been already secured. But the armed Scots started up at once, and the Rover found himself unexpectedly engaged with men accustomed to consider victory as secure, when they were only opposed as one to two or three. Wallace himself rushed on the Pirate Captain, and a dreadful strife be-