

The Raleigh Minerva.

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1819.

No. 19.

Vol. 4.

RALEIGH, (N. C.)

PRINTED, WEEKLY, BY HARVEY AND CASSO.
EDITED BY A. LUCAS.

Subscription: Three dollars per year, one half to be paid in advance. No paper to be continued longer than three months after a year's subscription has expired, unless notice thereof shall have been given. Advertisements, not exceeding 14 lines, are inserted for one dollar; for twenty-five cents each subsequent insertion; and in like proportion where there is a greater number of lines than fourteen. The cash must accompany those from persons unknown to the editor.

No subscription can in any case be received without payment of at least \$1.50 in advance; and no discontinuance without payment of arrears, unless at the option of the editor.

Religious.

NEW-YORK, MAY 14.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

Yesterday the third anniversary of the American Bible Society was celebrated in this city. Agreeably to previous arrangements, the officers and members of the Society met at the New York Institution at ten o'clock, A. M. and proceeded to the Assembly room of the City Hotel, presided by Mr. Jennings, in Broadway. At eleven, the Hon. Elias Boudinot, President of the Society took the chair, when, after the reading of the 95th Psalm by the Rev. Mr. Milnor, Recorder of St. George's Church in this city and Secretary for Domestic Correspondence of the Society, the meeting was opened by an impressive, affectionate, and fervent address from the President. The annual Report of the Society containing an interesting and highly satisfactory account of the proceedings of the Board of the past year, was then read by the Rev. James M. Matthews, pastor of the Dutch Church in Garden street, in this city. By this document it appears, that the Society have issued, during the past year, 47,320 copies of the Bible, and 24,000 copies of the New Testament, and during the three years of its existence, 105,270 copies of the Bible and Testament. The amount of its funds received during the past year is \$12,723 94; of which \$1,000 has been paid by Auxiliary Societies, \$27,197 88, and \$6,771 93 by congregations and individuals for the purpose of constituting their pastors members for life, and the residue contributions from members, donations, bequests, &c. It also appears, that the number of Auxiliary Societies, amounts, at the present time, to one hundred and ninety-two. The Report contains an animating view of the progress and prosperity of the Society, and furnishes the strongest motives to Christians of all denominations, to unite with other kindred Institutions, in forwarding its benevolent efforts to distribute the Scriptures among the destitute in our own and all other countries.

After the Report had been read, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted, viz. On motion of the Hon. Jonas Platt, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, seconded by the Rev. Gardiner Spring, of the Presbyterian Church, in Beekman-street, in this city.

Resolved, That the Report now read be received and adopted, and that it be published under the direction of the Board of Managers.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Neill, of the Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, seconded by the Rev. Dr. M'Dowell of the same Church in New-York.

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Board of Managers for their persevering attention to the business of the Society. On motion of Thomas Eddy, of the Society of Friends, seconded by Elias Boudinot Caldwell, Secy. of the City of Washington.

Resolved, That the thanks of the society be given to the Treasurer and Secretaries, for their diligent and valuable services during the past year.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Wharton, of the Episcopal Church, Burlington, New-Jersey, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Hall, of North-Carolina.

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting be given to the congregations and individuals who have, since the last Report, made their pastors members for life of this Society.

On motion of the Hon. Peter A. Jay, Recorder of the city of New-York, seconded by the Rev. John Williams, of the Baptist Church in this City.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society be given to the President for attending and presiding at this meeting, notwithstanding his advanced years and bodily infirmity.

In support of the resolutions, as they were severally moved and seconded, highly interesting and eloquent addresses were delivered by Judge Platt, the Rev. Messrs. Spring, Neill, M'Dowell, and Wharton, and by Messrs. Eddy, Caldwell and Jay. It is scarcely necessary to say, that they were listened to by the audience with the highest satisfaction and delight. The views taken by the different speakers of the objects, the exertions, the hopes, and the prospects of the Society, were of the most lively and interesting nature, and we flatter ourselves must have left upon the minds of the hearers impressions of a deep and lasting character in favour of the institution.

Rarely, indeed, has a more interesting scene been witnessed, than that of which we are speaking. The assembly collected on the occasion was much more numerous than at either of the preceding years, and of the highest respectability. Among the persons present were his Excellency Governor Clinton, the Hon. Smith Thompson, Secretary of the Navy of the United States, Gen. Matthew Clarkson and John Bolton, Esq. of Georgia, Vice-Presi-

dents of the Society, Hon. Brockholst Livingston one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States, the Judges of the Supreme Court of this state, who as a mark of respect for the occasion adjourned the Court to attend the meeting, the Mayor and Recorder of the city, President Day, of Yale College, Connecticut, and a numerous body of the Reverend Clergy from throughout the States. Among the peculiar gratifications experienced by the Society and its friends, we must not omit to mention that derived from the presence of their aged and venerable President. Being advanced beyond that extreme period of life which the Scriptures emphatically declare to be labour and sorrow, and having been for a large portion of the time for several years past confined to his room by severe bodily infirmity, he has twice in succession been able, by the blessing of God, to meet his brethren and friends on the anniversary of the Society, of which he may be emphatically called the Parent as well as the most liberal and munificent Benefactor, to preside at their meeting and to join with them in manifestations of sacred joy at the success of their united labours. Considering each opportunity as the last, he appears like the prophet of old, to be ready and willing, in deep and humble submission and gratitude, to say—*Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace.*

It is also with sincere pleasure that we notice the increasing attention of the friends of the Institution, from other parts of the country, to its annual meetings. Satisfied as we are, that the Society is rapidly advancing in usefulness and respectability, and that it will, before many years, be honorably ranked as an Associate in benevolence with the great kindred Societies in Great Britain and Russia, it is highly gratifying to meet at its anniversaries its friends and patrons from abroad, as well as from the city. The information which they receive of its progress and success, and which there is not a doubt they will in turn diffuse in their several circles and neighbourhoods, may be productive not only of satisfaction to themselves, but of solid benefit to the Society. Thro' their instrumentality and exertions, new friends to the institution and new means for support and advancement, may be found and collected, and its exertions for the good of mankind be thereby greatly encouraged and invigorated.

The following persons were elected Managers to supply the vacancies which have occurred by constitutional provision and otherwise, viz: John Adams, John R. B. Rodgers, M. D. Cornelius Heyer, Henry Rutgers, Peter W. Radcliffe, Francis B. Winthrop, Robert Ralston, Thomas Shields, Thomas Stokes.

The following resolution was passed by the Board of Managers of the Bible Society, at the close of the meeting:

Resolved, That the thanks of the managers be given to Mr. Jennings for the accommodation afforded to the American Bible Society on its third anniversary meeting by the use of his spacious room in the City Hotel.

Internal Improvement.

FROM THE OBSERVER.

Extract from Mr. Cooley's Report on the Lumber River Canal.

Agreeably to the instructions directing a survey to be made of the intermediate country between Pedee river and the town of Fayetteville, for the purpose of ascertaining the practicability of affording a Canal communication between those places.—I proceeded on the last of February to the Grassy Islands, and having obtained the assistance of Mr. Eli Terry, we proceeded to the execution of the same. Three things were necessary to be ascertained—first, the most suitable place for connecting the Canal with Pedee river—second, the most suitable place for crossing the dividing Ridge, and thirdly, the source from whence a feeder could be obtained for crossing the summit and supplying the Locks and Canal with water. Coleman's Mill is obviously the most suitable place for connecting the Canal with the Pedee. This Mill is situated on an arm or throughfare of the river near the head of the Grassy Island Falls, and the pond flows back to the deep water and at the head of the falls, above which the river is said to be free from obstructions for nearly twenty miles.

The most suitable place for crossing the summit Ridge is at the head of the south fork of Mountain Creek. Although this is not the lowest place on the Ridge, it possesses advantages which no other place possesses. The waters of Pedee and the waters of Lumber river approach each other the nearest at this point, being divided only by a narrow ridge, and may be connected by a deep cut. The valley of Mountain creek directs its course towards Pedee river and the valley of Naked creek towards Lumber river along the Margin of which creek the ground is favorable for a Canal. Frazier's Mill pond on Naked creek will furnish a feeder. This lies about three and a half miles from the summit Ridge, at the head of the South fork of Mountain creek. There appears to be a sufficiency of water in Naked creek to supply a Canal of 30 feet wide and 3 feet deep; but should an additional supply be necessary, it can be obtained from Browning creek above Clark's Mill.

Mountain creek enters Pedee 500 poles below Coleman's Mill; the intermediate ground is level. The water in the Mill pond is 10:73 feet above the water in Mountain creek. Here a dam will be required across the creek to raise the water in the creek to a level with the wa-

ter in Coleman's pond. It will be necessary to improve the creek by dams and Locks to Thomas' Mill, a distance of five miles, as the alternate approach of the bluffs on each side of the creek renders the margin of the creek unsuitable for a canal. From Thomas' Mill to the dividing ridge, a distance of six miles, and from the dividing ridge to Lumber river, at the junction of Browning creek and Naked creek a distance of ten miles, the ground along the margin of said streams, is favorable for a Canal. From the junction of Browning creek and Naked creek to the Garden at Rockfish creek, is 30 miles: here no difficulties present themselves.

Lumber River may be rendered navigable at a moderate expense for 18 miles, where the Canal will connect with it and pass along its margin seven miles, for the purpose of rising to the summit between Lumber river and Rockfish creek, and thence continue on level lands to the Garden, where it will connect with Rockfish creek by several Locks. From the Garden on Rockfish to Fayetteville a distance of 27 miles, no material difficulties occur. The Rockfish may be improved for Navigation for the distance of 15 miles, to McKee's Mill—here the Canal will connect with it by three Locks and extend along the margin of the creek to the low grounds of the Cape-Fear river, then up the margin of the low grounds to the Basin in Fayetteville. Little Rockfish will supply this part of the Canal with water.

The plan and profile herewith transmitted, will exhibit the different surveys that were made, together with the course and relative heights of the route.

The scale of distance on the plan is 240 poles to an inch, and the heights on the profile 60 feet to an inch. The red dotted line represents the route of the Canal.

The estimates annexed will show the probable cost of the canal.

ESTIMATE.

Of the cost of a canal from Fayetteville to Pedee River,—20 feet wide at top, 12 feet at bottom, 8 feet deep, at 20 cts. per cubic yard—for boats 50 feet long, 8 feet wide, 2-1/2 feet deep, burthen, 20 tons.

1st Section—From Fayetteville to the Garden on Rockfish creek

Clearing route 12 miles, 283 poles	\$ 6,500
Digging 12 miles, 283 poles	26,000
Dams and embankment	6,000
3 Locks (wooden materials) at \$1,500 each	4,500
Improving Rockfish 15 miles	8,000
Contingencies, superintendence &c. 10 per cent	8,100 86,100
2d Section—From Garden to the mouth of Naked creek	
Clearing route 17 miles, 15 poles	\$ 8,500
Digging do 17 do 15 poles	31,000
Embankments	4,000
12 Locks, \$1,500 each	18,000
Clearing Lumber river 18 miles	13,000
Contingencies, &c. 10 per cent	7,750 85,250

3rd Section—From the mouth of Naked creek to Coleman's mill, Pedee.

Clearing 17 miles, 5 rods	9,000
Digging	24,000
Extra digging	40,000
Embankment	4,000
64 locks, \$1,500 each	96,000
Feeder	15,000
12 dams across Mountain creek	12,000
Contingencies, &c. 10p. ct.	20,000 281,000

Natural History.

SINGULAR FACTS IN NATURAL HISTORY

FROM THE NEW-ENGLAND GALAXY.

The most common and powerful of all the natural dispositions of animals is that of affection to their young. This is even considered greater in creatures possessing only instinct than in the human species. The ancient Greek writers on Natural History denoted this strong propensity in beasts by the term *orge*; which later authors have sometimes used to express also the love of human parents, for their children, more particularly that which protects, provides for, and nourishes their helpless infancy. The following remarkable instances of deviation from this instinctive attachment to offspring in a cat, by transferring it to young not her own, are thought worthy of record.

In the year 1815, Mr. Richard Dexter, of Malden, killed a grey squirrel. As he perceived that it was a mother, he looked round to find the place where she had kept her young. Discovering a hole in a tree, he climbed to it and took thence six little ones, which were probably but a few days old, as they were without hair, and their eyes not yet open. He brought them home and gave one of them to a cat, supposing that she would immediately devour it—as she did not, and as the cat had lately kittenened and had all her young taken from her but one, he had the curiosity to try whether she would nurse the squirrels. Accordingly he applied one of them to a teat, and finding that it sucked, he placed the others. By a little attention to these new nurselings, the cat was soon induced to adopt them. In fact, she actually brought them up together with her surviving kitten. She ever discovered a preference for them; and when they climbed upon the beams of the garret, and jumped from place to place, seemed in distress for their safety.

Obedient to her call however, they would come to her, place themselves by her side; spread their long bushy tails over their backs, and appear pleased with her purring and with the playfulness of their kitten mate. What is still more singular, they learned to mew like a cat.

When they had grown up, though perfectly gentle, and accustomed to the fondlings of the members of the family, about whom they would gambol, and on whose shoulders they would climb, yet they became so noisy and troublesome that Mr. Dexter parted with four of them. The two that he retained he kept in a cage. One day a child inadvertently gave them some cheese to eat, which occasioned their death.

In March last, Mr. Dexter killed a Fox; and as his dog had discovered the burrow, he determined to open it. After digging several feet, he found a small cub. Perceiving that the hole extended further, he continued to dig till he came to the litter, in which were two more. He carried them home. One was injured by the spade, and died of the wound. The other two he felt desirous of raising up, if possible; and remembering his success with the squirrels, put them to a cat. (a descendant of the former one) who had also been deprived of all her kittens but one. He prevailed on the cat to nurse the little cubs: but for several days it made her very sick, partly from their eagerness, and partly, it is supposed, from their strong scent. But as she recovered she very willingly adopted them, and has become as fond of them as of her own kitten, and indeed apparently more so.

On the 23d instant, the writer of this saw the cat, with the kitten and two young foxes, and was highly amused with their mutual attachment and playfulness. The cat appeared to be jealous, however, of the attention paid by a stranger to the little foxes, and watched the opportunity of carrying them off and secreting them down cellar.

Having heard from the family a detail of particulars, some of which I wrote down in their presence, I thought that these singular instances of feline affiliation were sufficiently curious to be made an article of record, and here submit them to the notice of the lovers of natural history.

* The first cat was black and white,—this is a grey one.

Domestic.

AFRICANS IN GEORGIA.

Our readers are informed that some time since a number of Africans were illegally introduced into the state of Georgia, who were taken possession of by the state authorities, and subsequently advertised for sale.—The succeeding article from the Georgia Journal of the 14th inst. says—

The following view of the subject, it is believed determined the Governor to decline the sale of the Africans which was to have taken place on the 4th inst.

These negroes having been introduced into the state contrary to the law of the United States, of the 2d of March, 1807, which prohibits the importation of slaves into any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States, from and after the 1st of January, 1809, were arrested from their owners by the Collector of the port of St. Mary's, and by him delivered to the state's agent, appointed by the Governor, in conformity with an act of the Legislature, passed the 19th of December, 1817, founded on the act of Congress above recited. In the act of the Legislature, it is declared, that it shall be the duty of the Governor to cause all negroes so illegally introduced, to be sold, after giving 60 days notice in a public gazette, &c.

The same law also provides, "that if, previous to the sale of any such persons of color, the society for colonization of free persons of color within the United States, will undertake to transport them to Africa, or any other place, which they may procure as a colony for free persons of color, at the sole expense of said society, and shall likewise pay to his excellency the Governor all expenses incurred by the state, since they have been captured and condemned, his excellency the Governor is authorized and requested to aid in promoting the benevolent views of said society, in such manner as he may deem expedient."

A few days previous to the day of sale, the Deputy Marshal came forward, with an order from the District Judge, to arrest them from the State's Agent, and to keep them subject to the order of the Court. At the same time, the Rev. Mr. Meade, Agent from the Colonization Society, arrived, clothed with full power to comply with the conditions of the law, and again to transport them to their native country. Under these circumstances, and believing that the state could not fail to have a verdict rendered in her favour on a final trial of the cause now pending, and being earnestly desirous to promote, as much as possible, the humane and benevolent exertions of the society for their emancipation, so far as it could be done consistently with justice to the claimants, and with the high respect due to the order of the Court, the Governor determined not to sell, but to hold them in possession, until the final decree of the Court should be known, and upon their condemnation as having been unlawfully introduced, to deliver them to the Colonization Society, upon their compliance with the conditions of the law. It is believed that such a disposition of them will be made as to render any future expense very inconsiderable, and probably to obviate it altogether.