

THE MESSENGER.

D. R. McANALLY & J. ROBERTS, EDITORS.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

Friday, October 14, 1843.

Subscribers and others indebted to this Office, in Cherokee county, will please call on Messrs. Summey & Ransom, and make settlement. Those in Macon will find their notes and accounts in the hands of J. K. Gray, Esq., at Franklin; and those in Haywood, with Maj. A. T. Davidson, at Waynesville. We hope our friends will ALL attend to this immediately, as we very much need money at this time.

KNOXVILLE, 6th OCTOBER.

Mr. Roberts: The Holston Annual Conference, agreeably to appointment, commenced its session at this place on yesterday—Bishop WATSON presiding. The preachers are pretty generally here, and bring up most pleasing accounts of the state of religion in their different charges. The cause of temperance, education and religion are evidently advancing more rapidly in the bounds of this Conference at present than at any former period in its history. Hundreds upon hundreds, and thousands after thousands have been added to the church since our last annual meeting. The institutions under the patronage of the Conference are in a prosperous condition, so far as the number of students is concerned, but it is a source of regret that there is a heavy debt hanging over one of our colleges, which must be liquidated soon, or the institution suffer. The Holston college, located at New Market, in this State, is in a very flourishing condition. Through the indefatigable labors of its faculty, it has been gradually rising for some time past, and now its number of students far exceeds that of any former period, and its general character at home and abroad, notwithstanding the efforts made by its enemies to prevent its prosperity—is much better than it ever before has been. It is now a desirable point to which a Southron in particular may turn his attention for the education of his sons. The location is perhaps as healthy a region as East Tennessee affords—tuition cheap, boarding remarkably so, and as few exceptions to be taken to the morals of the community around as to any other people in our whole country. The excellent character of the people of the village and contiguous country, is among the first reasons why that institution should be selected as a place for the education of youth. Too little attention is paid by many, if not indeed most parents and guardians to this subject, and as a consequence, the intellectual improvement of their sons is at the expense of their morals.

Last night Bishop WATSON preached in the new Methodist church to a very large and attentive congregation from Luke 24, 47. His sermon was plain, pointed, and powerful—as an evidence of which, at the close of it, upon an invitation given, some forty or fifty persons presented themselves at the altar, asking an interest in the prayers of God's people.

To-day, in his charge to the graduating class, the Bishop gave some severe strictures on the use of tobacco in general, and its use among preachers in particular, as I recollect ever to have heard. What effect it may have upon those to whom it was addressed, I cannot pretend to say—perhaps not much in the way of reforming them—as man usually cleaves to this practice with great pertinacity.

As the business progresses, you may perhaps hear from me again.

D. R. M.

KNOXVILLE, OCT. 8.

Mr. Roberts: Since my last, the business of our Conference has progressed very harmoniously and quite expeditiously. I find the temperance cause has taken a deep hold on the affections of the people of this place, and, as in every other place where it has prospered, is doing great good.

Business here is tolerably brisk for the season. Several very fine buildings have recently been erected, and the whole town wears the appearance of "peace and plenty."

The Legislature of this State, agreeably to the call of the Governor, met at Nashville on Monday last. The Governor's message has not reached here as yet, but perhaps will to-day. The principal object of the session is understood to be the districting of the State under the new apportionment act of Congress.

I have been at considerable loss to account for that want of prosperity which characterizes such a great portion of East Tennessee. Their lands are good—or at least altogether susceptible of a very high state of improvement, and their proximity to good markets is as great or greater than Kentucky; and still a very great portion of the country wears every appearance of dilapidation and decay. I speak of the country alone—it is not thus in some of the towns. Nothing, it seems to me, but a

want of proper industry and enterprise over would prevent the prosperity of the entire eastern portion of the State. Like too many others else where they complain of a want of markets when they have little to sell, and of unproductiveness in the soil when little or no pains are taken to improve it. I do not mean to say that the country is no where prosperous—but I do intend to say that it is almost every where less so than what its advantages would justify. With their natural advantages, they have ever had some political disadvantages. The numerical strength of their Legislature has for many years been west of the Cumberland mountains; and, like Western Carolina, East Tennessee has generally had to put up with a stepchild's portion.—But more anon. D. R. M.

The Whig Spirit.

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY THOUSAND FREEMEN IN COUNCIL! Our readers will doubtless remember that an invitation was some time since given by the Whigs of Ohio to the Whigs of Kentucky to attend a barbecue to be given at Dayton, Ohio, on the 29th ult. By the last Western mail, papers containing an account of the meeting have been received, from which we make the following extracts. It must have been a splendid affair, and shows that the spirit of 1840 is aroused.

News from the unparalleled assemblage at Dayton. We hasten to present to our readers the glorious news which crowded upon us last night from the great Whig assemblage at Dayton, Ohio.

The Cincinnati Gazette, of the 1st inst., says, "There were one hundred and thirty thousand freemen in council!"

The correspondent of the Louisville Journal, writing from the rallying ground, says—"The great, the countless, the never to be forgotten gathering at Dayton has spoken. Your readers need not look for a description of the scene, for it can never be described. There has probably never in time of peace been so large an assemblage in any country. ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND IS THE LOWEST estimate I have heard made. We can give no account of what CLAY, CRITTENDEN, EWING, and CORWIN said, nor have we been able to find any body that had got within hearing distance of them."

This vast multitude, in their moral majesty, with one universal shout, adopted a resolution offered, nominating HENRY CLAY, of Kentucky, for President, and JOHN DAVIS, of Massachusetts, for Vice President of the United States.

The Tennessee Legislature convened at Nashville on Monday, the 3d inst. Gov. JONES' message at the opening of the session is said to be a very able document.

A bloody affray recently took place at Louisville, Ky., in which Mr. Pope, editor of the "Sun," shot Mr. Bliss, a correspondent of the "Journal."

J. C. Colt, the murderer of Adams, has been sentenced to be hung in New York.

A shocking History.

A gentleman of veracity and respectability in Montgomery county, communicates the following unvarnished account of the Lucas family; one of the most wicked and abandoned that ever lived. It is unnecessary to say this, as the account would be discredited if it came from any other than undoubted authority, so shocking are its details.

CHRISTIANBURG, July 4th, 1842.

The scene of their lives and deprecations is in the county of Giles on Doe Creek, a small branch of New River, which heads in the celebrated Salt Pond Mountain, and from its obscurity and loneliness, and the character of its inhabitants, has always been avoided by civilized man. But to the tale:

The father of the Lucases is near about 93 years of age, and is no doubt a hoary-headed old villain, although he has during his long life, been adroit enough to commit no crime of which the law could take cognizance. I will give one trait in the character of this old sinner, which will suffice to show what kind of a man he is. On the recent trial of his son "Dave," when his life was in jeopardy, this old man being asked what was the character of his son David, responded that he believed "Dave would kill a man for twenty-five cents!"

The first in this family of blood, perhaps unparalleled in civil society, was the first son of "Old Ran," as he is usually called. (His name, perhaps, is Randolph, but I presume he has never seen or heard of the baptismal font.) Well, this first born of "Old Ran," named "Jerry," as long ago as the last war, became criminally connected with a man's wife who was in the service of his country as a military man, and in one week after the man's return home, after having encountered all the dangers of the war, "Jerry Lucas," at the earnest solicitation of the fiendish woman, pretended much friendship for the husband, and the man was found afterwards murdered behind a log, with about two hundred weight of stone upon his body. Lucas confessed that the evening they left the muster ground, he beat his victim over the head with a club until he supposed he was dead, and went to his house and stayed all night with his wife. To make assurance doubly sure, he returned in the morning to see if the man was dead. He found him

sitting, leaning against a tree and covered with gore. The poor fellow begged for his life, told Lucas to take his wife and he would leave the country as soon as he was able, and would never say any thing about what had been done to him. The savage Lucas was inexorable, murdered him outright and concealed him as I have stated. For this murder he was apprehended, tried, convicted and hung at Giles court house, in the fall of the year 1814. "Old Ran," his father, sat under the gallows when he was hanging, and amused himself by eating gingerbread.

The woman, or wife of the murdered man, escaped punishment for the want of testimony to convict her, and what has become of her since is to me unknown.

Next in the list of his family of criminals, is "Dave," or David, the second son of "Old Ran," and the Lion of the family, if exceeding all the rest in the number and magnitude of his crimes will make a villain a lion. "Dave" commenced his career of crime about 20 years ago, when he was 19 years of age, by stealing a horse, for which he was sent to the penitentiary for five years during which time he and another convict contrived to make their escape. Dave came on home, was captured, taken back, and served out his term.

But not long after his return home from this, his first probation, the incorrigible Dave contrived to rob a small dealing pedlar of nearly all his stock in trade, for which crime he was again sent to the penitentiary for three years. At the time of this last conviction, a cousin of Dave's a lad 16 or 17 years of age, was convicted for some crime, and also sent to the penitentiary for three years; of course they were discharged at the same time, and left the penitentiary together. The boy has never been heard of since; and Lucas, in some of his drunken frolics, has boasted that as they come on home, he killed the boy, and threw his body into the river; and he told the boy's father, that when he ran his knife into him he bawled like a calf. If Dave tells the truth in this matter, he must have murdered the poor boy for the wretched pittance that was given him when he left the penitentiary, to defray his expenses on his way home. On the night Dave came home from the penitentiary the last time, a stack yard, as also a valuable barn, full of grain, were burnt in Lucas' immediate neighborhood, belonging to persons who were witnesses on behalf of the Commonwealth, in his several convictions. From cogent circumstances, and the character of Lucas, he was universally believed to be the incendiary, and since his last conviction he has admitted the fact. Lucas' next exploit in the way of crime, was at a muster in September last. He had a quarrel and fight with his own sister's son, and in the fight he struck a blow with his fist, which instantly killed his nephew. For this murder he was arraigned, tried, and acquitted, owing to some extenuating circumstances. Since his recent confinement, he says he ought to have been punished for this murder, as he acknowledges he had a pound of lead rolled up and concealed in the hollow of his hand when he struck the blow that killed his nephew.

The next crime of which Lucas is accused, is only founded on strong circumstances, which are these: Some years ago, a man who had been on with a drove of cattle to the North, merely as a drover, was returning home through Lucas' neighborhood on foot. He was seen to pass a house in the morning and almost immediately after, Lucas was seen by the same man who saw the drover, to go on after him, with his rifle gun on his shoulder, and directly after the same man heard the report of a gun down the road, the way they had gone. Lucas soon after returned, and there was much blood on his clothes. The same day there was seen a large quantity of blood in the road. But as the drover was an entire stranger, no investigation was had. He never arrived at his home, nor has he since been heard of, and Lucas, if a murderer was committed, escaped punishment. Very recently, a man's dog in the vicinity of this transaction, came to his master with a human skull in his mouth.

Lucas' last crime, and for the perpetration of which the world has been freed of such a monster, was the murder of John Poff, a poor laborer, who had been working at the salt works on Kanhawa a few months and who, with the proceeds of his labor in a wallet, was travelling on foot and alone to his family and home in the county of Floyd Lucas fell in with him on the highway, and as it was late in the evening, enticed him to go home with him, as he said he could entertain him for the night as well as any one. In an evil moment poor Poff consented, and soon after met his fate.

"Dave" killed him within less than two hundred yards of his cabin, and so obscure is Lucas' residence, that the murdered man lay nearly a week above ground without discovery; and what is certainly a very strange infatuation on the part of the murderer, apparently no pains or care was taken to conceal the foul deed. This wretched criminal was apprehended, tried, and found guilty of this murder by the jury, in fifteen minutes from their retirement from the court room. There were seventeen witnesses on behalf of the Commonwealth; the criminal had no witnesses, and refused to employ counsel. The court of course, assigned him counsel, but his case was so plain and flagrant that the learned counsel (I presume) thought it unnecessary to make any defence, and submitted it to the jury without argument. Sentence of death was therefore pronounced upon him, and in accordance, he was hung on Friday, the 24th of June, at Giles court house, the day you saw his brother in the penitentiary. The spectators, male and female, black and white, would number perhaps 5000.

The wretched man died as he had lived, reckless and without any outward sign of compunction—made no particular confession when under the gallows; on the contrary, made use of profane language when in this awful situation, in response to something said to him by some of the attending clergy, and finally made an attempt to bite the Sheriff's ear whilst he was adjusting the rope round his neck. So lived, and thus died David Lucas, the wretched murderer.

The next in the list of this family of criminals is John Lucas, the one you saw in the penitentiary. He is "Old Ran's" third son. He, also, has killed his man, and his full cousin, too; for it seems they are like old Cain, their hands appear to be raised against their own kin. John and his cousin engaged in a fight caused by the cousin's fibering; by saying, "your brother Dave is in the penitentiary," which so enraged John that he struck him a blow with his heavy rifle gun with such force as to cleave his skull to the very teeth, breaking stock and barrel off in the middle and causing instant death. Dave Lucas being, in part, the cause of this quarrel, and its disastrous consequences to John, perhaps accounts for the recklessness of his behaviour on hearing of Dave's final fate, and may have been strong in his mind when he made the observation you mention, "that it would have been to the credit of the family if Dave had been hung many years ago." John was tried for his life, but as the murder occurred in a fight, and under very aggravating circumstances on the part of the murdered man, John's life was compromised for a years residence in the penitentiary. I never heard of any other deprecation on society committed by this criminal. You have seen him; he is a very good fac simile of this depraved family of Lucases. They are truly, a savage looking race. There are yet two brothers younger than those already named, who have not rendered themselves so conspicuous in the annals of crime; what their fates will be time only can tell. They promise fair to be genuine chips of the old block, and though young, are already the terror of the neighborhood. You can hardly believe such a community of savages could be produced in one family, in our civilized country.

"Old Ran" has also daughters, for these ill Wodes are very prolific; but they are worse than the sons, (save the mark), and hereby hangs a tale. But it is a tale not meet to be told among Christians, and I will pass it over. I have written enough to weary your patience, and perhaps monopolize too much of your time to read it. But the tale is true, and such as it is, I send it to you.

RELIGIOUS MELANCHOLY.—Many persons of a religious turn of mind, behave as if they thought it a crime to be cheerful.—They imagine the whole of religion consists in certain mortifications, or denying themselves the smallest indulgence, even of the most innocent amusements. A perpetual gloom hangs over their countenances, while the deepest melancholy preys upon their minds. At length the fairest prospects vanish, every thing puts on a dismal appearance, and those very objects which ought to give delight, afford nothing but disgust.—Life itself becomes a burden, and the unhappy wretch, persuaded that no evil can equal what he feels, often puts an end to his miserable existence.

It is a great pity that ever religion should be so far perverted, as to become the cause of those very evils which it was designed to cure. Nothing can be better calculated than true religion, to raise and support the mind of its votaries under every affliction that can befall them. It teaches man that even the sufferings of this life are preparatory to the happiness of the next, and all who persist in a course of virtue shall at length arrive at complete felicity.

Persons whose business it is to recommend religion to others, should beware of dwelling too much on gloomy subjects.—That peace and tranquility of mind which true religion is calculated to inspire, is a more powerful argument in its favor than all the terrors that can be uttered. Terror may indeed deter men from outward acts of wickedness, but can never inspire them with that love of God and real goodness of heart, in which alone true religion consists.

To conclude; the best way to counteract the violence of any passion, is to keep the mind closely engaged in some useful pursuit.

BANK NOTE TABLE.

Table listing bank notes from various banks including Augusta Notes, Savannah Notes, and Country Notes. Includes bank names like Mechanics Bank, Bank of Brunswick, and various denominations.

A LIST OF LETTERS REMAINING IN THE POST OFFICE AT ASHEVILLE, N. C., 30th Sept, 1843.

- List of names and addresses of letters remaining in the post office, including Robert Hall, H. P. Grennell, Joseph Welch, and others.

United States District Court of NORTH CAROLINA.—IN BANKRUPTCY.

NOTICE to show cause against Petition of Thomas J. Cooper, of Cherokee county, farmer, to be declared a bankrupt at Wilmington, on Monday, the 31st day of October next.

Notice to show cause against Petition of Robert Hall, of Cherokee county, farmer, to be declared a bankrupt at Wilmington, on Monday, the 31st day of October next.

Notice to show cause against Petition of Joseph Welch, of Macon county, planter, to be declared a bankrupt at Wilmington, on Monday, the 31st day of October next.

Notice to show cause against Petition of James W. Hunter, of Henderson county, Carpenter, to be declared a bankrupt at Wilmington, on Monday, the 31st day of October next.

Notice to show cause against Petition of Hiram Dunkin, of Henderson county, Carpenter, to be declared a bankrupt at Wilmington, on Monday, the 31st day of October next.

Notice to show cause against Petition of George Clements, of Buncombe county, farmer, to be declared a bankrupt at Wilmington, on Monday, the 31st day of October next.

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State of North Carolina, HENDERSON COUNTY.

Court of Pleas and Sessions, July Session, 1843. John Blythe vs. Richard Hough. Original Attachment levied on debts in the hands of Garnishes.

State of North Carolina, OLEAVLAND COUNTY.

Hazael Hicks, adm'r of Benjamin Hicks, dec'd vs. John Roberts, adm'r of Wm. Magnus, dec'd, and Perry Green Magnus. In this case it appearing by the affidavit of Complainant that defendant, Perry G. Magnus, is a resident of another State—Ordered, therefore, that publication be made for six weeks in the Highland Messenger commanding the said Perry G. Magnus to appear at the next Court of Equity to be held for said county, on the 6th Monday after the 4th in September next, then and there to plead, answer, or demur to said bill, or judgment pro confesso will be taken, and the same heard exparte. Given under my hand, at office, the 10th day of August, 1843.

Deeds of Conveyance.

Blank Deeds of Conveyance, printed in the best style, on good paper—for sale at this office. May 27, 1842.

Notice.

HENRY WAGGONER, give notice that I will petition the next Legislature of our State for a turnpike road, leading from the Buncombe turnpike road between Thomas Wolfe's and David Farnsworth's, and extending up Laurel to the Tennessee line. HENRY WAGGONER.

Storage and Commission Business, and Receiving & Forwarding Agency.

HAMBURG, S. C. THE subscriber respectfully begs leave to return his sincere acknowledgments to his friends and the public, for the patronage hitherto bestowed on him.

Going! Going! But not Gone! THE public are hereby warned to be on their guard against the rascality in general, and lies in particular, of a certain red-faced, light haired, rather low built son of Adam, calling himself Noah Ballou, alias Jeremiah Wilson, alias Joseph Thompson, alias Joseph Thompson, alias Joseph Thompson, who some time since, made his appearance in Cherokee county—from thence, found his way to Haywood—thence to Buncombe—all the while buying and borrowing whenever, and wherever he could get credit, and sometimes paying no raised bills. He claims to be a speculator in cattle, but the numerous impositions which he has practised upon the people where he has passed, prove him to be a most consummate scoundrel.

ESTRAY.

TAKEN up by John Roberts, Esq., at his residence on Laurel Creek, in Buncombe county, about 25 miles from Burnsville, on the 29th of June, one BAY FILLY, about three years old, fourteen hands high, with some small white spots on her back, supposed to be saddle marks, with her man turned on the left side of her neck—appraised at \$16. The owner is requested to come and prove property, pay charges as the law directs, or it will be dealt with according to the same.

To all whom it may concern.

NOTICE is hereby given that application will be made to the next Legislature of North Carolina for a repeal of the law requiring the two mile hands to work six days on the Buncombe Turnpike Road. October 7, 1842.

Cherokee County, N. C. SEPTEMBER 26, 1842.

THE undersigned has in the above county, a considerable quantity of land, which he now offers for sale on accommodating terms, and receive in payment the following articles, viz: IRON, BACON, BEEF, CATTLE, BEEF, HIDES, and CORN. The payment of one third of the price of the land, will be required at the expiration of one year—one third in two years and one third in three years, and when the circumstances of the purchasers make it necessary, the further indulgence of one year, will be given on each bond after it becomes due. No further security is required than a good character and industrious habits. Any person wishing to purchase, can apply to Mr. King, who resides in Murphy, the county seat of the above county. Sw-115. WILLIAM H. THOMAS.

State of North Carolina, BURKE COUNTY.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, July Term, 1842. John G. Duncan vs. Hamlin Freeman. Attachment levied on lands and chattels.

A VALUABLE COUNTRY SITUATION FOR SALE. I offer for sale my Tract of Land, on Hoop's creek, in Buncombe county, joining land with Daniel Blake, John Plumby, B. H. Morrison, and others, containing 102 acres, of which about one hundred is good tillable land, and nearly the whole tract tillable, with 70 or 80 acres cleared land, most of which is in cultivation; an orchard of the choicest fruits; two tolerably good log houses, and other necessary out-buildings, together with an excellent situation for a summer resort, convenient to a good spring and a first-rate rock quarry for building, &c.

THE citizens of the counties concerned, intend petitioning the next Legislature of North Carolina to establish a new county out of the west end of Henderson, the east end of Macon, and a small portion of the southwest corner of Haywood county. (For further particulars, see petition.) October 7, 1843.