

MINERS' & FARMERS' JOURNAL.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY, BY NOBLE & HOITON, CHARLOTTE, MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH-CAROLINA.

I WILL TEACH YOU TO PIERCE THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH AND BRING OUT FROM THE CAVERNS OF THE MOUNTAINS, METALS WHICH WILL GIVE STRENGTH TO OUR HANDS AND SUBJECT ALL NATURE TO OUR USE AND PLEASURE.—DR. JOHNSON.

VOL. II.

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THE Miners' & Farmers' Journal

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ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted at Fifty cents per square (not exceeding 20 lines,) for the first insertion, and 25 cents for each succeeding week—or \$1 for three weeks, for one square.—A liberal discount will be made to those who advertise by the year. If on all advertisements communicated for publication, the number of insertions must be noted on the margin of the manuscript, or they will be continued until forbid, and charged accordingly.

* All communications to the Editors must come free of postage, or they may not be attended to.

NOTICE.

ON Thursday, the 5th day of January next, a number of likely NEGROES, belonging to the estate of the late Marshal T. Polk, will be sold and hired on accommodating terms.

F. L. SMITH, Adm'r.

December 15, 1831.

N. B. Those indebted to the estate are again requested to call and settle, as longer indulgence cannot be given.

Negroes to Hire.

THE Subscriber will hire out, for the term of one year, on Monday, the 16th of January next, a number of valuable NEGROES, consisting of men, women, boys, girls, and children.—The hiring to be held at the residence of Susanna Smartt.

THO. B. SMARTT.

Mecklenburg, Dec. 17, 1831.

NOTICE.

ALL persons indebted to the subscriber, are earnestly requested to come forward and make settlement immediately. Those who fail to comply with the above request, must expect to pay with cost.

THOS. MARKS.

Dec. 18, 1831.

1832.

The Farmers' and Planters' ALMANAC for 1832.

Calculated for the Meridian of Salem, N. C.

JUST received, and for sale at this Office, by the groce, half groce, dozen, or single, at the publishers prices—10 cents single, 75 per dozen, \$4 half groce, and \$7 per groce.



PRACTICAL AGRICULTURE.

THE COUNTRY FARMER.—From the N. Y. Farmer.

Mr. Fleet.—The proper education for farmers, male and female, supposing that the sons and daughters are to pursue the same business, will first be discussed. As to the extent of mere literature, or of science, and the knowledge of philosophy, which is desirable for a farmer, much will depend upon the capacity of each individual, as to resources of mind, physical and moral energy, and pecuniary ability: Always remembering, however, that more learning than understanding, totally disqualifies every son and daughter of the farm for its business.—If men, and boys, and women and girls, would put their learning to good uses, there would be little danger of having too much; nor would there, as the case actually stands, if it were not so much the fashion to throw away so much time in learning what is worse than useless. We are a nation of Englishmen, and the literature of our mother tongue, embraces all, that can, by any possibility, be of any service to a farmer. Learn as much as they may, of English literature, with science and philosophy, and there is little danger of an overstock, or that the conceit of learning will spoil a boy, or a man, for farming, unless, indeed, he be spoiled before, by want of mind. Let him go to a 'profession,' and crawl along the road to indolence, uselessness and contempt, the 'stunted pig' of the order, as a living beacon to other farmers' sons.

But how much learning should a farmer have? All he can get, I answer, and make a good use of, the main thing, after all.—While a boy, a thorough knowledge of the spelling book, the ground work of all literature, so as to be able to spell readily, and correctly, all the words of common occurrence in the language. He must learn to be a good reader also, and may read a book of grammar, for amusement, but should never, if a lad of good sense, be permitted to commit a single rule of it to memory.—Leave this to boys who have time to throw away upon the dead languages, and often before they can spell half the words in their own, the way to make pedants, covcombs, and learned dunces. He must learn arithmetic, and learn how to apply it to use, taking special care to commit the tables to memory, at school. The elements of geography may be learned in a few months, while practising in penmanship; and some knowledge of history is good, if only to implant a taste for the study, during the leisure hours of a Farmer's life. Natural inclination is like appetite for food. That which is to the taste, and humor of the mind, is easily acquired, sets well, and is likely to be useful. If the boy has some geometry in his mind, study mathematics, geometry,

and the elements of astronomy, but let it be his own study, assisted by his teacher. So, also, if he have a mind for mechanism, indulge him with tools, and with the study of mechanics. So, also, in Botany, and the physical sciences as they are called, as mineralogy, geology, and zoology, but only in the rudiments at school. In natural philosophy encourage all his taste for information. Farming is, truly, a most philosophical business, and the delights of which, as well as the success, and profits, are much increased, by an intimate early acquaintance with the laws of matter. The great purpose of learning is to supply food for thought. So, also, of writing, to set men to thinking for themselves. The horse, who ruminates, grazes all the time. It takes the cow half her time to chew her cud, without which she would give no milk.

But how much time would we allow the sons of Farmers, in getting all this school learning? I answer, not more than the half of each year, from the age of five to fifteen; that is, in our northern climate, to attend school through each winter, and be kept at work on the farm all the rest of the time, so as to have a handy habit for work, as well as for learning at school. If kept out of school half the time, they will return to it with a good appetite for learning; and if kept at school half the time, and the other half at work on the farm, they will return to their work with a good relish for it, tired of the school house. Whatever is taken with a good appetite, nourishes, whether it be for the body or the mind. These alternate occupations, besides that their varied occupations keep the appetite always keen, allow time for reflection, keep the mind always occupied, ruminating,—contribute to health, and vigor, bodily and mental, and incorporate habits, leading directly to manhood, and in the very line of life for which your soul is destined. The very best feature of a good education, is to incorporate good and useful habits, with the necessary learning. The health of the body, every body knows, is often impaired by being kept too closely at school. It will startle many persons to be told, that the mind is often injured in the same way, and yet nothing is more certain. The appetite palls with constant feeding, and a distaste is often produced, a kind of unconquerable aversion, which extends even through life. Few parents seem to be aware of this, especially those who live in large towns, and cities, where it is the fashion to keep children constantly at school, partly in many cases to keep them 'out of the way.' They should remember that food, taken to excess, is never well digested. We, on farms, think of lessons from nature, not desiring to learn wisdom from the ruminating cow, the ox, and the sheep. After these animals have done chewing the cud, they are again ready for grazing, and of course with good appetites.

From the age of five to fifteen years, half the time at school, is time enough, for boys of good parts, to get all the learning, at school, as is absolutely necessary to enable a boy to become a good farmer. Not that he is then a man, or that he is never to get any more learning, after he leaves school. This is not the practice of farmers' sons, but to consider every part of life as a school for knowledge in the business of life, some part of which is to be acquired by reading of books, but more by observation, and the study of things in the great book of nature. He has no diploma, on which to repose like the lad coming from college, who often ceases to learn, as soon as he comes from school. Farmers, in fact, think more, and study more, in their way, than the most of men are aware of. A vacant mind is rarely met with in a farm-house.

I do not say, then, that at the age of fifteen, every farmer's son is to be taken from school. Two or three months each winter, for two or three years longer time, may be well spared to such as have an aptitude for more knowledge of books, especially if in the seasons of vegetation, they have acquired themselves well in the labors of the farm, not only as to work, but by bringing the mind into those labors. Nor do I say that no farmer's son should be sent to school before five years of age; nor that, at that age, he is to be tasked with constant work, when out of school. Let him play, and make play of work, by which he will be learning something, about work, no small part of his education. Before five years old, he will have learned his letters, and how to form simple words. By the aid of little picture books, with cuts of the common animals of the farm, the form, figure, and name of each one will be familiar to him, and he will be able to spell the names, even without ever having thought of such a thing as task, or lesson, in learning. It has been his play, like the little dams he has made in the brook, in which he has actually been studying natural philosophy by experiment. I have raised up a large family each of which, has,—except one—alas!—been conducted along exactly in the way here proposed, and with the most perfect success, thanks to divine mercy. Good habits, Mr. Editor, engrained upon, or incorporated with, the neces-

sary learning, and habits adapted to the destined business of life, should be considered as a chief object of education, of which I have had the most convincing, and by negation—the most melancholy evidence.

From the Raleigh Register. CENTRAL RAIL-ROAD MEETING. Raleigh, Dec. 17, 1831.

At a public meeting of the citizens of Wake county, called for the purpose of considering the expediency of establishing a Central Rail-Road from the town of Beaufort, in Carteret county, to the West. JOSEPH GALES Esq. was called to the Chair, and Maj. CHARLES L. HINTON and Col. JOHN BELL were appointed Secretaries.—G. W. Haywood, Esq. Gen. R. M. Saunders and William S. Ransom addressed the meeting on the expediency of the project.

Mr. Haywood then submitted the following Preamble and Resolutions which were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the very great improvements which, within a few years past, have been made in RAIL-ROADS, and in the machinery employed upon them, have given to this system of transportation, so decided an advantage, over all the other artificial means of inter-communication heretofore attempted, as to have inspired an almost universal confidence in it, both in our own country and in Europe:

Be it therefore Resolved, that we, as citizens of Wake county, in public meeting assembled, being deeply impressed with the importance and necessity of establishing a Central Rail-Road in this State, will heartily concur in all practicable plans to accomplish the establishment of said Central Rail-Road.

Resolved, that we approve of the proceedings of our fellow-citizens of the towns of Salisbury, Beaufort and Newbern, relative to the establishing of the Central Rail-Road, and view the commencement and completion of the same, as the most certain means by which the agricultural and commercial resources of the State, can be developed, increased and improved.

Resolved, that we deprecate as a great public calamity, the constant emigration of our fellow-citizens to other States, which is now rapidly progressing and threatens insupportable injury to our State, and that we will unite in any measure calculated to arrest its progress.

Resolved, that our Representatives in the present General Assembly, be requested to vote for the passage of such acts as are necessary to accomplish the objects set forth in the foregoing Resolutions, and that they be furnished with a copy of the same.

Gen. Saunders submitted the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, that a Committee of seven persons be appointed to correspond with other meetings which may be held on this subject in different parts of the State, and to take such other steps as they may deem useful for promoting the great object of this meeting.

The following gentlemen were named on said committee, viz: Gen. Saunders, Col. Bell, Maj. Charles L. Hinton, G. W. Haywood, Wesley Jones, William Whitfield and Joseph Gales.

Resolved, that for the purpose of awakening the people throughout the State to a proper consideration of this object, which will so much contribute to its prosperity, similar meetings be recommended to be held in every county.

On motion, it was

Resolved, that the proprietors of the papers published in this City, and in other towns of the State, be requested to publish these proceedings.

J. GALES, Chairman.
CHARLES L. HINTON, Secretaries.
JOHN BELL,

REPORT

Relative to incorporating the Mecklenburg Gold-Mining Company.

The committee to whom was referred "a bill to incorporate the Mecklenburg Gold-Mining Company," having had the same under consideration, respectfully report,

That, in the very threshold of their investigation, they have been forcibly impressed with the growing importance of the mining interest in North-Carolina. Within a few years past, it has attracted much of public attention, and with those who have bestowed some reflection on the subject, it has been the source of a lively hope that the development of her mineral treasures will contribute, in no ordinary degree, to improve the hitherto depressed condition of our State. Already have the mines afforded much public good, as well as private prosperity. They have been largely instrumental in the restoration of a sound money circulation, so desirable to every portion of the community. By their assistance, our banking institutions have, at all times since their successful operation, been enabled to procure funds and a redeeming capital, which had the ability to sustain their currency. A large addition has been made to the active capital of the State, both in the way of investment and in the amount actually rendered by the mines. This benefit has been felt by all. But the mining district of the State has, in a peculiar manner, been indebted to their discovery and operation for much prosperity, and her extraction from difficulties and embarrassments, which were sorely felt in common, at one period, by every section of the State, and which were ruinous and inevitable.—Every branch and exertion of industry have received their rewards. The productions of agriculture and the various improvements of art have met with a liberal encouragement; the value of real property enhanced; the disposition to emigrate checked; bankrupt individuals restored to competence and

fortune; agriculture and the mechanic arts improved; high prices for labor and constant employment; a home market furnished; enterprise stimulated; few debts; an increased attention to the comforts of domestic life; education diffused; liberality of public sentiment; improvement in the habits of society; population increased; and new fields opened to adventurers for fortune and fame: These are some of the benefits that, under the influence of the mines, have diffused themselves among every class of the community, like blood through the unanimated system.

But there is another view in which the mining interest may be regarded with anxious concern, and which ought, in the estimation of your committee, to be the foundation of a liberal policy extended to mining enterprise in the State. Various causes have combined, for several years, to render labor applied to the ordinary staples of the South of less value than before. These causes, it is feared, will continue to operate with additional force. With the increase of population, and the probable diminution in the value of slave property, the application of labor in the same channel will necessarily diminish the price of Southern staples. All surplus labor on any one branch must be diverted. In this state of things, and under disadvantages peculiar to a people who are without a large foreign commerce—without roads and canals—without a cash home market—without manufactures, and deprived of many other sources of national aggrandizement, the discovery and development of the mines will open a new, extensive and fertile field for individual and public enterprise, for the happiness and prosperity of our State.

From these facts and reasons, and from every other consideration that your committee have been enabled to bestow on the subject, they are convinced that it would be good policy to cherish, with a prompt and liberal encouragement, the mining operations of the State. This can only be effected by inducing an investment of sufficient capital, either domestic or foreign, or both, for that purpose. For however substantial the benefits may have been which have hitherto been derived from this source, yet it cannot be denied that previous expenditure in mining has been chiefly by way of experiment; and that the present condition of the operations urges the adoption of some new system, by which the mines may be wrought under more favorable auspices.

Your committee presume it will not be questioned that mining prosecutions will rarely, if ever, be attempted by individuals singly, and without aid from associates in the undertaking. It has never been done to any profitable extent in this country; and in richer and older countries, where wealth is often overgrown, and is not distributed with so equal a hand as here, all experience has demonstrated that private and unassisted opulence, however immense, has never been devoted to the exploration of the mines, and would be wholly inadequate to the object.

This remark applies, with additional reason, to all "vein mines," which must be sought for, if successfully, to great depth and at great expense; and which, while they are always the most permanent and profitable, are at the same time the most expensive. This is the class now seeking Legislative assistance.

The insufficiency of individual capital is owing, also, to the very uncertain and hazardous character of all mining enterprise—a character which has ever been proverbial. Some untoward event may disappoint the best grounded hope, and frustrate the wisest calculations. This has already been experienced in North-Carolina and in every mining country, and is more especially the case when some progress is made; when water is reached; when fortifications and other defences are indispensable; and when, without consummate skill, every day subjects the proprietors to accidents which may annihilate the most sanguine anticipations.

Your committee, then, are justified in affirming that an association of individuals, in some way or other, is absolutely requisite for the security of capital invested for mining purposes; and that every prudent man would embark in such perilous and costly undertakings only such sum as he could sacrifice without placing his whole fortune in jeopardy. Of such associations, there are but two kinds, either corporate or copartnership associations. To the latter, the reasons which are to be found in the hazard and immense expenditure of mining offer an insurmountable barrier; and the objections are magnified when connected with the legal habits of a partnership. The profits, too, in a copartnership, are not at all proportioned to the risk run. No matter in what degree a person may be interested in such a concern, if it be but for one cent, or to thousands of dollars, he is responsible for all the contracts, and subject to all misfortunes of the company, however numerous, or however various their interests. A variety of casualties may expose the richest partner to poverty and utter ruin. No one

will adventure in an enterprise so expensive and uncertain, and where he may be liable to the mismanagement and indiscretion of a distant superintendent, and where he risks not only the amount originally invested, but his whole estate. In a partnership, also, the death, or any legal disability of any party, however numerous the association, dissolves the concern; and a transfer of his interest will not free him of his liability.—There is scarcely a possibility of its duration for any length of time; and new and intricate rights and duties are constantly springing up. Your committee, therefore, are satisfied that partnership associations do not afford facilities and inducements to capitalists to incline them to invest in any degree proportioned to the richness of our mines, or to the importance of the policy which it is so vitally our interest to promote.

The objections adverted to, do not hold in relation to corporate bodies. The stockholder is liable only to the amount of his subscription, and may transfer his interest without endangering his private fortune.—The existence of the corporation, too, is not subject to chance. So essential is some principle of this kind, that in all extensive mining countries, adventurers are secured in these privileges by the general law.

There is at this time in the U. States a vast amount of surplus capital, which will be much increased by the extinction of the national debt, that would be directed to mining; and by being spent among us, would necessarily advance the general prosperity. Your committee, therefore, recommend the policy of incorporation for mining objects, under such restrictions and regulations as the Legislature, in its wisdom, may think fit to impose, and not incompatible with the proper and essential rights of the corporators. For it becomes the duty of the power granting the concession, to secure the object contemplated without injuring the community. Mining in North-Carolina is yet in its infancy; and, even in its infancy, the large amount of capital already expended has given an impetus clearly perceptible in the advancement of her interests. Policy dictates the continuance of this impulse. It has been said, with much propriety, that "the precious metals can never glut the market, nor mining for them be overdone." There can be no monopoly. Every establishment is useful to its neighbor; and every introduction and investment of capital, whether successful or not, constitute an important addition to the common stock.

Your committee are deterred, by the length of their report, from the prosecution of an inquiry which might be usefully extended.

In the bill immediately under their consideration, they are satisfied that the rights of the corporators and the interests of the community are equally indemnified; and, with some slight amendment, which will be offered, they recommend its passage into a law, and believe that its rejection would prove injurious to the best interests of North-Carolina.

All which is respectfully submitted.

D. M. BARRINGER, Chmn.

HOW TO TELL BAD NEWS.

Scene. Mr. G.'s Room at Oxford. Enter, his Father's Steward.

Mr. G. Ha! Jervas, how are you my old boy? How do things go on at home? Steward. Bad enough, your honour; the magpie's dead. Mr. G. Poor Mag! So he's gone. How came he to die? Steward. Over-ate himself, sir. Mr. G. Did he faith? A greedy dog. Why, what did he get he liked so well? Steward. Horse-flesh, sir; he died of eating horse-flesh. Mr. G. How came he to get so much horse-flesh? Steward. All your father's horses, sir. Mr. G. What! are they dead too? Steward. Aye, sir; they died of over-work. Mr. G. And why were they over-worked, pray? Steward. To carry water, sir. Mr. G. To carry water? And what were they carrying water for? Steward. Sure, sir, to put out the fire. Mr. G. Fire! what fire? Steward. Oh, sir, your father's house is burned down to the ground. Mr. G. My father's house burned down! and how came it set on fire? Steward. I think, sir, it must have been the torches. Mr. G. Torches! what torches? Steward. At your mother's funeral. Mr. G. My mother dead! Steward. Ah, poor lady! she never looked up after it. Mr. G. After what? Steward. The loss of your father. Mr. G. My father gone too! Steward. Yes, poor gentleman, he took to his bed as soon as he heard of it. Mr. G. Heard of what? Steward. The bad news, sir, and please your honour. Mr. G. What! more miseries! more bad news! Steward. Yes, sir; your bank has failed, and your credit is lost, and you are not worth a shilling in the world. I made bold, sir, to come to wait on you to tell you about it, for I thought you would like to hear the news.

The buttons on the coat of John Hancock were of silver, and of American manufacture—the device, a shepherd shearing his sheep—the motto, "you gain more by our lives than by our deaths."