

MINERS' & FARMERS' JOURNAL.

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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 SUBMIT ALL NATURE TO OUR USE AND PLEASURE.—DR. JOHNSON.

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From Sketches of Distinguished Females—by
J. Seawell Jones.

MISS FLORA MACDONALD.

The romantic story of this celebrated heroine is not confined to Scotland, nor to the fortunes of the house of Stuart. The banks of the Cape Fear, in North Carolina, were for several years distinguished by her residence; and it is this circumstance which still links her name with the history of that State, almost inseparably as it already is, with that of her own Scotland.

The rebellious of Scotland had contributed to the population of the Cape Fear counties long before the famous revolt of the Highland clans, under the chivalrous banner of Prince Charles Edward, in 1745, after which much of the nobility and gentry sought a refuge amidst the solitudes of our forests. The fatal battle of Culloden annihilated the power and independence of the Highland "hards;" and in the year 1747, a colony of five thousand Highlanders arrived, and settled on the banks of Cape Fear. They came originally from hard necessity, but even up to this time, from ties of relationship, or the still deeper sympathy of mutual origin, the Highland emigrants are prone to seek the sandy regions of their countrymen. He who cannot go to Scotland may penetrate into the counties of Cumberland, Moore, Richmond, Robeson, and indeed, into nearly all Cape Fear counties, where he will find even the Gaelic tongue, in all its purity.

Flora Macdonald was the daughter of Macdonald of Milton, in the island of South Uist; but her father having died in her infancy, and her mother having married Macdonald of Arisaig, in Skye, an adherent of the Government, she was thus endeared to both parties, the Government, and that of Prince Charles, the young Pretender. Her more usual residence was with her brother, the proprietor of Milton; but such seems to have been the estimation of her character, that she was beloved by every clan, rebel or not.

She did not see the Prince Charles till after the battle of Culloden, when he was a wanderer, without a home, and without friends or adherents. His forces had been slaughtered and routed, and he himself driven to the hills and caves of his kingdom to find a hiding place; and at such a moment, Flora Macdonald adopted him and his cause. She disguised him in a female dress, and guided him from island to island, and, after encountering every hardship and peril, got him into the way to escape to France, where he had friends on and around the throne.

Flora Macdonald was arrested, confined to prison, and after a year was released and then carried into the Court society of London, by Lady Primrose, a Jacobite Lady of wealth and distinction. It is recorded that twenty coaches of the proudest names of the realm stood at the door of Lady Primrose, to pay their respects to the heroine of the Scotch rebellion only a few days after her release. A chase and four were fitted up to take her back to Scotland; and when she was consulted as to who should escort her home, she selected her fellow prisoner, Gen. Malcolm M'Leod, who boasted that he came to London to be hanged, but rode back in a chase and four with Flora Macdonald.

She afterwards married Kingsburg Macdonald of Kingsburg, the son of one of her old associates in the perilous salvation of Prince Charles; and he, like all the highland gentlemen, was encumbered with heavy obligations, in the way of private debts, and still heavier oaths of fealty to the house of Hanover. In 1773, Dr. Johnson and Mr. Boswell visited the house of Kingsburg Macdonald, and were entertained by the generosity and hospitality of the proprietor and his noble spouse. She was then a fine, gentle looking woman, full of the enthusiasm of her early life, and as she was now the mistress of the house in which both the fugitive prince and herself had been once entertained by the father of her husband, she put the great living patriarch of England in the same bed to which the unfortunate Prince had on that occasion slept. In the tour to the Hebrides, it is related that Kingsburg Macdonald was embarrassed in his private affairs, and contemplated an emigration to America.

I think it was in 1775, when she arrived in North Carolina, and settled at Cross Creek, the seat of the present town of Fayetteville. It was a stormy period of our history, and those who came among us at that time to seek peace and contentment were disappointed, for they met at their landing civil and intestine war. The policy of the royal governor, too, was to carry along with him the Highlanders, whom he represented as still liable to confiscation of estate for their former rebellion. The prudent emigrants were to recently from the bloody field of Culloden to run heedlessly into another war of extermination. They measured the strength of the English Government by their experience, and seeing around them no prince of their blood to lead them on to battle, they, nearly to a man, joined the royal standard.

The truth is, the countrymen of Flora

Macdonald, were incapable of appreciating the nature of the Revolution. They had come to North Carolina in quest of fortune and undisturbed peace, and clung to the government from a double sense of interest and fear. The sublime idea of an American Empire, was not in the range of their hopes or anticipations; but Scotland was again to be their home when King George should have forgotten their rebellion, and fortune should again have restored them to wealth and importance.

Kingsburg Macdonald entered with much zeal in the cause of the royal government, and assisted his kinsman, Gen. Donald M'Leod, in his extensive preparations for the famous battle of Moore's Creek. Flora, too, is said to have embraced, with much enthusiasm, the same cause, and to have exhorted her countrymen to adhere to their king. The settlement of the Cross Creek was the metropolis of the Highlanders, and there they congregated to listen to the counsels of their aged chief. The Macdonalds, the M'Leods, the Camerons, the M'Neills, and the Campbells, were all represented there, in the person of some beloved and hereditary chieftain.

On the first of February, 1746, Donald M'Leod issued a proclamation, calling upon all loyal Highlanders to join his standard at Cross Creek, and on that day fifteen hundred men mustered under his command. The enthusiastic spirit of Flora forgot that it was not for "her Charles," she was warning, and tradition says she was seen among the ranks, encouraging and exhorting them to battle. Loyalty seems to have been a strange principle in the bosom of the Highlanders. Thirty years before this period they had fought the battle of Culloden against the house of Hanover; and now they are on the eve of a similar engagement for its support against the cause of freedom.

Kingsburg Macdonald was a captain in the army of Donald Macdonald, and his wife followed the fortunes of the camp. She proceeded with the army towards the Camp of Gen. Moore, on Rockfish river, and was with her husband on the morning of the 26th of February, on the banks of Moore's Creek, a small stream in the county of Hanover.—The whig army, under the command of Col. Lillingston, was encamped on the other side of this stream, and on the morning 27th, the celebrated battle of Moore's Creek, was fought, the Highlanders signally routed. Ours M'Leod and Campbell both slain, Kingsburg Macdonald taken prisoner, and Flora once more a fugitive, and indeed an outlaw. The Highlanders were a brave and loyal race, but poor fellows, they had their Culloden in North Carolina as well as in Scotland.

Flora Macdonald returned to Cross Creek, without her husband, and there she found the whig banner triumphant, under the command of Col. Alexander Martin, afterwards the Governor of the State. The sad reverse of her fortune seemed to have begun. Tradition says her house was pillaged, and her plantation ravaged by the cruelty of the whigs, and there is too much reason to believe it is true. The Highland population was, for many years, conquered, and kept in subjection by the remembrance of this defeat, and it was only during the latter part of the war, when the contest became more doubtful, that they again joined in the heat of battle.

The Highlanders, and with them the husband of Flora Macdonald, there is too much reason to fear, shared the fate of the unfortunate rebels of 1745.—Their estates were ravaged by force, and as soon as a state government was established, the ravages of the Whigs were legalized by an act of confiscation.—Kingsburg Macdonald remained in North Carolina but a few years, when he embarked in a ship of war for Scotland. Mr. Chambers, in his admirable history of the Rebellion of 1745, records a circumstance that occurred during the voyage illustrative of her character. The ship encountered a French ship, and in the thickest of the battle, Flora was on deck, encouraging the crew until the contest ceased. She afterwards philosophized, by saying that she had endangered her life for both the house of Stuart and the house of Hanover, but that she did not perceive that she had profited by her exertion.

There is one anecdote connected with the battle of Moore's Creek, and with Donald Macdonald, who was a kinsman of Flora, the Highland Chief, which deserves here to be recorded. He was an old veteran in the art of war, having been engaged as an officer in the army of the young Pretender, in 1745, in which character he appeared in the battle of Moore's Creek, and committing the fate of his countrymen into the hands of his aid-de-camp, Col. M'Leod, he remained in his camp. After his forces had been entirely routed, the whig commanders found him alone, seated on a stump, and, as they walked up to him, he waved the parchment scroll of his commission in the air, and surrendered it into their hands.

The town of Fayetteville now covers the spot formerly the metropolis of the High-

land clans. There lived Flora Macdonald and a host of others, whose names appear in the History of Scotland as brave and warlike spirits. To me it was a beautiful spot, as soon in 1832, before its destruction by fire, when the spring time of year contributed to embellish the banks of the small stream that winds its way through the very streets of the town. I remember one view, which would have been a fit spot for the romantic genius of Flora Macdonald. There was a small bridge that spanned the stream connected with the Cross House and City Hall, and standing on the bridge, you had first the office of Mr. Eccles, an accomplished attorney, immediately before you, suspended over the Creek, and connected with the street by a bridge; then from thence flowed on through a spacious and richly cultivated garden; and then led well amidst a profusion of the richest shrubbery.

On the left was the Episcopal church, and away down the creek, the high steeple of the Presbyterian meeting house shot up in the air as if it had been the monument of the spot. A beautiful chrysalis stream, with embroidered banks, winding its way through the heart of a city—such an ornament had the Cross Creek of the Highlanders. There is another creek that courses along the southern extremity of the town, and just below the city the two streams apparently cross at right angles. The superposition was of old, that the waters actually crossed each other, but by a little observation, you will perceive that the streams have, as if they were accidentally, touched, and without further contact separated, and gone off quietly on their serpentine courses. Hence the name of Cross Creek.

The surrounding country is a sandy barren, with but little undergrowth, and but for the lofty pines that cover it, would pass for a Lydian desert. In the midst of this wild waste of sand, stands the American house of Flora Macdonald. The life of no female in the history of any country was ever more deserving the attention of the historian. Her adventurous deeds in the service of the unfortunate prince, have been celebrated by almost every poet of the age, and have more, than any single subject, infused a spirit of love and war into the industry of her own poetical country.

Rapidity of Modern Printing.—"Can't you print me a Bible?" said a good old lady, who some years ago, came into a printing office in the country.

"Certainly," said a man at the press, who was dabbling at the types like a hen picking up corn—"Certainly madam, but not just at present. It'll take some time to print you a copy."

"Oh," returned the old lady, "for that matter, I'm in no great hurry—my time to-day will answer."

"To-day?" said the printer in astonishment—"why madam, you don't think—"

"Oh yes," said the good woman, seating herself on a bench and taking up her knitting—"I can wait just as well as that. It's only one o'clock now, and I suppose you'll get it done before tea time?"

"What! print a Bible in an afternoon? Why madam it would take me and my devil a whole year to print a Bible. Yes, that it would!"

"Oh, my gracious!" exclaimed the old lady, starting up in astonishment—"you don't have the Evil One to work for you, do you?"

"Evil One? Yes, he's evil enough, the lazy dog."

"I wouldn't have him to print a Bible for me on no account. I shouldn't believe a word on't, if he did; for he's a liar and the father of lies."

"I don't know whether he's the father of lies or not. But he is, sure enough, a lying little devil—there's no trusting him. I mean to cancel his indentures."

"Well, good bye Mr. Printer; I couldn't think of having a good book done in such a bad office. Employ the devil I order!"

The old lady made her way with all haste out of the office; and when it is considered that she was unacquainted with the technical language of typographers, and did not know the difference between the Printer's Devil and Old Nicholas, himself it must be owned that her horror was very natural.

In one of Willie's last letters there is a fine description of a ship.

"There is nothing in the whole world of senseless matter, so like a breathing creature, as a ship. The energy of her motion, the beauty of her shape and contrivance, and the ease with which she is managed by the one mind upon her quarter deck, to whose voice she is as obedient as the courser to the rein, inspire me with daily admiration. I have been four months a guest in this noble man-of-war, and to this hour I never set my foot on her deck without a feeling of fresh wonder. And then Cooper's novels read in a ward-room as grapes eat in Tuscany. It were missing one of the golden leaves of a life not to have thinned them on a cruise."

[BY REQUEST.]

FIFTH OF NOVEMBER.

We invite the attention of our readers to the article below, especially the proposal for *Simultaneous Conventions*. We hope that the friends of education generally throughout the states will assemble at their respective county towns, on the first Wednesday of November next, to adopt some organized, and efficient measures for the promotion of schools and the diffusion of knowledge. By taking the first step, viz. organizing a County Lyceum, any other which is desirable will be found practicable and easy. The qualification of teachers may be raised and their schools improved, improved books and modes of teaching introduced, apparatus for visible illustrations procured, village and neighborhood Lyceums established, circuit teachers employed, museums and itinerating libraries formed, Lyceum Seminars established or promoted, correspondence and exchange with schools and Lyceums in other parts of the country instituted, and any other objects or measures, advanced, which may seem desirable for the cause of education and of humanity.

We are happy to learn that measures are adopted to have forwarded to each county town in the Union, such pamphlets, periodicals and papers, as will fully explain the plan, operations and advantages of the Lyceum system, especially of a *Central Lyceum Seminary*, about being established, and furnish other aid for rendering the proposed conventions instructive and successful.

From Niles' Weekly Register.

LYCEUM SEMINARIES.

Addressed to the editor of the Register.

Self-education and self-support is, in all the departments and all the operations of the lyceum system, its most prominent feature. It acknowledges the benevolence, the overflowing goodness of our Creator, in furnishing all his rational creatures with the faculties, and in surrounding them with the materials, or means, of growing and rising in physical, intellectual and moral strength. The great object of lyceums is to call into exercise these faculties, and to use these materials, so abundantly furnished by the wisdom and goodness of the great Creator, and the constant and abounding Benefactor.

There is, however, one department of the general and national institution of lyceums in which the principle of self-support is more fully and more prominently recognized than in any of the rest. The general plan of lyceums has ever contemplated, within every county or other moderate district, a *manual labor and self-supporting school*, which should furnish to its pupils advantages equal to those in our colleges for general literature and science, and such superior for a practical business education to those of any institutions in our country. While these schools are designed to afford to farmers, mechanics and all the industrious classes of the community, the best opportunities for a practical, useful education, they are also intended to be, in the strictest and best sense of the word, seminaries for teachers—for teachers of schools and lyceums. They are intended to furnish the means for teachers to support and educate themselves, and at the same time to construct their own apparatus and various instruments of instruction, while they are learning the modes of using them, and acquiring the knowledge they are designed to illustrate. Lyceum seminaries are intended to unite manufactories of apparatus for illustrating various departments of science, and the qualification of teachers to use the instruments for diffusing the science among all classes of the community, and in every section of the country.

Experience, on this subject, has already proved, that young men, and even ladies, after a short time, and probably young ladies and misses, can pay, by their own industry, all their expenses of board, clothes, books, tuition, &c. and at the same time acquire a more thorough, useful education, than it is possible for any college or other institution, without manual labor, to give them. Such being the testimony of experience, the conclusion follows, that any plain farmer's son, or poor mechanic's daughter, can have the means of acquiring a *better education* than the money of the rich can purchase for their children.

In all the departments, and in all the operations of the lyceum system, there is harmonious action and reciprocal and united effort. So, between the lyceum seminaries in all parts of the country, there is intended to be a virtual, though, perhaps, not a formal connection. In many of their operations, especially in the manufactory of apparatus, they may render each other very important aid; and, by their united efforts, furnish, not only colleges, academies and high schools, but lyceums, common schools and families, with more abundant, cheaper and better instruments of instruction, *tools of knowledge*, than can possibly be furnished from any other source.

The whole plan of lyceum seminaries will embrace, then a central institution, which shall combine a seminary for teachers and a manufactory of apparatus, for a part, and a prominent part of its manual, productive exercises. This institution will, as far and as fast as its means will permit, furnish facilities to any other manual labor schools, by supplying them with prints, tools, experience, &c. as aids to their intel-

lectual productive exercises. With such aid, any manual labor school, now in operation, might engage in the manufactory of globes, mechanical powers, geometrical solids, and most of the instruments for the *practical sciences*, if not for the more abstract and abstruse subjects.

These statements, Mr. editor, are not from theory or conjecture; they are from experience for a course of years; having conducted an agricultural school for ten years, in which the pupils paid all their expenses by their own industry; and having also had much apparatus made under my direction, and, in a great measure, by the strength and skill of lads and misses from fourteen to eighteen years of age.

This question will naturally arise, by what means can these seminaries, whose prominent feature is self-education and self-support, be established through our country, in such numbers, and under such circumstances, as to hold out proposals, and afford opportunities, for the children of every class, without distinction, to secure to themselves the rich blessing of a sound physical, intellectual and moral education.

To this natural and important question the answer may be, perhaps, by *COUNTY LYCEUMS*. It is evident that the whole community, and all sections of our country, can more conveniently act, and co-operate with each other, through the medium of county societies, than by any other divisions or districts known throughout the states. As counties throughout the union will, probably, not average more than forty miles in diameter, very few would have to travel more than twenty miles, and a large majority less than ten miles, to attend county conventions, or the quarterly meetings of county lyceums. Considering the importance, and, if properly conducted, the interesting character of education conventions, which county lyceums might easily furnish at their quarterly meetings, a general attendance of teachers, school committees, parents, children, and the lovers of knowledge and the friends of education generally, might reasonably be expected. And by their attendance, a warm and generous sympathy, an organized and vigorous system of measures and efforts, might be sustained, for the great and all important cause in which every man, woman and child, is equally interested.

Under such views and feelings, I have witnessed, with no little satisfaction, proposals for *simultaneous action* in this cause. The proposal has been made, and responded to from several sources, for county education conventions, in all the states and all the counties in the union, on the first Wednesday of November next, for the purpose of organizing county lyceums, as a preparatory step for accomplishing any other objects, which might be found practicable. Among the objects which county lyceums might, at an early period, take up to advantage, would be seminaries for self-education and self-support. In connection with these, and perhaps in many instances preceding them, *circuit schools*, for the purpose of weekly, semi-weekly, or even semi-monthly courses of instruction, where more frequent courses could not be sustained, might be taken under consideration and carried into effect, by county societies. Indeed the advantages of associations for systematic and concentrated effort, in the diffusion of knowledge, are so great and so evident, and the results of county lyceums in particular, have been so uniformly and so strikingly happy, that the proposal for such measures only needs to be made to be seconded, and to secure the general sanction of the enlightened individuals and communities.

On the subject of simultaneous action, through the medium of county conventions and county lyceums, it is gratifying to be able to state that numerous facilities may be procured to render the meetings, not only useful, but instructive and entertaining. Thomas S. Grimké, of Charleston, S. C. as a committee, appointed by the literary and philosophical society of that state, has recently prepared an address to the citizens of South Carolina, to be published soon, giving an exposition of the lyceum system in its various departments and operations, from national and state societies, down to family lyceums, and from exercises for mutual and self instruction in the dead languages and the most abstruse sciences, down to penmanship, reading and orthography.—This address, which is as applicable to the citizens of other states as those of S. Carolina, can easily be procured, and portions of the whole of it read, as one of the exercises of the proposed convention.

Numerous other pamphlets have been published on the subject, some of which contain the forms of constitutions, among other things to facilitate the operations and the objects of the meetings.

All the materials and means for conducting *county museums*, or cabinets of nature and art, are at hand in great abundance. In the numerous cabinets already collected, both by individuals and by institutions, are duplicates which the owners will gladly appropriate to such an object, whenever an opportunity is offered.