The North Carolina Whig.

"Be true to God, to your Country, and to your Duty."

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HOLTON & WILLIAMSON,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

TERMS:

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☞ All letters on business must be directed to the Editors. Letters must be post-paid or they will not be attended to.

☞ Payments can be made to either.

☞ Postmasters are authorized to act as agents.

Poetry.

I Wait for Thee.

The hearth is swept—the fire is bright,
The kettle sings for tea;
The cloth is spread, the lamp is light,
The muffins smoke in napkins white,
And now I wait for thee.

Come, come, love, home, thy task is done;
The clock ticks listeningly;
The blinds are shut, the curtain down,
The warm chair to the fireside drawn,
The boy is on my knee.

Come home, love, come; his deep fond eye
Looks round him wistfully,
And when the whispering winds go by,
As if thy welcome steps were nigh,
He crows exultingly.

In vain—he finds the welcome rain,
And turns his glance on mine,
So earnestly, that yet again
His form unto my heart I strain,
That glance is so like thine.

Thy task is done—we miss thee here;
Where'er my footsteps roam,
No heart will spend such kindly cheer,
No beating heart, no listening ear,
Like those who wait thee home.

Ah, now along the crisp walk fast
That well known step doth come;
The bolt is drawn, the gate is past;
The babe is wild with joy at last—
A thousand welcomes home.

Miscellaneous.

"Faithful unto Death."

BY J. THORNTON RANDOLPH.

At the dead of night there was a cry.—"Fire, fire, fire!"

Even in a great city, where thousands are at hand to render aid, it is a terrible cry at that hour. But on a lonely plantation how inexpressibly awful!

"Fire, fire, fire!" It rang through the wide halls, and was echoed from the negro quarter, in every variety of tones of horror and alarm.

The mistress of the mansion, awaking at the cry, sprang from her bed, and hurriedly began to dress, gazing around bewildered. For a moment she was conscious only that her husband was absent. She was recalled to something like herself by the shrieks of the maid who had slept in the room, and who, instead of assisting her toilet, was pointing, with terrified gesticulations, to the ruddy reflection playing against the trees in front of the house.

Suddenly, to add to the confusion of the scene, the chamber door was flung open, and a crowd of female servants rushed in, flocking affrightedly together like a covey pursued by the sportsman. They closed around Mrs. Stewart's bed, screaming, weeping, wringing their hands, and depriving her of what little presence of mind had been left.

"Oh! missus, we shall be burned to death, we shall, all of us. The fire has caught the staircase. The blessed Lord shove hab mercy on us!" These, and similar exclamations, filled the air and distracted her attention.

Meantime the conflagration became more serious each minute. Had that terrified group listened, they could have heard the roar of the flames in the hall outside, and the crackling sound that announced the approach of the fire to the wood-work near the staircase, warning them that, if they would save their lives, their flight must be instant. But they only huddled the closer together, sobbing, moaning, embracing one another frantically.

All at once a man dashed into the room, with agitated face and dress disordered.—Thrusting aside the terrified maids, he hastily approached his mistress.

"Fly," he cried breathlessly, "this moment, or you'll be too late." And glancing rapidly around the room, he snatched the rich cover from a centre-table, which stood in the middle of the apartment, covered with books, pretty trifles, and flowers in vases. This he threw around his mistress, exclaiming, "it will keep the fire from catching. Come."

The sight of his face had re-assured his mistress. Juba was about her own age, had been born in her father's family and had always exhibited the most devoted attachment to herself personally. Above all the servants on the plantation he was distinguished for a strict, religious performance of his duties, for Juba was consistently pious. He was also shrewd and ready in every emergency, and Mrs. Stewart felt that he would save her, even at the peril of his life.

Juba, even while speaking, had seized her hand and dragged her toward the staircase. But now a gust of wind drove such volumes of thick, black smoke toward them, that she was almost suffocated, and she paused, unable to proceed. It was not a time to hesitate so Juba, snatching her in his arms as he would a child, and dragging the cover entirely over her face, dashed into the rolling volumes of smoke, and down the staircase.

He was not a moment too soon. Scarcely had he reached the bottom, followed by the affrighted maids, before the passage was closely entirely by a dense wall of flame. Neither he nor the female servants, indeed, escaped entirely unhurt. But the table cover effectually protected Mrs. Stewart.

Juba had scarcely, however, placed his mistress safely on the lawn, before she started up, crying, "where is the baby?—Who has seen the child? Oh! it is in the house yet." And she would have rushed toward the blazing doorway if she had not been instantly and forcibly detained.

The servants looked at each other in dismay. In the suddenness with which the conflagration had spread, and in the excitement of their mistress's danger, nobody had thought of the child. It was an only one, a boy about two years old, who slept with his nurse, or "mammy," as she was called in the house hold, in the back room in the upper story. Mrs. Stewart's first thought, on her escape, had been to look for her darling; but for this the absence of the child might have been even longer overlooked.

The servants, we say, looked at each other in dismay. The hall of the house was now all in a flame, the fire pouring out through the doorway as from the mouth of a furance, so that ingress by that path was impossible. Most of the second story was also burning, and the entire first floor, for the conflagration had broken out there originally. To reach the apartment where the nurse, probably paralyzed by terror, was still with the child, seemed out of the question entirely.

But there was one there who determined to make the attempt. The sight of the mother's face, and the sound of her broken moans, as she sank into the arms of those who restrained her, exhausted by her struggles to escape, determined Juba to try at least to rescue his young master.

"I will go, missus," he said, "don't cry no more."

He looked around, as he spoke, for some means of scaling the second story. There was no ladder, and only one staircase, but the bough of an ornamental tree, that overshadowed the house, fortunately held out a means of access to a bold heart and a strong arm. Not stopping even to hear his mistress's thanks, he climbed up the tree, ran out on the limb, and dropping on the roof, disappeared within the dwelling.

How breathless were the moments that ensued. The flames were spreading with frightful rapidity. The eaves of the building began to smoke, showing that the fire within had reached the roof, and soon after the whole line of them flashed into conflagration. Meantime the hurid element poured out from the windows, ran upward licking the combustible front, and streamed in a waving, dazzling pyramid, high over the top of the mansion, far into the blue firmament. Millions of sparks, accompanied by volumes of rolling smoke, sailed down the sky before the breeze, completely obscuring the heavens at intervals, though occasionally this thick canopy partially blowing aside, the calm moon was seen, peacefully shining down through the rent, in strange contrast to the otherwise terrific scene. The rear of the conflagration had now become intensely loud: and to add to the horror, there began to be heard the awful sound of timbers falling within the house.

Mrs. Stewart had watched the fire in silence, her hands clasped, and lips parted, ever since Juba had disappeared within the house. Each moment appeared an age to her. At last the suspense, thus lengthening out interminably, as it seemed, became intolerable.

"Oh! it is in vain," she cried, making a new effort to rush into the flames, "he cannot find my boy. Let me go myself.—For the love of God——"

But at that instant, through the smoke that almost hid the only window that was not already on fire, appeared the faithful Juba, holding aloft the infant. The flames were all around, and in a moment more would overtake him. He made a rapid gesture for some one to approach.

Four of the males, comprehending his wish, snatched a blanket, and rushed promptly forward. The heat was intolerable, but they disregarded it, and standing beneath the window, with the blanket outstretched, they shouted to Juba to throw the child toward them. He had, however, anticipated them. The infant fell while they were speaking, was caught safely in the blanket, and was hurried immediately to Mrs. Stewart, who clasped it to her bosom with frantic delight. The whole was the work of less time than we have taken to describe it.

But simultaneously a terrific crash was heard, that made the very earth tremble beneath the spectators; a huge column of smoke shot up toward the sky, from where the roof had been; and, as if propelled from a force pump, a gush of intense flame followed, leaping far up into the highest heaven.

The crowd, one and all, gasped for breath. Then came a deep, long drawn sigh. For the roof and floors had evidently fallen in; and the faithful Juba, alas! was nowhere to be seen.

A dozen persons rushed toward the building, and until driven back by the heat, stood close by the window where he had been latest visible. They had hoped to find him there. They had flattered themselves that there had been time enough for him to leap.

But it was now plain this had not been the case. He most probably felt the floor giving way, before he threw the child, and if so, this explained the cause of his haste. They said this to each other, as they fell back.

But there was little time for words.—Scarcely had this thought been exchanged, before there was another crash, and with a momentary waving motion, almost the entire building fell in so that what had been a stately mansion an hour before, was now only a shapeless pile of blazing timbers.

The shouts, the exclamations, the sobbings which had filled the air the instant before, ceased again at this appaling spectacle. Neighbor looked at neighbor, aghast with horror, the lurid light adding a wild, spectral look to each inquiring face. Then a simultaneous cry rose from the crowd, that Juba and the old nurse were buried in the ruins.

But suddenly, from out the flame and smoke, in the direction where the generous slave had last been seen, what seemed a human figure began to emerge, crawling painfully on hand and knees. A human figure yet crushed almost out of the shape of humanity, but still with life in it, for it moved.

And hark! a voice. A full, deep voice coming from that mangled body. What did it say?

Not words of pain, reader: but words of joy: words that you and I may bless God if we can say, when dying.

They were words such as the martyrs used at the stake, or among the lions.—"Hallelujah! Hallelujah!" Nothing more. But continually, "Hallelujah! Hallelujah!"

For was not he a martyr too? He had died to save his master's child. Oh! he was both hero and martyr. And now that he had "fought the good fight," that the "goal was won," God gave him strength to forget the agony of his crisped and mangled body, and to remember only that he was going to bliss everlasting.

Thus, over the renewed sobbing of the spectators, over the wild shriek of his mistress as she rushed toward him, over the roar and crackling of the conflagration, there rose, like a trumpet, the incessant cry, "Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah."

One would not have thought that it was a poor, maimed, bleeding, dying sufferer that spoke, but the happiest and proudest of men.

They reached him, stooped over him, would have raised him. But, at that moment, he looked up at his mistress, a triumphant smile breaking over his face, and then fell lifeless back, a "Hallelujah" still trembling on his tongue.

And so he died. His grave has a marble tablet, with the words, "faithful unto death." What nobler motto could there be!

THE MONROE DOCTRINE IN ENGLAND.

From an article of the London Morning Chronicle of the 22d ultimo, in relation to the policy of our Government as indicated in the Inaugural Address of the President, we copy the following passages respecting the Monroe doctrine:

"The Whig adversaries of the President, whose bounden duty it is to pick holes in his Inaugural Message, profess themselves apprehensive of the effect which his tribute to the Monroe doctrine may produce in Europe, while at the same time they tell us that it is believed to be wholly without importance in America. There was really some ground for their anticipations; for this portion of Mr. PIERCE'S address, read with an English eye, has been interpreted as the gratuitous and offensive assertion of an unwarrantable principle. For ourselves, however, we adhere to our first impression, that, taking the peculiarities of his position into account, we have, as Englishmen and Europeans, every reason to be contented with Mr. PIERCE'S message. The American President, whose first official harangue had been eagerly looked forward to by a host of enthusiastic partisans, and whose election to be their spokesman had been the fruit of a compromise between them all, could scarcely have done less than address himself to the several ideas of domestic administration and foreign policy which his friends were understood to entertain. President PIERCE just satisfied the exigencies of his situation, and no more. * * * * * *

"It is not, however, the Monroe doctrine in itself, (to which President PIERCE subscribes,) but the public affirmation of that doctrine by the Government of the United States (which the President deprecates) that is open to serious exception. We have no right to quarrel with American statesmen for making a canon of practical policy that the United States should oppose every attempt of the European Powers to effect fresh conquests or plant fresh colonies on the American continent. Such maxims, universally acquiesced in at home, though not paraded abroad, belong to the traditions of every Government in the world. The proposition that Holland should resist European settlements in the eastern archipelago may be heard once or twice a week in the Dutch Chambers. We, ourselves, have actually hazarded a distant and disastrous war, without a single excuse for it, except the doctrine of the Foreign Office, that Russia must not be allowed to push her arms and her interest to the east of the western Caucasus. No one has ground for complaining against precepts embodying the traditional wisdom of successive generations of statesmen, as long as they are not obtruded on the notice of equally independent Governments. But most certainly it would be a dangerous novelty if any such maxim were flung in the face of mankind as a principle of public law—as a dogma which no emergency would justify the declarants in contravening, and which no combination of circumstances would entitle the rest of the world to disregard."

DEATH FROM SWALLOWING A PIN.

A few days since a girl of four years, residing with her parents in Grafton, in this State, died in consequence of swallowing a pin some six weeks previously. The child had the pin in her mouth, when a younger child seized hold of her and by the sudden act caused her to swallow it. The child complained continually after swallowing the pin, and evidently experienced much suffering before she died.—*Bos. Traveller.*

COMMON SCHOOLS.

SYNOPSIS

Of the Laws in Force in Relation to Common Schools.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE LITERARY FUND.

The nett annual income of the Literary Fund, (exclusive of monies arising from the sale of Swamp Lands) is to be distributed among the several counties of the State in the ratio of their Federal population—to be ascertained by the Census next preceding such distribution.

The share to which each county is entitled, shall be payable on or before the first Monday in October.

And shall be paid by the Chairman of the Board of County Superintendents for his lawful attorney, upon the warrant of the Comptroller.

The County Court of each county, a majority of the Justices being present, may, in their discretion, levy a tax for Common School purposes, as other taxes are levied—which tax shall not be less than half of the estimated amount to be received by the said county for that year, from the Literary Fund.

The Sheriff of each county is required to collect the taxes levied for school purposes, and to pay them to the Chairman of the Board of County Superintendents—and his bond is to contain a condition for the faithful collection and payment of these taxes; for a breach of which, the same remedies are allowed against him and his sureties in favor of the Chairman of County Superintendents, as are given to the County Trustee for enforcing the payment of ordinary taxes—the right of action to accrue the 1st Monday of November in each year—penalty to go to the use of the schools of the county.

OFFICERS OF THE SYSTEM.

The Common School system is managed,

1st. By *three Committee men in each School District.*

2d. By a, *Board of County Superintendents in each county,* to consist of not more than *ten* nor less than *five;* of which the Clerk of the County Court is *ex officio* Clerk.

3d. By a *Committee of Examination for Teachers,* to consist of not more than *five* in each county.

4th. By a general Superintendent of Common Schools for the State.

COMMITTEE MEN.

These are elected by the people annually—and should the people fail to elect, the County Superintendents are to appoint.

The Chairman of County Superintendents is to give notice in three public places in each district ten days before the election; and on the second Thursday in October, the qualified voters for members of the House of Commons are to meet at the designated place in the district, and vote for three committee-men. The County Board of Superintendents are to appoint two freeholders in each district to hold the election. Committees, so elected, enter on their duties on the first Thursday of January following.

To purchase, lease, or build school houses—to employ teachers—and in one month after their appointment to report to the Chairman of the Board of County Superintendents, the number and names of the white children in their districts, of five and under twenty-one years old. Committees to give to teachers and others, with whom they contract, orders or drafts on the Chairmen of County Boards.

It is also the duty of the committee-men to prepare and make annually, on or before the 1st Monday in October, a written report to the County Boards of their respective counties, showing the number and names of children in their several districts who have received instruction at the schools the preceding year—the length of time each school was kept up—the name of the teacher and the amount paid him or her—and such other facts in relation to their schools as they may deem expedient.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

These are to be annually chosen by the County Courts at the first term held next preceding the 1st day of January: and their term of office shall begin on the 1st day of January succeeding their appointment, and continue for one year and until others have been chosen and have entered on their offices.

The County Superintendents are to meet on the 1st Tuesday in January after their election, and appoint one of their number Chairman.

The Board shall keep a true and just account of all monies received and expended by them—when and of whom received, and for what and to whom paid—and the balance, if any, on hand: and shall lay the same before the Committee of Finance of their respective counties, and if there is no such committee; before the Clerk of the County Court, with all the vouchers—which report shall be made on or before the 2nd Monday in October in each year; and the Committee of Finance, or Clerk of the County Court shall examine the same and the vouchers, and if found correct, certify to that effect.

The Board shall *immediately* pay to their successors in office all the monies in hand; and if they shall fail so to do, it shall be the duty of their successors in office to bring suit in their name of office, for the recovery of all balances due, with interest thereon.

In one month after the Committee shall have reported to their Chairman the number of children in each district, the Chairman shall call a meeting of the Board, who shall determine how many teachers are necessary for each district in the county—and shall then proceed to divide the monies due from the Literary Fund and from the county taxes among the several districts, in the ratio of the number of teachers required.

The County Boards may make other necessary regulations in regard to the schools of their counties, not inconsistent with law, and determine appeals from committee-men in regard to the location of school-houses.

CHAIRMEN OF COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

The Chairmen shall give written notice, at the doors of the Court Houses of their respective counties, of the amount due to each school district in the county—which publication shall be made soon after the money is first received.

Chairmen are to keep the funds, and to pay all drafts—and before paying the teacher, may call for his certificate of examination, and if he has not one from the committee of his county, dated within the year, may refuse to pay him or her. Chairmen are to keep the funds always on hand, and be ready to pay teachers, &c., &c.

Any Chairman failing or neglecting to pay, on demand, any draft properly drawn on him, and when he has funds, shall be liable to suit before any Court having jurisdiction, in the name of the person in whose favor said draft is drawn; and the plaintiff may recover said amount and twelve *per cent.* damages.

It is the duty of the County Courts to require of each Chairman before he enters on the duties of his office, to give bond, with good and sufficient security, in such sum as they may deem reasonable and adequate, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties; which bond shall be payable to the State of North Carolina, and shall be approved and received by a majority of the Superintendents, and shall be filed by them with the Clerk of the County Court. And the Chairmen, for compensation are allowed 2½ *per cent.* on all monies which pass through their hands.

Each Chairman shall, annually, on or before the 3rd Monday in November, make a report in writing to the General Superintendent of Common Schools, a copy of the account rendered to the Committee on Finance or Clerk of the County Court—together with a statement of the number of children in each district, of five and under twenty-one years old—also the number of males and of females taught in each district—the time during which the schools were kept open, and the average pay of teachers—the pay of male and female teachers—together with such facts and suggestions in regard to the size of the school districts, the wants and interests of the cause, &c., &c., as he may deem important, or as may be reported by committee-men.

COMMITTEE OF EXAMINATION.

Each Board of County Superintendents shall annually appoint a Committee of Examination, to consist of not more than five persons, of whom the Chairman of County Superintendents shall be one, whose duty it shall be to examine into the mental and moral qualifications of teachers, or of such as wish to teach Common Schools; which committee shall meet three times in the year, at some central point, to examine candidates, of which times and places it shall post a written notice at the door of Court House of the county.

No certificate given by this committee shall be good for a longer term than one year, or be good in any other county.

All teachers of Common Schools must have certificates; and the Chairman is authorized to refuse to pay any teacher who has no certificate of the proper kind.

The Committee of Examination shall be exempt from road and military duty.

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT.

The General Superintendent shall see that the laws are enforced—shall receive the reports of Chairmen, and himself make an annual report to the Governor, giving a detailed account of the operations of the system in each county—the number of school, the number of teachers, average compensation, time during which the schools are kept open in each county—and the number of licensed male and female teachers in each county—together with such facts, suggestions and recommendations as may occur to him, for the more efficient management of the cause of popular education. Which report is to be printed and 1500 copies circulated—and which is also to be transmitted by the Governor to the General Assembly. The General Superintendent is also to make an additional and special report on or before the 3d Monday in November, 1854, giving a detailed and condensed account of the progress of the Common School system in North Carolina—of the causes which have impeded its progress in each county—of the defects and wants of the system—and all such other matters of fact, with suggestions of his own, as will enable the Legislature fully to understand the merits, defects, wants and uses of the system, generally and in detail—and to know what good it has accomplished and can accomplish—which report is to be transmitted by the Governor to the Legislature.

It is also the duty of the General Superintendent,

To look after all sums of money disbursed to County Superintendents and unaccounted for; and to see that all such sums are recovered; and the Treasurer of the State is to furnish him with an annual statement of the sum disbursed to County Chairmen from the Literary Fund.

He is also required,

To lecture in the different counties as he has opportunity—to consult with experienced teachers—and to appoint agents in each county to look after escheated property.

He is also,

To issue annual circulars to the Examining Committees, with suggestions and instructions as to qualifications of teachers—to prepare blanks for County Superintendents and Committee-men—prepare a new edition of the School Laws, with forms and instruction, &c., &c.

PENALTIES.

Any County Superintendent or Committee-man, having accepted such appointment or any Clerk of the County Court, refusing or neglecting to perform the duties required of him, shall forfeit and pay the sum of fifty dollars, to be recovered in any Court of record in the State—which suits are to be prosecuted by the County Attorney, and the money paid to the County Chairman for the benefit of the Schools of the county.

If the General Superintendent shall wilfully and habitually neglect his duty, or use his office for the propagation of peculiar religious or political doctrines, he shall be liable to removal by the Literary Board—but must be tried, on thirty days' written notice, and allowed evidence in his defence—in which cases a record is to be made for the inspection of the Legislature.

TEACHERS AND PUPILS OF COMMON SCHOOLS,

Are exempt from road and military duty; and from serving on juries whilst engaged in teaching or attending school.

Teachers, at the end of the time for which they have been engaged to teach, must report to the committee-men, in writing, the numbers and names of the children they have taught, specifying the number of days each has attended; and no committee-man, while acting as such, shall be a teacher in a Common School.

SCENES AT WASHINGTON—THE HUMORS OF OFFICE SEEKING.

The editor of the Sunday Atlas is supposed to have access and intimacies "behind the scenes" at Washington, which give to his observations on men and things there a poignancy those who are not looking for office will probably appreciate. Some of the incidents he relates, illustrative of the rush for the spoils, are sufficiently amusing (omitting the profanity) to quote;

"In the room adjoining my lodgings, a party of New Jersey office seekers are quartered, separated from me by a pair of folding doors which do not shut very close. I am involuntarily compelled to listen to all their conversation for they seem to have plenty of liquor, and spend much of their time in drinking it. Last night, after I had taken a drink with Senator Norris, of New Hampshire, and retired, the party, seven of them, came in somewhat glorious, and this is the substance of their conversation.

1st Voice—Sam, I've been in this hole three weeks, and nothin's done yet. I can hear more news in New York in five minutes than I can in this infernal region in a life time. Nobody don't know nothin' in this place, and won't tell you that.

2d Voice—That's as true as preaching, and nobody here cares for you. I gave my papers to old Marcy ten days ago, and I don't believe the old cuss has ever looked at one of 'em.

3d Voice—Papers! If you are so cussed green as to 'spose they read papers you had better go home and learn something. Let me tell you, my young friends, that papers has little to do with politics. If you've got a United States Senator and a member of the Cabinet to pitch in for you, you'll win—if not, you've got no sight!

4th Voice—Ain't the delegation in Congress got nothin' to say?

Here the first complainant indignantly responded—"Well, I've got the whole delegation from New Jersey on my papers, d——n them!"

5th Voice—Bill is right about having a member of the Cabinet in your favor; besides this, I find that outside backers are required to secure success.

6th Voice—"Outside backers!" It's cost me more than two hundred dollars to pay the expenses of —— and ——, two old fogies who pretended that they had influence, and whose bills I agreed to pay if they would come down and help me, and they have done me no more good than two geese! With all their mighty influence they have made about as much progress as a farmer would, in undertaking to break up green sward with a team of bobtailed rats.

Just at this moment one of the party proposed to take a drink all round, and while they were imbibing, I fell asleep and lost the remainder of this very interesting Jersey conversation. I repeat it merely to give the Atlas readers an idea of the feeling that pervades the whole tribe of office hunters now invading the capital of this federal union.

"New hats are rather uncertain property in the crowd of poor and hungry office seekers now here. My friend, Grand Sachem Daniel E. Delavan, who came down in search of the Surveyorship, with a bran new 'Gossin' of the latest style, parted with it forever when he hung it up in the hall of the National to take his first dinner. In place of it, the thief left a shocking bad 'at,' of a very antique style, which gave the Colonel a very grotesque look. Of course, the Grand Sachem could not appear abroad in such a head costume, and he therefore had to resort to the extensive wardrobe of his friend, Col. Tom Dunlap, of the 'Pewter Mug,' who supplied him with a more comely covering for his noble brow, in the shape of one of Mealey's brilliant fabrications. Mr. Lorenzo B. Shepard also made his first appearance here, with a magnificent new style spring hat upon his head, but one day last week, while at dinner at the National, some despoiling office seeker, ambitious to make a sensation on the avenue beneath a fashionable New York hat, laid felonious hands upon it, and left in its place an ancient nameless 'sugar-loaf,' of the vintage of 1816, which of course, was not accepted by Shepherd, who in turn, resorted to Tom Dunlap for the loan of his cap, while he went out and purchased a new topper. Cornelius Weisdell and several other gentlemen of my acquaintance have been served the 'same sauce' at the same hotel, until it has become a matter of problem for every man dining at the National to take his hat between his legs! Every day I hear some 'green 'un' complaining of having lost his hat, while at dinner, and several who have been so careless as to entrust their 'beaver mounts' for office in their hats, have not only lost their beavers, but all their hopes of official position, with the same demonstration of the hat thief.

Many of the New York herd, we may add, are beginning to wear long faces, in no sunny humor, and some write that they will be back as soon as they can raise enough of the needful to defray the expenses of a Railroad ticket, &c. A pretty plight, indeed, for men who are willing to serve their country—cheap, for cash!—*N. Y. Express.*

☞ A cobbler in Mobile, who also professes to teach music, has the following over his door:

"Delightful task, to mend the tender boot,
And teach the young idea how to flute."

THE WHIG CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS IN THIS DISTRICT.

It will be perceived by adverting to the head of this Column, that Mr. OSBORNE has consented to stand forth as the Whig champion in this District. If the Legislature had tried to make an equal contest of this election, they could not have done it more *nicely* than in assorting together the several counties that compose the District. We believe the Whigs have rather had the majority when they have been stimulated to any determined effort, but very often the counties have so voted, as, when counted together, they have predominated on the other side. We have on our part a most excellent candidate. There is no Whig in the West, of whom the party ought to be prouder than Mr. OSBORNE: His high moral worth: his amiable deportment: added to his excellent sense—his various acquirements, and his fine powers as a speaker, render him a most capital choice, and one to whom every other gentleman of the Whig party who has been spoken of as a candidate, has voluntarily conceded his claims, and urged Mr. OSBORNE to come forward, and we hear of no disaffection any where among our friends. The truth, is, Mr. OSBORNE, we are certain, would not have been a candidate at all, if he had not been assured of entire unanimity among the prominent Whigs of the District.

Rowan, in this contest, has the power of controlling the event: and to the good and true Whigs of this county, Mr. OSBORNE appeals. He has never yet received an office from the Whigs of the West, although for 20 years he has been a distinguished advocate and leader of the party: and has fought the Whig battle with unflinching zeal and unsurpassed ability.

The people of Rowan and Cabarrus, who are so deeply interested in the question of the Rail Road, ought to remember that Mr. OSBORNE was the original mover, and was more than any other man in the State, the author of the great scheme upon which our Road is based. Indeed, we know that he ever, in glowing terms, spoke of our extension as embraced in his proposition—We know too, that when there became a crisis with the subscriptions to the stock of the North Carolina Rail Road, Mr. O. stepped forward and subscribed for Mecklenburg county the amount necessary to make up the estimate assigned to that county, and that too, when this extension was known to be by favorite with the people of his town, and when he had no assurance that a dollar of it would be taken off of his hands.—As it was, he is the only subscriber to our Road in Charlotte. In this matter, as in every thing we have known of him, he is the public spirited, patriotic, liberal asserter of truth and justice, and the good of North Carolina. In this we think Mr. OSBORNE has great claims upon the people of these counties regardless of party. But he has other claims which will not fail to reach the heart and cordial approbation of the people of this District. This we verily believe, and to this end, we mean to give our best exertions.—*Carolina Watchman.*

WITCHCRAFT IN PENNSYLVANIA.

The Chambersburg (Pa.) Whig relates an instance of superstition which could hardly have been supposed to exist in the present day, and to be countenanced by white men. It appears that recently a female member of a denomination called the Christian church, in Fulton county, Pennsylvania, was taken sick, and finally imagined she was bewitched by a sister in the church. A meeting of the session was called in due season, at which the minister presided, and the charge of witchcraft was formally preferred against the lady. Being a new case, and, we presume, not provided for in the discipline, the session was puzzled as to the proper manner to proceed in the case. At length it was proposed that she would be asked to step over a broomstick, as it had been said that a witch could not do so: for the accused got over it without apparent difficulty. After a consultation it was then agreed that she should be tried in a pair of weighing scales with a Bible to balance her, and if she was a witch the bible would be too heavy for her. Accordingly she was taken to a mill, and the experiment tried, but she proved too heavy for the bible. It was then intimated that probably her clothing prevented a fair test, and half a bushel of corn was put on the scales with the bible to balance the clothing, but still the lady was too heavy, and the charge was formally dismissed.

HOW TO JUDGE CATTLE.

In all domestic animals the skin, or hide, forms one of the best means by which to estimate their fattening properties. In the handling of oxen, if the hide be soft and silky to the touch, it affords a proof of tendency to take meat. A beast having a perfect touch will have thick, loose skin, floating, as it were, on a layer of soft fat, yielding to the slightest pressure, and springing back toward the finger like a piece of soft leather. Such a skin will be usually covered with an abundance of soft, glossy hair, lying like a bed of moss, and hence forever termed a mossy skin. But thick set, hard, short hair always handles hard, and indicates a hard feeder.—*N. Y. Farmer.*

CHARCOAL FOR SWINE.

It is not perhaps generally known that one of the best articles that can be given to swine while in preparation for the fair, is common charcoal. The nutritive properties are so great that they have subsisted on it without other food for weeks together. Geese confined so as to deprive them of motion, and fattened on three gills of corn per day, and as much coal as they can devour, have become fat in eight days. The hog eats voraciously after a little time and is never sick while he has a good supply. It should always be kept in the sty and be fed to the inmates regularly like all other food.