MR KERR'S LETTER.

MAY 29th, 1855.

MY DEAR SIRS:—The position I now occupy in regard to the new political organization commonly called Know Nothings has subjected me to much unjust censure from the adherents of that party. I am not so insensible to public opinion as to permit the attacks which have been made upon my motives to pass without notice.

You in this, as in every other instance in which I have attracted public notice, have treated me courteously; and though doubtless many malign suggestions may have been made to you in regard to me, you have abstained from impeaching my motives or attacking my course. I have no paper however in the State to aid or defend me, and no cabalistic Councils —*in sworn* combination—to promote my interest and secure my election.

Your very useful paper circulates extensively in my District, and I am induced to believe that you will with pleasure afford me the use of its columns, to set forth some of the reasons by which I am governed in pursuing the course I have been compelled by a sense of duty to adopt.

I am *now, as ever*, a Whig, deeply convinced of the conservative tendency and influence of Whig principles. The more I study them, the more thoroughly am I satisfied, that the principles of government which Henry Clay always maintained, throughout his long and glorious career, are the true principles of our Constitution, and must sooner or later prevail over all opposition.

The greater portion of my life has been spent in defending these principles,—however feebly, yet most earnestly. In times of prosperity to our cause I have *rejoiced*—in times of adversity I have *mourned*—but never have I *dreamed* of deserting the "old paths" of political safety, and joining any combination or party, new or old, that would not support and carry out the political faith of our great republican *Whig* fathers.

No, Sir: I am so wedded to the doctrines of Washington and Clay, so determined to defend them to the last extremity, that come what may to me personally, I will adhere to my position and defend my colors, though all my former comrades shall flee or fall, and "leave me solitary and alone amid the jeers and taunts of my opponents."

I am aware that the Whig party is now disbanded, but Whig principles and Whig measures are not on that account less dear to me. On the contrary, I cherish them still, and urge their adoption and support upon others, with the greater zeal and earnestness because of the dangers which threaten our country.

We are threatened in every section with ruin, by the influence of factions and the triumph of political combinations which are founded upon dogmas repudiated by or unknown to our fathers.

Abolitionism and nullification, the offspring of the different extremes of the Union, are now in harmonious combination at the *North;* and the conservative people of the South are invoked, under a delusive guise to join the unholy alliance. We are told, in language as deceptive as plausible, that it matters not what a man's political principles are—whether he supports Whig measures or Democratic measures—if he will only join the *new party* he shall be supported for office as the friend of "American principles." Now really, this looks a little too much like "putting on the turban and turning Turk *for the sake of the plunder.*" Can this government be administered except upon principle? and are not either Whig principles or Democratic principles right?

A fusion of different politics and different politicians in the democratic party, has long been an objection urged to that party by the Whigs. But now it seems we are called upon to join an effort to out-Herod Herod, and win the bad renown of carrying the principle of combinations farther than it has ever been carried before, in order to obtain office. Verily, I can acquiesce in no such movement. That there are good conservative men in the democratic party none can doubt. And it is equally true that in both parties there are mere time servers, who aim more at personal promotion than at the good of their country. Now if we look to the leaders of this new organization we shall not fail to perceive, that some of them are such as have often changed their party relations, and taken position where the chance of promotion was best. Is it not a little strange, my dear sirs, that I who have never, in or out of Congress, deserted or renounced one single Whig principle—who have always adhered to the fortunes of my party—should be read out of the communion now, by certain *newly constituted* expounders of Whig orthodoxy, while such gentlemen as Mr J. B. Shepard, Mr Wm. K. Lane, and Mr David Reid, are received into full fellowship and made leaders by men with whom they have no political principles in unison? Has Mr Shepard ever renounced his democratic creed? Has Mr Lane, or has Mr Reid? Not at all, so far as I am informed. Then how can they be regarded as better worthy of Whig support than myself upon the score of principle?

The new organization have often published to the world as one of their *principles*, that they repudiate the doctrine of availability in the selection of candidates for office. How then does it happen, that in Democratic Districts they have thus far in our State selected democrats, although Whigs belong to their party? If availability is no part of their creed, then why not nominate Know Nothing Whigs in the Edgecombe and Wake Districts?

Pure as they profess to be; scornful of the corruption of the old parties; it does nevertheless seem, that though on *purity* they are bent they "have a frugal mind," and resort as much to *availbility to obtain office*, as any other party.

But secret political oath-bound associations are always dangerous to liberty, and can never be justified in a free country. The Jacobin clubs (secret political societies) ruined France at the period of the first French revolution. Lafayette distinctly charged them with it, and all the world now admits the justness of the charge. Yet they called themselves the *only true Frenchmen*, and put all to death who did not agree with them—when they had them in their power. Republican liberty, under the auspices of Lafayette, dawned upon France, and for a brief season illumined the political horizon with the brightest hopes. In an evil hour secret societies, (like those now existing among us,) were established, and by their dreadful influence liberty was destroyed, and upon its ruins the *reign of Terror arose;* which, while it lasted, filled *the world* with consternation, and France itself with blood and tears and tortures. In imitation of that bad example, the Democratic clubs were formed in our own country, during the administralion of Washington, and but for the sublime moral courage and resistless influence of the father of his country they would have forced us into a war with England, and into all the frantic schemes of conquest and aggrandisement of the leaders of the French Revolution.

Washington has warned his countrymen against such societies in his Farewell Address.

Some of the objects aimed at by this new party I approve. I am now, and have been for years, opposed to the influx of foreign paupers and foreign criminals into our country. I have already made that manifest by my course in Congress. But I will not consent to any system or policy which would exclude *all foreigners* from our shores. The good shall never by me be indiscriminately proscribed *with the bad.* When an oppressed exile from a land of despotism is driven upon our shores, if he be a man of virtue I will receive him with generous hospitality, and welcome him now, as our forefathers were wont to welcome such, to the "land of the free and the asylum of the oppressed."

All foreigners should remain here long enough to learn the nature and practical operation of our institutions before they are allowed the right of suffrage. Congress, however, has no power to correct the evil of alien suffrage. This power remains with the States, and therefore the connexion of the topic with the election of members of Congress is wrong. It is intended only *for effect*, and is used to promote the success of a faction; whilst it cannot possibly do good to the country.

But there is still another objection to this new party which if possible is stronger than any I have stated.

They seek to inflame the worst passions of human nature, by connecting religion with politics. That every man has a right to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience, is a fundamental maxim of republican liberty. Nor has it been questioned in our State, until *very lately*, by any *intelligent man*, since the days when we were just emerging from the thraldom of English and Yankee bigotry. I am a Protestant, and consider it a blessing that I am. I am no defender of the Catholic Church, nor of Catholic persecutions. But I do believe that Catholics, like all other sects of Christians, have good and bad among them; and whilst I would oppose the bad *I will respect the good.*

It is unjust to charge that all Catholics are under a foreign allegiance. *We know* that such is not the truth. Our own State has ever regarded William Gaston as an honor to her history. Mr Badger recently pronounced in the Senate a beautiful and just encomium upon Chief Justice Taney. All applauded it who heard it. Yet Mr Gaston was a Catholic, and so is Mr Taney. The Pope can't govern the people within his own *immediate State*, in temporal matters—how much less then, is he able to govern them in foreign lands? At this very time he is protected *at home* by a French army. That Catholics will ever be able to supplant the Protestant religion in this country, is *absurd.* No intelligent man need to fear such a result. We have the Bible here—all men read it for themselves. And the experience of the past proves that Catholics are more frequently converted to Protestantism in this country than Protestants are to Catholicism. Since the establishment of our present form of government, it is a well attested fact, that between six and eight millions of Catholics have immigratad to our shores. There are now here however, only about one million! What has become of the other five-sixths? Converted to Protestantism. Fifty years ago, and there were no other religionists in Louisiana except Roman Catholics. Now they rank as third in point of numbers in that State. Methodist and Baptist are each more numerous there than they. What do these facts prove? They prove clearly, that Catholics are more likely to be converted by Protestants than Protestants are by them. If Protestant divines and Protestant christians will only do their duty, and will rely upon Spiritual weapons instead of carnal, our religion is in no danger. But if preachers forget *their high calling, and turn politicians; and* politicians take in charge the holy interests of the Church, then indeed may we well fear the most disastrous results both to religion and the State.

"History is philosophy teaching by example." Let us then profit by the experience of our "father land" upon this subject. The tyranny of the Stuarts was for a brief period overthrown, and the friends of liberty aimed at the establishment of a republic. They failed in their efforts, however, and *failed* because a religious *furor* misled itself with the politics of the times. Amid the strife of *sectarians*, and the attempt of politicians to secure the *purity of the Church*, the *spirit* of liberty expired, and on the throne of the Stuarts was seated for a time a despot more absolute than he whose head he had brought to the block—till at length the people, disgusted with the hypocricy of politicians, and the cant of religionists, recalled to his lost dominions the son of Charles the First, who reigned for long years, and swayed a despotic sceptre over a people but recently in love with liberty, but made abject and subservient by the revulsion produced by the inauspicious conjunction of religion and politics—a conjunction which ever has, and ever will result in corruption in the Church and despotism in the State.

Very truly and respectfully,
Your friend, JOHN KERR.

E. J. HALE & SON.

UNFAIR.—The Whig-Know Nothing presses of this State and elsewhere, denominate every Democratic newspaper that is opposed to the proscriptive power of the Know Nothings as anti-American, and have gone so far as to call each of the Democratic candidates, nominated by democratic conventions or by the united voice of democracy, as anti-American. This charge is as contemptible as it is mean. The candidates of the Democratic party are as deeply interested in the welfare of the national Union, are as patriotic and devoted to the Union for the sake of the Union, as these would-be patriots, blinded by fanaticism, and false to the dictates of humanity. We say let Americans rule America now and forever as they have heretofore—yet we do denounce this *secret* organization working its schemes, during the hours the owl and bat claim for their own, for the purpose of oppressing an unfortunate race—yet for this we are anti-American!

The Know Nothings are striking at the foundation of our Republican government, they are exciting an intolerant feeling throughout the length and breadth of this republican government, such as pervades the reign of despotism. Are we anti-American in feeling when having the vision of despotic government standing in all their horrors before us, we denounce the *secret* machinations of a certain class of men arrayed against a certain religion? The nominees of the democraite party are as truly American as the most of their denunciators, the K. N's. opinion to the contrary notwithstanding.—*Salisbury Banner.*

PAINFUL ACCIDENT.—We very much regret that a painful accident happened on Saturday afternoon last in our town, during the firing in honor of the result of the Virginia election. A young man by the name of Wm. Gordon, who was connected in some way with the firing, by some means partially exposed himself before the cannon just as the discharge took place. He was shockingly disfigured about the face, and it is though that he will lose the sight of one, if not both his eyes—and his left hand and arm just above the wrist were blown away. Surgical aid was promptly rendered, and his arm was amputated by Dr. W. G. Thomas below the elbow.—*Wilmington Herald.*

From the Petersburg Express.

Diabolical Outrage—Attempt to Poison a Wedding Party.

Washington Co., Va., May [illegible]

Dear Express:—The most intense excitement prevails here, and indeed throughout this section of the State, in consequence of a diabolical attempt, (the particulars of which have just reached here,) to poison an entire wedding party, consisting of some eighty or one hundred persons. The circumstances attending this diabolical, but truly lamentable affair, may be nearly as follows:

On the evening of Tuesday, the 22d, H. S. Kane, Esq., an eminent lawyer of this county, and Miss Sarah, a very charming and accomplished daughter of Col. Anderson, of the county of Scott, were united in marriage at the mansion of the bride's father. On the evening of the next day, (Wednesday, 23d,) a complimentary party was given the bridal pair at the family residence of Mr Kanes, which is now occupied by the brothers and sisters of the bridegroom, the father and mother having sometime since deceased.

A very large company assembled in response to the invitations sent out, from Scott and the adjoining counties, and the most unalloyed pleasure pervaded the happy party until about an hour of the evening, when some two or three complained of sickness, and in a very short time some twenty-five or thirty others joined in the complaint, all of whom were suffering severely with nausea, burning in the stomach, and all the other horrible symptoms which manifest themselves when arsenic is swallowed. A short time elapsed before the sickness became almost general, and it was ascertained that every one who had partaken of a lot of custard, which had been prepared for the occasion, were suffering from the effects of some subtle, and perhaps deadly poison.

There were so many affected, that the number who escaped were scarcely able to attend to their suffering friends, and the greatest error and consternation prevailed. Two physicians were at the scene of distress and suffering, as soon as they could possibly attend, after being sent for, and pronounced the sick persons all poisoned. Upon examining and analyzing the custard, it was found to be strongly impregnated with arsenic.

I have been unable to obtain the names of the parties, but regret to state, that at latest accounts, some twenty or twenty-five of those who partook of the poison, were not expected to live. The young and beautiful bride was among the number most seriously affected.

As yet, my informant states, no one has been suspected, the servants being all sick, as they had also eat freely of the poisoned delicacy. The greatest consternation and excitement prevails in Scott and the adjacent counties, and persons were too much overcome at the idea of such a wholesale taking of human life, to institute any investigation, or adopt means for the detection of the villian or villians who perpetrated this horrid deed.

The sudden transition of the gay and happy throng from a scene of joy and gladness to one of lamentation and mourning, may be better imagined than described, and it is the sincere prayer of your correspondent, that the fiendish fiends through whose agency such a change was brought about may be detected, and made to suffer the punishment due so black a crime.

Intelligence of this horrid affair has just reached here, and I hasten to send such particulars as you have above, before the mail closes. Should anything additional be received you shall have it at the earliest possible moment.

Very truly yours, S. V. L.

P. S.—A negro has been arrested (whether man or woman we could not ascertain,) and we learn that there is strong reason to believe that he or she was instigated to the act by a white woman.

A JUST TRIBUTE TO DEMOCRACY.—Some of the Democrats of New Orleans wrote to Robert C. Wickliffe, asking for the use of his name as candidate for Governor of Louisiana at the ensuing election. He declines, and in his reply renders the following acknowledgement to the Democratic party of this country, the justice of which no one acquainted with its history will dispute:

"The true American party in this land is the Democratic party. It proscribes no man on account of his birth or his religion; it adopts as its own the principles contained in the Declaration of Independence. There rests not upon the statute book of our country one measure which has added to its greatness, that has not the stamp and impress of Democracy. Under Democratic rule and policy we have grown from infancy to manhood. Ours is the greatest, the happiest and the best country God has given to man. Democracy has made it such, and the Democratic party will continue it so."

CAPE FEAR NAVIGATION COMPANY.—The annual meeting of this company was held on the 31st ult. John D. Starr, Esq., held the State's proxy. The old officers were re-elected, viz: John H. Hall, President; George Mc Neill, General Agent; D. A. Ray, S. W. Tillinghast, Jas. G Cook and Rob't E. Johnson, Directors.

The amount of tolls for the year has been $11,687 56, (being 10 per cent. on the amount of freights earned by the boats on the river, viz $116,075 60.) The previous year the freights were $100,674 44. Increase of freights in 1855, $15,398 16. Whilst there has been a large an increase of freights, the tolls collected by the company are less by $897 12, in consequence of a reduction of the tolls from 15 to 10 per cent. on amount of freights. The down freights have increased $10,163 97, whilst the up freights have decreased $1,419 15, a gratifying fact, as it shows a beginning in the much needed retrenchment of purchases, which, if persisted in, will restore the balance of trade to the right side of the scale.

The expenditures for work done on the river during the year were $3504 05.

The dividends have been $5 per share, or 10 per cent. on the capital stock.

Among the items of freight the following are the most prominent:

DOWN.

6,065	bales Cotton.
3,348	" Domestics.
20,225	bbls. Flour.
1,258	" Copp'r Ore, (returns incomplete)
45,834	" Naval stores, " "
3,353	bundles paper, " "

UP.

45,454	bushels Salt.
383	hhds. Sugar.
1,696	" Molasses.
10,374	bbls. of all kinds.
7,526	bags Coffee.
655¼	tons Bar Iron.
1,973	casks Lime, (returns incomplete.)
21,808	bushels Grain, " "
1,162	bags Guano. " "

[*Fayetteville Observer.*]

Oh dear! exclaimed an urchin, who was chewing a green apple, I've swallowed a Know-Nothing!

A Know-Nothing?

Yes he is giving me the gripe.

An Elephant's Feeling and Affection.

While a wagon drawn by several elephants passing our office yesterday, the following was told, which we vouch for as true:

Last season a menagerie visited the village of Johnstown, Herkimer county. When the cavalcade left town it passed over a bridge and the road crossed, leaving two elephants bringing up the rear. These were driven to the bridge, but with the known sagacity of the race, they refused to cross. The water of the creek, which flows through a gorge in the slate formation, presenting at that point, banks of precipitous character and thirty feet in height, was low, and by taking a course across a corn-field, the ford could be reached. But the proprietor of the cornfield refused to allow his property to be trespassed, except on the payment of an exorbitant sum, and this the agent of the menagerie refused to submit to. Accordingly the elephants were again driven to the bridge, and again they refused to attempt the crossing. They could try the structure with ther great feet, feeling cautiously along the plank with their proboscal fingers, but each time would recoil from making the dangerous experiment.

At last, however, goaded by the sharp, iron instrument of the keeper, and accustomed to obedience, they rushed on, with a scream, half of agony, half of anger. The result showed the prudent prescience of the poor animals to have been correct; the bridge broke, and went crashing to the bottom of the gorge, carrying with it both monstrous beasts. One of them struck with its tusks and shoulder, breaking the fore-[illegible] the other was, strangely enough, unhurt. Now was shown the most singular and remarkable conduct on the part of the brute which had escaped. Its comrade lay there, an extempore bed being provided for its comfort, while no temptation, no force, no stratagem, was sufficient to induce the other to leave, and proceed with the main portion of the caravan, which finally went on, leaving the wounded beast and its companion under the charge of their keeper.

Day after day the suffering creature lay there, rapidly failing, and unable to move. At the end of three weeks, the water in the creek commenced rising, and there was danger it would overflow and drown the disabled elephant. The keeper, therefore, desired to get it up and make it walk as far as a barn, near by, where it would be out of danger and could be better cared for. But it would not stir. He coaxed, wheedled and scolded, but all to no purpose. At last, enraged, he seized a pitchfork and was about plunging it into the poor thing's flesh, when the companion wrenched the fork from his hand, broke it in fragments and flung the pieces from it; then with eyes glaring, and every evidence of rage in its manner, it stood over the defenceless and wounded friend, as if daring the keeper to approach, which the man was not so green as to do again, with cruel purpose.

Thus the injured animal lay there until it died. When satisfied that it could no longer be of service, the other quietly followed the keeper away from the spot, and showed no desire to return. If this was not reasoning mingled with an affection some men might pattern after, we should like to know what to call it.—*Buffalo Paper.*

CHOLERA IN NEW ORLEANS.—The Board of Health of New Orleans have declared the cholera to be raging in that city as an epidemic. A despatch of the 30th ult., says that there was 200 deaths from the disease during the previous week.

[illegible] STAND.—The Florence Gazette says "every democratic paper in Mississippi is opposed to know-nothingism." It might also have added that every whig paper in the State supports the dark lantern, Jerry Sneak order, either openly or indirectly. Some of them may say that they are not know-nothings, don't belong to the order, but their columns plainly show that their proclivity is that way. In Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, and, we believe, in every southern State, the democratic press speaks but one voice upon the subject, and that is condemnatory of this secret, oath-bound association. While the press of our party stands firm, there is no danger. The gale will blow itself out, and sound men have nothing to do but "lay to under easy canvass," and wait until its fury is spent."

TERRIBLE STORM.—On Wednesday last there was a most destructive hail storm in a portion of Burke county. In the vicinity of Morganton a number of farms were very seriously injured—the timber blown down, and the wheat Crop almost entirely destroyed.

Col. Lewis Conly, a prominent and respectable citizen, while standing in the door way of Mr Howard at Morganton, was instantly killed by lightning.—*Ashville News.*

ONE OF THE NEW FRIGATES.—The frigate Niagara, now being built at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, is the largest of the five screw steam frigates now in process of construction for the U. S. Navy, and probably the largest ship in the world. Her tonnage is 5,200; extreme lenght, on deck, 345 feet; load line, 323 feet; extreme breadth, 55 feet; depth of hold, 31 feet. There are three decks besides the orlop. The armament will consist of 12 eleven-inch pivot guns, to carry 170 lb. shot and a charge of 15 lbs. of powder—She is to be full ship-rigged, her mainmast being 111 feet long and 3 feet 4 inches diameter; the main yard will be 55 feet. and the mizzen spanker boom 67 feet. She is constructed wholly of live oak. Her full complement of men, when she is equipped for sea, will be about 400.

EXCHANGING WIVES.—A late number of the Eastern Clarion, published at Paulding, Miss., gives an account of a swap negotiated in that vicinity by two of its subscribers, and vouches for the truth of the story. The chattles which exchanged owners were nothing less than the wives of the parties, who were on the eve of emigrating, as they eventually did—the one to Alabama and the other to Texas. The Clarion refrains from giving the real names of the faithless Benedicts, and calls them "Obadiah" and "Dick" but records the circumstances of the transaction—how they went into the woods, sat down on a log, and entered upon the business; how they came near spoiling the trade because Obe's wife was a "younger critter by a dozen years;" and how, after much chaffering, the difference was finally equalized by the generous proposal of Dick to give in the way of boot, "a cow and calf, two goats, an old gun and an ox-bell." The respective children of the two mothers remained with their respective fathers, and, with their strangely-acquired step mothers, followed them to the States of their adoption

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MARRIAGE EXTRAORDINARY.—Tom Thumb, the celebrated little great man, was married at Webster on Thursday last, to a Miss Vinton of Bridgeport, Ct. An attempt was made to keep it from the public, but somehow it leaked out through some of the company who were a little indiscreet after imbibing pretty freely of Heidseick which Dr. Kirkham had provided for the occasion.—*Boston Herald.*

From the Raleigh Metropolitan.

J. G. Shepherd, Esq.

Soon after the nomination of the Hon. Warren Winslow, by the Clinton Democratic Convention, a certain class of individuals about our town, generally suspected of belonging to the Know-Nothing party, took an apparent delight, when the nomination of Mr Winslow was referred to, in saying that Mr Shepherd would not support him, and upon inquiry, why? they would insinuate that he had "seen Sam," or in other words, belonged to the Know-Nothings.

This report was, we thought, doing that gentleman an injury, and we addressed him a note, to which the following is his reply. It is needless to add that we never believed Mr Shepherd a member of that dark-lantern *gang:*

FAYETTEVILLE, May 26, 1855.

R. H. WHITAKER, ESQ., Ed. of the Metropolitan:

SIR:—I received your letter several days ago, but absence from home and close professional engagement, have caused delay in my reply. It is utterly untrue that I am opposed to Mr Winslow's election in this District, or that I am indifferent as to the result. I was in the Clinton Convention which nominated him, and when the ballot was announced, which gave to Mr Winslow the two-thirds vote, I spoke at some length in response to the nomination, and upon the resolutions adopted, expressing to the other Counties of the District the thanks of Cumberland in choosing her son as the candidate of our party. I am not now, nor have I ever been a member of the new organization the "Know-Nothing" [illegible] the Democratic party, with its well tried and well established principles, contains the genuine *Americanism* which my taste and my judgement approve. With respect, I am yours,

J. G. SHEPHERD.

MORMONISM.—The counties of Leon and Madison, says the Austin (Texas) State Times, are still the scene of Mormon excitement, and we are sorry to say that the efforts of the Mormon preachers are not without success. We learn that several men and women have joined the new church, and that they are fully impressed with the belief that the "strong in faith" can cure diseases, heal the wounded, give sight to the blind, and that they can speak in unknown tongues.

NAVY BEEF AND PORK FOR 1856.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Bureau of Provisions and Clothing,
June 1, 1855.

SEALED PROPOSALS, endorsed "Proposals for Beef," and "Proposals for Pork," as the case may be, will be received at this office until 12 o'clock, m., on Saturday, the 14th day of July next, for furnishing and delivering, free of all cost and risk to the United States, at the following navy-yards:

	Barrels beef.	*Barrels pork.*
At Charlestown, Mass.	1,400	1,200
At Brooklyn, N. Y.	2,600	2,400
At Gosport, Va.	1,400	1,200
	5,400	4,800

One-half of said beef and pork must be delivered at each of the above-named yards, respectively, by the 1st day of April, 1856; and the remaining half by the 1st day of June, 1856; unless earlier deliveries should be required by the chief of this bureau. Payment to be made within thirty days after delivery.

Bidders must specify their prices separately and distinctly in separate offers for the beef and for the pork, and for each of the places of delivery, covering all expenses and all charges.

The beef must be from well-fattened cattle, slaughtered between the 1st day of November, 1855, and the 1st day of January, 1856, and weighing not less than six hundred pounds, net weight, each. The legs and leg rands of the hind quarters, and the shins and shoulder-clods, the shoulders of mutton and ends of sticking pieces, and at least eight pounds from the neck end of each fore quarter, or the parts marked number 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, on the drawing or delineation of the fore and hind quarters of an ox, which will be attached to and form a part of the contract, must be wholly excluded from each barrel, *and the remainder of carcass, instead of being cut with a cleaver, must be cut through with a saw and knife, to give the meat a square, neat, and smooth appearance, in pieces not less than eight pounds, nor more than twelve pounds, each.*

The pork must be packed from corn-fed, well-fattened hogs, slaughtered between the first day of November, 1855, and the first day of January, 1856, and weighing not less than two hundred pounds each, excluding the heads, joles, necks, shoulders, hams, legs, feet, butts, rumps, lard, and all refuse pieces; and must be cut *with a saw and knife*, in pieces weighing not less than six pounds, nor more than twelve pounds, each.

Both the beef and pork must be salted with at least one statute bushel of Turk's Island, Isle of May, or St. Ube's salt; and the beef must have five ounces of fine pulverized saltpetre to each barrel, exclusive of a pickle, to be made from fresh-water as strong as salt will make it, and must be perfectly bright and clear.

Each barrel must contain full 200 pounds net weight of beef or pork, and no excess of weight in either article will be paid for.

The barrels must be entirely new, and be made of the best seasoned heart of white oak staves and headings; the staves to be not less than five-eighths of an inch thick, and the headings not less than three-fourths of an inch thick; they must be three-fourths hooped over, including the iron hoops, with the best white oak or hickory hoops, and each barrel must have on it four iron hoops, viz: one of one and a half inch in width on each bilge, and one of one and an eighth inch in width on each chime, and each to be of one-sixteenth of an inch thick. Each barrel must be of he internal capacity of thirty-two gallons.

Each barrel must be branded by burning on its head "Navy Beef," or "Navy Pork," as the case may be, with the contractor's name and the year when packed, and weight; and shall also be branded on the bung stave with the letter B. or P., as the case may be.

The beef and pork will, unless otherwise directed by the chief of this bureau, by the inspecting officers at the respective navy-yards aforesaid, and by some "sworn inspectors of salted provisions," who will be selected by the respective commanding officers; but their charges for such inspections must be paid by the respective contractors, who must likewise have the barrels put in good shipping order, to the satisfaction of the commandants of the respective navy-yards aforesaid, after inspection, and at their own expense.

Two or more approved sureties in a sum equal to one-half the estimated amount of the contract will be required, and ten per centum in addition will be withheld from the amount of each payment to be made, as collateral security for the due and faithful performance of the respective contracts, which will on no account be paid until the contracts are complied with in all respects; and is to be forfeited to the United States in the event of failure to complete the deliveries within the prescribed period. In case of failure on the part of the contractor to deliver all or any of the beef or pork above mentioned, of the quality and at the time and places above provided, the contracter will forfeit and pay to the United States, as liquidated damages, a sum of money equal to twice the amount of the contract price to be paid in case of the actual delivery thereof; which liquidated damages may be recovered from time to time as they accrue. Payment will be made by the United States at the periods above specified, (excepting the ten per centum to be withheld until the completion of the contract, as before stated,) after the said beef and pork shall have been inspected and received, and bills for the same shall have been presented to the navy agents, respectively, duly approved by the commandants of the respective navy-yards, according to the terms of the contract.

The parts of beef to be excluded will be particularly designated in the engraving to be attached to the contract. Persons interested can obtain them, with a drawing of the barrel, on application at this office.

Bidders whose proposals are accepted (and none others) will be forthwith notified, and as early as practicable a contract will be transmitted to them for execution, which contract must be returned to the bureau within ten days, exclusive of the time required for the regular transmission of the mail.

A record or duplicate of the letter informing a bidder of the acceptance of his proposal will be deemed a notification thereof within the meaning of the act of 1846, and his bid will be made and accepted in conformity with this understanding.

Every offer made must be accompanied (as directed in the 6th section of the act of Congress making appropriations for the naval service for 1846–'47, approved 10th August, 1846) by a written guarantee, signed by one or more responsible persons, to the effect that he or they undertake that the bidder or bidders will, if his or their bid be accepted, enter into an obligation within ten days, with good and sufficient sureties, to furnish the article proposed.

This guarantee must be accompanied by the certificate of the United States district judge, United States district attorney, or navy agent, that the guarantors are able to make good their guarantee.

No proposal will be considered unless accompanied by such guarantee.

The bidder's name and residence, and the name of each member of the firm, where a company offers, with the Christian names written in full, must be distinctly stated.

Under the joint resolution of Congress, approved 27th March, 1854, "all bids for supplies of provisions, clothing, and small stores for the use of the navy, may be rejected at the option of the department, if made by one not known as a manufacturer of, or regular dealer in, the article proposed to be furnished, which fact, or the reverse, must be distinctly stated in the bids offered.

June 1, 1855. 49-4t

New Wagon Establishment

BY WM. WATSON.

The Subscriber would inform his friends and the public generally, that he has completed his new establishment on Maxwell street, near Mr E. W. Willkings' Store; and is now prepared to receive orders for

CARTS, WAGONS, DRAYS, &c.,

which shall be promptly executed.

All work done by him shall be of the best workmanship and material that the country can afford.

REPAIRING of all kinds done with neatness and despatch.

Also, HORSE-SHOEING will be strictly attended to.

N. B. No pains will be spared to give satisfaction to those who may favor him with their patronage.

Fayetteville, May 30, 1855. y

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250 NEGRO MEN WANTED.

The Subscriber wishes to purchase FIFTY NEGRO MEN, to be employed upon the works of the Cape Fear & Deep River Navigation Company, for which a liberal cash price will be paid. The seller will, in all cases, be required to warrant the title and soundness of the negroes.

I wish also to hire TWO HUNDRED NEGRO MEN, to be employed on the work of said Company, for which good prices will be given, and payment made every sixty days.

ALEXANDER MURCHISON, Pres't.

May 25, 1855. 48-3t

WE ARE NOW RECEIVING AND EXPECT TO KEEP UP A LARGE STOCK OF GROCERIES.

WE OFFER

150	Bags Coffee—Rio, Laguira and Java,
15	Hhds. Sugars,
50	" Molasses,
1,000	Sacks Salt.
75	Bbls. Sugars,—coffee, crush'd & powder'd
125	Bags Shot.
45	Kegs Powder.
20	Hhds. Western Bacon,
3,500	Lbs. N. C. " "
50,000	Segars, assorted qualities,
100	Boxes Cheese.

With every other article in our line. All of which we will dispose of low for CASH, or exchange for produce or naval stores.

D. & W. McLAURIN.

June 2d 48-tf

SUMMERVILLE

MALE AND FEMALE SEMINARY.

A. D. McLEAN, } Principals.
D. McINTYRE, }

Miss ANNIE J. McLEAN } Teachers in Female
Miss LOUISA F. McLEAN } Department.

The Exercises of this Institution will be resumed on Thursday 5th July next. The services of competent assistants will be secured to meet the wants of a growing patronage.

This School is pleasantly situated in the Village of Summerville, alias "Toomer," the county site of Harnett county, in a region of country remote from vice; enjoying the advantage of attending Church in the Village every Sabbath. Mail facilities, which have hitherto been denied, will now be enjoyed three times a week. Parents and Guardians will find it to the advantage of their children and wards to have them in this School. Every attention will be paid to their intellectual and moral training.

Students will be charged from the time of entering, and no deduction made unless for protracted illness.

Board, without lights, $8 per month.

Tuition per Session of Five Months.

For Primary Department,	$10 50
For English Grammar, Arithmetic 2d part, Geography, History, Chemistry, Philosophy, Rhetoric &c.	12 50
For Arithmetic 3d part, Algebra, Geometry,	15 00

Extra:

For Music on Piano, with use of Instrument,	20 00
" French and German, each,	10 00
" Drawing, Painting an ! Needle-Work each,	5 00

Vocal Music gratis.

June 2, 1855. 48-tf

FAYETTEVILLE

MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

An Abstract of the Second Annual REPORT of the President and Directors:

Policies issued past year 524, whole number issued 1233, covering property amounting to	$2,126,353 00
Policies cancelled and expired	851,635 66
Amount now insured	$1,274,717 34
Amount of Premium Notes	316,333 36
" " " expired & cancelled	126,474 03
" " " now on hand	$189,859 33
Increase during the last year	$61,275 07

Premium notes averaging 14 89-100 per cent. on the amount insured, the actual cost of Insurance during the year averaging less than ½ per cent.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand last report	$772 89	
" for Premiums renewed	6,103 28	
" for Policies, Surveys & transfers	337 50	
" for Rent	70 00	
		$7,283 67

DISBURSEMENTS.

Cash paid C. H. Sneed, fire loss	$850 00	
" " Lot & balance Office building	1,450 00	
" " Salaries	1,550 00	
" " State Tax	100 00	
" " Contingent expenses	375 62	
" " Premiums returned	20 65	
		$4,346 27
Balance		$2,937 40
To-wit:		
Cash loaned out on Bond and Security, (on demand,)	$2,250 00	
Cash in Bank and in hands of Agents	687 40	
		$2,937 40

ASSETS.

Cash on interest and in Bank, &c.	$2,937 40
Rent due	190 00
Real Estate, paying 13 per cent.	1,800 00
	$4,927 40
Premium Notes on hand	189,859 33
Amount Capital to meet any losses	$194,786 78

In conclusion, the President and Directors congratulate the members and the public on the very fortunate and successful operations of the Company the past year. We have met with no loss since 7th March, 1854, (Sneed's,)—unless it be the case of Strangluus & Einston at Kinston, whose Store was blown up—*a very extraordinary case*,—it is still under investigation.

The following Directors were selected for next year: Geo McNeill, H L Myrover, Chas Benbow, Henry Lilly, Jas Kyle, S W Tillinghast, S T Hawley, T S Lutterloh, Wm McLaurin, N A Stedman, J G Shepherd, S J Hinsdale, D A Ray, J D Williams, A A McKethan, J H Cook, A E Hall, A W Steel, J G Cook, and R F Brown of Wilmington.

OFFICERS;

GEO. McNEILL, President.
H. L. MYROVER, Vice President.
C. A. McMILLAN, Secretary.
J. G. SHEPHERD, Attorney.

Executive Committe for next Quarter:

Geo. McNeill, S. W. Tillinghast, Wm. McLaurin.

May 24, 1855.

GEORGE M'DUFFIE,

INSPECTOR OF TIMBER AND LUMBER,

WILMINGTON, N. C.

MAY 19, 1855. 6m

MARRIAGE LICENSES, and all other blanks, for sale at this Office.