

# GREENSBOROUGH PATRIOT.

"THE IGNORANT AND DEGRADED OF EVERY NATION OR CLIME MUST BE ENLIGHTENED, BEFORE OUR EARTH CAN HAVE HONOR IN THE UNIVERSE."

VOLUME I.

GREENSBOROUGH, N. C. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1829.

NUMBER 16.

THE GREENSBOROUGH PATRIOT,  
printed and published every Saturday morning, by  
WILLIAM SWAIM.

At Two Dollars per annum, payable within three months from the date of the first number, or Three Dollars after the expiration of that period.

Each subscriber will be at liberty to discontinue at any time within the first three months, by paying for the numbers received, according to the above terms; but no paper will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid, and a failure to order a discontinuance will be considered a new engagement.

Those who may become responsible for Ten copies shall receive the 11th gratis.—An allowance of ten per cent will also be made to authorized agents for procuring subscribers, and warranting their solvency or remitting the cash.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

Not exceeding 12 lines, will be neatly inserted three times for one dollar—and twenty-five cents for each succeeding publication—those of greater length in the same proportion.

All letters and communications to the Editor, on business relative to the paper, must be POST-PAYD, or they will not be attended to.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

"But still remember, if you mean to please,  
To press your point with modesty and ease."

For the Greensborough Patriot,  
NORTH-CAROLINA, No. 11.

### GEOGRAPHICAL SURVEY.

"Delectable both to behold and taste."

"—all sorts are here that all the earth yields."

"Variety without end." Milton P. L. B. C. 17, p. 559

Let us first take a Geographical survey of our State. We shall find it situated between 34° and 36° and some minutes of north latitude. The 35th degree runs through, or near Fayetteville. Now if we would see what countries in the Old World, or on the Eastern Continent, lie near the same parallel, we shall find the southern parts of Spain and Italy, the island of Sicily, and the northern parts of the States of Barbary, Greece, Asia Minor, (now called Natio- lia,) Syria, the northern parts of Persia, Thibet, and China. The greater part of Italy lies but a little north, and Palestine and Egypt lie but a little south of this parallel. Thus we behold our own unpretending State, placed nearly in the same latitude of those countries which were most famous in antiquity; where man attained his highest earthly perfection, and achieved the most admirable feats of invention; where a Homer invented the most sublime poem that was ever written by uninspired man; and David, the King of Israel, was inspired to compose those Holy Songs of Zion, with a fervour which eunukles devotion in the coldest climes, and in the remotest generations; and where a Virgil told the tales and achievements of his hero, in the smoothest verse, and with the most elevated pathos;—where Science flourished, and the Arts were discovered;—in short, where the mind of man developed its greatest perfection, and displayed its brightest, sublimest capacity.

Nor are we to suppose, that the concentration of all that is grand in this particular climate, is merely a casual circumstance. Doubtless the local advantages might have made a permanent occupation a desideratum; the boldness of the surrounding scenery might have inspired sublimity of thought; and the incidents of fortune might have impelled to deeds of valour; but it is to the climate itself, we are to look for the most efficient cause of human greatness approximating to a parallel of latitude. These countries are situated in the medium of temperance, between the extremes of heat and cold. We shall be the more convinced of this, when we reflect that the frigid zones of our globe are scarcely habitable by human beings. Extreme heat of climate debilitates the body, and renders it incapable of achieving great and adventurous enterprises; or of assisting the mind in the accomplishment of any daring or lofty intellectual exploit. On the other hand, extreme coldness of climate, through the corporeal powers, chills the mental; and destroys ardour and vivacity of thought. Corporeal strength and activity may arrive at full perfection, whilst a lively and glowing imagination may be wanting. But, in a temperate climate, the bodily and mental faculties, being equally vigorous and active, afford each other mutual aid. Our own State possesses, in an eminent degree, the advantages of a temperate climate.

Beginning at our extensive sea-shore, and advancing towards the interior, the first section of country is low, level, swampy, and unwholesome; yet fertile in certain places; and possesses greater commercial facilities than any other part of the State. To this succeeds the sand-hills—the land begins to undulate; and the people are less unhealthy. This section is remarkable for nothing but sterile pine barrens; however, near streams of water, the land is productive. Advancing still westward towards the sources of the rivers, you enter into a country, which, when all its natural advantages are taken into view, may, without exaggeration, be pronounced one of the finest in the world, the fictitious accounts of ignorant and historians and geographers to the contrary notwithstanding. The perfection of its pro-

verdant and flowery meadows; the cool fountains of water; unbragous forests; and the plaintive melody of the aerial songsters; all conspire to render it delightful and engaging, and to justify the above assertion;—to make it a haunt fit for the Muses, and worthy the cause of propitious Genit.—In our progress westwardly we presently catch sight of the stupendous Blue Ridge, rearing its lofty columns to the skies. We know indeed that its height is nothing to compare with that of mountains in other countries; but we also know, that whether, from the country below, we view its summit, or from its summit look down on the country below, it is high enough to inspire our minds with a feeling of grandeur and awe. Beyond this range other ranges succeed; and here and there a peak lifts its head up amongst the clouds. Beautiful and cultivable valleys intervene. This is a fine and ample grazing country, and extends to the western limits of the State. These mountains are also the repository of valuable metals, especially iron.

Thus our State has every variety of feature, from the level, uniform marsh of our maritime districts, to the lofty cliffs and profound valleys, of our mountains. The soil is no less diversified than the face of the country, and every variety of soil is adapted to its own particular production, and brings it to the highest perfection. We admit that the soil is not generally of the most fertile quality; but this is a less serious disadvantage, than if it were not so amply counterbalanced by that felicity of climate, which we have already noticed; and by its capacity for improvement. No portion is so poor, rocky, or broken, as not to be capable of producing something valuable, as a vine, a mulberry tree, or pasture for a herd of cattle, or a flock of sheep.

To preponderate against all the above advantages, we can enunciate but a single inconvenience that has been imposed upon us by the hand of nature. Our whole coast is so securely blockaded by rocks, shoals, ever-changing sand-bars, and stormy capes, as to exclude us from a free access to the open ocean with large sea-vessels, and thus to cut us off from direct foreign commerce. This doubtless is a serious prejudice to the interests of the State: but where we consider how many natural advantages we still possess, we cannot, in reason, attribute to this solitary inconvenience, the flight of our citizens, carrying along with them our capital and enterprise; the more especially, as in time past we were flourishing. Mauge the barrier which nature has imposed on our commerce. That our condition is bad almost to desparation, and constantly deteriorating; and that our most enterprising citizens are emigrating with whatever speed they can; are facts so obvious to the most superficial observer to need the least proof. But how are we to account for these things? If the cause cannot be found in the restraints nature has imposed on our commercial enterprise, must we not look for it in the state of our social relations? That we must, is the opinion of

POLYDOR.

For the Greensborough Patriot.

MR. EDITOR.—A few evenings since in one of my peregrinations, I chanced to stroll along an almost un- frequented path, that presented on either hand objects flattering to the eye of the Naturalist, and picturesque scenery to the Romantic novelist. On the right, arose rocks of massive granite—a small streamlet gamboling down among their inequalities into the dark and sullen stream below. On the left, the ground, for a few rods, descended with a gradual slide, then becoming more precipitous and broken, seemed finally to end in a deep, dark and silent chasm. Here the trumpet flower (*Bignonia rubra*) consummated its noblest wish. Attaching to, and entwining itself around the most lofty trees, that erect themselves upon the verge of the precipice, towers above their uppermost branches, and reclining proudly o'erlooks the scene below.

Climbing upon the copse-wood was to be seen, at my right, the blue passion flower (*Passiflora coerulea*); one among the most beautiful that Flora exhibits, as well as emblematical of the suffering of our Saviour on the Cross.

A little farther on, in the direction of the path, I discovered, travelling upon the ground and twining around the smaller bushes, the mulhoacan, or man of the ground; (*Convolvulus panduratus*); about the virtues of which much has been said by the ignorant and superstitious. Its vine and blossom, with the addition of a tinge of red in the corol, resembles the sweet potato. It has a tuberous root, and sometimes grows quite large. It is indeed the very talisman of quackery. They most ridiculously assign to it the human shape. The superior part of the root rests below the surface, from three to six inches. The vine, as it approaches near the surface, forms a kind of bulb, which is denominated the head; and the intermediate part from this to the root, is called the neck. Usually, near the superior part of the root, two small branches make off, denominated the superior extremities. From this the root descends a number of inches, according to its size and soil, where it bifurcates. This bifurcation completes the similitude: head, neck, arms, body, legs, and where a further division of the branches take place, secures to this man of the ground a sufficiency of toes and fingers. No two parts secrete the same or like virtues: for instance, if the patient who applies for relief is afflicted in his arm, a piece from the corresponding member of the man of the ground must be used; and in like manner in all other cases. Whenever this most potent rule is deviated from, its talismanic power is lost and ceases to be a remedy. In almost as forcible a

strain these body curers declare that the American soil produces a specific plant to every disease; that foreign medicines are obnoxious to all countries; that the most simple growth of nature is not without its appropriate malady; and that the savage Indians, if possible more ignorant than themselves, possesses the superior tact of assigning and appropriating each plant to its concomitant disease. How ridiculous in the extreme! Are there not structural diseases, daily occurring that admit only of a palliative course? Are not many of the diseases amongst us imported?—and in fact are we not ourselves exotics, naturalized? Why not then import our medicines? Who in nature would be able to conjure up as many diseases, as there are different species of plants? Five thousand would not excuse him. Many plants are of value in skillful hands; but far the greater number have powers so weak and feeble, that the virtue of a ract had would not be a dose for a chicken. Then why clamour against exotics? If it grows in India, and there acts as a valuable curative, or possesses any other quality, will it not here be as valuable? If the bark of a tree, in Peru, will cure an intermittent, will it not here produce the like result? Does the poor savage, who, when labouring under the small-pox, prostrates himself over a pit in the earth, partly filled with hot stones, and frequently deluged with water to produce a steam sweat, then plunges headlong into the river, comes out, and shortly after, from its effects expires, deserve the name of a Solomon? Truly, when Thompson instituted a bath for the pit, and thereby procured a patent to sustain the life from his afflicted neighbour, these things should be considered. Certain it is that plants of the same family or genus, have opposite qualities and also the same plant, at different seasons. For a moment look at the genus convolvulus. Five species, viz: *arvensis*, *sagittifolius*, *spithameus*, *stans*, and *tricolor*, possess qualities so weak and feeble, as not to be worth decocting. The mechoacan, of which I have given a description, is a mild cathartic, and resembles rheubarb in its effects. Jalap (*Convolvulus jalap*) is a well known cathartic. The sweet-potato (*Convolvulus batatas*) needs no description. Field bind-weed (*Convolvulus sepium*) has excellent properties, and De Wit Clinton says, in one of his essays, that he believes the root may be made edible by cultivation. It has somewhat the taste of the Irish potato. Scammony (*Convolvulus scammonia*) is an expectorant, yet not the less efficacious as a drastic purgative. But to return—

Continuing my walk, the path now swept round the base of the granite pile, at once bringing to view the well known way, from which I had previously wandered. Here and there by, in broken and detached pieces, several varieties of quartz, breccia, and grawacke. I returned to my home, crossing in my way a small branch, beautifully decorated with the cardinal flower, (*Lobelia cardinalis*) refreshed, and delighted.

PERCIBINE.

## SELECTED.

"And 'tis the soul's complaint, and almost true,  
What'er we write, we bring forth nothing new."

## MEMORANDUM

OF THE SLAVE TRADE, AND SLAVERY.

Slavery among the Ancients. Homer often alludes to the custom of kidnapping in the practical expeditions, and of reducing prisoners of war to the condition of slaves. Athens, on the lowest computation, contained three grown male slaves to one free man. The treatment which they received, was comparatively mild.—If able to purchase freedom, they demanded it of their masters, at a certain fixed price. Only two inconsiderable insurrections are recorded. At one time they seized upon the castle of Suwion, and committed depredations in the surrounding country. At Sparta, the condition of slaves was deplorable in the extreme, and several times by their means, the Spartan state was threatened with extinction. Egypt was early a mart for slaves. Strabo says that Belsa in Cilicia, 10,000 slaves, a day, were sold for the benefit of the Romans. At Sicily there were very frequent insurrections of slaves. Two consular armies were destroyed in one war. Some of the Romans had from six to ten thousand slaves each. A Roman nobleman being assassinated, four hundred slaves were put to death in consequence.

Adrian was the Roman Emperor, who deprived the master of a family of the power of life and death over its members. Constantine abolished personal slavery. Slavery in Europe, in the middle ages, was such as now exists in Poland. Marriage among the vassals was a religious and solemn rite. They worshipped at the same altar with their lords, &c.

The Slave trade and Slavery in modern times. About the year 1500 a few slaves were sent from the Portuguese settlements in Africa into the Spanish colonies in America. In 1511 Ferdinand V. of Spain permitted them to be carried in great numbers. In consequence of the terrible destruction of the Indians in America, Bartholomew de las Casas, a benevolent Catholic Bishop, proposed to Cardinal Ximenes, in whose hands the government of Spain was lodged, before the accession of Charles V. to establish a regular system of commerce in African slaves. This proposal was in order to save the Indians from extinction. Ximenes replied that it would be very inconsistent to free the inhabitants of one continent by enslaving those of another.—In 1517, Charles V. permitted one of his Flemish favorites to import 4,000 Africans into America. In 1542, he ordered that all slaves in his American dominions should be set free.

—Upon the abdication of this monarch, slavery was revived. The first importation of slaves by Englishmen was in the reign of Elizabeth, in 1562. Louis XIII. of France would not allow the introduction of slaves into his American islands till he was assured that it was the readiest way to convert them to Christianity. The first slaves brought into the United States, were by a Dutch ship in 1620 which landed at Jamestown in Virginia.—The number was 20.

Abolition of the Slave trade. In May 1772, by a decision of the High Court of England, it was declared, that the British Constitution does not recognize a state of slavery. 1785 the Rev. Dr. Packard, President of Magdalen College, Cambridge, gave out as a theme for a prize essay, "It might to make slaves of others against their will?" The prize was gained by Thomas Clarkson. In May 1787, a Committee of twelve individuals was formed in London to procure the abolition of slavery. In our visit at the ports of London, Liverpool, and Bristol, Mr. Clarkson ascertained the names of 20,000 English Seamen, who had perished in the slave trade. In February 1788, by order of the King, a Committee of the Privy Council took into consideration the subject of the African slave trade. The subject was introduced into Parliament on the ninth of May 1788 by William Pitt. A bill was passed to limit the number of slaves to be shipped.—In 1792, a bill passed—the Commons for the gradual abolition of the trade, 250 to 25. In 1793, a motion to abolish the slave trade within a limited time was lost 63 to 37; but again in 1801, carried 69 to 35. January 5th 1807, a bill was introduced into the House of Lords for its unqualified and total abolition, and carried 100 to 96. In the Commons, it was passed almost by acclamation; 283 voted in the affirmative, and 16 in the negative. On the 25th of January 1807, just as the sun reached his zenith, the bill received the royal assent.

United States. In 1772, the House of Burgesses of Virginia petitioned the British Government for permission to prohibit the further importation of slaves into that colony. The petition was rejected. All children born of slaves in the state of Pennsylvania after March 1st 1780, were free. In the same month the constitution of Massachusetts was ratified, which interdicted slavery. By the constitution of New Hampshire, adopted in 1792, no person could be held a slave; by that of Vermont in 1778; by legislative enactment in Rhode Island in 1787; in Connecticut a law was passed in 1784, declaring that all persons born after that year should be free, on attaining the age of twenty-five years; in New Jersey, a law was passed in 1804, declaring that every child born on or after the 1st July, 17th of that year should be free. In New-York, July 4th, 1827, slavery totally ceased. The United States Congress of 1787, enacted a law, interdicting slavery forever from the country between the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. January 1st, 1808, the slave-trade ceased by the constitution of the U. S. In March 1820, by act of Congress all citizens of the U. S. who should be found engaged in the slave trade, and be convicted of the offence shall suffer death.

African Colonization. In June, 1787, the English Colony at Sierra Leone was established. This territory lies 8 deg. 12 min. north latitude, and about 12 deg. west longitude.—In 1794, the settlement was nearly destroyed by a French fleet. In 1807, all the possessions of the company were surrendered to the British crown. The Colony now contains 12,000 inhabitants, 12,000 of whom are liberated negroes. The freight on shipments made from the colony in 1824 was nearly 100,000.

The American Colonization Society was formed in December 1816.—In 1819, a portion of the African coast was explored by Messrs. Will and Bingham. In 1820, eighty emigrants were sent out. In December 1821, Cape Mesurado was purchased, and soon after, a permanent settlement commenced. The population of the colony now exceeds 1,200, of whom 533 were sent out in 1827. Within two years past about 1,000 slaves have been liberated in the United States many of whom have been transmitted to Africa.

Mechanicans. In Austria, it was declared by royal edict in 1826, that every slave from the moment he touches the Austrian soil, or an Austrian ship, is free. In 1825, a decree was passed by the Government of France, declaring that all engaged in the slave trade as proprietors, supercargoes, &c. shall be punished with banishment, and a fine equal to the value of the ship and cargo; officers of the vessels rendered incapable of serving in the French navy; and other individuals punished with imprisonment. In Brazil, it is to be abolished in three years after March 1st 1827.

Six Spanish ships were captured in 1826, which had on board 1,360 slaves. One ship of 69 tons, had 221 slaves. In 1827, a Spanish steamer of 60 tons was captured; having on her hold 220 slaves; 30 more died. It is accounted a good voyage, if not more than 20 in 100 perish. In the month of January 1826, 2,100 slaves were landed in Bahia, Brazil.

The traveller, Burkhardt, says that the number of slaves in Egypt is 20,000; in a plague recently in Cairo, 8,000 perished. In the kingdom of Darfour in Eastern Africa, the number of slaves is about 40,000; in Bomoon, Bagernie, Haoussa, &c. the slaves are about 10,000 to 100,000 free men. All the Bedouins are well stocked with slaves. In Syria there are but few slaves. From 6 to 800 annually are bought up by the Turkish officers in Egypt. In the British West Indies the number of slaves is 800,000. They are constantly decreasing. In the United States, in 1820, there were 1,764,833 slaves, and 233,400 free blacks.—*Quart. Journal.*