

Communications.

For the Patriot. Messrs. Editors: Since the rise of the late Legislature there has been a great deal said, in various ways and at different times, by prominent individuals throughout the State in favor of the construction of the North Carolina Railroad. And nowhere, probably, within the bounds of our domain has there been such extraordinary exertions made to arouse the people to a full and proper sense of the great practical utility of this work than here in old Guilford, the empire county of the "old North." Yet, notwithstanding all that has been said and done by you and others, it is lamentable fact that our citizens—at least a large majority of them—up to this time remain apparently callous and indifferent upon this all-important subject. I sincerely regret to see such a criminal indifference as this manifested by the ablest and best of our citizens,—when in fact that reside from five hundred to one thousand miles from us, in other States, are moving to some purpose in this matter.

How humiliating to our pride as free men of one of the old thirteen sovereign States is such a spectacle as this! Could a more indelible stigma be fastened upon us and our children, than for us now to sit still and remain inactive until this Road is built by strangers who have no identity of feeling or interest with us, either as individuals or as a State?—by men whose homes and affections stand fixed and cling with increasing tenacity to other lands, where they will convey with pleasure all the profits they may realize from the construction of the Road, or receive in the way of dividends from it while they live, and at death hand down its glorious perpetuity to the North Carolina children to their children and their children's children to the latest generation?—Where is the pride, the soul, the patriotism of the people residing along this line—that they cannot be moved to action by any thing that can be said and done?—may not even be bribed into it by rewards and profits that are so large and sure as to astonish the prudent and attract the avaricious from abroad?

I hope for the sake of suffering humanity—for the sake of him who toils to make a living by the sweat of his brow, that our people will not always remain thus lukewarm and indifferent to their best interest,—which I conceive to be the speedy construction of the Road proposed.—The time for speculating and surmising has fled; the day for argument has passed also. The hour for decisive action has rolled round at least, and now is emphatically the time for our people who wish to make money, and at the same time confer a lasting benefit upon themselves, posterity and their own State, to bestir themselves diligently. Our last chance to relieve ourselves from bondage and to better our present condition will soon be here. Shall it be improved to our profit, or disregarded to our everlasting shame and disgrace!

A few days will determine this matter definitely. That the Road will be finally built, I have not now the shadow of a doubt. If the people of Guilford and the adjoining counties along the line do not take the stock, capitalists who are abroad and have no other business will take the stock and hereafter reap the golden harvest that will ever continue to flow from it. It is to prevent this result, and to secure these great benefits to our own people, that I avail myself of the opportunity to appeal to my fellow countrymen who are freeholders, to come up without one exception, and attend the meeting advertised to be held in the court house on Tuesday of the approaching County Court. Let it be remembered that this meeting will precede but a few days the State Convention that is to assemble in Greensboro' on the 29th of the present month, on the same subject. Consequently it is the last opportunity the friends of this great work will have to hold a meeting to profit on this all-absorbing subject. It is evident, therefore, to every reasonable thinking man that the meeting under the circumstances above alluded to, cannot fail to be an important one in every sense of the word to the citizens of Guilford—in my humble judgment decidedly the most so of any meeting that has ever been called or held in the county since its organization. The proceedings of this meeting will differ from the most of the meetings held in the county, inasmuch as they will not be of a negative character, but will tell on the prosperity of our county for weal or woe through time to come. Hundreds and thousands of dollars are now at stake, and that these immense sums, together with the highest and best interests of our county are now within our grasp and may be secured by this meeting, or by it, through our indifference as a community, be bartered away for that which is less, infinitely less, than a sour mess of cold potatoe.

As a citizen of old Guilford I regret to see the death-like apathy that prevails among us at this time on this subject, and shall be chagrined to mortification if it shall appear when the Convention assembles in Greensboro' that Guilford is found lagging in the rear of any other county in the State. And the day is not distant when some of the wise and prudent ones, who are now so remarkably indifferent, will join me in my regrets and lamentations.

Under these circumstances then I appeal to all who have stock in the Road, or wish to see it built, to exert themselves to their utmost to have a full attendance of the free men of our county at the meeting to be held on Tuesday of next County Court. Sure none who are true friends to the work or the county in which he resides will fail to do all that he can at this particular crisis to draw public attention to this work, when the time is so soon to be past to seal our fate forever one way or the other. ALAMANCE. Gailford, N. C. Nov. 5, 1849.

BONNETS. I take this method of informing the people of Greensboro' and surrounding country, that I have again commenced bleaching and dressing Bonnets, and also making Silk Bonnets. As my work is known to most of the people, I feel I will be prepared to give general satisfaction to those who may call on me. These disposed to give their custom will find me at Mrs. Martha Adams's. Oct. 1849. 25-30. MARY KIRKMAN.

Postponement. NOTICE.—The sale of the \$124.00 worth of Cabinet Furniture, &c., that was advertised to have been sold is postponed until Tuesday of next County Court, commencing at 1 o'clock, P. M. at the same place. Due attendance will be given by I. ARMPFIELD, rev. October 25, 1849. 2-3.

DR. A. S. POTTER. HAVING disposed of his entire interest in the Drug Store to Dr. D. P. Weir, respectfully continues his services in the various branches of his profession to the citizens of Greensboro' and vicinity. Charges immediately appropriate the carriage stage. Greensboro', N. C., August 17, 1849. 18-19.

From the Fayetteville Observer. "The Pursuits of Life." This is the appropriate title to an exceedingly beautiful and interesting Oration delivered by the Hon. ROBERT STRANGE, before the Literary Societies of Davidson College, at the late Commencement. Apart from the merits of the Oration as an elegant composition, it is worthy of all praise for its tendency to direct the minds of the youthful hearers towards the selection of the more useful pursuits of life, rather than still further to crowd the already overburdened "learned professions,"—the "vainly" speculation of the duty of Labor, and the dignity and profitability and happiness of Agricultural labor,—for its earnest inculcation of true patriotism, National and State.

There is a very common error,—instilled into the public mind by demagogues for selfish purposes,—that almost any other pursuit in life, or almost any other mode of investing capital, pays better than Agriculture. Judge Strange is a practical Agriculturist; hear what he says on this point:—"Man may strive as he will to shun it, but Labor is his destiny; and not only labor, but as a general rule, labor of a particular kind. It was proclaimed to Adam, in the day that he sinned, 'In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return to the ground; cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life.' This is man's destiny; and all his efforts to escape from it, is a war against Nature; and render him the miserable and wretched slave, instead of the obedient, cheerful, and happy servant, of Him by whom his destiny is pronounced. Oh! it is sickening to hear the disparagement that is continually being cast upon agriculture and its kindred pursuits. Almost any thing is preferred before it. In what dispute are its labors held! With what contempt is the smallness of its gains spoken of! And how much unfairness is there in the computation of those gains! And that those gains are ever small, is more generally owing to the ease and idleness in which the operator lives, neglecting his business, and the want of skill with which he conducts it, than to any natural impediment in the way of his success. The same degrees of idleness, inattention and incapacity, in any other calling, would probably result, not only in the attainment of small gains, but in ruin, disgrace, and starvation. Nor is it often that proper credit is given to agriculture, for the many comforts and conveniences it affords, almost without price, which any amount of money could scarcely purchase.

"Are you startled at the conclusion to which we seem to have come? I do not say that it is the just conclusion. I will not be so bold. But whether we look into the book of Nature, and read there what God has written, or into that other Book, in which He hath graciously revealed His will to man, we will I think be forced to conclude, that in agricultural pursuits, for at least the larger portion of the human family, is to be found most certain success,—whether success consists in bodily comfort and peace of mind here, or in a well grounded hope of a happy immortality in the world to come. To an American citizen, and especially to a Southern American citizen, this law is more legibly written, than for almost any other portion of the human family. See what a country He hath given us—how widely spread—stretching herself out, and inviting the weary children of toil, how numerous soever, to come and draw nourishment, rich and abundant, from her capacious bosom! Think you that this fertile and wide-spread country is a mere wanton expenditure of Almighty power? Or that our destiny being cast in it, is a purely accidental arrangement, having no meaning? Does it not seem that the same hand that planted Eden, and placed Adam there to dress it, hath created this godly land, and placed us here, to till it, and elaborate its inexhaustible resources? And oh! what an incentive to love of country,—to patriotism,—(that virtue, applauded in all ages, alike by the savage and the sage,—the bard and the philosopher)—must be the daily, palpable reception from the hand of God, through the Earth on which we stand, of all the supplies for our physical wants!"

We quote a portion of the Orator's remarks on State pride:—"But with regret I say—there is in our own State a lamentable (nay, shall I not be pardoned for saying, a shameful) deficiency of State pride. Among the cultivators of the soil, among the more ordinary classes of our citizens, I trust, may I believe, this is not the case. But among the educated portion of our people, this want of State pride is sadly conspicuous. Its monuments are around us in every direction. In our unquelled forests,—in our deserted farms,—in our dilapidated villages,—in our decreased representation in the National Legislature. A large part of our products are ascribed abroad to other States.—They deck themselves, as it were, in the plumage of which they have despoiled us. We share little in the profits derived from converting our raw materials into articles of immediate use,—of sending them to foreign markets, and making those exchanges which of themselves alone have rendered so many nations, both ancient and modern, proud, prosperous and happy. A great portion of our fellow-citizens are enriching, with their talents and their wealth, other States, and in the same degree impoverishing their own, by a change of domicile. Yes, the North Carolina wanderers from his native land, and leaves the sweet fields of his childhood with scarce a tear of regret. Home! that word of such magic power over most hearts, seems to have with him an indefinite signification, or at least to know no limit but the wide-spread regions where the stars and stripes of America are seen to wave."

Other? Is there no electric spark that can be struck out, to send its kindling impulses into every heart in our beloved Republic? To fuse into one general feeling of patriotism, and zeal for the public good, all those hard and selfish principles that now keep us apart, and render us insensible to the common welfare?"

Advocating works of improvement within the State, Judge Strange remarks:—"In undertakings of this sort, you will find the false economy, of which we have spoken, opposing you, and in this line of your duty, your principles will be put to the severest trial. You will be told of the taxes involved. Be it so.—Even should those taxes be injudiciously spent, if spent within the State they will not injudiciously affect her aggregate prosperity. Solomon hath said:—'These are that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and these are that withholdeth more than is meet, and it tendeth to poverty.' These words of wisdom seem to me to be especially instructive to the people of our own State. It is rather characteristic of the individuals composing, as well as of the State itself, to withhold more than is meet. They fear to scatter the seed, and will not trust God for the harvest.—And hence, while other States are marching onward, and onward, in indefinite improvement, ours is a rare retrogradation. Let the rising generation come to the rescue, and with generous and united efforts, restore our lost Pleiad to her place among the stars."

From the Raleigh Star. Salem, N. C. Ever since my visit to the neat and thriving village of Salem, I have intended giving you some sketch of the chief objects which attracted my attention. As my stay was short I must be pardoned if I failed to discover all of merit and interest which this pleasant place possesses. Salem is the largest village in the Moravian survey, and is emphatically the little Babylon of North Carolina. The site for the Court House of the new County of Forsyth has been located there, and it bids fair to become a town of considerable importance. Indeed it is already one of the most considerable villages West of Raleigh. Its population is estimated at something over 1200 inhabitants. The main street is more than 1 1/2 miles long, and when the lots around the C. H. on the North of the village shall have been improved, there will be a street of houses in Salem of two miles in extent. Buildings are constantly going up and there is every promise of speedy improvement. At present the municipal and church governments are administered by the same authorities—a sort of union of Church and State—but it is expected that the next Legislature will grant an act of incorporation. This will be some innovation on their old established customs—and it is doubtful whether it will be for the better. The quiet and order of the place is remarkable; and there is no such thing as a police known.

It is said that 40 years ago the inhabitants of Salem were rude, ignorant, prejudiced and bigoted; such is not their character now. Take a walk into the shop of the humblest mechanic in the place. You are politely invited in, and any subject you propose is handled with ease and familiarity. You may be a little surprised at his fund of knowledge; and wonder how he acquired his information. When you first entered you doubted whether he could read or write; but turn to his accounts, and see them all drawn in a legible hand—follow him home and see his library and his newspapers, and learn that his house and lot is his own, and he is educating his children in turn to take his place when he shall be no more. The mystery is solved. All—high and low, rich and poor—are educated in Salem, and they find it to be indeed a most sure foundation for character, wealth and happiness. I have noticed that a German population, educated and enlightened, are noted for their virtue and intelligence; and when this is wanting—when education is neglected—they are ever the most bigoted, ignorant, and prejudiced community in our midst.

The MORAVIAN CHURCH is one of the most handsome buildings in the village. It is built of brick and is capable of accommodating near 1000 persons. The FEMALE INSTITUTE occupies two commodious buildings, and I learn there are a large number of young ladies in attendance. This institution has ever held a high reputation, and I am glad to learn that it is extended throughout the southern and western States. Mr. E. A. de SCHWEINITZ is the Principal; and it is unnecessary to say of him that he is a well educated and accomplished gentleman. His fine qualities of head and heart peculiarly fit him for his important situation.

The BANK is a very neat building and a more faithful and accommodating officer could not have been selected than L. G. LASH, Esq., the present cashier. The TRADE of Salem is considerable and manufactures are flourishing. One or more mechanics of every trade are carrying on business there, and one would be astonished to see the industry and thrift every where exhibited. The COTTON AND WOOL FACTORIES of MESSRS. F. & H. FRIE, deserve particular notice. They turn out cotton yarn and jeans, and their woolsen fabrics are equal to those of the same texture manufactured any where. The Messrs. F. deserve credit for the enterprise they have exhibited. If they will furnish us a sketch of their machinery, number of spindles, looms &c., we will take pleasure in giving it a place in our columns. There is another COTTON FACTORY in Salem, which, some how or other has not been so profitable as that of Messrs. F. C. L. BARKER Esq. is the agent of the company at present. The YOUNG MEN'S MUSEUM of Salem is something worth visiting, to every lover of nature. The collection is not very extensive—but considerably larger than I had anticipated. The extermination of the Birds, insects, reptiles, coral, minerals, woods &c. &c. afforded a very pleasant evening's amusement. The proceeds applied charitably. The GRAVE YARD is one of the neatest and best arranged spots I ever visited. It is planted in rows of cedars, and every grave is a simple mound of green turf with a small marble slab laid flat on the ground. The order is complete, and the uniformity adds much to its appearance. Much attention is paid to the neatness and cleanliness of the place, and it is worth a visit. I must not forget to mention the excellent house of Mr. BONES—"THE SALEM HOTEL." The visitor will find that he has not enjoyed all the comforts of Salem, if he fails to stay with Mr. BONES. SHOES, BOOTS AND BROGANS, and Rubber Over Shoes—the largest stock now offered for sale for less price than they can be bought in this market for. Oct. 1849. W. J. McCONNELL.

General Intelligence.

Amber.—Where is it found?—Amber has excited the attention of its naturalists and trader for upwards of three thousand years. The Phenicians were first to navigate the North sea in quest of it. Part of the raw material is exported from Prussia, but the staple market is Turkey, from which place certain portions are carried yearly to the holy Kaaba, at Mecca. Its value which was considered by the ancients as equal to gold and precious stones, is now diminished—it is used chiefly in making ornaments. The oil is used for liniment and varnish. Various opinions have been entertained concerning amber. One supposes it to be antediluvian resin, on account of the leaves, toads, and insects which it contains; another that it is an animal production; and a third claims for it a vegetable origin from its possessing so many properties in common with resin, and attributes its formation to forests submerged by the ocean, and covered with sand.

The Kentucky Constitution.—Amendments to the following effect have been proposed in the Convention to amend the State Constitution. It is believed that they will nearly all be adopted:—All government officers to be elective; elections to continue but one day, and to be viva voce; counties to be divided into townships of not exceeding 200 elections, with a poll in each township; members of the House of Representatives to be selected for two years, members of the Senate for four—one half of the latter going out every two years; sessions of the Legislature to be biennial; Legislature not to grant divorces, but Courts to do so, three fifths of the Legislature required to pass local or special laws; Legislature to have no power to pass laws emancipating slaves without the consent of their owners; slaves emancipated shall be sent out of the United States at the expense of their owners, and in case of their return, they are to be sold for the benefit of the public treasury.

Sir John Franklin's Expedition.—A long article appears in the London Athenaeum, throwing many doubts on the truth of the narration of the Esquimaux to Captain Parker, of the English whaler Truelove, arrived at Hull. The Athenaeum publishes a letter from Mr. Goodair, a Scotch gentleman, who embarked on the Advice whaler, which accompanied the Truelove in her passage to Lancaster Sound in search of the expedition, for the purpose of assisting personally in gathering information of Sir John's ships. Mr. G.'s letter advances the opinion that, had the Esquimaux really visited the ships, the expedition would have forwarded communications to be delivered to the whalers in Pond's Bay. Mr. G. also argues that if Sir James Ross be where the report places him, he would have opened up a communication by his own men with the whalers during the summer months.

The Rumbling Noise.—On Wednesday afternoon, sometime between the hours of three and four o'clock, a rumbling sound was heard out South-east from this place, resembling, but which was more monotonous than, thunder. It was heard for about the space of two minutes, distinctly, and jarred the glasses in some houses. It was heard fifteen or twenty miles east of this, and still appeared south-east of that. It is supposed to have been the result of a meteor of uncommon size, which was traveling from no one knows where, to no one knows whither.—Horn's Nest, Charlotte, Nov. 3.

The same noise was heard in Wadesborough, over in Montgomery county, down in Cheraw, and throughout the regions around, as far as we have heard from. We can give no more satisfactory reason for the cause than the Horn's Nest. Wadesborough Argus.

The Nicaragua Dispute.—It is reported at Washington, on what is thought sufficient authority, that Mr. Rives had, whilst in London, an interview with Lord Palmerston, in regard to the Nicaragua affair, which has resulted in a good understanding between the United States and England, upon the basis of the free navigation of the San Juan River, and the opening of the whole contemplated line of communication to all nations, upon the same terms of trade and navigation. This, however, does not affect, probably, the question of sovereignty, which is the main ground of threatened difficulty. The New York Courier doubts not, in spite of the belligerent articles of the British press, that the dispute will be amicably settled.—Great Britain surrendering the right of way upon the above terms.

The Marble Ford.—We observe there is a very large stock of Marble in the yard of Mr. Ford, on Dock street. There are some pieces of Italian, but it is chiefly composed of very fine American marble, from the quarry at West Stockbridge, Mass. We have no doubt but any articles in this line can be furnished by Mr. F. in very superior style, as he certainly has—all the means, in stock and workmen, to supply them, and the industry and enterprise requisite for a handsome business. Very fine specimens of his skill are now in the yard—and those who require this kind of work, can have the benefit of personal inspection and comparison.—Wilmington Commercial.

A Rousing Day's Work on the Western Railroad.—The agent of the Western Railroad has furnished us with the following statement of the amount of freight started on Monday from their depot at East Albany: 10,053 barrels of flour. 942 do. of apples. 1,405 boxes of cheese. 75 bales of wool. 1,159 barrels of butter. 958 bins of beef. Eight trains, with 36 cars, were sent East. The receipts for freight were \$5,423. This is the largest of any day since the road was built. Albany Evening Journal.

Foreign Railroad Iron.—The quantity of railroad iron recently purchased in Europe, by Mr. Stevenson, President of the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, at \$39.00 per ton, and delivered at New Orleans free of all charges, duties included, was 10,340 tons. It is said that the saving on this purchase is \$350,000 on the engineer's estimate, and upwards of \$250,000 on the cost of the iron if purchased in the United States.

The Mineral Wealth of Alabama.—It is not generally known that the State of Alabama abounds in coal, iron, and marble. The coal is mostly bituminous. The Mobile Herald says that the amount raised this year on Warrior river will be greater than ever before. Over two hundred flat boats have been projected or built to carry it to market.

General Intelligence.

Railroads in Indiana.—There are now finished and in progress in Indiana 514 miles of railroad, as follows: Madison to Indianapolis, 80 miles; Terra Haute to Indianapolis, 74; Lafayette to Indianapolis, 70; Indianapolis to Bellefontaine, 80; Edinburg to Shelbyville, 16; Jeffersonville to Columbus, 70; Lawrenceburg to Greensburg, 35; Greensburg to Edinburg, 20; Edinburg to Martinsville, 35; Shelbyville to Knightstown, 26; Rushville, 18. They will be finished in three years, being in the charge of solvent companies. They will connect with the Eastern cities by the Bellefontaine Railroad.

English Statistics.—There were 135,845 marriages solemnized in England during the year 1848. And it is a most remarkable fact, that no less than 104,206 of the parties, (42,428 men and 61,777 women,) signed the marriage register with a mark, being unable to write their names. During the same year there were 676,077 births, and 483,394 deaths, in England. Excess of births 192,773. It is probable that the emigration was greater than that excess, so that the population has not increased. It is regretted that in many parts of this country no register is required to be made of births, deaths and marriages.—Fay. Obs.

Garibaldi.—Tarin advises state that Garibaldi had not been allowed to land at Tunis, and had therefore been landed in the Sardinian island of Madeleine. The Sardinian Government gave him 2000 francs for the support of his family, and allows him beside 300 francs a month; pledging itself to take care of his children for the future. The authorities at Tunis, acting on the hint of the French Envoy, refuses to let him land. The Bey, however, offered Garibaldi a steamer to take him to Malta, if he liked. Garibaldi, after some reflection, declined the offer.

Southern Progress.—Various gratifying evidences have lately been given that the Southern portion of our country has entered into manufactures. Georgia already has her 45 cotton factories, South Carolina her 45, Virginia 40, North Carolina 35, and Alabama 20. The South has also entered into the railroad system. These events seem of much national importance. They secure the advance in wealth and the prosperity of the South, and beget a common interest equalizing both sections of the Union, so as essentially to do away with all prejudice and jealousy. Baltimore Sun.

Pork Trade.—The Lexington (Ky.) Observer says: The pork trade in Kentucky is at present very dull, owing chiefly to the exaggerated accounts of the surplus of last year's packing now remaining in the large cities of the Union. The Louisville and Cincinnati packers and slaughterers are making more extensive preparations for the coming season than usual, but will as yet make no engagements. In consequence of this state of the case, the Kentucky hogfeeders, who have fed for an earlier market than they commonly do, will drive to a Southern market.

The St. Louis Convention.—The St. Louis papers contain voluminous particulars of the proceedings of this Convention. The most interesting are the letters of Colonel Fremont, which were read by Senator Benton. The Convention resolved to memorialize Congress to construct a railroad from some point on the western boundary of the States to the Pacific ocean; and to aid the States to make three branches from the main trunk to Chicago, St. Louis, and Memphis.

Rail Road to the Pacific.—Great credit was given to the late Convention at St. Louis, by the participation of many distinguished citizens. Many who did not attend expressed their approbation of the project proposed, through letters addressed to the Committee of the Convention. Among these are Lewis Cass, John C. Calhoun, M. Van Buren, Wm. H. Seaward, John A. Dix, and Preston King.

The Cost of Riots.—It appears by a report made in Philadelphia, on Monday, that nearly a quarter of a million dollars (\$238,230) has been paid out of the County Treasury there since 1836, for the suppression of riots. This sum does not include the snug little bill which has yet to be footed for the riot election night, which will probably bring the amount quite up to a quarter of a million.

Powers' Statue of Calhoun.—The Hon. Edward Everett writes to the Hon. R. B. Rhet, that he has received a letter from Mr. Powers, dated Florence, August 26th, which says, the statue of Mr. Calhoun is nearly finished, it having taken a year's more labor than the artist anticipated, in consequence of its being his first draped piece of work.

Liquor Laws in Sweden.—The laws against intoxication are enforced with great rigor in Sweden. Whoever is seen drunk is fined, for the first offence \$3, for the second \$6, for the third and fourth a still further sum, and is also deprived of the right of voting at elections, and of being appointed a representative. He is, besides, publicly exposed in the parish church on the following Sunday.

Death from the Bite of a Rat.—PHILIP PETONA, a young man, died a few days ago near Easton, Pennsylvania, from the effects of the bite of a rat. About two weeks previous the rat bit him in the chin. His face afterwards became very much swollen, and notwithstanding the prompt application of every remedy that his physician could suggest, he died in the greatest agony.

Houses for California.—It is mentioned as an evidence of Cincinnati enterprise, that one firm in that city will, in a few days, ship fifty houses to California, properly prepared to be put up.—They are to be sent to New Orleans, where they will be placed on board of a vessel which is to go around the Horn.

United States Senator from Illinois.—The Legislature of Illinois, on the 29th ult. elected General James Shields to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy occasioned by the Senate's resolution, declaring that he was ineligible; the lapse of time since his election having removed the objections against him.

African Colonization.—The Liberia Packet sails for Liberia from Norfolk, Va., about the 1st of December. Another vessel will sail from Savannah, Geo., for the same place, about the 1st of February, and another will leave New Orleans as soon as the funds of the Colonization Society will admit.

The next Congress.—The papers are indulging in speculations as to the Speaker of the next House of Representatives. Mr. Winthrop is the only Whig named. But, as it is believed that the Abolitionists will vote against him, Mr. Holmes of S. C. (a Taylor Democrat), is talked of. Of the Locofocos, Messrs. Cobb of Geo., Boyd of Ken., and Bailey of Va. are prominent. The Abolitionists will decide it, and they will undoubtedly endeavor to force one or the party to make one of themselves Speaker.

Distressing Accident.—The Fayetteville Carolina states that, on the 1st inst., Mr. David Offiant at the steamboat wharf in that place, put his foot in the coil of a rope which, attached to a tow boat to the steamer, and a sudden stretching of the rope from a movement of the boat, cut his leg off below the knee. So quickly and clean was this done, that the severed limb dropped in to the water.

The tunnel on the line of the Hudson river railroad at New Hamburg, is a truly gigantic work, measuring 320 feet in length, 18 feet high, and 24 feet wide, and is cut through the solid rock. Four hundred men are employed night and day upon the work, and 15,000 pounds of powder have been used for blasting during the past fourteen months.

Railroads in the United States.—We have now in the United States 8,500 miles of railway completed, at a cost \$230,000,000, and before the close of this year, at least 5,000 miles more will be in completion, and capital will be found rapidly centering toward them.

The Emperor of Russia has seventeen ships of the line in the Black Sea. The Sultan of Turkey has twelve, nearly all of which were built by Henry Eckford and Mr. J. F. Rhodes, of New York, and are among the most superb specimens of naval architecture in the world.

Secret Societies.—This subject was discussed at the last session of the Presbyterian Synod of Pittsburg, and ended in the adoption of a resolution, recommending the members of the Church in that Synod to abstain from participation in such societies.

We learn from the Philadelphia Bulletin that the total amount of California gold received at Philadelphia up to the present time, is about \$2,100,000, and that the whole amount now at the mint will be coined in about three weeks.

Alabama.—Rice is becoming one of the important staples of Alabama. Within a few years past the planters have devoted considerable attention to its production. Sugar is also produced now in much greater quantities than heretofore.

At a Temperance celebration at New market, Tennessee, a little lad appeared in the procession, bearing a flag, on which was inscribed, "All's Right when Daddy's Sober."

Independence. There is no quality more rare, especially among aspirants for offices of place and profit under a republican government, than independence—real, genuine independence—that manly, self-relying quality which, while it respects other men, respects also itself, and which, while it would not wrong the humblest thing under the canopy of Heaven, is equally alert in maintaining its own rights. How often do we see—and how disgusting is the spectacle—pride and conscience all surrendered at the shrine of paltry self advancement. How truly did Mr. Leigh remark, in the Virginia Convention, that there are "courtiers of the people" under a republican government, as well as "courtiers of the crown" in a hand of kindly rule. Indeed, we have, in this country, both classes—"courtiers of the people," who are forever shaping their conduct so as to win the popular smiles and popular favors; and "courtiers of the" government, dancing attendance upon cabinet functionaries, and whining like hungry curs for the smallest crumbs that fall from the official tables.

A truly independent man is, after all, more respected by his acquaintances and by society, than the individual who makes the greatest efforts to win their favor. It is out of the power of others to deprive him of happiness, because he looks for that to his own conscience, and not to the capricious humors of the crowd. How nobly does such a character contrast with the office hunting politician, or with the sycophant in society who bows and cringes and fawns on men who despise him, that he may be permitted to tread on rich men's carpets and delude himself with the idea that he has emerged from his original littleness, and become transformed from a tomtit to an eagle.—Richmond Republican.

THREE WISE HINTS.—Mr. Kennedy, in his "Life of Wirt," gives a letter to a young lawyer, which contains the three following paragraphs. They will apply to other phases of life as well as to the profession of law:—"Cultivate a simple style of speaking, so as to be able to inject the strongest thought into the weakest capacity. You will never be a good jury lawyer without this faculty."

"Never attempt to be grand and magnificent before common tribunals; and the most you will address are common. The neglect of this principle of common sense has ruined—with all men of sense."

"Keep your Latin and Greek, and science to yourself, and to that very small circle which they may suit. The mean and envious world will never forgive you your knowledge, if you make it too public. It will require the most unceasing urbanity and habitual gentleness of manners, almost to humility, to make your superior attainments tolerable to your associates."

NEW STORE IN SALISBURY. THE SUBSCRIBER respectfully informs his friends and the public generally, that he has opened a Store in the town of Salisbury, and is now receiving his stock, which consists of a general assortment of Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, Hardware, Crockery, Groceries, Hats, Caps and Shoes.

He thinks it useless to enumerate in an advertisement; but will say that his stock of Dry Goods consists of every article usually found in a Fancy Dry Goods Store in a city—which having been selected with great care in the principal Northern Markets, and purchased exclusively for cash, he is confident of offering such inducements to those who may favor him with a call, that cannot fail to give satisfaction; as he is determined to sell at a very small advance on first cost. E. MYERS. Salisbury, Oct. 1849. 27-30.