

HILLSBOROUGH RECORDER.

UNION, THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS—THE GUARDIANS OF OUR LIBERTY.

Vol. XXXIV.

HILLSBOROUGH, N. C., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 1853.

No. 1699.

NOTICE To Country Merchants.

WE have been making large additions to our stock of
**STAPLE & FANCY
DRY GOODS,**
making our assortment as commanding as at any time during the season.
Merchants replenishing their stocks for the Summer months, would find it to their interest to give us a call.
STEVENSON & WEDDELL,
Sycamore Street, Petersburg, Va.
N. B. Orders shall have our best attention.
S. & W.
May 13th, 1853. 85-

BOOKS!

I SHALL keep a very pretty assortment of Books at Mr. James Watson's, among which are the following: Wiley's N. C. Form Book; Wiley's N. C. Reader; Wheeler's History; an assortment of the American Tract Society's Books; Religious, Historical and Temperance Books, in great variety. Cheap, very cheap. Call and see them: Any Books furnished to order.
SAMUEL PEARCE, Agent,
Hillsborough, May 10. 85-

House & Lot for Sale.

Having removed to Chapel Hill, the subscriber offers his late residence in the town of Hillsborough for sale. The dwelling House is large and roomy, and very conveniently arranged. There is a good Office on the lot, with two rooms, a Well, Barn and Stables, and every necessary Out House. The House is situated on King Street, convenient to the Court House. Apply to the subscriber, at Chapel Hill, N. C.
HUGH WADDELL,
April 12th, 1853. 81-

Drugs! Drugs!

THE Subscribers are now receiving their Spring Stock of **DRUGS, MEDICINES, PAINTS, OILS, DYE-STUFFS and SPICES,** embracing a larger Stock than has ever before been offered in this market, and which they are prepared to sell low for Cash, or on six months time to punctual dealers. Physicians and others are respectfully invited, to call and examine our stock.
S. D. SCHOOLFIELD & Co.,
April 19. 82-

SPRING & SUMMER GOODS.

WE have just received our SPRING AND SUMMER GOODS. Please call and see them. They will be sold upon accommodating terms.
We would call particular attention to our Superior FRENCH CLOTHS and CASSIMERES, which have heretofore given great satisfaction.
LONG & WEBB,
April 12th, 1853. 81-

ONE THOUSAND PIANO FORTES!

Upwards of one thousand Pianos sold, and never sold a bad one!!!

ALWAYS having had the SOLE AGENCY of the pianos of STODART & DENMAN in Virginia and North Carolina—therefore with the unparalleled number we have sold, (more than one thousand,) enables us to assert with truth and confidence, from so long and well-tried experience that they are

UNSURPASSED IN TONE AND FINISH

embracing in the same Piano a

Most Melode and Soft, as well as a Most Powerful and Superb Tone.

We keep always on hand a large and varied stock of the newest styles and the latest rules, so that purchasers can always find exactly the style, etc., they may want; the difference in price being occasioned only by the outward finish, enables those who wish to buy cheaper instruments, the same advantages of a fine and beautiful tone as in a Piano of greater value. A large number we now sell, are left entirely to our own taste and selection, by those who are not able to be present themselves, and as it always devolves much more responsibility upon us, all may be assured, who want good Pianos, that with attention, caution and promptness to their orders, they shall have a Piano Forte at precisely the northern price, (as has been often tested,) and an instrument from the best makers in the world.

Guaranteed, and allowed to be returned if not all they are represented to be.

E. P. NASH,

Piano Fitting Ware Rooms,
Corner Sycamore and Bank Streets,
Petersburg, Va., April 15, 1853. 82-

REMOVAL.

Boot and Shoe Business.

THE subscriber would respectfully inform his friends and the public generally, that he has removed his Shoe Shop to the house on King street, one door west of Mrs. Vasseur's Confectionary, where he will keep on hand an excellent assortment of **ROOTS, SHOES, BROGANS, &c.,** which will be sold very low.

The superintendency of the business, as heretofore, will be entrusted to Mr. Thomas C. Hayes. The best workmen that can be procured, will be kept ready to execute all orders for work, and every pains will be taken to give satisfaction. Thankful for the liberal patronage heretofore bestowed, he respectfully solicits a continuance of the same.
W. F. STRAYHORN,
January 30, 1853. 67-

MOLASSES.

JUST received, 10 Hogsheads of New Crop Molasses.

LONG & WEBB,
March 8, 1853. 76-

BLANKS for Sale at this Office.

THE DISCOVERY AND COLONIZATION OF AMERICA.

A LECTURE,

Delivered before the New York Historical Society.

BY HON. EDWARD EVERETT.

Mr. President, and Gentlemen of the Historical Society:

Although I appear before you at the season at which the various religious, moral and philanthropic societies usually hold their annual meetings, to discuss the stirring topics of the day, I need not say to you that the proprieties of this occasion require me to abstain from such subjects; and to select a theme falling, to some extent at least, within the province of an historical society. I propose accordingly, this evening, to attempt a sketch of the history of the discovery and colonization of America, and of emigration to the United States. I can of course offer you, within the limits of a single address, but a most superficial view of so vast a subject; but I have thought that even a sketch would suggest important trains of reflection to thoughtful minds. Words written or spoken are at best but a kind of shorthand, to be filled up by the reader or hearer. I shall be gratified if, after honoring my hasty sketch with your attention, you shall deem it worth filling up from your own stores of knowledge and thought. You will forgive me, if, in the attempt to give a certain completeness to the narrative, I may be led to glance at a few facts, which, however interesting, may seem to you too familiar for repetition.

In the last quarter of the fifteenth century, an Italian mariner, a citizen of the little Republic of Genoa, who had hitherto gained a livelihood as a pilot in the commercial marine of different countries, made his appearance successively at various Courts in the South and West of Europe, soliciting patronage and aid for a bold and novel project in navigation. The State of the times was in some degree favorable to the adventure. Several conspiring causes, and especially the invention of the art of printing, had produced a general revival of intelligence. Still, however, the state of things then prevailing, in this respect, was very different from what we witness in the middle of the nineteenth century. On the part of the great mass of mankind, there was but little improvement over the darkness of the middle ages. The new culture centered in the Convent, the Court, and the University—places essentially distrustful of bold novelties. The idea of reaching the East by a voyage round the African Continent had begun to assume consistency; but the vastly more significant idea, that the earth is a globe, and capable of being circumnavigated, had by no means become incorporated into the general intelligence of the age. The Portuguese navigators felt themselves safe as they crept along the African coast; venturing each voyage a few leagues further; doubling a new headland; ascending some before unexplored river; holding a palaver with some new tribe of the native races;—but to turn the prow of their vessels boldly to the West,—to embark upon an ocean not known, in the popular geography of the day, to have an outer shore, to pass that bourne from which no traveler had ever returned, and from which experience had not taught that any traveler could return, and thus to reach the East by sailing in a Western direction,—this was a conception which no human being is known to have formed before Columbus, and which he proposed to the governments of Italy, of Spain, of Portugal, and of England, and for a long time without success. The state of science was not such as to enable men to discriminate between the improbable and the absurd. They looked upon Columbus as we did thirty years ago upon Captain Symmes. But the illustrious adventurer persevered. Sorrow and disappointment clouded his spirits, but did not shake his faith nor subdue his will. His well-instructed imagination had taken firm hold of the idea that the earth is a sphere. What seemed to the multitude even of the educated of that day a doubtful and somewhat mystical theory; what appeared to the uninformed mass a monstrous paradox, contradicted by every step we take on the broad flat earth which we daily tread beneath our feet, that great and fruitful truth revealed itself to the serene intelligence of Columbus as a practical fact, on which he was willing to stake all he had, character and life. And it deserves ever to be borne in mind, as the most illustrious example of the connection of scientific theory with great practical results, that the discovery of America, with all its momentous consequences to mankind, is owing to the distinct conception of Columbus of this

single scientific proposition—the terraqueous earth is a sphere.

After years of fruitless and heart sick solicitation; after offering in effect to this monarch and to that monarch the gift of a hemisphere, the great Discoverer touches upon a partial success. He succeeds, not in enlisting the sympathy of his countrymen at Genoa and Venice for a brave brother sailor; not in giving a new direction to the spirit of maritime adventure which had so long prevailed in Portugal; not in awakening the commercial thrift of Henry the Seventh or the pious ambition of the Catholic king. His sorrowful perseverance touched the heart of a noble prince, worthy the throne which she adorned. The new world, which was just escaping the subtle kingcraft of Ferdinand, was saved to Spain by the womanly compassion of Isabella.

It is truly melancholy, however, to contemplate the wretched equipment, for which the most powerful princes in Christendom was ready to pledge their jewels. Floating castles will soon be fitted out to convey the miserable natives of Africa to the golden shores of America; towering galleons will be dispatched to bring home the guilty treasures to Spain; but three small vessels, one of which was without a deck, and neither of them, probably, exceeding the capacity of a pilot boat—and even these impressed into the public service—composed the expedition fitted out under royal patronage, to realize that magnificent conception in which the creative mind of Columbus had planted the germs of a New World.

No chapter of romance equals the interest of this expedition. The most fascinating of the works of fiction, which have issued from the modern press, have to my taste no attraction compared with the pages in which the first voyage of Columbus is described by Robertson, and still more by our own Irving and Prescott, the last two enjoying the advantage over the great Scottish historian of possessing the lately discovered journals and letters of Columbus himself. The departure from Palos, where a few years before he had begged a morsel of bread and a cup of water for his way-worn child,—his final farewell to the Old World at the Canaries,—his entrance upon the trade winds which then for the first time filled a European sail,—the portentous variation of the needle, never before observed—the fearful course westward and westward day after day and night after night over the unknown ocean,—the mutinous and ill-appeared crew—at length the tokens of land,—the cloud-banks on the western horizon,—the logs of drift wood,—the fresh shrub floating with its leaves and berries,—the flocks of land birds,—the shoals of fish that inhabit shallow water,—the indescribable smell of the shore,—the mysterious presentiment that ever goes before a great event,—and finally, on that ever memorable night of the 12th of October 1492, the moving light seen by the sleepless eye of the discoverer himself, from the deck of the *Santa Maria*, and in the morning the real undoubted land, swelling up from the bosom of the deep, with its plains, and hills, and forests, and rocks, and streams, and strange, new races of men,—these are incidents which in the authentic history of the discovery of our Continent excels the specious wonders of romance, as much as gold excels tinsel, or the sun in the heavens outshines the flickering taper.

But it is no part of my purpose to dwell upon this interesting narrative, or to follow out this most wonderful of histories—sinking, as it soon did, into a tale of sorrow for Columbus himself, and before long ending in one of the most frightful tragedies in the annals of the world. Such seems to be the law of humanity; that events the most desirable, and achievements the most important, should, either in their inception or progress, be mixed up with disasters, crimes, and sorrows, which it makes the heart sick to record. The discovery of America, I need hardly say, produced a vast extension of the Territory of the Power, under whose auspices the discovery was made. In contemplating this point, we encounter one of the most terrible mysteries in the history of our race. "Extension of territory," you are ready to exclaim; how could Spain acquire any territory by the fact, that a navigator, sailing under her patronage, had landed upon one or two islands near the Continent of America, and coasted for a hundred miles along its shores? These shores and islands are not a desert on which Columbus, like a Robison Crusoe of a higher order, has landed and taken possession. They are occupied and settled—crowded even with inhabitants—subject to the government of their native chiefs; and neither by inheritance, colonization, nor, as yet, by conquest, has any human being in Europe a right to rule over them, or to possess a square foot of

their territory. Such are the facts of the case, and such, one would say, ought to be the law and equity of the case. But, alas! for the native chiefs and the native races. Before he sailed from Spain, Columbus was furnished with a piece of parchment by Ferdinand and Isabella, creating him their Viceroy and High Admiral in all the seas, islands, and continents which he should discover,—his heirs forever to enjoy the same offices. The Viceroy of the absolute monarch of Aragon and Castile!

Thus was America conquered before it was discovered. By the law of nations, as then understood, (and I fear there is less real change in its doctrines at the present day than we are ready to think,) a sovereign right to the territory and government of all newly discovered regions, inhabited by heathen tribes, was believed to rest in the Christian prince under whose auspices the discovery was made, subject to the ratification of the Pope, as the ultimate disposer of the kingdoms of the earth. Such was the law of nations, as then understood, in virtue of which, from the moment Columbus, on the night of the 12th of October, 1492, caught, from the quarter-deck of the *Santa Maria*, the twinkling beams of a taper from the shores of San Salvador, all the territorial and political rights of its simple inhabitants were extinguished forever. When, on the following morning, the keel of his vessel grated upon the much-longed-for strand, it completed, with more than electric speed, that terrible circuit which connected the islands and the continent to the foot-stool of the Spanish throne. As he landed upon the virgin shore, its native inhabitants if they could have foreseen the future, would have felt, if I may presume thus to apply the word, that virtue had one out of it forever. With some of them this process was sharp and instantaneous; with others more gradual, but not less sure; with some even, after nearly four centuries, it is still going on; but with all it was an irrevocable doom. The wild and warlike—the indolent and semi-civilized—the bloody Aztec—the inoffensive Peruvian—the fierce Araucanian—all fared alike; a foreign rule and an iron yoke settled, or is settling, down upon their necks forever.

Such was the law of nations of that day—not invented, however, by Spain. It was in reality the old principle of the right of the strongest disguised by a pretext; a colossal iron falsehood guided over with the thin foil of a seeming truth. It was the same principle which prompted the eternal wars of the Greeks and Romans. Aristotle asserts, without qualification, that the Greeks had a perpetual right of war and conquest against the Barbarians, that is, all the rest of the world; and the pupil of Aristotle proclaimed this doctrine at the head of the Macedonian phalanx, on the banks of the Indus. The irruption of the barbarous races into Europe, during the centuries that preceded and followed Christianity, rested on as good a principle—rather better; the pretext only was varied; although the Gauls and the Goths did not probably trouble themselves much about pretexts. They adopted rather the simple philosophy of the robber chieftain of the Scottish Highland:

Put in this fortress of the north,
Think't thou we will not rally forth,
To spoil the spoiler as we may,
And from the robber tread his grey.

When the Mohometan races rose to power, they claimed dominion over all who disbelieved the Koran. Conversion or extermination was the alternative which they offered to the world, and which was announced in letters of fire and blood from Spain to the Ganges. The States of Christian Europe did but retort the principle and practice, when in five successive crusades, kept up for more than three hundred years, they poured desolation over the west of Asia, in order to rescue the sepulchre of peace from the possession of unbel e-ers.

Such were the principles of the public law and the practice under them, as they existed when the great discoveries of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries took place. When the Portuguese began to push their adventures far to the South on the coasts of Africa, in order to give to those principles the highest sanction, they procured of Pope Nicholas V., in 1454, the grant of a right of sovereignty over all the heathen tribes, nations and countries discovered or to be discovered by them from Africa to India; and the exclusive title thus conferred was recognized by all the other nations of Christendom.

On the return of Columbus from his first voyage, the King of Spain, not to fall behind his neighbors in the strength of his title, lost no time in obtaining from Pope Alexander VI., a similar grant of all the heathen land discovered by Columbus, or which might hereafter be discovered, in the West. To

preclude as far as possible all conflict with Portugal, the famous line of demarcation was proposed from the North and South, a hundred leagues west of the Azores, cutting the earth into two halves like an apple; and, as far as the new discoveries were concerned, giving to the Spaniards all west of the line, and confirming all east of it to the Portuguese, in virtue of the grant already mentioned of Pope Nicholas the Fifth.

I regret that want of time will not allow me to dwell upon the curious history of this line of demarcation, for the benefit all States having boundary controversies, and especially our sister Republics of Nicaragua and Costa Rica. It is sufficient to say, that it remained a subject of dispute and collision for three hundred and sixty-one years, and finally settled at the Congress of Vienna, in 1815.

The territorial extension of Portugal and Spain, which resulted from the discovery of America, was followed by the most extraordinary effects upon the commerce, the finances, and the politics generally, of those two countries, and through them, of the world. The overland trade to the East was abandoned. The whole of South America, and a considerable part of North America, was, in the course of the Sixteenth Century, settled by those Governments, who organized in their transatlantic possessions, a Colonial system of the most rigid and despotic character, reflecting, as far as was practicable in distant Provinces, beyond the sea, the stern features of the Mother Country. The precious metals and a monopoly of the trade to the East, were the great objects. Aliens were forbidden to enter the American Vice-Royalties; none but a contraband trade was carried on by foreigners at the seaports. To resist this trade, a severe right of search was instituted along the entire extent of the coast. I have recently had an opportunity, in another place, to advert to the effects of this system upon the inter-national relations of Europe. Native subjects could emigrate to these vast Colonial possessions only with the permission of the Government. Instead of affording an asylum to persons dissenting from the religion of the State, conformity of belief was, if possible, enforced more rigidly in the Colonies than in the Mother Country. No relaxation in this respect has taken place in the remaining Colonies of Spain, even to the present day. As for the aboriginal tribes, after the first work of extermination was over, a remnant was saved from destruction by being reduced to a state of predial servitude. The dejected and spiritless posterity of the warlike tribes, that offered no mean resistance to Cortez and Pizarro, are now the hewers of wood and drawers of water to Mexico and Peru. In a word, from the extreme Southern point of Patagonia to the Northmost limit of New-Mexico, I am not aware that anything hopeful was done for human improvement, by either of the European Crowns which added these vast domains to their territories.

If this great territorial extension was fruitless of beneficial consequences to America, it was not less so to the mother country. For Spain, it was the commencement of a period not of prosperity but of decline. The rapid influx of the precious metals, in the absence of civil liberty and of just principles and institutions of intercourse and industry, was productive of manifold evils; and from the reign of Philip II, if not of Charles V., the Spanish monarchy began to sink from its haughty position at the head of the European family. I do not ascribe this downfall exclusively to the cause mentioned; but the possession of the two Indies, with all their treasures, did nothing to arrest,—accelerated even, the progress of degeneracy. Active causes of the decline no doubt existed at home; and of these the Inquisition was the chief.

"This was the weight that dragged her down." The spirit of intolerance and persecution, the scandal of all countries and all churches, Protestant as well as Catholic, (not excepting the pilgrim fathers of New-England,) found an instrument in the holy office in Spain in the 16th Century, such as it never possessed in any other age or country. It was not merely Jews and Heretics whom it bound to the stake;—it kindled a slow unquenchable fire in the heart of Castile and Leon. The horrid atrocities practiced, not merely in the Netherlands, but in every city of the mother country, cried to heaven for vengeance upon Spain; nor could she escape it. She entrenched herself behind the eternal Cordilleras,—she took to herself the wings of the morning and dwelt in the uttermost parts of the sea; but even there the arm of retribution laid hold of her; and the wrongs of both hemispheres were avenged in her degeneracy and fall.

But let us pass on to the next century, during which events of the utmost consequence follow each other in rapid succession; and the germs of institutions destined to endure the fortunes of christianity, were planted by humble men—who little comprehended their own work. In the course of the seventeenth century, the French and the English took possession of all that part of North America, which was not pre-occupied by the Spaniards. The French entered by the St. Lawrence; followed that noble artery to the heart of the continent; traced their great lakes to their parent streams and sweeping mountains; descended the Mississippi. Miracles of humble and unassuming heroism were performed by their gallant adventurers and pious missionaries in the depths of our Western wilderness. The English stretched along the coast. The geographer would have pronounced that the French, in so representing themselves the mighty barons of the Mississippi and the St. Lawrence, had got possession of the better part of the Continent. But it was an attempt to compose the second volume of the Fortunes of America, in advance of the first. This it was ordained should be written at Jamestown and Plymouth.

The French, though excelling all other nations in the world in the art of communicating for temporary purposes with savage tribes, seem still more than the Spaniards, to be destitute of the august skill required to found new States. I do not know that there is such a thing in the world as a colony of France growing up into a prosperous Commonwealth. A half a million of French peasants in Lower Canada, tenaciously adhering to the manners and customs which their fathers brought from Normandy two centuries ago, and a third part of that number of planters of French descent in Louisiana, are all that is left to bear living witness to the amazing fact, that not a century ago France was the mistress of the better half of North America.

It was on the Atlantic Coast, and in the Colonies originally planted or soon acquired by England, that the great work of the seventeenth century was performed,—slowly, toilfully, effectively. A mighty work for America and mankind, of which even we, fond and proud of it as we are, do but faintly guess the magnitude! It could hardly be said, at that time, to prosper in any of its parts. It yielded no return to the pecuniary capital invested. The political relations of the colonies from the first were those of suzerainty and resistance; and even the moral principle as far as there was one, on which they were founded, was not consistently carried out. There was conflict with the savages,—war with the French and Spaniards,—jarring and feuds between neighboring colonies,—persecution of dissenting individuals and sects,—perpetual discord with the crown and its proprietaries. Yet in the main and on the whole, the work went on. Things that did not work singly worked together; or if they did not work together, they worked by reaction and collision. Feeble germs of settlement grew in the consistency of powerful Colonies; habits of civil government rooted themselves in a soil that was continually stirred; the frame of future Republics knit itself as it were in embryo, under a monarchial system of Colonial rule; and in the middle of the eighteenth century the approach of mighty changes began to be dimly foreseen by gifted spirits. A faint streak of purple light blushed along the eastern sky.

Two things worth mentioning contributed to the result. One was the absence of the precious metals. The British Colonies were rich in the want of gold. As the abundance of gold and silver in Mexico and Peru contributed, in various ways, to obstruct the prosperity of the Spanish Colonies, the want of them acted not less favorably here. In the first settlement of a savage wilderness, the golden attraction is too powerful for the ordinary routine of life. It produces a feverish excitement unfavorable to the healthy growth and calm action of the body politic. Although California has had from the first the advantage of being incorporated into a stable political system, of which as a sister State she forms an integral part, it is quite doubtful whether, looking to her permanent well being, the loss to be a blessing to her. It will hasten her settlement; but that would at any rate have advanced with great rapidity. One of the most intellectual men in this country, the author of one of the most admirable works in our language, I meet *Two years before the Mast*, once remarked to me, that "California would be one of the finest countries in the world to live in, if it were not for the gold."

The other circumstance which operated in the most favorable manner upon the growth of the Anglo-American Colonies, was the fact that they were called into existence less by the Government of the people; that they were settled by bodies of colonists but by individual emigrants. The Crown and the Government were not the avengers of a condemned