

# Hillsborough Recorder.

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

Vol. XXXV.

HILLSBOROUGH, N. C., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1855.

No. 1773.

FALL TRADE, SEPT. 1854.

WE are now receiving, per Steamers Baltic and Alps, and Packet Ship Caroline, our FALL IMPORTATIONS OF FOREIGN DRY GOODS, purchased for Cash by our Agent, Mr. W. Weddell, at very low rates. We are also in receipt of A Large and Commanding Stock of DOMESTIC FABRICS, purchased from first hands, and at the recent Large Auction Sales, at great sacrifices.

We respectfully solicit a call from the North Carolina and Virginia Merchants, as we feel confident we can offer them Goods at as Low Prices as can be found in any market. STEVENSON & WEDDELL, Petersburg, Va., Sept. 8.

A Splendid Assortment of Fall and Winter GOODS.

JOHN A. COX, MERCHANT TAILOR.

HAS just received and opened a large and varied assortment of Goods in his line, which cannot fail to please in style, quality and price. The assortment embraces every variety of Cloths for Gentlemen's Clothing, among which are the following:

Superior French & English Cloths; Plain & Figured French Cassimeres; Satin, Silk, and Figured Velvet Vestings, very rich; &c. &c. &c.

He has also received a Large Assortment of Ready Made Clothing,

which is of a fashionable cut and well made, having been procured from a house of established reputation. The assortment embraces all the articles of a gentleman's wardrobe, from the Flannel Shirt to the fine Dress Coat.

His friends and the public generally, are invited to give him a call, as he feels confident that he will be able to give satisfaction.

He has received the Fall and Winter Fashions, and is prepared to cut and make Gentlemen's Clothing in the best style. A good fit warranted. The best of workmen kept constantly in his employment.

He tender his warmest thanks to the public for the liberal patronage heretofore received, and hopes to merit and receive a continuance of their favors.

Hillsborough, October 9.

LOOK AT THIS!



IF you want FIRST RATE CARRIAGES, which will not only render good service, but be also neat, call on the subscriber, living six miles north of Hillsborough. He has been carrying on the business for the last sixteen months, and his work has proved to be first rate. He is determined that his work shall continue to be executed in the best manner, fully equal to any in this section of country, and at prices to suit purchasers. Persons wanting Carriages can send their orders through the Post Office at Hillsborough, and they will be promptly attended to. All Kinds of Repairs will be done in good order and on moderate terms.

The subscriber has purchased the right for Orange County in a PATENT BRASS for all kinds of Carriages—to which he invites the attention of the public.

The subscriber's Wool Carding Machines are in good order, and are doing the very best quality of work. Prices as heretofore: Eight cents for white; Twelve and a half cents for mixed; or one-fifth part of the wool.

LEMUEL WILKINSON.

June 20.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, ORANGE COUNTY.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, November Term, 1854.

Jane McCauley, adm'x of Charles McCauley, deceased.

William McCauley, John McCauley, George J. McCauley, William McCauley and wife Eliza, heirs, Willis Hester and wife Catherine, Mary Blackwood, and James McCauley, heirs at law, &c.

Petition to Sell Real Estate.

IT appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that James McCauley, one of the defendants in this case, resides beyond the limits of this State; It is therefore, on motion, ordered by the Court, that publication be made for six weeks successively in the Hillsborough Recorder, notifying the said defendant James McCauley, of the filing of this petition, and that unless he appear at the next term of this Court and answer the petition, the same will be taken pro confesso, and heard ex parte as to him.

Witness, Geo. Laws, Clerk of our said Court, at office in Hillsborough, the fourth Monday of November, A. D. 1854.

GEO. LAWS, c. c. c.

December 20. Price adv. \$5.00.

Law Library For Sale.

A SMALL, but well selected, Law Library is offered for sale at a reduced price. Apply at this Office.

Sept. 15th, 1854.

SALT! SALT!!

A LOT of Liverpool SALT (4 bushel sacks), now coming in.

A. S. NIXON, of all sizes, for Pickles and Preserves. By J. C. TURRENTINE & SON.

August 14.

WANTED.

TOW and Cotton Cloth, Plain and Striped Linseys, Homespun Jeans, Dried Apples, Pick Seed, Feathers, and all other kinds of Country Produce, in exchange for Goods.

J. C. TURRENTINE & SON.

November 7.

AN ADDRESS

BEFORE THE

ORANGE COUNTY SOCIETY

FOR THE PROMOTION OF

Agriculture, the Mechanic Arts, & Manufactures,

BY PAUL C. CAMERON, ESQ.

At their First Annual Fair, October 27th, 1854.

Continued.

And if it be true that misery loves companionship, it is but too true of many other counties of North Carolina besides our own. I have no fear of exposing our poverty to those who are any better off than ourselves; and I very well know that none are so poor, or so likely to remain poor, as those who attempt to conceal their poverty.

Edgecombe is reputed the best cultivated district in the State. It is said her farmers are the freest from debt, the largest money lenders, paying the most liberal prices for lands, slaves and manures, and that every thing in her borders is advancing in solid value and improvement. Less noise at elections, and more rivalry in the field, and more and better provision for ourselves and dependents, will certainly bring us better crops, and elevate our social and domestic habits.

In the work of improving and advancing the husbandry of Orange, we desire to know no party but the good of all. It is a pleasant sight, to see a people uniting and acting for the accomplishment of a noble, rational, peaceful and common end—that end the happiness of the largest number. With this object and with these views and feelings, a year ago, fifty of the farmers of Orange associated themselves together, and now number about two hundred members, and propose to distribute two hundred dollars in premiums. The farmers and mechanics who have united in this association, have many interests in common, and they do well to cultivate in this way kind feelings towards each other. We are neighbors, and there should be an interchange of good offices between us; it will heighten the pleasures of social intercourse, the chief enjoyment of life.

We are social beings, and we desire not only pure air, good water and a healthy soil, but we desire good neighbors, good tillage, and all its consequents. And like the soil that we cultivate, we have large capacities for improvement; and our enjoyment and rewards will be in proportion to the measure of our self-improvement. We may become learned by the help of others; but we never can be wise but by our own exertion. It is self-culture that makes the man of mark and renown in all the pursuits of life; and man's necessity is often times his greatest temporal blessing—he rises highest in the scale of being when necessity induces activity of both body and mind.

It is not leisure that we need to become wise; it is mental stimulus, activity and action. We have opportunities for study in our every day employment—in every tree, plant, and insect—in every crumbling stone and decaying leaf—in every change of the atmosphere—in the clouds above us, and in the earth beneath us—in short, in every natural object or appearance by which we are surrounded. It is by the practice of thinking and investigating, of taking notice of what occurs around us, and trying to ascertain the causes of such phenomena and effects, as they come under our observation, that the mind is rendered active and stored with really useful knowledge. From such observations and investigations, society has received its best contributions. Strolling on the borders of a cotton field in South Carolina, Whitney, with a metallic point in his hand, applied it to the removal of the lint from the seed. At once the thought of multiplying the points was presented, and hence the Cotton Gin. At the tail of a kite, Franklin, a Boston printer's boy, mastered the laws of Electricity, and obtained the control of the Lightning; hence the Rod and the Telegraph. And Fulton and Watt, watching the action of boiling water, conceived the Steam Engine; and yoking the discordant elements of fire and flood, gave us the Ocean Steamer and the Iron Horse, annihilating time and space. And, seated on his impoverished and wasted farm at Shell Banks, the unpretending author of the "Essay on Calcareous Manures," stimulated by necessity, and directed by an active and inquisitive mind, commenced a series of experiments in the use of Shell Mar, that have, in the opinion of the best informed, added not less than thirty millions to the value of the lands of tide-water Virginia; placing his State, in less than twenty years, in the front rank of the wheat-producing States of the Union; and winning for himself a reputation more extensive and enduring than any of Virginia's living statesmen, and is now regarded by all as her best living benefactor. With the farmers of Eastern Virginia, the fame of Edmund Ruffin "has attained its full height and proportion, and no man's praise can add a single cubit to his stature." In Eastern Virginia, at least, they no longer attach any force or truth to the rhyme—

"That he who marls sand,  
Will soon buy more land;  
And he who marls clay,  
Throws all away."

It is not enough that men should see, feel and hear; so does the ox. He must think. It may be said with confidence, that every acquisition to science, and every invention useful to man, has been made, not accidentally, as a general rule, but by the proper use of his reasoning faculties.

Nor is it enough that he should educate his head and his hands, but his heart also—learn to master himself, to govern his appetites and passions. Society is quite as much in want of the services of the virtuous and good, as of the learned and great. And the history of all past time assures us, that man is not to be made good or virtuous, honest or sober, by statute law. "Thou shalt not steal," is a law higher than man's law, and yet no crime so common as larceny, from the witless, picaresque pilferer to him who deceys and swindles by thousands. And had it been written on the same tables, "Thou shalt not drink strong drink," yet intemperance might be as common as it now is. Though no soldier in the cold water army—though no advocate for prohibitory laws—yet I should feel that I had failed in my duty to the plough, and the objects of this association, did I not declare, in the most emphatic manner, that, next to a wasted and exhausted soil, the greatest evil which afflicts my native county, disfigures its husbandry, and degrades its tillers, is the manufacture and intemperate use of a cheap and intoxicating drink. For proof of this, visit any neighborhood in the county, and where most whiskey is used there will you find tillage and tiller in the most naked and ragged condition; the social duties and affections most disregarded; humanity in its worst estate; and the brute but the shadow of his master, in the exhibition of the pig without corn and the cow without fodder.

Habit begins in cobwebs and ends in chains. The individual farmer is of more importance than his farm; and the results of his occupation on his character, of more interest to us than the products of his fields. We cannot be otherwise than deeply solicitous to know that it makes him, in habits of indus-

try, a bee, instead of a snail—in principle and character, a gentleman instead of a scoundrel—and in benevolence and faith, a christian instead of a scoffer. And what better calculated to sustain us in "patient continuance in well doing," than the assurance offered by the sweet Singer of Israel, that the good man "is like the tree planted by the rivers of water that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither, and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

In North Carolina, few and wide apart, we find some self-made farmers, engaged with all their hearts and minds in the cultivation and improvement of the soil, standing up like our own Pilot Mountain, as if to show the width of the plain at its base, or like light houses on a long line of seacoast, dispelling the darkness that surrounds them; and if not teaching like masters in their art, yet exhibiting the fullest proof that on our soil and under our clime, the best objects of human labor are to be realized and enjoyed. I regard it as neither indelicate or improper, on an occasion of this sort, to name publicly such planters, farmers and millers as Thomas McGehee, of Person, and William Holt, of Davidson. And I should be gratified did my acquaintance with the State permit me to name a long list of such husbandmen.

And I mention it as a fact, and as a proof of the want of interest on the part of our people, as agriculturists, that on the original subscription list for the publication of "Colman's Practical Agriculture and Rural Economy," the most important, the most comprehensive, and best digested agricultural work that ever issued from the American press, this entire State furnished but a single subscriber! And it is a little singular that the Chief Engineer of the North Carolina Rail Road, in his first Report of the original survey, should announce to the public that, at the farm of that subscriber he found "the best specimen of scientific and successful husbandry along the entire line of Rail Road." Nor is it to be forgotten, that at the first and second annual State Fairs, the herd of young cattle exhibited by this reading and pains-taking husbandman, was regarded as the most striking feature of each exhibition. We shall find that we, too, must read the best books, visit the best farms, must cultivate our minds as well as our soils, must spend our money as well as our time, if we shall make ourselves the equals of those praise-worthy examples of successful agriculturists and public benefactors.

Nothing has been more cheapened in our day than the publications of the press, and it is to be esteemed as not the least of the blessings of an American citizen, that he can with so little money provide himself and family with a really useful library. If the good that men do, lives after them, it is no where found in better preservation or in more available form than in the pages of good books. What intelligent farmer would not be gratified, in his isolation at home, to pass the long evenings of winter in association with such companions and teachers as Buel, Colman, Dana and Johnston. For a few shillings you can have the best thoughts of these gifted men always with you. Money so expended will be repaid in such a way that no line of figures can sum it up. It is only by such reading we can protect ourselves against the prejudices of ignorance, the errors and misdirections of early habits, or maintain a respectable position with our intellectual and progressive countrymen. As we plant, so shall we gather, in spite of all our idle hopes and dreamy efforts. Ignorance promises no fruits pleasant to the eye or grateful to the senses; "men do not gather grapes of thorns or figs of thistles." And under our institutions, capacity for usefulness and intellect are the mile-stones which mark the position of competitors in the race for distinction and renown.

The great principles of our art are the same in every clime; animal and vegetable matters constitute every where the food of plants; heat, moisture, and atmospheric air, universally the active agents of vegetable nutrition.

With a knowledge of the truth of these fundamental principles, it is our work to apply them under all the contingencies of climate, soil, aspect and seasons. And in this work, the mind, cultivated in schools, enlightened by the suggestions of science, and fortified in its conclusions by settled practice and experience, can do much in aid of the hands. In such toil the trained intellect exhibits itself like steam power,—a labor saving principle, capable of saving or performing a vast amount of labor. If required to sum up the whole duty of a farmer in three words, I would say, make your lands clean, dry, and rich; these are terms plain to the understandings of all, and each might well furnish a topic for an agricultural address.

The first duty of a husbandman is to make himself acquainted with the character and constituents of his soil. No intelligent physician will prescribe for a patient until he has made what he calls a diagnosis of the case, that is, made himself acquainted with the malady, and then sets himself to the remedy. This is not the occasion, or the person, to enforce the importance of obtaining aid and direction from an agricultural chemist. The natural sciences are now prosecuted with singular advantage and success, and that of chemistry has in a measure been created within the last half century, and promises to render the most essential aid to agriculture.

Sanguine as I am in its application to Agriculture, I have been gratified to learn that the Trustees of the University have established a School of Agricultural Chemistry, and filled the chair with a native son of the State. This is one of the best indications of the times, and assures us that the practice of agriculture, and the philosophy of agriculture, are becoming matters of universal interest; that the thinking and inquisitive of all classes and conditions are at work in this field, and are asking for the how, and the why, and the wherefore. And it is to be hoped that the gentleman in charge of this branch at our University, will not confine his teachings to the laboratory; that he will, by the use of the press, magnify his office, making the circle of his usefulness equal to the limits of the State. And if he will visit our farms, he will find that, however depressed and disfigured is the husbandry of Orange, the hearts of our farmers are fully awake to the duties of hospitality and kindness. And he will find, too, that we have some men, who, without education, are, nevertheless, profound observers of nature and its laws, and who are full of the knowledge which they are constantly applying to practice; and it is not unlikely that our farmers would sometimes surround him, as did the wondering pupils of Goldsmith's village school-master, and "marvel that one small head should carry all he knew." In behalf of the unscientific, I beg that his teachings be offered in the simplest language, divested, as far as practicable, of the technical terms of science. And let me assure him, that a school which trains the youth of the State for the active and business pursuits of life, must become a great favorite. But the Trustees will have but half accomplished their object in establishing a Professorship, if they fail to associate with it a Model Farm, near the University, on which the teachings of the school may be applied to the field. Practical experience is not to be dispensed with in a practical art. On such a farm we might hope to see illustrated all that is practicable on our soil and under our clime; and the whole duty of the planter, farmer, gardener, ploughman, grazer and shepherd be taught, as well as the

complete management of the stall and dairy. All this will be eminently useful, in giving our educated young men a taste for Rural pursuits; and will prepare them to enter with intelligence on their paternal acres, with the gratifying conviction that, in North Carolina, Agriculture is taking its proper rank with the liberal professions, and that, in all its minute and practical details, it is not deemed incompatible with the highest distinctions of talent and education.

I am not unapprised that men occupying the first position in science and practical agriculture, hold that it is unreasonable to expect improvement in agricultural practice, much less an entirely improved system of agriculture, from the suggestions of chemistry. So did one, older than any of these, teach that "there is no new thing under the sun;" and on the same page we are told that "the eye is not satisfied with seeing, or the ear filled with hearing." For myself, like a traveler at night on an unknown path, surrounded by doubts and difficulties, I shall be disappointed, if I may not look to it as a lamp which I may take in my own hand, or have held up before me, to direct my hesitating steps.

Whilst it may seem tame and common-place to many, yet in the hope that it may awaken closer observation, and obtain better applications of both labor and manures, I will submit a few plain considerations in regard to the soils of the county, and their adaptation to crops. And it may be that my opinions are not in unison with the experience of others. In this I have no pride of opinion—I seek only the truth, and to tell what I think I know.

For all practical purposes, soils are classed under five heads—sandy, clay, calcareous, peaty and loamy. We have chiefly to do with two. Our county is nearly equally divided by two large bodies of land, sandy and clay soils,—sight and touch teach us this,—varying in texture, surface, and supply of moisture. I know no county where the division is so nearly equal, and it is fortunate with reference to variety in production. I cultivate both,—cultivate neither to my satisfaction, for I am not able to provide, as yet, what I am sure is essential to the fertility of both,—lime, the basis of all fertility. I am sure that so soon as the vegetable mould in either is exhausted, it fails rapidly in production; that on both, our system of husbandry has lessened the productive powers of our land; and that no neighborhood, and hardly any single farm, has been at all enriched since the occupation and settlement of the country.

And, without the aid of any other light than my own annual observation, I venture to express the opinion, that we have in Orange land that no tillage can injure and no amount of putrescent manures can stimulate to fertility. And so, it seems to me, it must remain, until, by the use of lime, or some other corrective, its acids are neutralized, and the capacity to appropriate or combine with putrescent manures is imparted to the soil. Such soils may be compared to a dyspeptic, whose impaired digestion can extract no nutriment from the richest food, indeed rejects all food, or if retained, to the manifest injury and distress of the sufferer.

There is a wide difference between soils naturally poor, and soils originally good, but reduced to poverty by cultivation.

The best lands of the county, in both classes of soil, have long ago been brought under the plough. Our fathers had quite as good an eye to the fat spots as any of their descendants; and you will find that the capacity of any of our soils to be enriched by putrescent manures, is in proportion to its natural or original fertility.

In both districts let us devote our manures to the improvement of the naturally good lands, no matter how washed and exhausted, and leave the poorer lands for the supply of timber, now every day being enhanced in value. The sandy soils of Orange suffer alike from excessive drought and rain. The cereals, and all the plants that furnish food for man, need water, cannot live without it, but cannot live in it. It is well known that the fertility of a soil greatly depends on the capacity of the soil to absorb and retain moisture. Nor is it to be forgotten that there is a wide distinction between moisture and wetness. Pure sand will pass water as through a sieve, and pure clay will, on the other hand, retain it as in a cup, as we often observe it in the foot print of animals along the highway. The clay soil drinks water with an almost unsatisfied thirst, and sustains itself hardly so well in seasons of trying drought as the gray or sandy soil.

As a planter and a farmer, I have sustained my heaviest losses in seasons of long continued drought, and as the head of a large family have had my anxiety more excited by this cause than all others. As practice is worth all theory, I am able to declare that the best protection against extreme wet or drought, on either sandy or clay soils, is deep and thorough drainage by ditching, and deep and thorough tillage, by ploughing and subsoiling. The midland counties of North Carolina seem to be the home of drought, or at least suffer as much from it as any portion of the country, which, I suppose, is to be accounted for from the fact that it is so far removed from the controlling influences of the mountain and the evaporating surface of the ocean, its bogs and inlets. In connection with deep tillage as a protection against drought, and undertaken chiefly with a view to sustain the products of a kitchen-garden, I trenched with a spade three acres, three feet deep, with most satisfactory results. But I did not disregard the teachings of nature, her laws are not to be rashly disregarded; I did not venture to reverse her order in laying down the strata of my soil. I put the clay where I found it at bottom, and the sandy loam at top. The clay soils of Orange are more in need and more greedy of manures than the sandy soils, and like the unsatisfied miser will continue to take a little more. The clay soils will take to advantage long and unfermented manures; if it is not idle, it is at least a great waste, to apply such manures to sandy soils. In sandy soils decomposition is slow, never perfect—suffers alike by filtration and evaporation. Of all the manures that I have used on sandy soils, no one has so uniformly responded to my wishes as wood ashes, leached and unleached. They contain both clay and lime, assist sandy soils to retain moisture, correct acidity and furnish lime.

The sandy soils are more friable, therefore more free from water, more easily cultivated and drained, and any degree of fertility more easily imparted, provided it rests on a sound subsoil, and the darker the subsoil the better, if it be uniform. The color of our subsoils is less uniform than that of our soils. Many of the subsoils are very parti-colored, and the more they are so, and the higher the colors they maintain, the more injurious are they to the surface above them. The best is the brown, the worst is the blue and white. Since the days of Lord Coke, the lawyers have taught us that he who possessed the surface had and held all above it—"Cujus est solum, ejus est usque ad caelum." But it is to modern times, and chiefly to James Smith of Deanston, in Scotland, we are indebted for the knowledge that the subsoil passes with the surface, and that the value of the surface depends much on the character of the subsoil. And I think it is on the light sandy soils, resting on good clays, that we may hope and expect to see the most beneficial effects from the use of the subsoil plough. I do not anticipate much from