

pay one for the trouble of reading it? Is it not news, and good news too, that a great moral reformation is taking place in the world? that the human mind is clearing itself from the dust and rubbish which for ages have clogged all its powers? that it is bursting from the darkness of moral death, rising to life and vigor, and approximating towards perfection? Is it not interesting, is it not instructive, to learn the progress of the useful and polite arts in our own country, which but yesterday, was a wilderness, through whose mighty forests no noise was heard but the yell of the savage, or the howl of the beast of prey? and where, instead of the song of the husbandman, the voice of science, and the aspirations of piety, were heard the murderous war-whoop and the terrific *pow wow*? Is it not interesting to learn the progress of science, the rapid improvements which are making in society, in different parts of the Union, and the continual advancements of agriculture and manufactures? Is it not interesting, and is it not necessary, to know what our rulers are doing, how they apply our money, and whether they consult our interests, or their own? And is it not necessary to be well informed of passing events, and is it not rather disgraceful to be ignorant of them, when we have the means of information so abundantly in our power?

For our part, we believe that newspapers never possessed more powerful claims to support, never were more deserving of public patronage, than at the present time. It is true they are not now imprinted with blood: they are not now the sounding-boards to convey to our ears the groans of oppressed humanity; but is not this a change for the better? Is it calculated to improve the social affections, and to smooth down the asperities of our nature, to be constantly familiar with scenes of blood; to pass our lives, as it were, in a slaughter-house, where none but human victims are immolated? Ours are now the delightful tasks of peace. We can now present to our readers what will be really useful, and interesting, and instructive. We can now invite them to the "feast of reason," to the banquet of the mind. We can weekly furnish them with news, good news, by spreading before them the happiness which is diffusing so widely throughout our country; by exhibiting to their view a "smiling and a happy land;" on whose fertile fields the tillers of the soil are every where busy and joyful; in whose towns the voice of mirth and the carol of peace resound; and in whose temples the song of thanksgiving is heard ascending to the beneficent Parent of the Universe.

PUBLIC LANDS.

In another part of our paper we have made out, from the President's notice of sales of public lands, a list of the places where the sales are to be held, the time when, and the quantity of land to be offered for sale. From this statement it appears that the whole amount of public lands to be offered for sale during the approaching summer and fall, exceeds two millions of acres. It strikes us that Congress have hitherto pursued an unwise policy in bringing such large quantities of the public lands into market. To say the least of it, the Atlantic states should have long since adopted a system that has been draining off their population, their wealth, enterprise and talents. From the last Treasury statement on the subject, it appears that upwards of twenty millions of dollars are now owing to the United States from the purchasers of public lands—an enormous debt for the citizens of a few states and territories to owe. It was the rapid accumulation of this debt that drew the attention of Congress to the subject; and at their last session they passed a law entirely changing the mode of selling the public lands. Under the old system, the purchaser of public land, either at the public sales or by entering them, by paying down one-fourth of the purchase money, obtained a credit of four years in which to pay the remaining three-fourths. Under the present mode, lands are, as formerly, in the first place, exposed to vendue, but not upon credit—all for ready money. The minimum price before was two dollars per acre; it is now \$1 25. This, in our humble opinion, is one of the most important laws passed by the last session of Congress. We will not here swell out a list of its advantages. Had the old system been continued, we believe by its operations in several ways, it would have weakened, if not dissolved, the bonds which unite this happy confederacy: 1st. By such an increase of the public debt among the Western people, as to make them look to a separation of the states as the easiest way to pay it off. 2d. By drawing off our population in such vast floods, as soon to give the numbers and power to the other side of the Alleghany mountains.

But at the same time that we hint at these consequences, we frankly acknowledge that many advantages have been realized under the old system. In truth, it was a system devised with much wisdom. There certainly cannot be adopted a more perfect plan than the one long pursued by the United States in laying off its public lands. The nation is indebted for this, as for many other valuable services, to the fertile genius of Mr. Gallatin, our present minister to France. Mr. Hamilton, when Secretary of the Treasury, proposed that the fixed price per acre should be 25 cents. Our readers can fancy to themselves what would now be the condition of the Atlantic states had Mr. Hamilton's plan succeeded, and the price of the western lands been fixed at twenty-

two cents—the same lands that have since sold from two to fifty dollars per acre. This instance is one of the oversight of that sagacious politician; in his anxiety to see the new Republic become populous and powerful as a whole, he overlooked a consideration that enters into every arrangement in Europe, and that begins to show itself on every possible occasion in this country—the balance of power.

It is very honorable to the feelings and patriotism of the members from the Western states, that they generally voted in favor of the change in the mode of selling the public lands. There were some ten or more, however, as we learn, violently opposed to it; and at the head of these stood Mr. Henry Clay.

Report

Of the Examination of the Pupils of the Salisbury Academies.

FEMALE DEPARTMENT.

1st CLASS—Composed of Eliza Dewis, Catharine Chambers, Ellen Chambers, Margaret Krider, Catharine Huie, Betsey Frohock, Sally Baily, Mary Ann Verble, Charlotte Cowan. This class was examined on reading, and on spelling from the book words of two and three syllables. Eliza Dewis is considered rather the best; but the whole of the class acquitted themselves in a very handsome manner. It is due to Charlotte Cowan to mention, that she has been at school less time than either of the other members of this class.

2d CLASS—Consisting of Laura Troy, Rebecca Wood, Harriot Long, Nancy Chambers, Martha Dewis, Mary Polk, Crissy Mull, Mary Hampton. This class was examined on reading in Murray's English Reader, and on spelling from the book. It is considered that Rebecca Wood and Harriot Long are rather the best. We would also mention Mary Polk and Laura Troy; but the whole of this class performed their exercises in a manner quite to the satisfaction of the Trustees.

3d CLASS—Composed of (1st Division,) Elizabeth Martin, Catharine Devanport, Susan Hughes, Letitia Lindsay, Sarah Causy, Letitia Wilson, Eliza Miller, Mary Trent, Mary A. McConnaughy, Antoinette Huie—(2d Division,) E. A. Braicy, Margaret James, Mary A. McCracken, Eliza Horne, Mary James, Beatrice Mathew, Elizabeth Jenmeson. Both divisions of this class were examined together, on reading in the History of England, and on Willet's abridged Geography of the World, except Elizabeth Jenmeson, who appeared on reading only; and the 1st division was farther examined on the Geography of Asia, Murray's English Grammar, parsing, and correcting false syntax. In reading, Susan Hughes and Mary Trent are considered the most correct, and Beatrice Mathew but little inferior. In Geography, Catharine Devanport and Letitia Wilson appeared most acquainted. In Grammar, Eliza Miller is entitled to the first notice. The whole of this class evinced great proficiency in the various branches of their studies, and merit the warmest approval of the Trustees.

4th CLASS—Consisting of Ann Lindsay, Mary G. Allen, Rebecca Fulton, Ann E. Lindsay, Ellen Fulton, Caroline Johnston. This class was examined on reading in the History of America, parsing, and correcting false sentences under notes of syntax: On Cumming's Geography of North-America and the United States, with the history of our government: On the use of the Globes, and the Elements of Astronomy, except Caroline Johnston, who was absent on account of indisposition. Ann E. Lindsay and Ellen Fulton are considered the most correct and graceful readers. On all their other studies, their examination was highly pleasing to the Trustees, and so nearly equal to each other, as to make it difficult to draw distinctions—they are all declared equal.

A class, composed of Mary Trent, Eliza Miller, Ellen Fulton, and Susan Hughes, was examined on a Compend of Universal History, and acquitted themselves with great credit, and are highly approved. Mary Trent is considered a little the best.

5th CLASS—Consisting of Margaret Moore, Mary Frohock, Eliza Hall, Dovy Johnston. These young ladies were examined on reading in the History of America; rules of punctuation and versification; the Geography of Europe; Questions on Government, Religion, and the most remarkable Empires that have existed.—The Trustees attended to the performance of this class with particular gratification. They were ready and accurate on each branch of their studies, and so nearly equal, that the Trustees forbear to make any kind of distinction; if any should be made, Eliza Hall is entitled to it, on reading.

6th CLASS—Susan Fulton, Susan Giles, Jane Henderson, Eliza Harris, Martha Trent. These young ladies were examined on reading in the History of Greece; on Ancient Geography, Moral Philosophy, and the first volume of Kame's Elements of Criticism, and on the Globes, except Martha Trent, who did not appear on the Elements of Criticism. The Trustees take particular pleasure in mentioning the progress and proficiency of these young ladies on all the branches of their studies. The extent and accuracy of their acquirements are highly creditable to themselves, and do great honor to the attention and qualifications of their Instructresses. They are so nearly equal, as to make it not only difficult, but invidious to point out distinctions.

ARITHMETIC—The following young ladies: Ann Lindsay, Eliza Hall, Ann E. Lindsay, Ann McConnaughy, Dovy Johnston, Margaret Moore, Letitia Lindsay, Sarah Causy, Rebecca Fulton, Catharine Devanport, Mary G. Allen, Caroline Johnston, Letitia Wilson, Elizabeth Martin, were examined by a committee of the Trustees on Saturday, the 10th inst. on Arithmetic; and much to the gratification of the committee, discovered that they had made considerable progress in this useful and indispensable branch of education. No distinction is made, but all approved.

MUSIC—Susan Hughes, Ann E. Lindsay, Margaret Moore, E. A. Braicy, Eliza Harris, Mary G. Allen, Letitia Wilson, Elizabeth Martin, Jane Henderson. These young ladies performed a number of pieces, some of them very difficult, on the Piano Forte. They displayed considerable proficiency in the rudiments of this elegant and pleasing science. They all executed their pieces in a style that was very creditable to their tastes and skill, and equally flattering to the feelings of the Trustees. Where all did so well, the Board are unwilling to draw shades of distinction, which it would be difficult to do, when it is considered that some of these young ladies have been engaged in this branch for a greater length of time than the others.

PAINTING—Miss Elizabeth Harris; one colored landscape, part of another, and painted cape. Martha Trent; a colored landscape. Catharine Devanport; one colored landscape, and two shaded with Indian ink.—Eliza Lindsay; two landscapes shaded with Indian ink, a large one drawn, and a painted trimming. Mary G. Allen; a colored landscape, two shaded with Indian ink, a painted trimming, and work-bag. Letitia Wilson; a bunch of flowers, two landscapes shaded with Indian ink, a painted trimming. Rebecca Fulton; a colored landscape, and four shaded with Indian ink. Ann Lindsay; two landscapes shaded with Indian ink and one colored one, two painted trimmings. Ann McConnaughy; two landscapes. Sarah Causy; two landscapes shaded with Indian ink, a flower piece, and painted trimming. Letitia Wilson; four landscapes shaded with Indian ink. **EMBROIDERY and FANCY WORK**—Miss Susan

Giles; 1 piece of embroidery. Eliza Lindsay; 1 do. (Rebecca Fulton; 1 do. Susan Fulton; 1 do. Jane Henderson; a shell work temple, a pair card racks. Catharine Devanport; a work-box frame, a temple unfinished. Letitia Wilson; a temple unfinished. Caroline Johnston; a pocket-book and work-box. Dovy Johnston; a pocket-book and work-box. Eliza Hall; a pocket-book and work-box. The Trustees are unwilling to draw nice and critical distinctions between the merits of the respective pieces of Painting, Embroidery, and Fancy Work that have been exhibited for examination. There is little necessity for this, since the pieces themselves were arranged in the ornamental department, during several days, for the inspection of parents and guardians, and all others whose taste or curiosity might lead them to the Hall. The task of discrimination becomes still more difficult, when the ages and opportunities of the several young ladies are considered; some of them having been a much longer time than others engaged in these branches of ornamental education. The Trustees take great pleasure in saying, that all the young ladies of this department have done much credit to themselves, and by their progress have reflected particular honor on the accomplished young lady who directs their studies. The Board of Trustees cannot close this report, without the particular expression of their approbation for the able and assiduous manner in which the Misses Slators and Miss Mitchel have conducted the concerns of this Institution. Their care to improve the minds, to preserve the morals, and to refine the manners of their pupils, entitle them to the warmest thanks of the Trustees, and merit the grateful regard of the parents and guardians of their tender charges.

MALE DEPARTMENT.

1st CLASS—John Murphy, James Huie, Tobias Lemley. This class of small boys was examined in spelling, from Webster's spelling-book, and did very well.

2d CLASS—Warren Huie, Archibald Henderson, Henry A. Lemley, John Stirewalt. This class was examined on spelling, from Walker's dictionary, and was much approved. To this class belong Robert Huie and Alfred Huie, who were absent from indisposition. Henry Earnhart, a member of this class, was absent without permission.

3d CLASS—Archibald Henderson, David Kerr, Warren Huie, Henry Lemley, Leonard Henderson, Gustavus Miller. This class was examined on spelling, from Walker's dictionary, and on reading, from Murray's English Reader, except Leonard Henderson, Gustavus Miller, and William Murphy, who did not spell with this class: Warren Huie is thought the best speller, Murphy and Miller the first readers; the rest are much approved.

4th CLASS—William Murphy, Pleasant Hure, Thomas Frohock, Milo A. Giles, Richard Long, Tho. Dewis, Lewis G. Slaughter, Leonard Henderson, David Kern, James Beckwith. This class was examined in spelling, from Walker's Dictionary, and on reading from the History of Rome, except Murphy, Henderson and Kern, who did not read with this class. These boys acquitted themselves in a manner highly honorable to the class.

5th CLASS—Thomas Frohock, Gustavus Miller, Leonard Henderson. This class was examined on parsing, from the History of Rome. The committee were much pleased with their promptness and accuracy.

6th CLASS—Leonard Henderson, Gustavus Miller, Thomas Dewis, Richard Long. This class was examined on Corderii, Erasmus and Selecte e Veteri, except Henderson and Miller, who appeared on Corderii only. This is a good class, and so nearly equal, the committee forbear to make any distinction.

7th CLASS—James Beckwith, Milo A. Giles, Lewis G. Slaughter. This class was examined on Cesar's Commentaries, Bucolicus, and 1st Eniad of Virgil. This class, for the time they have been engaged, gave proofs of industry and attention: they receive the warm approbation of the Trustees. They are declared equal. The Trustees take pleasure in acknowledging the care and attention of Mr. Monroe, in advancing his scholars in their various studies. He deserves much credit, and receives the thanks of the Board.

The exercises of the Academies will be resumed on the first Monday in July ensuing: the literary branches under the care of Misses Eliza and Mary Ann Slators, and the ornamental department under the superintendance of Miss Mitchel. Mr. Monroe will continue in charge of the male department.

THOMAS L. COWAN,

Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

June 17th, 1820.

Report of the President and Directors of the Yadkin Navigation Company to the Stockholders, at their general meeting on 9th June, 1820.

Contracts have been made with Col. John Martin and Maj. Meredith Thurman, for improving the navigation of the river Yadkin from the town of Wilkesborough to the head of the Bean Shoals, in Surry county; and with Messrs. John Hixon and Hiram Jennings for improving the navigation of said river from the head of the Bean Shoals to Bruner's Ford, near the mouth of Abbot's Creek, and from the foot of the Gunsmith Shoals, near the mouth of Uhara river to the South Carolina line.

Mr. Jennings commenced the work at the Bean Shoals in 1819. At this place the river has broken through the Brushy Mountains, and it became necessary, from the fall in the river and the rocks in its bed, to cut a canal. Mr. Jennings has made a canal about a mile in length, and executed it in a style highly approved of by the civil engineer to the state. It has been a work of serious difficulty, it having been necessary to support one side of the canal along a line of about 1200 feet by a stone wall, sixteen feet in height. The obstructions at the Bean Shoals are four miles in length, and are by far the most serious of any between Wilkesborough and the mouth of Abbot's Creek.

Mr. Hixon commenced work near the South Carolina line, and has made a canal to pass the falls at that place, about a mile and a quarter in length. The civil engineer for the state has not, as yet, had an opportunity of examining this work; he will do so during the summer, and the directors hope he will approve of the manner in which this work has been executed.

During the last summer the civil engineer examined the river from Wilkesborough to the mouth of the Uhara; and gave instructions to Messrs. Martin and Thurman as to the execution of the work for which they had contracted. These gentlemen have commenced their work in the county of Wilkes; and it is intended to improve the navigation of the river through that county from Wilkesborough, and through Surry to the head of the Bean Shoals, by sluicing. If the present season should be favorable for such work, it is expected that much sluicing will be done by these gentlemen before the setting in of

cold weather; and also by Messrs. Hixon and Jennings.

Four instalments, of ten dollars each, upon every share subscribed, have been required by the President and Directors to be paid by the subscribers to the capital stock of the company. Of these instalments, there have been paid, or secured by bonds, as follows:

Of the 1st instalment,	\$11,585
Of the 2d do.	7,470
Of the 3d do.	4,830
Of the 4th do.	4,320
— \$28,225	
Of the aggregate sum, to wit: \$28,225, there have been paid,	
1. For purchase of lands for lines of canal, &c.	\$782 50
2. For contingent charges	529 44
3. To contractors	23,321 56½
— \$24,633 30½	
4. To Treasurer, for salary,	200
— \$24,833 30½	
And there are on hand bonds to the amount of \$2,838	
In cash	563 69½
— \$3,397 69½	
— \$28,225	

In order to facilitate the collection of instalments, bonds have been taken from sundry subscribers for the amount due from them, and many of these bonds have been received by the contractors as cash, and charged to them in their respective accounts.

The President and Directors regret that many of the subscribers have failed to make payment. In February last, they advertised the sale of the stock of delinquent subscribers, to be made at Salisbury in April. Doubts were entertained whether, under the charter of the company, sales of stock could legally be made elsewhere than in the town of Halifax; and in consequence thereof, the sale advertised was postponed. It will be necessary to make such a sale if subscribers any longer delay payment. The contracts which have been entered into cannot be fulfilled on the part of the company, and the work must languish, to the great injury of the public, as well as of the several contractors, unless payment be speedily made.

The President and Directors are of opinion, from the best information they can obtain on the subject, that if subscribers would be reasonably diligent in paying their instalments, the river could be improved for a commodious navigation, by the end of next year, from Wilkesborough to the mouth of Abbott's Creek, a distance of 150 miles; and from the Gunsmith Shoals, near the mouth of Uhara river, to the South Carolina line, a distance of sixty miles.

A. D. MURPHY, President.

FRANCIS LOCKE,
JESSE A. PEARSON,
WILLIAM JOHNSTON,
WILLIAM DISMUKES,
ANDREW WADE,
Directors.

SALES OF PUBLIC LANDS.

At Delaware, in Ohio, in August and October next, are to be sold forty five townships and fractional townships; at Piqua, in Ohio, in September next, thirty-three townships and fractional townships; at Brookville, in Indiana, in October next, 36 townships and fractional townships; at Jeffersonville, in Indiana, in August next, 27 townships and fractional townships; at Terre Haute, in Indiana, in September next, 43 townships and fractional townships; at Edwardsville, in Illinois, in October next, 53 townships and fractional townships; at Jackson, in Missouri, in September next, 35 townships and fractional townships; at Franklin, in Missouri, in November, a large quantity of quarter sections and fractions; at Cahaba, in Alabama, in November next, a considerable quantity of sections and fractions, which were advertised, but not offered for sale, in March, 1819.—In all making about 350 townships; each township is six miles square, and the whole amount in acres is about two millions.

The person who, through mistake, took a SILK UMBRELLA from the Theatre last Thursday evening, and left a cotton one in its stead, will oblige the owner by calling at this office and making an exchange.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—"Affairs" is received, and shall have a place in our next. From the abundance of matter, in this day's paper, on the same subject, he will perceive the propriety, as well as necessity, of waiting a little—too much might produce a surfeit.

In Rowan Court of Equity.

Alexander Long, versus Lewis Beard, Jonathan Merrell, Moses A. Locke.

THE depositions of Thomas Todd, Thomas Hartley, George Willis, sen. Samuel Sillamon, John Clements, Nicholas Simpson, John Travis, and others, will be taken on the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh days of June next, at John Howard's tavern, in Salisbury; and if not all taken on that day, the depositions of the same witnesses, or of them not taken, and others, will be taken at John Howard's tavern, in Salisbury, on the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh days of July next; and, if not all then taken, the depositions of the same witnesses, or of those not taken, and others, will be taken at John Howard's tavern, in Salisbury, on the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth days of August next; and, if not all then taken, the depositions of the same witnesses, or of them not taken, and others, will be taken at John Howard's tavern, in Salisbury, on the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh days of September next; and, if not all then taken, the depositions of the same witnesses, or of them not taken, and others, will be taken at John Howard's tavern, in Salisbury, on the sixth and seventh days of October next. Which depositions are intended to be read in evidence on the trial of this suit; and when and where you may attend, and cross examine, if you think proper.

May the 30th, 1820.—Gwl
Inserted by request of

Moses A. Locke.