

From the Raleigh Register.

A curious spectacle.—The exhibition of Mr. Neal's rattlesnakes at the Eagle is too great a curiosity to be passed over. It is one of the most singular sights which we have ever witnessed.

Mr. Neal is a Frenchman; while in North-Carolina, he attempted to procure some rattlesnakes for the purpose of making out a collection. But some of the observations and experiments he made, induced him to believe the possibility of taming this poisonous reptile; he finally made the trial, and has succeeded in a manner which is calculated to astonish every beholder. What is the process he employed, is unknown to us—he probably prevailed himself of the power, which a control over the appetite of the animal gives him—he dwells very much, too, on the charms of music; while inflamed by hunger, and irritated by the application of hot iron, the creature is soothed and softened by a slow and plaintive strain.

Mr. N. has two rattlesnakes—the male, which is 4 feet 8 inches long, has eight rattles to his tail, thus proving him to be 8 years old—he has had this snake 4 years. The female is much smaller, and has 5 rattles—she has been with him 33 months. So great is their docility, that he will take them up, after speaking a sort of jargon to them, and stroking down their backs, as if they were so many strings—he will make them crawl up his breast and face, caress and kiss him, coil around his neck, and while one of them is thus hanging round him, he will take up and exhibit the other. The perfect harmlessness of the reptile, and even attachment to its keeper, is astonishing. Meanwhile, Mr. N. is himself thoroughly at ease—completely self-possessed, diverting the spectator with the exhibition of his snakes, or instructing them by his explanations. He says he has no fears himself; for independently of his command over the animal, he is satisfied he can cure the bite of it—of the remedy he makes no secret. Wash your mouth first with warm sweet oil, and then suck the wound—next, drink most copiously of the decoction of the snake root, until it operates as a strong emetic. This is the regimen he recommends—and which he believes to be infallible.

There is no deception practised upon you. He opens the mouth of the snake, and shows you his fangs. They are in the upper jaw alone—two on each side, and have the faculty of renewing themselves, in case they are drawn out by a violent blow; the fang is within the mouth, bent, sharpened, and sheathed, like the claw of a cat, and turned towards the throat; the orifice through which the poison is ejected, is a small groove on the inner side of the fang, between its point and upper curve; the poison bags lie at the roots of the fangs. But to remove all doubts of the poisonous qualities of these snakes being uninjured, Mr. N. proposes to have a public exhibition this week, when the snake will kill a young hare, by a slight stroke, and then immediately devour him.

Perhaps no one ever had so good an opportunity of studying the habits of the animal. His remarks will of course form a valuable addition to natural history. He is an intelligent man, and a memoir may be expected from him when he arrives in Europe. The male snake has just cast his skin, and the new one is most beautiful. The tail has a fine glossy black—He says they renew their skin every two months, three times in the year; perhaps from October to April, they remain torpid, and this function is suspended. Most probably it varies in different snakes with the quantity of food they can obtain. Mr. N. generally feeds his once a week.

They have also a rattle every year after the first. They scarcely ever shake, but when they are strongly excited, or to strike the attention of their prey. He contends that the use of their rattles is to draw upon themselves the eyes of their victim, which generally consists of the best animals, as birds, squirrels, &c. As soon as their eyes meet, he says the process of charming commences. He believes in this faculty, for he has seen it exemplified in a garden by his own snakes. The victim will hop from bough to bough, and rock to rock, overcome with apprehension, until approaching each other, the snake seizes him. He denies altogether, what some naturalists assert; the deleterious qualities of their breath; for he has often kissed them, and in blowing their breath upon him, he has found it uncommonly sweet.

Mr. N. has other snakes in his collection; as a wampum snake, beautifully marked, and so called after the Indian ornament. It is a small species of the boa constrictor, winds itself round its prey, and kills not by poison, but by stricture—it even squeezes the rattlesnake to death. He has also the common black snake, and the lead coloured America adder, of the description of the flat head's. He has all these under the same command, exhibiting almost the same docility as the rattlesnakes. The spectacle is not dangerous, nor disgusting, and is well worthy of the attention of the curious.

Copperas water is a cheap and certain destruction to weeds, which cannot be too generally known.



SALISBURY:

TUESDAY MORNING, OCT. 8, 1822.

"Imprison'd fires in the close dungeons pent,
"Roar to get free, and struggle for a vent."

The Cape Fear Recorder has held a rod over our heads for three or four weeks past, because, forsooth, we "have again brought forward the subject of a Convention." From the formal and pompous manner in which the Editor of the Recorder announced his intention to reply to the remarks we made in the Western Carolinian of the 27th August, relative to a Convention, and to take in hand the presentment of our Grand Jury at August Court, we confess we did anticipate something more redoubtable than the Cape Fear Recorder ever yet could claim the gestation of. But, instead of attempting to show, by argument or reason, either the injustice of the cause in which the people of the West are now struggling, or the inexpediency of the measures they are pursuing to obtain their rights as freemen, the Editor of the Recorder, in his paper of the 14th Sept. has a column of the same hacknied, fusty prattle he has a hundred times before repeated. Take the following as a specimen:—and, upon our word, it is a fair specimen:

"Their arguments have, heretofore, been sufficiently refuted, and their deductions from them clearly shown to be unfounded. In their paper of the 27th ultimo, we find, however, nearly the old jargon."

Again:—

"We know not the custom of the 'West,' but we are certain that, as yet, the people of the 'East' have never had a black representative—and, by the by, we are strongly of the opinion, under our present excellent constitution, that persons of that description would be ineligible. We would, therefore, recommend the prophets to rest quiet until the fulfilment of their predictions, and then they will certainly have a majority in the legislature—for when the 'gloomy aspect' appears, our 'able voters will have to procure 'Western men' to represent them, who, no doubt, will stick to the text, from which the editors of the 'Carolinian' have been so long 'harping upon.' We would also recommend to the voters, that when the event happens, to apply, in the first instance, to the editors of the 'Carolinian,' for they would certainly then have one WHITE'S face 'to cheer the gloomy aspect.'"

Now if the above are the reasons,—the mighty reasons, that are to silence the thousand tongues in the West, which proclaim the grievous operation of our present Constitution on a great majority of the freemen of the State, we must exclaim, in borrowed language,

"O heav'n, in what a labyrinth are we led!
"We could get out, but he detains the thread!"

Although the Editor of the Recorder stands forth the champion of a bad cause, to maintain the principles of which he is reduced to most desperate subterfuges, we did not expect he would so far lose sight of the comity due between gentlemen of good breeding, in a controversy of a general nature, as to indulge in such coarse, invidious personalities as were contained in his paper of the 14th Sept. He may rest assured, that such jibes will not be countenanced by men of refined manners. It evinces, too, either a paucity of intellect, or a morbid imagination in a writer, to descend to jeering attempts at wit.

But here comes the Halifax Compiler,—with his "plot to destroy the Constitution,"—his "march of a western army," &c.—sputtering away, as usual.—Regardless of Dilworth, or Webster, or Murray, he jumbles together, "without form or comeliness," words, sentences, and ideas—

"Mingled thus, their issue is incestuous,—
"Falschheid is denizen'd, virtue is barbarous."

Now only hear him!—

"A Plot to destroy the Constitution!"—The Grand Jury of Rowan County has made a report of grievances; in which "a concert of measures among the counties friendly to the call of a convention," is solicited. Governor Holmes has sworn to protect the Constitution—and no man in the State has more power to do so. Can he then, forgetting this important oath, sit with a quiet mind, when the destruction of this instrument is thus openly and daringly plotted by the malcontents of the west?"

Gov. Holmes, we are certain, knows his duty as well as the Editor of the Compiler does; and we are sure he will do it, without instruction from such a source.

But the most effectual argument we can offer on the subject of a Convention, is from the people themselves. We have the satisfaction of publishing, this week, a representation of our political grievances from the Grand Jury of Burke county, similar to that of Wilkes and Rowan counties. However the Recorder may cavil at the Grand Jury's intermeddling with matters extraneous to their functions as Grand Jurymen, as independent freeholders they certainly have a right, in common with their other fellow-citizens, to remonstrate against any grievance under which they may conceive themselves suffering. We have yet no holy inquisition in our country, to muzzle the mouths of the people.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN,
STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA,
BURKE COUNTY,
Superior Court of Law.....September Term, 1822.

The Grand Jury for the County of Burke, whilst discharging their functions in relation to the legal, moral and criminal inquisitions of the county, claim, in common with their fellow-citizens at large, the right of presenting any political grievances that are destructive of the first principles of the government under which they live. Believing, as they do, that all men are by nature free and equal, and that civil and political liberty is founded in a perfect equality of absolute and relative rights, they assume, as fundamental truths, 1st. That all power is vested in, and derived from, the people; 2d. That this people have a right to form a political compact, by which the government of the whole may be delegated to a few; 3d. That the powers and rights not expressly surrendered by the terms of that compact, are reserved to those from whom they were derived; 4th. That when those to whom the government of the people has been entrusted lose sight of the principles upon which it is founded, and cease to respect the conditions that determine the tenure of their trust, the people have a right to withdraw their confidence, and to alter or amend the political compact by which they were united together.

When, by a political eruption in the year 1776, we became severed from our mother country, and formed our present constitution, we still retained some vestiges of colonial government, and continued to be represented in general assembly by counties, without thoroughly investigating one of the principal causes of our dismemberment—the right of representation in Parliament. The people at that time assumed and exercised the right and power of governing themselves; and, by incorporating the Bill of Rights into their constitution, still retain those rights and powers.

At the adoption of the constitution of North-Carolina, the people had not entirely recovered from the hereditary and political phthisis that palsied the members of the English Constitution, in the shape of rotten and depopulated Boroughs.

This Grand Jury therefore present, as a grievance, the inequality of representation in this respect. The right and power of limiting the number of their delegates, either in convention or assembly, is inseparable from the right and power of choosing them. This Grand Jury, therefore, present as a grievance the multitudinous number of representatives in the General Assembly. They also present, as a serious grievance, the too frequent meeting of the General Assembly, believing that the multiplicity of laws originates from this source, and tends to enfeeble their operation. This Grand Jury are seriously impressed with the belief, that if we could reduce the number of our representatives one third, and limit the meeting of the Legislature to two years, instead of one, that the saving in the expenses of our government would, in the course of ten years, (without increasing the burthens of the people) enable us to adopt a general system of internal improvement, highly useful and important to the country; among which, we consider the erection of public Schools as of primary consequence.

The Grand Jury of Burke county far bear to point out in this short notice, the numerous defects that exist in the constitution of this State, or to enumerate the many political grievances under which they labour; but anxiously anticipate a cordial and active co-operation from their fellow citizens of the Western districts of North-Carolina, in the grand project of constitutional reform. They therefore recommend to the free citizens of Burke, to choose delegates from each captain's company, to meet at Morganton, on the day of _____ for the purpose of adopting the most convenient and practicable plan for carrying their wishes into effect, on the great and necessary objects to which they have adverted.

RICHARD BIRD, Foreman,
Samuel P. Carson, Daniel Brown,
Elisha P. Miller, Thomas Hemphill,
Read Hight, Philip Martin,
Alfred Hartley, John Murphy,
John Burgen, William Parkes,
Berrey Burnett, Hugh Connally,
Benjamin Newland, Nimrod Elliott,
George Holloway, William Gibbs,
James Murphy,

ORDINATION.

The Rev. Hugh Wilson was ordained on Saturday, the 14th of Sept. at Statesville, N. C. by the Presbytery of Concord, to the holy work of the Christian ministry. The Rev. J. M. Wilson, of Mecklenburg county, preached the ordination sermon, from Acts, 26. 18; and the Rev. James M'Lee, D. D. offered the consecrating prayer, and gave the charge. Mr. Wilson is a native of Iredell county, and a son of the Rev. Dr. L. F. Wilson, who was for many years an able, devoted, and successful minister of the New Testament in this part of the Lord's vineyard. His memory is still dear to the churches which enjoyed his ministrations. Mr. Hugh Wilson received his classical and theological education at Princeton, and is destined to the mission among the Chickasaws, in the state of Mississippi, established by the Synod of South-Carolina and Georgia.

A variety of circumstances united to give this transaction peculiar interest and solemnity. It is the first ordination of a missionary to the unevangelized parts of the world, that has ever taken place in N. Carolina. The subject of foreign missions, which has for some years excited so much interest, engaged so many prayers and liberalities of the pious in its favor in almost every part of the Christian world, has not, unhappily till within a very short period, attracted much notice in this part of the country. A numerous, intelligent and highly respectable audience collected from the surrounding country, to the distances of 15 or 20 miles, to witness this solemn transaction. The meeting house, though comparatively large, could not accommodate near all the people. On this account, it was deemed expedient that the ordination should take place in a pleasant grove, in front of the meeting house, and only a very short distance from it.

All the exercises were able, appropriate and impressive. They did much credit to their respective authors. At their close, a solemnity so peculiar rested on the minds of the people, that we almost unconsciously exclaimed, "Surely God is in this place."

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered the next day, to about 250 professed friends of the Redeemer, in the presence of a much more numerous and equally attentive audience. Thirteen persons for the first time yielded obedience to the dying injunction of their divine Saviour, "Do this in remembrance of me." To many, we believe, it was a season of refreshing from the presence of our God. On Monday, after two more appropriate and impressive discourses, the people slowly and reluctantly separated. They seemed to say, by their silent tears and heavenly serenity, "It is good to be here."

This meeting, during the whole of its continuance, was distinguished by great propriety of conduct. It was truly delightful to witness so numerous an assembly listening for five or six hours at a time, with only a few minutes intercession, to the exhibition of divine truth, and not discover impatience on account of the length of the religious services. O that there may be many similar meetings in this part of the Lord's vineyard!

Mr. Wilson and his wife, we understand, will leave this region early in Oct. for the field of his future labours. In Tennessee, he is to be joined by a sister. Several subscription papers are in circulation to raise money for the support of the mission for which Mr. W. is designed. We doubt not but a considerable sum will be collected in this vicinity for this benevolent object. How much better to employ a small part of our property in sending the blessings of Christianity and civilization to the Indians, than to expend millions in exterminating them! In this respect, the general Government is, in our opinion, acting the part of wise statesmen, and distinguished philanthropists.

Statesville, Sept. 21, 1822.

An enterprising agriculturist in Newton, (Ms.) has this season manufactured seven hundred gallons of Currant Wine. This, it will be recollected, is manufactured by one individual.

John Scott is re-elected to Congress from the State of Missouri, by what majority is not known.

A black man, with a wooden leg, made application to the commissioners of the almshouse for assistance. "What do you do for a living?" says one. "Why," said the black, "I open oysters in season, and picks up a grub." And what else? "Why, I cleans boots when I can get any to clean." Well, nothing else? "Why, yes, I sometimes Doctors." Ah, and can you cure the rheumatism? "Yes, sir," said Cuff, "when it does't reach the marrow of the bone." N. Y. paper.

The Legislature of Mississippi have fixed the legal rate of interest at 8 per cent. per annum. Persons who loan money, however, may recover 10 per cent. if the borrower contracts to pay it.

Fourteen of the largest vessels that sail the lakes, were safely moored in Buffalo harbor, Lake Erie, on the 5th August. It was a truly gratifying spectacle, says the Buffalo Journal, and is indicative of the rapidly increasing commerce of these waters.

Edmund Law, Esq. formerly of Washington city, has been appointed by the Governor and Council of Florida, territorial Judge for the Eastern division of the territory.

Edward Coles, formerly of Virginia, is elected Governor of the state of Illinois, by a majority of 500 votes over his opponent, Gen. Phillips.

Daniel P. Cook, the present member from Illinois, is elected to the 18th Congress, by a majority of near 1000 votes over his competitor, Mr. M'Lean.

Messrs. Eddy and Durfee, the present members from Rhode-Island, have been re-elected to Congress without opposition.—Nat. Intel.

MARRIED.

In Rutlerford, on Tuesday, the 24th Sept. by the Rev. H. M. Kerr, Mr. Jesse U. Groves to Miss Margaret Long, both of that county.

DIED.

Near Lincolnton, on the evening of the 24th ult. Mrs. Jane Summey, consort of George Summey. She has left an affectionate husband, and one small infant, to lament their irreparable loss.

In this city, on Sunday evening last, Ana Ellen, the daughter of Joseph Gales, sen. after a painful illness of five weeks. Cut off in the prime of her days, and in the practice of every duty, she died lamented, as she lived beloved. The Editors of this paper cannot pen the eulogy of the deceased, for it would not become them to say all they feel. Her family and the friends who best knew her virtues, will most regret her premature death.—Raleigh Register.

In Dublin, Georgia, on the 14th inst. Mr. John B. Hines, one of the editors of the Georgia Journal, and formerly of Raleigh.

MANSION HOTEL,

IN SALISBURY, NORTH-CAROLINA, BY James Huie.

THIS elegant establishment, situated at the north corner of the Court-House, is now fitted up in a new and superior style, for the reception of Company. The greatest pains have been taken to procure for this establishment, furniture of every description, necessary for the comfort of Travellers. The most approved servants have been selected, with great care; the bar stocked with choice liquors, and the stables attended by obliging and attentive hostlers. The convenience of this situation for business is equal to any in the place. The house contains a number of private rooms, well calculated for the accommodation of Travellers and Boarders; attached to which there is a Dry Good and Book Store. To those who may please to call on him, he assures them that no pains shall be spared to render their stay comfortable and pleasing.

JAMES HUIE.

October 7, 1822.—22

Dr. Asa M'Kinley,

INFORMS the citizens of Concord, and its vicinity, that he has located himself in the town of Concord, at Mr. Henry Williams, as Physician. Any calls that may be made in his professional line of business, will be promptly attended to. 3rd 24 Oct. 3, 1822.

LETTERS remaining in the Post-Office at Concord, N. C. Oct. 1, 1822.

WILLIAM S. ALEXANDER, William Atkinson, Louisa Alexander, David Allen; B.—David Bradford, Andrew Boston, Joshua Baker, Daniel Burdick, Heron Brown. C.—William T. Cowles, John Cox, Erasmus or John Case. E.—John Edleman, Joshua Ellgegood, Elizabeth Etile. F.—Frederick Frazier, Alexander Ferguson. G.—Susannah Glover, William Glover. H.—Joseph Howel, Levi Huncut, Mr. Harris, (Taylor) Samuel Harris, Thomas Hope, Jacob Hagler, Thompson Hunt, Welsh Hart, Archibald Houston, William Hall, J.—Elizabeth Johnson. K.—Francis Kirkpatrick, Samuel Killough, Col. D. Kerr. L.—Gen. Litaker, Christopher Liffen, James Lamb. M.—Joseph M'Kinley, Paul Misenheimer, Mathias Mitchell, John M'Clary, Nathaniel Monteath, Christopher Melker, James M'Clay, John Meach, John Mullens. O.—Daniel Oudy. P.—Phifer & M'Lee 2, John Pharr, Peter Pless, Daniel Propp, Nathan Phillips. R.—Henry Rossman, Hugh Ross, Philip Rumpel, Seth Rogers, Peter Rumpel, Francis Ross. S.—Elizabeth Spain, Satterwhite & Travis, Martin Stough, Philip Shive, Am Smith, Jonathan Smith, John Stanford. Y.—Alfred Vernon. W.—Rev. John M. Wilson, Mary Willie, Paul Walter, James White. Y.—John Yow. D. STORKE, S. P. M.

State of North-Carolina.

BURKE COUNTY.

COURT of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Sept. Term, 1822. David Tate, in right of Thomas Cole and David Davenport, vs. Adam Carter, and the heirs of Martin Davenport, deceased: Petition for partition. Whereas David Tate, in right of Thomas Cole and David Davenport, hath applied to the County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for Burke county, to divide and make partition of three tracts of land, belonging to the heirs of Martin Davenport; and it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that Thomas Davenport is not an inhabitant of this state, it is therefore ordered by the court, that publication be made in the Western Carolinian, published in Salisbury, for six weeks, that the said Thomas Davenport appear at the next Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions to be held for the county of Burke, at the Court House in Morganton, on the fourth Monday of January next, then and there to answer, plead or demur to this petition, or judgment pro confesso will be taken against him.

Sept. 7, 1822. J. ERWIN, Clerk. Price adv. \$3 00. 6wt/27