

THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN.

THE POWERS NOT DELEGATED TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE CONSTITUTION, NOR PROHIBITED BY IT TO THE STATES, ARE RESERVED TO THE STATES RESPECTIVELY, OR TO THE PEOPLE.—Amendments to the Constitution, Article I.

B. AUSTIN & C. F. FISHER,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

THE MINERAL KINGDOM.

All the substances in the mineral kingdom may be divided into four classes, each having its distinguishing characteristic. The first class includes the earths. This name is given to such bodies as are not dissolved by water, fire, or oil, which are not malleable, and bear the action of fire without losing any of their substance. This class, besides the simple earths, includes the stones, which are composed of them. Of stones, there are two kinds, precious and common; the latter are the most numerous, and present us with masses differing in figure, colour, size, and hardness, according to their component parts. There is also a considerable diversity among precious stones. Some are perfectly transparent, and these appear to be the most simple; others are more or less opaque, according to their particular composition.

Salts form the second class in the mineral kingdom. They are divided into acids, which are sharp and sour; and into alkalis, which impart to the tongue a bitter, burning, and lixivial sensation; these have the property of changing vegetable blues into green, whilst the acids convert blue into red. A certain combination and mixture of these two different salts, form what are called neutral salts. Among these is classed common or kitchen salt, which is extracted from the earth, or prepared from sea-water by evaporation. All these salts are one of the principal causes of vegetation. They also probably serve to unite and strengthen the parts of plants, as well as of other compound bodies; they produce fermentation, the effects of which are so various.

The third class of the mineral kingdom comprehends those inflammable bodies, which are generally called bitumens. These burn in the fire, and when they are pure dissolve in oil, but never in water. They differ from other minerals, by containing more of inflammable matter, which renders these bodies in which it is found in a sufficient quantity combustible; and there is more or less of it in all bodies.

The fourth class contains the metals. These are the heaviest of all bodies; they become fluid if exposed to the action of a strong heat, and resume their solidity when cooled. They are resplendent and malleable. Some of them when melted in fire experience no diminution of weight, nor any sensible alteration; and these are called the perfect metals; of which there are three species, gold, silver, and platinum. The imperfect metals are destroyed more or less readily by the action of the fire, and are converted into oxides. One of these, lead, has the property of being converted into glass, and of vitrifying all other metals, except gold and silver. The imperfect metals are five in number, viz: mercury or quicksilver, lead, copper, iron, and tin. There are besides other metals distinguished from these in being neither ductile nor malleable; these are called semi-metals, and are seven in number, platinum, bismuth, nickel, arsenic, antimony, zinc, and cobalt.

Fair Play.—A nobleman resident at a castle in Italy was about to celebrate his marriage feast. All the elements were propitious, except the ocean, which had been so boisterous as to deny the very necessary appendage of fish. On the very morning of the feast, however, a poor fisherman made his appearance, with a turbot so large, that it seemed to have been created for the occasion. Joy pervaded the castle, and the fisherman was admired with his prize into the saloon, where the nobleman, in the presence of his visitors, requested him to put what price he thought proper on the fish, and it should be instantly paid him. One hundred lashes, said the fisherman, on my bare back, is the price of my fish, and I will not take one strand of whip-cord on the bargain. The nobleman and his guests were not a little astonished, but our champion was resolute, and remonstrance was in vain. At length the nobleman exclaimed, Well, well, the fellow is a humorist, and the fish we must have, but let us lightly, and let the price be paid in our presence. Fifty lashes had been administered. Hold, hold, exclaimed the fisherman, I have a part in this business, and it is fitting that he should receive his share. What are these two such madcaps in the world? exclaimed the nobleman; name him, and he shall be sent for instantly. You need not go far for him, said the fisherman, you will find him at your gate, in the shape of your own porter, who would not let me in until I promised that he should have the half of whatever I received for my turbot. Oh, oh, said the nobleman, bring him up instantly, he shall receive his stipulated moiety with the strictest justice. This ceremony being finished, he discharged the porter, and amply rewarded the fisherman.

Mr. Locke was asked how he had contrived to accumulate a mine of knowledge so rich, yet so extensive and deep. He replied, that he attributed what little he knew to the not having been ashamed to ask for information; and to the rule he had laid down, of conversing with all descriptions of men, on those topics chiefly that formed their own peculiar professions or pursuits.

A TALE OF A VULTURE.

A mingled yarn.—SHAKESPEARE.
"Confound it, George!" said I to a younger brother of mine, "do leave off that eternal allusion of yours. When I was up the Mediterranean; it reminds me of an old purser. I once had the misfortune of being compelled to meet every day for some weeks, who made it a point to prelude his tiresome relations with 'When I was in the Arches of Peligo.' Do, my dear fellow, favour me now and then with some adventure unconnected with the everlasting Mediterranean."
"Considering the spell I had of it, I think 'tis very natural I should talk about places and people I saw whilst I was up the —"
"There you go up, up, up! Well, I find it's of no use; so to prevent my being bored to death, I shall leave you to yourself, and try to forget that such a sea exists, by ascertaining how Leigh Woods and St. Vincent's Rocks look 'neath the moonlight."

Saying this I drew on my gloves, took my hat and stick, and was about to go forth in search of the picturesque, preferring the English scenes, of whose wonders I could have 'ocular proof' to the 'foreign wonders' known but by hear say. This might be a very unclassical taste; but, be it remembered, that a reader's pronouns may designate the most attractive theme. A lady bard, of course, may reiterate her praises on the 'Mediterranean sea of blue,' ad libitum, ad infinitum, and never once cry, have patience, good people! A knock at the door arrested my attention.
"Now who the deuce can this be? Eight o'clock in the evening is no hour for paying visits; and I know no one who would think of intruding unasked."
"I expect an old shipmate of mine," replied George.
"I asked him to come and take a glass of grog with me, and talk over old times, when we were both up the —"

"Two from up that accursed sea!" cried I. "Human fortitude could not endure such an infliction. Moonlight and solitude for me!"
The servants announced Lieut. L.; and instead of a marine monster which I had anticipated, he proved a school fellow whom I had not seen for years, whose ingenious appearance was anything but unimpressive. After heartily shaking the proffered hand of my brother, he turned to me, and with a slight reserve in his manner, said—
"I suppose you hardly recollect me. I was but a very little chap when you left home for the army."
I listened to assure him of my perfect remembrance, and anxiously enquired for his elder brother, Tom, who had been my chosen associate and constant playmate. The very name of my companion brought back so many recollections, that I felt I should be paying the memory of long years but an ill complement in quitting the house whilst the brother of my friend paid it a visit; so putting my Bicknell and ground ash in a corner, I resolved to stay at home, and do my possible to make the young sailor welcome. Wine was produced, but grog was to be the order of the night, consequently—
"Whiskey, brandy, gin and rum,
And beery (to) puff away,"

were paraded. It was evident that my observation had somewhat owed Master George, for Portdown Fair, the Blue Posts, Goreport Theatre, Ivy Bridge, Lashon and Cadiz, were the subjects that occupied these blue jackets; at last Gibraltar was named.
"Now," thought I, "they touch the verge of all I hate: if once they pass the rock, I'm a lost man!"
It was passed; for after seeing his messmate's glass supplied and replenishing his own tumbler, my brother began thus:
"Do you remember, William, the time that Admiral Pickmore sent me ashore at Minorca, to do duty as signal midshipman on the heights above Fort Mahon? I must tell you what happened to me there. You needn't flinch, Benson, you've never heard it."
I lit a fresh cigar, leaned back in my chair, and resigned myself to his tale.
"The small party I had under my charge," continued George, "occupied the house of a good hearted sailor, whose principal support depended on the sale of his muttons; whether for meat or wool, I don't remember, but I believe he disposed of both. I happened to be a great favorite of the old man's, and many's the glass of grog I have given him in return for vegetables and other things more to my mind than the aqua vitae our purser served us out for. One day the old Minorcan came to me with a long face, and in a most doleful strain, told me that a fine young lamb, worth Lord knows how many dollars, had been carried off by a vulture, that lived in a large hole half way down the rock, and this was not the first he had been so plundered. Compassionating the poor fellows' tears, I asked if we couldn't manage to destroy this enemy of his; he shook his head, and lamented the utter impossibility of catching the thief, or of killing him, as we were strictly forbidden not to use fire arms, unless for the purpose of alarm."
"One of my men coming up at the time, and seeing the Old man's distress, I held a palaver with him on the subject, he stated that the only chance there was of doing any good, was watching the old birds' flight from their hiding-place, then descending by means of a rope to the cave, and killing the young ones, which would perhaps have the effect of driving the parents from their present quarters."
"But this descent was not so easily managed, as the rock receded from the crest to the base nearly at an angle of twenty-two and a half; so that when you were opposite the mouth of the cave you were many feet from the entrance; in short, the thing was deemed so dangerous and difficult that the consultation ended in my man's saying—
"Take my advice, Mr. George, don't you have nothing at all to do with it—if the old Spaniard wants to kill the creature, why—let him do it himself—he'll never catch 'em alive, if he had Lot's wife at hand to break up and shiver at their tale."
"All that night I thought of nothing but destroying these formidable sheep-stealers, and my morning's resolution was that, at all events, I would make the attempt. Fearing opposition on the part of my countryman, I determined to let the old farmer into my secret. Tom Norton was to go down to Fort Mahon next day for provisions, and I determined to take advantage of his absence for my descent."
I provided myself with a canvas large canvas sacking bag, to bag my birds if I took them, and a long pole, where were plenty of serviceable ropes about the signal-house, so selecting an oak tree thick enough for the purpose, I accompanied the owner of the limbs to the point of a rock just over the cave, which had often seen when laying off—giving him directions how to lower on the rope gradually from the place I had fastened it to, I got outside the noose I had made for my crutch, and slipped off the top of the rock as quietly as possible.
"I had calculated the number of fathoms I should want served out, and when an easy descent found myself opposite the shade of the vulture—true enough I was at least fifteen feet from it, and to get inside it, for I saw it was large enough to hold half a dozen fellows, I began gently swinging backwards and forwards, 'tending myself with the pole till I had got swing

enough to touch terra firma. Without much trouble I made good my footing. Entering the cave cautiously, I perceived that the large birds were out, leaving two young ones anxiously waiting for some fresh lamb chops for breakfast.
"As I approached them they set up a loud cawing, and the strongest began to show fight. I gave him a dose over the head, which laid him on his beam ends, the other brute seemed quiet enough, so I clipped him at the neck of my sack, and, with caution in hand, lest the old cock or hen should come home, launched myself out of this den of thieves. As soon as the rope hung straight I gave it a strong shake, as a signal to be hauled up—still there I hung midway between sea and sky, expecting every moment to see the vultures return, who would soon have heard the call of their young ones, for my friend in the bag squealed loudly enough. Minutes rolled on, and not the most trifling movement of the rope. I confess I began to grow alarmed."
"Alarmed!" said I; "why your bare description has turned me cold; but go on, for pity's sake!"
"You will allow that my situation was anything but enviable," continued the roofer; "so hours elapsed in this most painful suspense—for so I may doubly call it. In vain I tried to surmise the cause of my being thus neglected, in vain I sung out as loud as my lungs would permit, all to no purpose. They 'nt the power of description to relate half what I suffered. I tried to sing—then I prayed—then I cursed and swore, and vowed to thrash the old shepherd well as soon as I got up. 'But shall I ever get up?' thought he nobody knows where I am but the Senator; perhaps he thinks that, if I hang here, the vulture will prefer my flesh to his mutton, and he will save his stock while there is a morsel of skin on my bones."
"A very consoling contemplation, truly!" remarked L.; "whilst George took a swig at his grog."
"At last my brain became bewildered, and I felt more than half disposed to end the insufferable anxiety I endured by freeing myself from the noose, and falling into the sea; nay, I even tried to disengage one leg, preparatory to my plunge, but my limbs had become numb, and that strange pain, arising from checked circulation, prevented my carrying my rash purpose into execution."
"Despair had utterly seized me, when, of a sudden, I found myself moving upwards at an almost imperceptible rate; in a few minutes my progress was much quickened, and as I neared the rock it was so rapid that I closed my eyes to prevent my quitting my hold from dizziness: the sound of human voices soon recalled me to my senses."
"Look out, Master George, and mind how you land! Don't leave go the rope till you're high and dry!"
"I obeyed, took a firm grip on the shiveling rock, and by dint of some exertion, soon found myself sprawling on the turf that crowned its crest. Tom Norton lifted me on my feet, and let fly a volley of angry words at the rash act I had committed, the dangers attending such fool-hardy practices, and the insufficiency of the cause of the undertaking."
"My precious eyes!" he exclaimed—"so because that there old son of a Turk, that Jose, had lost some of his flock, you must run the risk of your life—you young green horns!—to go and kill the birds, eh? A pretty do, by Jove! Now I should like to know what the Admiral would have said to me, if you had been captured, tail over tip, into the Mediterranean! I should never have heard the last of the yabstion, for although young gentleman, I'm under your command here, you must know that you are under my care, and a precious rumper there would have been aboard the flag ship, if you had lost the number of your men, while I had the charge of you. Don't stand snivelling there, Don Jose, but go and ask pardon for having sent Master George on such a fool's errand."
"Hearing this, the old man rushed at me, caught me in his arms, and lavished numerous kisses upon my cheeks, his close contact nearly depriving me of breath, from the tones of garlic with which his attempts to call upon the mints were accompanied. As soon as I could get clear of his clutches, I begged to know why he had suffered me to remain so long—he attempted to explain, but his anxiety and agitation prevented my clearly understanding what he said."
"Hail to your elch, Senah!" said Tom; "look here, youngster, this will show you why he couldn't house you up again; you see your swinging backward and forward upon this rope, strained tight over a sharpish bit of rock, has not it through all but a couple of strands; and soon as the old chap saw the ticklish state of the line, he dared not pull at it, for fear that, in so doing, you might have given him the slip. All he could do was to sit down and cry, and call upon the Santissima Trinidad—not that I believe the old beggar ever had his foot aboard the craft in his life, and there I found him, when I came up from Fort Mahon, beating his breast and counting his beads, whilst the tears ran down his cheeks as big as red cabbage for pickling! So, to get you out of your quandary, I hid myself down flat upon the ground, and worked myself close to the edge, old Spit-to-windward there holding on by my legs. I took a round turn of the rope, below where it was cut, upon my arm, and then he hauled me in, till I could have a fair pull upon the wurd part, and here you see at ease as a diamond in cotton."
"Here George took breath, and I could not but say—
"I'll forgive all your past transgressions looking the Mediterranean; this story of yours has made quite amends."
"Avast!" cried the narrator; "I haven't quite done yet. By Jove, what Tom said was true enough, and my escape was marvellous; but I modified the honest fellow's anger when I produced my prize. After admiring the bird, he bestowed to happily it with some addressed fresh beef, saying 'You see young gentleman, 'tis the nature of them varmit to take their dinners without troubling the calves. The young vulture grew up into a very fine bird, became much attached to me, and when I was ordered home on sick leave, I gave him, not a very inappropriate present, to Sir Thomas Lewis, who commanded the L'Aigle frigate!'"

"TWENTY-ONE"
With youth no period is looked forward to with so much impatience as the hour that shall end our minority—with manhood none is looked back to with so much regret. Freedom appears to a young man as the brightest star in the firmament of his existence, and is never lost sight of until the goal for which he has been so long travelling is reached. When the mind and the spirit are young, the season of manhood is reflected with a brightness from the future which nothing can dim but its own cold reality. The busy world is stretched out before our boyhood like the exhibition of mechanical automata; we behold the merchant accumulating wealth, the scholar planting his foot upon the summit of the temple of fame, the warrior twining his brow with the laurel wreath, and we yearn to struggle with them for supremacy. In the distance we see nothing but the most prominent part of the picture, which is success—the anguish of disappointment and defeat is hidden from our view; we see not the pale cheek of neglected merit, or the broken spirit of an unfortunate genius, or the sufferings of youth passed away like a moon-beam from the still water, or like a dew drop from a rose in June, or an hour in the circle of friendship. Youth passes away, and we find ourselves in the midst of that great theatre upon which we have so long gazed with interest—the paternal hand, which, in binding, have upheld us, are broken; and we step into the crowd with no guide but our conscience, to carry us through the intricate windings of the path of human life. The beauties of the perspective have vanished—the merchant's wealth has furrowed his cheek, the acquisitions of the scholar were purchased at the price of his health; and the garland of the conqueror is fastened upon his brow with a thorn, the ranking of which shall give no rest on this side of the grave. Disappointment damps the ardor of our first setting out to finish the work and close our career.
How often amid the cares and troubles of manhood do we look to that sunny spot on our memory, the season of our youth; and how often does a wish to recall its escape from the bosom of those who once prayed fervently that it might pass away. From this feeling we do not believe that living man was ever exempt. It is twined around the very soul—it is incorporated in our very nature, and will cling to us even when reason itself has passed away. And although the period when parental enticement is broken, and when the law acknowledges the intellect to be full grown, yet at the time be considered one of rejoicing, yet after-life will hang around it the emblem of sorrow, while it is hallowed as the last bright hour of a happy youth.

ANECDOTE.
Putnam and the British Officer.—It is well known that in the time of the old French war, much jealousy existed between the British and Provincial officers. A British Major, deeming himself insulted by General (then Captain) Putnam, sent him a challenge. Putnam, instead of giving a direct answer, requested the pleasure of a personal interview with the major. He came to Putnam's tent, and found him seated on a small keg, quietly smoking his pipe, and demanded what communication, if any, Putnam had to make. "Why, you know," said Putnam, "I'm but a poor miserable yankee, that never fired a pistol in my life, and you must perceive, that if we fight with pistols, you must have an undue advantage of me—Here are two powder kegs—I have bored a hole and inserted a slow match in each, so if you will just be so good as to seat yourself there, I will light the matches, and he who dreads it the longest without squirming shall be called the bravest fellow." The tent was full of officers and men, who were hugely tickled at this strange device of the "old wolf," and compelled the major by their laughter and exhortations to accept. The signal was given, and the matches lighted. Putnam continued smoking quite indifferently, without watching at all the progressive diminution of the matches; but the British officer, though a brave fellow, could not help casting long, lingering looks downward, and his terrors increased as the length of his match diminished. The spectators withdrew one by one to get out of the reach of the expected explosion. At length, when the fire was within an inch of the keg, the major, unable to endure longer, jumped up and drawing out his match, cried out, "Putnam, this is willful murder, draw out your match, I yield!" "The de-!" cried Putnam, "my dear fellow, don't be in such a hurry; they're nothing but kegs of notions!" The major was suddenly missing, having sneaked off.

It is said, with truth, by Charles the Twelfth, of Sweden, that he who was ignorant of the arithmetical art was but half a man. With how much greater force may a similar expression be applied to him who carries to his grave the neglected and unprofitable seeds of faculties, which it depended on himself to have reared to maturity, and of which the fruits bring occasions to human happiness—more precious than all the gratifications which power or wealth can command.—*Dugald Stewart.*

GOLD.
"A man who is furnished with argument from the mist will convince his antagonist much sooner than one who draws them from reason, and philosophy. Gold is a wonderful clearer of the understanding; it dissipates every doubt and scruple in an instant; accommodates itself to the meanest capacities; silences the loud and clamorous, and brings over the most obstinate, and inflexible."—*Philip of Macedon* was a man of most invincible reason in this way. He refused by it all the wisdom of Athens, confounded their statesmen, struck their orators dumb, and at length conjured them out of their liberties.—*Adrian.*

Suffer not your spirit to be subdued by misfortunes; but, on the contrary, steer right onward, with a courage greater than your fate seems to allow.

AGRICULTURAL.
TO MAKE FARMING PROFITABLE.
Some farmers think, that to make money by the business, it is only necessary to cultivate large farms—of several hundred acres; others think that to raise and harvest crops at the least possible expense is the great secret; some again, think that covering their land with wheat crops is to pocket the most cash; and others that to raise cattle, or to raising sheep goes ahead of every thing else. They are not all correct. Which of them is? We will first say who is not. Cultivating a large farm is not profitable unless it is thoroughly done, for a man who makes nothing on one acre, will not be likely to make more on a thousand, with the same kind of culture. Those who own very large farms too frequently attempt to cultivate them with the least possible expense, or else neglect them entirely; and this superficial farming, in after all, by far, the most expensive, as we shall proceed to show. It is generally quite as expensive to cultivate an acre of land which is in a bad state, as one in fine condition, and often more so; if, for instance, the crop is so small that it is only worth the expense of raising it; there is no profit whatever; but if the land be good the expense the same, and the crop twice as great one half of course will be clear gain. Hence the vast importance of adopting such a course of farming as to tend constantly to the improvement of the land. This course is not close cropping with wheat nor suffering it to remain constantly in mow and pasture.

But to effect improvement in land, it is necessary to pursue a course of rotations in crops, to manure as much as is practicable, either by stable manure, or by turning under green crops, with proper use of lime, and to render all wet ground sufficiently dry by under draining. For this, capital is necessary; and hence a farmer must not only have land to cultivate, but he must have means besides in sufficient quantity to carry on his operations to the best advantage.

It is true that many farmers have made money by close cropping with wheat, but there is no doubt, that if instead of this, they had pursued a proper course of rotation, they might have done as well at the time, and instead of exhausting their land, been constantly rendering it more productive. A proof of this is afforded by an experiment made several years ago. One portion of land was cropped every second year on another portion a longer time intervened between the crops of wheat; by a judicious system of rotation, and although wheat was the main crop, yet the increased fertility which this course caused, and the consequent increase both in the wheat and intervening crops, rendered the latter course ultimately the most profitable, with the additional advantage of leaving the ground in the best condition.

Corn, wheat, oats, barley, &c., being all similar in their effects in exhausting land, it becomes necessary to introduce the culture of some other crops more generally than exists at present, in order to form a proper rotation. Peas and beans are both excellent for preceding any of the grain crops just mentioned; and the red eyed China bean cultivated in drills or hills would doubtless be as profitable as wheat or corn.

The culture of root crops is a most powerful means of enriching land. A crop of turneps last summer, was twice as productive after ruta laga as after corn, fertility and manuring being the same in both cases.—*Gentleman Farmer.*

DEEP PLOUGHING.
Extract from an Agricultural Pamphlet by Mr. THOMAS MOORE, of Maryland, exposing the great error of AMERICAN AGRICULTURE, and suggesting hints for improvement.
I shall next enumerate some of the good effects to be expected, and which are constantly experienced by a contrary practice, viz. deep ploughing, when judiciously pursued; and then endeavor to prove the fallacy of the arguments adduced in favor of shallow ploughing.

In the cultivation of plants, three things are particularly necessary: First, that sufficient pasture is prepared for their roots; secondly, that the soil should be properly aërated, and thirdly, that moisture be duly administered, in neither too great nor too small quantities. That deep ploughing is calculated to promote these ends, I believe, will not be hard to prove, particularly the first, and third.

The quantity of earth operated on, being great, it very seldom, if ever, happens, that any fall of rain is so great, as completely to saturate it; and until that effect takes place, or nearly so, very little chan- is to be expected in the disposition of its parts; and therefore when the redundant moisture evaporates, it leaves the soil as it found it, except a small crust on the surface; the succeeding ploughings, instead of being applied to repair the injury the soil has sustained by great falls of rain, go to the further pulverizing and opening it suitably to receive the capillary vessels of the plants. Thus the pasture becomes not only more extensive, but far better adapted to promote the growth of plants.

With respect to aëration, naturalists differ widely in their judgment respecting its nature and composition; my opinion is, that the food of plants has not yet been fully ascertained by any. This, however, we all know, that manures of all kinds, contribute in some way or other to the growth of plants; whatever may be their food, I will not pretend to say that it is communicated to the soil by the mode of cultivation under consideration; but this I will say, that it is far better calculated than the contrary practice (shallow ploughing) to retain the quantum originally found therein, or afterwards applied to it; and further, if dew is nutritive, the superior openness of the texture in this mode, qualifies it to derive every advantage to be expected from that source.