

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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Letters addressed to the Editors on business must be post paid, or they will not be attended to.

Miscellaneous.

WHEATON AND THE PANTHER.

Ben. Wheaton was one of the first settlers on the waters of the Susquehanna, immediately after the war, a rough uncultivated, and primitive man. As many others of the same stamp and character, he subsisted by hunting, cultivating the land but sparingly, and in this way raised a numerous family amidst the woods, and in a half starved condition, and comparative nakedness. But as the Susquehanna country rapidly increased in population, the hunting grounds of Wheaton were encroached upon, so that a chance with the smooth bore among the deer and bears were greatly lessened. On this account Wheaton removed from the Susquehanna country to Onitago county to the more unsettled country of the Delaware, near a place yet known as the Wait's settlement where game was more plenty. The distance from where he made his home in the woods, through the Susquehanna, was about fifty miles, and was one continued wilderness at that time. Through these woods this almost aboriginal hunter was often compelled to pass the Susquehanna, for various necessities, and having the rest for no small quantity of whiskey; as he was of very intemperate habits. On one of these visits in the midst of summer, with the smooth bore on his shoulder, knife, hatchet, &c., in their proper places, he had nearly penetrated the distance, when he became weary, and having come to the summit of a ridge sometime in the afternoon—which overlooks the vale of the Susquehanna, he selected a convenient place in the shade, as it was hot, for the rays of the sun from the west poured his sultry influences through all the forest, where he lay down to rest while among the leaves, after taking a drink from his bottle of green glass, and a mouthful of cold jenny cake from his pocket.

In this situation he was soothed to drowsiness by the hum of insects, and the monotony of passing winds among the foliage around him when he unwarily fell asleep with his gun foisted in his arms. But after awhile he awoke from his sleep, and for a moment or two still lay in the same posture, as it happened without stirring, when he found some thing had taken place while he slept, which had situated him somewhat differently from the manner in which he first went to sleep. On reflecting a moment, he found he was entirely covered over, head and ears, with leaves and light stuff, occasioned as he now supposed, either by the sudden blowing of the wind, or some wild animal. On which account he became a little disturbed in his mind, as he well knew the manners of the panther at that season of the year, when it hunts to support its young, and will often cover its prey with leaves and bring its whelps to the banquet. He therefore continued to be perfectly still, as when he first awoke—he thought he heard the steps of some kind of heavy animal near him, and knowing if it were a panther the distance between himself and death could not be far if he should attempt to rise up. Accordingly as he suspected, after waiting a full minute, he now distinctly heard the retreating tread of a stealthy panther of which he had no doubt from his knowledge of the creature's ways. It had not taken but a few steps, however, when it again stopped a longer time; still Wheaton continued his silent position, knowing his safety depended much on this. Soon the tread was again heard, farther and farther off, until it entirely died away in the distance—but he still lay motionless a few minutes longer, then he veered gently and cautiously to raise his head, and cast an eye in the direction that the creature, whatever it was, had gone, but could see nothing. He now rose up with a spring; for his blood had been running from his heart to the extremities, and back again with uncommon velocity. All the while his ears had listened to the steps of the animal on the leaves and brush. He now saw plainly the marks of design among the leaves, and that he had been covered over, and that the paws of some creature had done it.

And if, as he suspected, a panther was the animal, he knew it would soon return to kill him, on which account he made haste to receive it, and to put himself in a situation to give it a taste of the contents of the smooth bore. He now seized up some pieces of old wood which lay about, and placed as much as was usual to his own bulk, exactly where he had slept, and covered it all over with leaves, in the same manner the panther had done; and then sprang to a tree near by, into which he ascended, from whence he had a view of a good distance about him, and especially in the direction the creature had gone.—Here in the crotch of the tree he stood, with his gun resting across a limb, in the direction of the place where he had been left by the panther, looking sharply as far among the wood as possible, in the direction he expected the creature's return. But he remained in this position but a short time, and had barely thrust the ramrod down the barrel of his piece to be sure the charge was in fiery, and to examine her priming, and shut down the pan slowly, so that it should not snap, and thus make a noise, when his keen Indian eye, for such he had, caught a glimpse of a monstrous panther, leading, warily, two panther kittens towards her intended supper.

New motives were hastening to a climax rapidly, when Wheaton the panther should finish her hunting on the mountains of the Susquehanna, for if old Smooth Bore should flash in the panther's face, she would be as good as a dead animal.

he was; the same must have been his life. During these thoughts the panther had hid her young under some brush, and come within some thirty feet of the spot, where she supposed her victim was still sleeping, and seeing all as she left it, dropped down to a crouching position, precisely as a cat when about to spring on its prey. Now was seen the soul of the panther in its perfection; merging from the recesses of nature, hidden by the creator, along the whole nervous system, but resting chiefly on the brain, from whence it glared in bright horror, from its burning eyes, curled in its strong and vibrating tail, pushed out its white electrical fangs, from its broad and powerful paws, its hot breath glittered on the points of its uncovered teeth, and snaked, in rapid issues of steam from its red and open jaws, while every hair of its long dun back stood erect in savage joy, denoting that the moment of its fatal leap had come.

Now the horrid rustling of its hinder claws drawn under its belly, was heard; and the bent hair-strings were seen but half an instant by Wheaton from where he stood in his tree, when the tremendous leap was made. It rose on a long curve into the air about ten feet in the highest place, and from thence descending, it struck exactly where the breast and bowels of its intended prey had lain, with a scream too horrible for description when it tore to atoms the rotten wood, filling for several feet above it, the air with leaves and light brush, the covering of the deception. But instantly the panther found herself checked, and seemed to drop a little with disappointment, when, however it resumed its erect posture, and surveyed quite around on every side a horizontal line, in search of its prey, but not discovering it, she cast a furious look aloft, among the tops of the trees, when in a moment or two the eyes of Wheaton and the panther had met. Now for another leap, when she dropped for that purpose, but the bullet was off, and two back shot of old smooth bore were too quick, as he lodged them exactly in the brain of the savage monster, and stretched her on the spot, where the hunter had slept but a short time before, in the soundness of a mountain dream.

He had marked the spot where her young were hidden, which at the report of the gun were frightened and ran up a tree. Wheaton now came down, and found the panther to measure from the end of its nose to the point of its tail, eight feet six inches in length, a creature sufficiently strong to have carried him off on a full run had he fallen into her power. He now reloaded and went to the tree where her kittens or young panthers were, and soon brought them down from their grasping among the limbs, companions for their conquered and slain parent.

Wheaton dismantled them of their hides, and baited away, lest some other encounter before, the night should set in, might overtake him of a similar character; when the disadvantage of the darkness might decide the victory in a way more disadvantageous to the romers of the forest. Of this feat Ben. Wheaton never ceased to boast, reciting it as the most appalling passage of his hunting life, or if this is too much for the mind of a dumb animal, she intended at least to give them a supper.

This circumstance was all that saved his life, or the panther would have leaped on him at first, and have torn him to pieces, instead of covering him with leaves as it did, for the sake of her young.—The panther is a ferocious and almost untamable animal, whose nature and habits are the same as the cat, except the nature and power of this domestic creature are in the panther immensely magnified in strength and voracity. It is in the American forest what the tiger is in Africa and India, a dangerous and savage animal, the terror of all other creatures, as well as of the Indian, and white man.

Consistency.—Nothing is more lovely than christian consistency. Much of the popular infidelity of the present day is nourished and strengthened by the discovered absence of this heavenly virtue in the character of the professed people of the Lord. It is not because Christians do not possess any of the graces of the Gospel—it is not because none of the adornments of virtue are spread over their character, that infidels rail against the truth of Christianity; but because they discover in the character of many professed Christians, a want of harmony. One thing contradicts the other.—There is a want of correspondence in the parts.—Principle is not carried fully out. Every now and then something is discovered that is just in keeping with the supposition that the man is a hypocrite. It is this want of consistency that stabs religion in the very vitals.

These remarks are true in reference to private Christians, but apply with still greater force to those who bear the sacred vessels of the Lord. The conduct of ministers of the gospel, how closely and continuously is it watched by the world! Go where they may, the eyes of those who would prove them hypocrites are still upon them. Alas! when not engaged in sacred duties—when journeying—when in society—when mingling in the private circles, how apt are ministers to forget that they stand in the presence of such a stern and inexorable tribunal! But, if we are sincere—if we always remember the character we sustain, and the office we bear, then will our adversaries be confounded and God glorified.—*Epicopial Recorder.*

Cure for Cancer.—Mr. Thomas Tyrell, of Missouri, advises that a cancer upon his nose, which had been treated without success by Dr. Smith, of New Haven, and the ablest surgeon in the Western country, had been cured in the following manner: He was recommended to use strong potash, made of the ashes of red oak bark, boiled down to the consistency of molasses; to cover the cancer with it, and in about an hour afterwards to cover with a plaster of tar, which must be removed after a few days, and if any pertubances remain in the wound, apply more potash to them and the plaster again, until they shall disappear; after which heal the wound with common salve. Caution, and the knife had been previously used in vain. This

MR. SLICK—HIS SAYINGS AND DOINGS.—CURE FOR SMUGGLING.

There's nothin' a'most, said the Clock-maker, I like so much as to see folks cheat themselves. I don't know as I ever cheated a man myself in my life: I like to do things above-board handsum, and go strait ahead; but if a chap seems bent on cheating himself, I like to be neighborly and help him to do it. I mind once, when I was to the postward of Halifax atradin'—I bought a young horse to use while I gave old Clay a run to grass. I do that most every fall, and it does the poor old critter a deal of good. He kinder seems to take a new lease every time, it sets him up so. Well, he was a most especial horse, but he had an infernal temper, and it required all my knowledge of horse flesh to manage him. He'd kick, sulk, back, bite, refuse to draw, or run away, just as he took the notion. I mastered him, but it was just as much as a bargain too; and I don't believe, tho' I say it myself, there is any other gentleman in the province could have managed him but me. Well, there was a parson livin' down there that took a great fancy to that horse. Whenever he seed me drivin' by he always stopt to look at his action and gait, and admired him amazingly. Thinks I to myself, that man is inoklated—it'll break out soon—he is determined to cheat himself, and if he is, there is no help for it, as I see, but to let him. One day I was drivin' out at a most a doze of a size, and he stopped me. Hallo! says he, Mr. Slick, where are you goin' in such a desperate hurry? I want to speak a word to you. So I pulls up short.—Mornin', say I parson, how do you do? That's a very clever horse of your's, says he. Middin', say I; he does my work, but he's nothin' to brag on; he ain't gist equal to old Clay, and I doubt if there's ary a blue nose horse that is either. Fine action that horse, said he. Well, says I, people do say he has considerable fine action, but that's better for himself than me, for it makes him travel easier.

How many miles will he trot in the hour? said he. Well, says I, if he has a mind to and is well managed, he can do fifteen handsum.—Will you sell him? said he. Well, said I, parson, I would sell him, but not to you; the truth is, said I, smilin', I have a regard for ministers; the best friend I ever had was one, the reverend Joshua Hopewell, of Slickville, and I wouldn't sell a horse to one I don't think would suit him. Oh! said he, the horse would suit me exactly; I like him amazingly: what's your price? Fifty pounds to any body else, said I, but fifty-five to you, parson, for I don't want you to have him at no price. If he didn't suit you, people would say I cheated you, and cheatin' a parson is, in my mind, pretty much of a piece with gobbin' of a church. Folks would think considerable hard of me sellin' you a horse that warn't quite the thing, and I shouldn't blame them one morsel if they did. Why, what's the matter of him? said he. Well, says I, minister, says I, a larfin' right out, every thing is the matter of him. Oh! said he, that's all nonsense; I've seen the horse in your hands often, and desire no better. Well, says I, he will run away with you if he gets a chance; to a certainty. I will drive him with a curb, says he. He will kick, says I. I'll put a back strap on him, said he. He will go backwards faster than forward, said I. I will give him the whip and teach him better, says he. Well, says I, larfin' like any thing, he won't go at all sometimes. I'll take my chance of that, said he; but you must take off that five pounds. Well, says I, parson, I don't want to sell you the horse—that's a fact; but if you must have him I suppose you must, and I will subtract the five pounds on one condition, and that is, if you don't like the beast, you tell folks that you would have him, tho' I tried to set him out as bad as I could, and said every thing of him I could lay my tongue to. Well, says he, the horse is mine, and if he don't suit me, I acquit you of all blame.

Well, he took the horse, and cracked and boasted most prodigiously of him; he said he wouldn't like to take a hundred pounds for him; that he liked to buy a horse of a Yankee, for they were such capital judges of horse flesh they hardly ever almost had a bad one, and that he knew he was agoin' to get a first chop one, the moment he found I didn't want to sell him, and that he never saw a man so loath to part with a beast. On dear! how I laughed in my sleeve when I heard tell of the goney talkin' such nonsense: thinks I, he'll live to learn yet some things that ain't writ down in Latin afore he dies, or I'm mistaken—that's all. In the course of a few days, the horse began to find he'd changed hands, and he thought he'd try what sort o' stuff his new master was made on; so he gist took the bit in his mouth one fine mornin' and ran off with him, and kicked his gig all to flinders, and nearly broke the parson's neck; and findin' that answer, he took to all his old tricks agin, and got worse than ever. He couldn't do nothin' with him,—even the helps were frightened out of their lives to go into the stable to him.

So he come to me one day lookin' quite streaked, and says he, Mr. Slick, that horse I bought of you is a perfect devil; I never saw such a critter in my life; I can neither ride him nor drive him.—He gist does what he pleases with us, and we can't help ourselves no how. He actually beats all the orderly animals I ever seed in my life. Well, says I, I told you so, minister—I didn't want to sell him to you at all, but you would have him. I know you did, said he; but you laffed so all the time I thought you was in jest. I thought you didn't care to sell him, and gist said so to put me off, jokin' like; I had no idee you were in earnest: I wouldn't give ten pounds for him. Nor I neither, said I; I wouldn't take him as a gift, and be bound to keep him. How could you then, said he, have the conscience to ax me fifty pounds for him, and pocket it so coolly? To prevent you from buyin' him, parson, said I, that was my reason. I did all I could for you; I axed you five times as much as he was worth, and said all I could think on to run him down too; but you took yourself in. There's two ways of tellin' a thing, said he, Mr. Slick,—in earnest and in jest; you told it as though you were in jest, and I took it so; you may call it what you like, but I call it a deception still. Parson, says I, how many ways you may have of tellin' a thing I don't know; but I have only one, and that's the true way; I said you the truth, but you didn't choose to believe it. Now, says I, I feel kinder

self. Do you ship him. You can't sell him here without doin' the fair thing, as I did, tellin' all his faults; and if you do, no soul would take him as a present, for people believe you, tho' it seems they won't believe a Clock-maker. Gist send him off to the West Indies and sell him at auction there for what he will fetch. He'll bring a good price, and if he gets into a rael right down genuine horseman's hands, there's no better horse. He said nothin', but shook his head, as if that eat wouldn't jump.

Now, there's another bit of advice I'll give you free gratis for nothin',—never buy a horse on the dealer's judgment, or he will cheat you if he can; never buy him on your own, or you will cheat yourself as sure as you are born. In that case, said he, larfin', a man will be sure to be cheated either way: how is he to guard ag'in bein' taken in, then? Well, says I, he stands a fair chance any way of havin' the leake put into him—that's certain, for next to woman kink there is nothin' so deceitful as horse-flesh that ever I seed yet.—Both on 'em puzzle the best judges sometimes to tell their ages when well vamped up, and it takes some time afore you find out all their tricks. Both require good trainin', a steady hand, and careful usage. Yes; both branches require great experience, and the most knowin' ones do get bit sometimes most beautifully. Well, says he, as touchin' horses, how is a man to avoid bein' deceived?—Well, says I, I'll tell you—never buy a horse of a total stranger on no account,—never buy a horse of a gentleman, for— Why, said he, he's the very man I should like to buy of, above all others. Well, then, says I, he's not the man for my money anyhow; you think you are safe with him, and don't inquire enough, and take too much for granted; you are apt to cheat yourself in that case.—Never buy a crack horse; he's done too much. Never buy a colt; he's done too little; you can't tell how he'll turn out. In short, says I, it's a considerable of a long story to go through with it; it would take me less time to teach you how to make a clock, I calculate. If you buy from a man who ain't a dealer, he acilly don't know whether his horse is a good one or not; you must get advice from a friend who does know. If you buy from a dealer, he is too much for you or your friend either. If he has no honor, don't trade with him. If he has, put yourself wholly and entirely on it, and he'll not deceive you, there's no mistake—he'll do the thing gentle. If you'd axed me candidly about that are horse, says I.—At that he looked up at me quite hard for a space, without sayin' a word, but pressed his lips together quite niffly like, as if he was a strivin' for to keep old Adam down, and turned short off and walked away. I felt kinder pity for him too; but if a man will cheat himself in spite of all you can do, why, there is no help for it as I see, but to let him. Do you, Squire?

MOTHER AT HOME.

Do not be continually finding fault.—It is at times necessary to censure and to punish; but very much may be done by encouraging children when they do well.—Be ever more careful to express your approbation of good conduct than of bad.—Nothing can discourage a child more than a spirit of incessant fault finding, on the part of its parents. And hardly any thing can exert a more injurious influence upon the disposition both of the parent and the child. There are two motives influencing human actions; hope and fear. But who would not prefer to have her child influenced to good conduct by the desire of pleasing, rather than by the fear of offending? If a mother never expresses her gratification when her children do well, and is always censuring when she sees any thing amiss, they are discouraged and unhappy.—They feel that there is no use in trying to please. Their disposition becomes hardened and soured by this ceaseless fretting. At last, finding that whether they do well or ill, they are equally found fault with, they relinquish all efforts to please, and become heedless of reproaches.

But let a mother approve of a child's conduct whenever she can.—Let her show that his good behavior makes her sincerely happy.—Let her reward him for his efforts to please, by smiles and affections. In this way she will cherish in her child's heart some of the noblest and most desirable feelings of her nature. She will cultivate in him an amiable disposition and a cheerful spirit.—Your child has been during the day, very pleasant and obedient. Just before putting him to sleep for the night, you take his hand and say, "My son, you have been a good boy to day. It makes me very happy to see you so kind and obedient.—God loves little children who are dutiful to their parents, and he promises to make them happy." This approbation from his mother is to him a great reward. And when with a more than ordinary affectionate tone, you say, "Good night, my dear son," he leaves the room with his little heart full of feeling. And when he closes his eye for sleep, he is happy, and resolves that he will always try to do his duty.

To the Chairman of the County Court of — County.

Sir: The Board of Internal Improvements, by the Act which created it, has a general superintendence over all the public improvements in the State; for which reason it is highly important that the total amount of produce of each county in the State should be in the possession of, and known to the Board. Such a mass of statistical information would form a text book of reference of incalculable advantage for the successful prosecution of the works now in progress, and, if possible, of still greater importance to such as should hereafter be recommended to the patronage of the State and our citizens.

By reference to the Fayetteville and Western Rail Road, the idea can be fully illustrated. The Board is very solicitous to carry into effect the Acts of the Legislature in relation to this road; and for that purpose deem it of the utmost importance that the amount of produce which is likely to be transported on the contemplated road should be ascertained with the utmost practicable certainty. It will be recollected that, at the session of 1836—7, an Act was passed, authorizing the Board to subscribe two-fifths of the sum which might be found necessary to construct the said road, whenever three-fifths should be subscribed by

mental to the former one, which authorizes the subscription on the part of the State of three-fifths, when individuals shall have subscribed two-fifths, shall also fail, we request information, that the public may have some accurate data, on which to found the probable value of the stock. The cost of the road has been ascertained by the survey and estimates of an Engineer; but doubt and uncertainty exist as to the amount of transportation which may be calculated on, and, of course, as to the amount of profit which an investment in its stock may yield. The Board are of opinion, that the want of information on this point is the chief cause of the failure of the subscription; for it cannot be doubted that the means of the country interested are ample, or that they would be applied, if it could be shown that the investment would be a good one; and until this difficulty is removed, and the whole subject laid fairly before the public, it is apprehended that capitalists will continue backward in making investments in the stock.—Owing to the peculiar circumstances of the western country (in relation to its trade) which this road is designed to accommodate, the ordinary methods of obtaining the desired facts are not applicable to it. Generally, the amount of exportable produce of a country may be easily ascertained at the market at which it is traded; but the produce of this section is carried to the markets of Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Georgia, and to their villages as well as emporiums; it is so diffused abroad, that we must look to the grower, instead of the purchaser, for a correct knowledge of its amount. And the Board believe and trust that an opportunity will shortly offer, when it may be obtained without cost to the State, or inconvenience to the people, and, compared to the great benefit to be derived, with very little trouble to the agents who may be engaged in procuring it; and, thinking it very important that the occasion should not be passed by unimproved, have determined to ask the aid of the County Courts, not only of the counties which lie west of Fayetteville, being those most interested in that road, but also of all other counties—to be preserved and used as occasion may require.

In stating the wishes of the Board, which I will do, the mode of obtaining the desired information will be sufficiently explained.

The Board requests your County Court, at its next session, to direct the Magistrates who may be appointed to take the lists of taxable and taxable property, to ascertain, from each person, at the time he offers his list, the amount of produce he raised in 1838; the market at which he sold, or designs selling it; to keep lists of the same, according to the forms herewith transmitted, and to return them to the Clerk, along with the tax lists, which are requested to forward them to the Board as early as possible. In making the appointment of magistrates for taking the lists, it is very desirable that such persons only should be selected as would cheerfully perform this case, but very important task. All produce which is destined for exportation beyond the limits of the State, should be returned, whether it is taken off by the grower or a neighboring merchant. When these lists shall have been returned to the Board, consolidated and made public, as they will be, it is evident that a mass of the most interesting information, touching the capacity of the country to sustain the contemplated Rail Road and all other works, will have been obtained; and no one who has spare money, will any longer be at a loss to determine on the propriety of investing it. If the Magistrates for taking the tax lists in your county, shall have been appointed before this communication reaches you, be pleased to take an early opportunity of having the forms placed in their hands.—By attending to which business, and making as early a return to this office as practical, you will much oblige.

Most respectfully your friend and fellow-citizen,
EDWARD B. DUDLEY,
Gov. of N. C. and Pres. ex officio of the Bd. of Int. Imp.

Executive Office, N. C.
Raleigh, March 22, 1839.
C. C. BATTLE, Sec.

From the Vicksburg Sentinel and Express.

Jackson, (Miss.) February 5, 1839.

At 12 o'clock, a most brilliant audience crowded every part of the Representative Hall, to hear General Hayne, upon Southern Commerce and improvements.—A regular meeting was organized by calling Gen. Quitman to the chair, and appointing C. A. Smith and N. Green North, Secretaries. Gen. Q. addressed the meeting on the objects of the assembly.—Some resolutions were offered, when Gen. Hayne rose and occupied the undivided attention of the meeting for two hours. He thanked the Mississippi people for their hospitality, and congratulated them for the interest they manifested in the cause of Southern trade and prosperity. He detailed argument after argument in support of direct trade, and was most conclusive on the prosperity and importance of internal improvement. He showed to the wonder of many, and the shame of all, what vessels we of the South were to the Northern States, and how easy a matter it was, with combined action, for the South to be the first country under the sun, in point of independence and wealth. Gen. Hayne is an ardent friend of the Union, and wishes it may be perpetual, guided and sustained by the genius of justice and equal rights. I cannot do justice, in a letter, to the many points he made in his excellent speech—its heads will be written out and published. You are assured that his speech had a powerful effect upon the minds of all who heard it.

Gen. Hayne had refused to partake of a public dinner, which was tendered him by the acclamation of the citizens and sojourners at Jackson. He will leave here on Thursday next.

The following resolutions, offered by Mr. Wright of Lowndes county, were unanimously adopted by the meeting:

WHEREAS, The system of indirect trade with foreign countries, heretofore pursued by the Southern and South Western States, has tended to render the latter tributary to the Northern and Eastern states, building up large commercial cities within their borders, and by concentrating both foreign and domestic capital at those points, there-