From the N. Y. Observer. A CONVENT ON THE SEA.

"There is a glorious city in the sea, The sea is in the broad, the narrow streets Ebbing and flowing; and the salt sea-weed Clings to the marble of her palaces. No track of men, no footsteps to and fro, Lead to her gates."

Among the hundred islands around and under Venice, not one has a more remarkable history than San Lazaro.

The story of Venice is too familiar for recital. The barbarous Huns came down upon Venitia, and the people hid away among the islands of the great lagoon that sets up from the Adriatic Sea. Seventy-two of these islands were so near each other that the houses were separated only by narrow streams. These were soon canals; boats and bridges made them all into one great city : palaces arose with the rising prosperity of the place; a peculiar city, every house in it being accessible by land and water. The remoter islands were sites for public buildings, fortresses and asylums. Floating in the water, in the far eastern quarter of the great lagoon, is the isle of Saint Lazarus. As far back in time as A. D. 1182, it was used as a hospital for lepers coming from the East. Lazarus was the patron saint of such people, and the island took his name. By-and-by this disease ceased to be a plague, and the island became a desert. And so it remained for centuries : a wilderness in the midst of isles of beauty, as fair a spot as the sun shines on, but with the taint of the leper upon it, and so

left alone in the sea.

Five hundred years roll along, and dozen wayfaring men of the East, speak ing an Oriental tongue, and wearing the grab of an order of Monks unknown in Venice, came to this city and asked its Interesting Statement from Prof. W. C. hospitality. They had a strange story to tell. The hearts of strangers opened to the pilgrims, and they were taken kindly in. Their leader, Mekhitar, was an Armenian, born in Asia Minor. In child-Here he rose to be a distinguished teach- it frequently lies on the surface. er; a wonderful example of heroism in the introduced, the Senate granted this deso- country is made of it in large part. city of the world, these brethren live, lime.

dome, and pinnacle, and tower. The city, and is of course inexhaustible. leads us into the house, and presently to overlies the preceding beds (of greensand) healing, and a hundred other things. The halls and the walls. Ancient coins, papy- ward through New Hanover and Onslow a cause for amazement, when an electrirus, a veritable Egyptian mummy, copies to the Trent and Neuse, extending along cian comes forward with the electroscope, of all the books ever printed here, are the latter from Newbern to a point ten the province of which seems to transmit ting type in the Eastern languages. They in a few places north of the Neusc, near are talking with each other at a distance use only the old-fashioned hand-presses, Snow Hill and eastward. It forms cliffs of say 500 miles, they can actually see and probably never saw one driven by of 20, 40 and 75 feet on the right bank of each other, at least so claims the inventor. or for their spare moments. Business new, typesetters few. An air of perfect repose Its contents of lime carbonate is 50 to 95 months at least to issue one edition of the per cent. See Geological Report, pages five more colored men, women and chil-New York Observer with this force. As 191 to 194. The average percentage of dren arrived in the city yesterday, to who see this notice may send their address, Cunningham (our printer) would have if three-fourths and one. Park Row.

aloud the Bible. A notice above the door It consists of a deposit of sea mud, with lier, 21st.

teachers. Thirty youth are thus in a iron, &c. in many tongues, and some are of great by its use.

ligious faith, a part adhering to the Roman and more. In New Jersey, where more Catholic Church, to which section these use is made of it than in all the continent Keckhitarists belong. When the monas- besides, the State Geologist estimates MR. H. R. STEVENS: teries of Italy were suppressed, this one that the farmer could better pay 5 to 8 alone was suffered to go on with its work. dollars the ton than undertake to farm All the rest were merely consuming with- without it. I believe the same may be a return of the disease, I again commenced taking it, out propucing, and so were a burden and said here; but at least the value must be proves my digestion.

MARL BEDS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Kerr, State Geologist-The Varieties of Marl, Where Found, Value as a Fertilizer and Cost of Transportation.

To the Editor of the News :

hood he was taught by the Monks of found in the State. It is worth more than supply of nearly boiling water, which will Garmir-Vauk. He grew up to be a priest, all her other minerals together, many be available for the public and private and traveling widely in Asia, he preached times over. It is so, because we are an use. The ready heated fluid is obtained in once, and tak with you of the vince of the ready heated fluid is obtained in the ready heated flu the Christian religion, especially to the agricultural people, or nothing; and be- from a deep artesian well, from which, Armenians. His sacrifices and toils in cause of its range and durability of fer- when completed, the water will issue a this service were marvelous. At length tilizing powers; its abundance; its wide mighty fountain, to the height of nearly he went to Constantinople, and, being distribution; its facility of transport to fifty feet. The deepest artesian well in was benefung me in other respects. Yet I did not compelled to leave, he retired to the Con- more than half the territory of the State, the world has hitherto been that at Paris, for little more than a year, when the state of the state o vent of Passen, near to his native place. and because of the facility of mining it- which measures 1,794 feet in depth. The back was cured; and for nine months I have enjoyed

midst of the plague. Again he appeared Halifax to Robeson, and eastward to the quired depth, more than double the depth ing as large as my list gather on another part of my in the city of the Sultans, preaching the sea. It underlies the whole area of many of its Paris rival. The water now issuing I took Vegetine faithfully, and it removed it level union of all sects in the one Church of of them, and is often of many fathoms from the bowels of the earth, three fifths with the surface in a month. I think I should have been cured of my main trouble sooner if I had taken Rome. And when they would not listen depth. That is, it underlies about one- of a mile below the surface, has a tem- larger doses, after having become accustomed to its to his words, he formed a society of men third of the area of the State, a territory perature of 161° Fah., and the work will of his way of thinking, and set up a print- larger than the whole State of Massachu- be prosecuted until a warmth of 178° Fah. diseases; and, if they will patiently take Vegetine, ing press to issue good books among the setts and New Jersey. It is of three kinds, is obtained. The meaning of these figures people of the East. His piety and labors belonging to three different geological will be better understood when it is reexcited persecution, and he fled with his formations, lying one above the other in membered that the temperature of a hot companions to the Grecian Morea, then immediate succession. In the counties bath is 98°, while that of boiling water is under the Venetian government. At Mo- lying along the south of the Neuse to the 212°. The daily supply is already 175,don a regular Order was founded, with a Cape Fear, all the three kinds are found, 000 gallons, a quantity which will be convent and church. But the Turks came sometimes all on the same farm, very greatly increased at the enhanced depth. down upon the Morea with fire and sword, often two of them. It outcrops in the The work progresses at the rate of 50 feet and drove the Monks of Modon from their banks of streams, large and small, in hill- a month, and recent improvements in the home, which was plundered and destroy | sides and bluffs; it is found a few feet un- mechanical appliances render possible a ed. They took refuge on a Venetian ves- der the surface in ravines, bottoms, flats, still more rapid rate of working. This sel and begged a passage to the city long swamps and savannas; indeed, it may be remarkable undertaking is being carried known as the Queen of the Adriatic, and found almost anywhere in many sections on partly at the expense of the city and the favorite of St. Mark. They found a by digging, -in the woods and fields, -is partly at the expense of the engineers, welcome in the Republic of Venice. To found in the farm ditches and railroad Messrs. Zsigmondy.—Building News. the new Order of Monks, thus suddenly cuts, in springs and wells; in fact, the

late island. There, on the spot where, At the bottom lies the cretaceous marl, "Father" and "Mother;" these noble five centuries before, only lepers had a called greensand in New Jersey. It differs and darling names are consecrated by home, these persecuted and weary wan- from the New Jersey marl, however, in Scripture, and embalmed in our rich Enderers pitched their tents, and were at its chemical constitution and agricultural glish store of poetry and of prose. And rest. Some rains of old buildings remain- value. That owes its great fertilizing therefore every lover of the pathos and ed, and these were patched up for tempo- quality to the presence of three to five the power which they contain-every rary use. In 1740 the new monastery was per cent. each of phosphoric acid and pot- reverer of the associations which they encompleted, and the monks were able to ash; although some of the most popular shrine, should become as it were a mempursue with vigor and success the benev- of the New Jersey marls are mainly cal- ber of the great society for preserving olent work to which their lives are devo- careous. The North Carolina greensands them from the encroachments and inroads A full line of Hats, Boots, Shoes, Crockery, ted. In this calm retreat, on an island do not contain a larger percentage of these of those contemptible and trivial appella- Groceries, &c., and I expect to continue the every foot of which is covered by their ingredients, (and of magnesia) than the toins which are more and more gaining convent and its gardens, in sight of the other marls, (less than I per cent. each) ground upon these stately and tender as heretofore. Call and see.

V. WALLACE. most picturesque and strangely beautiful but average 15 per cent. of carbonate of words, and, by degrees, banishing them

labor, die, and are buried. They do not | This marl is found in the banks of Tar homes. And is not the lightness of speech lead a life of ildeness. Teaching, preach- river about Tarboro and Greenville, in which obtains in our day, concerning the ing abroad, writing and printing, they the Neuse and tributaries about Kinston, venerable relations of parent and child, the South-Atlantic, are spreading knowledge among the Ar- Snow Hill and Goldsboro, on Rockfish partly the cause, and partly also the effect, menians in the East, to whom they send Creek, in Pender county, in the banks of of those frivolous words which are now, trained men and the books they publish. | the Cape Fear and Wilmington, and | balf | even in the homes of the poor, gradually I have just returned from an excursion way to Fayetteville, and in its tributaries, ousting the graver diction of a less flipto this island monastery. Descending the Livingston's Creek, Black and South pant age, and taking the place of the marble steps of the hotel that led into the rivers. In most of these sections it has beautiful names which combine in themwater, we take our seats in a gondala, the been used with great advantage-e.g., by selves both affection and reverence? Two water carriage of Venice. Silently, Gov. Clark, on the Tar, and D. Flowers things which, in the most intimate rela- contain only Original Literature. smoothly and swiftly we are borne out and J. F. Oliver on the Cape Fear. This tions of life, should never be divorced; into the lagoon. The sun in the East is marl forms the bedrock, the lowest stra and yet this is done in the case of some lighting up every marble palace, and tum ever penetrated in all this region, of the names which, though sometimes

as we recede from it toward the sea, The second species of marl, cocene or avoid respect. blooms with beauty, and makes real the chalk marl, is commonly a coarse kind of idea of the poet that it is a flower on the friable chalk, consisting of comminuted sea. We glide softly to the landing steps shells and corals, of a light yellowish or at the garden of the convent. A monk, gravish color to white, sometimes comin the black gown and leathern girdle of pacted into a pretty solid limestone as his Order, bids us welcome. Kindly he about Newbern and Wilmington. This the library. It is rich in manuscripts and It is found in abundant outcrops about telephone and phonograph, the one for Oriental books. Portraits and busts, and Wilmington and in almost every river transmitting sound, and the other for monuments of illustrious men, adorn the and creek bank northward and north-east- preserving it, have scarcely ceased to be shown. We were led into the printing miles above Goldsbory, nearly to the boroffice, where compositors were busy set- ders of Johnston county; and is also found with the telephone, and while two persons steam power. The room was small; the the river between Goldsboro and Kinston. prevaded the place. It would take two per cent.-average, (of 16 analyses), 80

things moved at that rate in the office, 37 The third species, called blue marl, or seem to have been moved by the same. In the refectory, tables were set for therefore found nearest the surface gen- predecessors. They were disposed of in ou. and a copy of Home and Fireside, one of about fifty persons : very neatly were they erally. It is more widely distributed than various localities around town in the the largest and best Illustrated Publications, laid, with bread and a bottle of native the others, being found all over the east- usual way. About ten persons also came all sent free by mail. Render if you want wine at each plate. All eat here in com- ern third of the State above indicated, in on the Savannah Railroad, with the mon, and in perfect silence, while one of from the line of Halifax, Sampson and same object, and a similar disposal was the brethren stands in a pulpit and reads Robeson to Carteret, Hyde, and Currituck. made of them .- Charleston News and Cour-

exaviæ, just such as one may see forming There are only a dozen resident monks. in the estuaries along our coast to-day. They receive students from the East, who The carbonate of lime in this class of marl come at the age of about twelve, stay the is 10 to 50 per cent., range from 10 to 80; same number of years, pursue a course of potash 1 to 11 per cent., magnesia 1 to 5. literature and theology, and then go back | And there are other valuable ingredients to their native countries as priests and in as large proportion, -soda, plaster,

constant course of training. The monks This marl has been much more widely also keep up a college in the city of Ven- used in this State than the others. And ice, and one in Paris. Some of them are I have never found a case of its failure to sent on missionary tours through foreign pay, and many worn out, and many origcountries. The works they publish are inally poor farms have been regenerated

The effect of marl is permanent, one The Armenians are divided in their re- good marling will last two generations a nuisance. This one consumes little and set down at 3 or 4 dollars for the two up- 1011 West Jefferson Street. per marls, and half as much for the green-When the monk had shown us through sand. The cost of excavating and applythe apartments, he asked us to inscribe ing, where, as in thousands of cases, it our names in the visitors' register. Kings lies on or near the surface, does not ex- ed to try it. At the time I was suffering from genand emperors had written their's, philos- ceed 50 cents per ton. There ought to be ophers and great travellers, poets, our a million of tons used every year in the Bryant among them, and Byron, who, in marl region, and as much more along the under its persistent use I rapidly recovered, gaining one of his freaks, spent six months in the railroads and navigable rivers westward, convent studying the Armenian language. where it could easily be delivered at 2 As we walked out into the garden, the and 3 dollars. And by selecting for trans-Fath r plucked the flowers freely, and portation the better kinds, worth 5 or 6 expect to find a better. gave o each of the ladies of the party a or 8 dollars, there would be left a good tet, as a souvenir of the Convent on margin of profit for the farmer. When the use of marl shall have become general, North Carolina will be on the high road to prosperity, and not sooner. Twenty-five pages of the Geological Report is devoted to this subject and it is not too

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I looked on. I thought of the fits Mr. potash and magnesia are respecttively await the coming of the Liberian ship, and test the business we make this unpar They came from Kershaw county and alleled offer: To such as are not well satshell marl, overlies the preceding, and is mysterious migratory impulse as their ples worth several dollars to commence work

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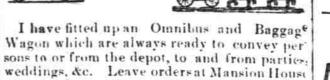
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