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## VOL. 2.--NO. 44

# ASHEVILLE, N. C., JANUARY 4, 1872.

## WHOLE NO. 96

## SWANNANDA.

The following beautiful lines were write

I would woo thee in my rhyme; Wildest, brightest, loveliest river, Of our sunny, southern clime ! Swannanoa, well they named thee, In the mellow Indian tongue; Beautiful\* thou art, most And right worthy to be sung.

I have stood by many a river Known to story and to song,-Ashley, Hudson, Susquehanna, Fame to which may well belong; I have camped by the Ohio, Trod Scioto's fortile banks, Followed far the Juniata, In the wildest of her pranks,-

But thon reignest queen forever, Child of Appalachian hills. Winning tributo as thou flowest, From a thousand mountain rills Thine is beauty, strength-begotten, Mid the cloud-beginded peaks, Where the patriarch of the monntains,† Houvenward far thy waters seek.

Through the laurels and the beeckes Bright thy silvery current shines, Sleeping now in granite basins, Overhung by trailing vines, And anon careering ouward, In the maddlest frolic mood, Waking, with its scalike voices, Fairy ochoes in the wood.

Pesceful sleep thy narrow valleys, In the shadow of the hills; And thy flower-enamelied border All the air with fragrance fills Wild Inxariance, generous tillage,-Every turn, through all thy windings Still revealing something new.

Where, oh ! graceful Swannanoa, Are the warriors who of old Sought thee, at thy mountain sources, Who their limbs were wont to lave (Worthy bath for fairer benuty),

In thy cool and limpid ware Gone forever from thy borders,

But immortal in thy name, Are the red men of the forest! Be then keeper of their fame i Paler races dwell beside thee; Celt and Saxon till thy lands, Wedding use into thy beanty,-Linking over thee their hands.

\* Swannanon,- the Cherokee,- is translated The Black Mountain,-in which the stream has its sourc

The following is an extract from a letter writ ten to the Asheville News, by Prof. Guyot of E. Mo. Princeton College, New Jersey:

[From the Asheville News, Oct. 25, 1866.] Chayof's Measurement of the Moundains of Western N. C.

The following are the principal points, the altitude of which has been ascertain-od. The figures all refer to the ground of the places measured or to the water in

CANEY RIVER VALLEY. Green Pends at T. Wilson's highest The following beautiful lines were writ-ten by a Mr. JAQUES of Charleston, S. C., some fifteen years ago. (The Swannanoa rises in the Blue Ridge, near the Gap, on the road from the head of the B D. [Old Feat real] of road of the B. D. [Old Feat real]

the head of the R. R., [Old Fort now,] and empties into the French Broad River two miles West of this place:) Swannanos, nymph of beauty, Swannanos, in the fort of the state of the state

neasured or to the water in The reduction to the level of CHAIN OF WESTENER'S BALD. the saw was derived from the levels of the sea was derived from the levels of the fact was derived from the levels of the fact was derived from the levels of the fact was derived from the levels of the sea, sand the ground at Asheville Court House like-ground a iloor of provident and the second sec IN THE BLUE RHDGE.Too River Gap betw. Pointo Top and<br/>High Pinacle of Blue Ridge. 5760Just Charles StateJust Charles State<

western boundary is the great ledge of mountains called in different portions of Though this range is cut through by the streams runniar to the west, yet it not

vides the waters falling into the Atlantic that characterizes the plateau; and it is ern product is cultivated successfully in but the higher valleys. Root Crops.—Beets, turnips, carrots nd paranips vie with the potato in quanity and quality. Cubbage and Tubacco.--The cabbage brives, and the tobacco equals the best

Virginia. *Apples.*—The apples of this region are famous for size, flavor and keeping.— They often weigh from twenty two to twenty four ounces, and some varieties of apples of two different years' growth are, like these of the Grand Traverse

ousand feet. Peaches.-The peach tree bears well. nd the fruit is quite equal in flavor to hat of New Jersey. Grapes.—Western North Carolina is famous for its grapes, the Catawba, as

s well known, being a native of Bun-combe County. The number of varie-cies, both wild and cultivated, is very great. One gentleman has collected more than a hundred varieties, some of which he considers superior to the Ca-tawba. The probability is, that West-ern North Carol ni will become one o the most famous wine regions in the world. Its hill sides are admirably adaped to the culture of the vine. Cranberries.---There are hundreds of

of the higher valleys

heese-making."

CLIMATE.

nd five hundred feet into a clear, co

<section-header> esttle and sheep, in these regions, re-quire but little care, even in winter, except in case of a deep full of snow, aide of a hill: There is no country of equal extent perhaps better timbered than this. Along some of the streams a good deal of white pine and hemlock are, to be found, but the forests chiefly consist of hard wood. All the varieties of the eak are abundant and attain a givent size. The white eaks in many places are especially large. So high does not occur more than once in th or ten years. The so called Japan clover has spread metimes to the tops of mountains. eed, in the absence of timber, th st mountains are richly clot or tulip trees, black walnut, locus th grass to their summits, even whe while grass to their summits, even when these tower, as do more than fifty peaks of the Black Mountain and other chains, to more than five thousand feet above the occan-level; and the luxuriant growth of the red clover causes the Japan plant to be but little prized.— Clover, timethy, blue grass and orchard crease of there a view grass for the set mountains (covered, however, with luxu-rient grasses) which the aboriginal inhab-itants regarded as the feotprints of the evil one as he stepped from mountain to ass all have a vigorous growth. Rye Oats and Buckwheat .- These Western North Chrolina. grains, like the grasses, flourish every-where, but especially in the more eleva-The following we extract from the mphlet written by II. P. GATCHELL, Wheat .- This choice grain thrives i M. D., relative to Western N. C.: Buncombe, Madison and Yancey, and may be made to succeed in other counain region. They find GENERAL DESCRIPTION. Western North Carolina is bounded by Virginia on the north, by Georgia on the south, by the Blue Ridge on the east, and by the Allephanics on the correct Dirac Virginia to Correction is not important of the correct Dirac Virginia to Correction is and the country the south of the south of the south of the south of the construction of the south of the south of the construction of the south of the south of the construction of the south of the south of the construction of the south of the south of the construction of the south of the south of the construction of the south of the south of the construction of the south of the south of the construction of the south of the south of the construction of the south of the south of the south of the construction of the south of the south of the south of the construction of the south of the south of the south of the construction of the south of the south of the south of the construction of the south of the south of the south of the construction of the south of the sout

a favorable medium between the ener-vation influence of the warm or uniform-

vation influence of the warm or uniform-ly mild regions and the overpowering cold if high northern latitude. The snow seldom remains many days at a time, oven on the highest mountain, and its stay in the valleys can generally be measured by hours. Like East Tennessee and the North-

They often weigh from twenty two to twenty four ounces, and some varieties of are, like these of the Grand Travese region, hardly distinguishable. Persons of extensive observation think the West-ern North Carolina apples among the finest in the wordd. Seedlings are four the on the mountains at the height of four the alimeter without fail. In fine rn counties of Georgia and Alabama, it maturity almost without fail. In fine, the climate of the Blue Ridge region is he most desirable one cast of the Rocky dountains. It has the mildest winters n proportion to the coolness of its sum-

ors, and a general equableness quite markable for our variable climate, owever much inferior it may be in hat respect to California and Western The region that compares most Europo. avorably with it, is the Cumberland Plateau. There can be but little differonce between the two regions in respect to temperature. But the superior dry ess of the atmosphere in Western North Carolina gives it a considerable advantage over the adjoining region on the Cumber-land range. The Carolina valleys have an abundant supply of rain, so that the increased quantity in Tennessee (some ton inches) may be rogarded as an ex-cess. Indeed the climate of Western res of native cranberries on the streams Berries.--Strawberries, raspberries North Carolin would be still more desilackberries and whortleberries abound and are of excellent quality. The products to which it is best adapable if the rain of winter were less han it is. But though this is considerted may be summed up as grass, pota-toes, beets, turning, carrots, parsnips, apples, grapes and the berries. Prof. Kerr gives us his estimate of Western North Carolina in the following ble as compared with the dry interior beyond the ninety-fifth meridian, yet sompared with Cincinnati, Louisville, Nashville and Knoxville, it is moderate. Indeed the universal testimony of all anguage: "The continent does not af ord more favorable conditions for profit ompetent observers ostablishes the existence of a dry, invigorating atmos-phere; the neighboring mountains serble cattle-farming, wool-growing and ving to intercept much of the moisture, and to cause its deposition on the sum-

It will be seen, on consulting the map, that this highland projects like a prom-ontory into the planting region of the South, quite across the thirty-fifth par-allel of latitude, below which it gradu-ally sinks into the low country of South Curaling and Goorgia nits and outer slopes. To aid the reader in judging of the nerits of the climate of Asheville, I append the following table, comparing it pend the following table, comparing it with that of Geneva in Switzerland, Turin and Milan in Italy, Vienne in the Valley of the Rhone, East France. Tu-rin and Vienne are situated in famous vine districts, and all of thom are noted Carolina and Goorgia. Lising up out of the planting region, it bears aloft its valleys, to a height va-rying from two thousand to two thoufor pleasantness of climato,

Spring, Sum, Au. Win, and invigorating atmosphero, which not only secures comparative exemption from usect life which is the pest of the low sountry, but also confers abounding Jeneva ..... 52.2 70.3 54.2 840 527 

The climate of the entire area this The accuracy of the report for the sevside of the Sierra Nevada, and more et als seide of the Sierra Nevada, and more es-pecially this side of the Rocky Moun-tains, is a climate, of extremes, compar-ing in this respect with Asia rather than with Europe. The mercury rises to one have been made. For Asheville, I have a report extending through only four years. But by comparing that with hundred degrees and upward at St. Paul Blodget's charts, and with reports from and Quebec, and the orange trees of Loti siana and Florida occasionally perian with cold. Wo'must not look anywhere obtained for Ashevillo as great accuon this broad area for an equable climate racy as would be afforded by ten or such as characterizes the coast of Cali-fornia or that of Western Europe. We SALUBEITY,

### SALUBRITY,

can only expect a climate relatively mild; and that Western North Carolina offers. This feature is characteristic of the sucr north Carolina olders. our country, remarkably ex-great extremes, especially Noother range of long-settled countries , empt from great extremes, especially those of heat. The average of the excan show so small a ratio of mortality. s those that lie at the western base remes of heat.for.three successive years the Blue Ridge, from the Virginia line t Asheville exceeds by only three de-crees the average at Mackinac, fumed to the latitude of Atlanta; and it is remarkable that there is an appreciable or the coolness of its summers, for the same number of years. Yet the mean limunition in the ratio of mortality in In further illustration of this tenden-reasing uniformity of temperature. In further illustration of this tendensummer temperature of Asheville is eleven degrees above that of Mackinac, fording a warmth sufficient to perfect cy, it may be stated that the census of 1850 reports a mortality of ten and three-tenths to the thousand, for Middle the grape and peach. And while its ex-tremes of heat are so little above those f Mackinac, its extreme cold is nearly and Westorn Virginia; it gives eight hiry degrees less. Among two bundred and eighty-six and four-tenths for East Tennessee and Western North Carolina, and seven and points east of the Rocky Mountains on-ly three reported as low a maximum du-ring the summer of 1868 as did Ashenine-tenths for that part of Georgia lyng between the thirty-fourth and thirty-Wilc. Of eleven points in the state of Wisconsin, cooled by the great lakes, on-ly three reported as low a meanifor Ju-ly; and of these, and Bayfield on Lake Superior, while it affords a mean slightifth parallels of latitudo. The ratio in these several sections of mortality from consumption to the thousand desths was, for Middle and Western Virginia, ninoty-nino; for East Tennessee, sixty-six; for Western North Carolina, thirlower, gave a maximum tenidegrees y-three; and for Northern Georgia, igher. While "Asheville has a mean summer wenty-eight. A near relative of the author of this temperature but one degree higher than that of St. Paul, its maximum is from twelve to fifteen degrees less. Its wintract, now residing in Asheville for the sake of his own health, writes that he has talked with many poople who, comter mean is about twenty two degrees, ind its extremes are from thirty to forty legrees above those of St. Paul. Asheing there as invalids in early life, in the hope of being able to prolong a little ville has nearly the summer means of St. Faul, with the winter mean of Fayette-ville, in North-western Arkansas, two places that differ nine degrees in latitude. heir stay on earth, have attained to advanced ago. He says further that he has heard of scarcely a single indiridual who has come there without obng improved health. Those who have summered on Lake Su-But it is in regard to pulmonary dis-cases that Western North Carolina af-fords the greatest manunity. While perior are impressed with the similarity of the summer atmosphere of this moun out of every thousand deaths, nearly two hundred and fifty in the Northern New equally invigorating, and the country the variable loss time per time of and fifty in Florida and Louisiana are most of our territory. It has some so-vero winter days and some blustering March weather; but it is, on the whole, March weather; but it is, on the whole, March weather; but it is, on the whole, poring portions of South Carolina and

the rivers.

### VALLEY OF THE SWANNANOA.

Eng ft ab Sea Jupe. of Flat Creek with Swannanoa

\* \* \* \* \*

I remain very truly yours, ARNOLD GUYOT, rofessor of Geology and Biysical Geography, Princeton College, New Jersey.

The following able letter is from the in many places are especially large. So on of Hon. Thos. L. Clingman, late a aro the chesnut, hickory, maple, poplar United States Senator from North Caro-lina, a gentleman of large observation and experience upon the subject npon which he writes, and one whose name is a

and by the Alloghanics on the From Virginia to Georgia it has gth of about one hundred and sov-well where the land has been kept up. More than a hundred bushels to the forty. It has accordingly an area nost seven thousand square miles, in a territory nearly as-large as of Massedments. *Commentation of the construction of the seven well where the land has been kept up.* More than a hundred bushels to the acre have been raised by farmers com-peting for permiums. *Dotates.*—Western North Carolina is factors.—Western North Carolina

neluding a territory nearly as large as that of Massachusetts. It is sometimes termed a plateau, but lence of this indispensable esculent. t. has none of the romaness of surface reaction of the sources of surface reaction. It seems to afford a first protocol.

But the ratio of consumption gene ted in a country, is not a test of its [Continued to 4th page.]