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TERMS.

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AGRICULTURAL.

FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

On the Grape Vine, with its wines, brandies, salt, and dried fruits.

No. IV.

The state of this culture in the Spanish North American province of Cohaula, is worthy of the most particular attention of the people of the Southern and Western states and territories. That Spanish province extends from 26 degrees North latitude to 32. The culture of the vine there was and is prohibited by the orders of the Spanish crown, to prevent the interference of their colonial agriculture with the wines, brandies, and dried grapes, which are produced in every province of European Spain. This royal law was not made and continued without a conviction in the successive councils of Spain that the culture of the vine was practicable in Spanish North America. But the capacity and production of the extensive district of Cohaula, is fully proved by the printed report* of Don Miguel Ramos de Arispe, Curate (or Rector) of the Spanish church of Bourbon, and Deputy from the American province of Cohaula to the Cortes, which report was printed at Cadiz, in A. D. 1812.

Cohaula is bounded on the North by Texas and New Mexico; on the East and South by St. Louis, Potosi, Racatecos, New Leon, and New St. Ander; and West by New Biscay. Its northern part is west of the states of Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana, from their coasts on the Gulf of Mexico to the latitudes of Natchez, Washington, (Miss.) and a few minutes north. Cohaula is also west of the whole coast of Georgia, and East Florida; the south cape of the Savannah river being about 32 degrees north. The precise situation of this well established Spanish North American vine district, is of great consequence, as a positive proof that no part of the United States is too far south, or too hot for the vine. It is probable that the exotic grapes in Spanish America have been brought from European Spain, and that their wines are like those of the mother country. This fact gives us a reasonable hope of making such wines as those of Xeres and St. Lucar, which are all often called Sherry. It is distinctly and officially stated by the deputy from Cohaula to the Cortes of A. D. 1812, (Don M. Ramos de Arispe,) that this North American province produces considerable quantities of good wine, a number of districts & vineyards giving wines as delicious as those of Castile, in Spain. He adds, that their raising of wine is one of the most productive branches of their agriculture, and so great, that they supply the neighboring colonies, and even send some of their finest to Mexico—where they must sustain a competition with those of the Metropolitan European country.

It is remarkable that the Spanish and Portuguese nations have established more considerable, more excellent, and more profitable vineyards in their colonies and islands, than all other European nations, and Cohaula appears to equal any colony of Spain.

On the whole, the profitable growth of the vine and the manufacture of wine, in the Northern section of the American continent, from the Southern part of Cohaula, in 26 degrees north to the vicinity of Columbia, (in South Carolina,) in 33 degrees, and to the first rising country in N. Carolina, in 34 to 36° 30 minutes, and to Glasgow, in Kentucky, in 37 degrees, N. and to Vevay and Harmony, in Indiana, in 38 degrees 30 minutes, to 38 degrees 45 minutes, give us the most indubitable assurances of a vine district, or a vine region, in the United States; from our coast on the Gulf of Mexico, northward to the end of the 39th degree. This is a matter of the greatest direct interest to that extensive country of the

vine of the United States, and must have the most sure and favorable effects in the settlements of its lighter lands with a free white population, as in Spain, Portugal, Italy, the south of France, of Germany, and of Switzerland. It will also benefit the cultivators of Cotton, sugar, tobacco, and rice, by preventing the overdoing of their production, as they may be respectively in danger of being too plentiful in the markets of the United States, and of foreign countries. But the vine cultivation will also be important in employing the population and laborers south of the 40th degree (with cotton, rice, and sugar,) so as to leave the more of the culture of grain, and the breeding of working and meat cattle, and the catching of sea fish, to the states north of the 39th degree.

A measure of manifest importance to the thorough investigation of our capacity and actual inceptions in the vine and wine business, is now proposed to be suggested to all persons of experience in the culture of the grape vine, and the manufacture of wine, in those parts of the United States where the vine cultivation has been attempted, on a great or small scale. The respectable gentleman who superintends the vineyards at our American Vevay, has happily led the way. In the second number of this series his interesting statement is given. It will serve as a guide to those who may follow him, which they may use to advantage, adding whatever has occurred within their own experience, or in their observations upon their neighbors and their books. It appears that a difference of two weeks between the crop time or vintage of Vevay, and Glasgow in Kentucky, is stated. The latter place is supposed to be a little more than one hundred miles due south of Vevay. The difference of two weeks in the time of gathering is therefore worthy of attentive consideration. It is observed that the country in which our Glasgow is situated is called barren country. If the name has been given from the inferiority of the soil, compared with the better counties, then the success of the vine in soil lighter (if it so be) than that of Vevay, and with a degree and a half more of southing, and perhaps in a dryer, or even an arid country, would be matters of curiosity and of interest. The history of "the great tun of Glasgow" Mr. Merchod's large cask, and of his vineyard, from the beginning, with its present state and prospects, would be useful and entertaining to the public. An account of the scuppernon, & other grapes of North and South Carolina, especially in the vicinity of Raleigh and Columbia, would be also of much interest; and the more so, because it is considered by persons of experience and observation that there is a strong similarity of temperature, and a sufficiency in soil, between the French Claret, Sauterne, Grave, and Hermitage wine country, and our country in the two Carolinas, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, & Mississippi, and westward in the whole 34 and 35th degrees of N. latitude.

We shall conclude this paper by a few remarks intended to remove those doubts and those objections which prudence, or the interest of judicious foreigners, of countries which now have the profits of supplying us with wines, brandies, and dried fruits, very naturally offer. It is no longer a speculation in the possible or probable fitness of our climate, soil, and country, for the various kinds of grapes and wines. We find in Cohaula from 26 to 32 in our hemisphere, on our continent, in the northern section of it, in a new and much wooded country, between the Atlantic and the Pacific, that the vine succeeds, in quantity and quality, though prohibited by the government.

We find, also, that, in a place so far north as Vevay, five hundred gallons have been produced by the acre of land, and that the vine is equally prosperous at Harmony, in Indiana; and more so at Glasgow, in Kentucky. The fitness of the intermediate country, in the proper situations, which offer to us in every county, cannot be doubted. It is respectfully recommended, that the assistants of the marshals in the United States be directed to enquire into and report every case of a regular vineyard, great or small, at which wine has been regularly manufactured, of what age and kind of grape, in what quantity, and of what quality and color.

A Friend to the National Industry. Philadelphia, Nov. 6, 1819.

PRINTING.

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, CARDS, HANDBILLS, BLANKS, AND CIRCULARS, NEATLY EXECUTED AT THIS OFFICE.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of North-Carolina.

GENTLEMEN,

The receipts at the Treasury of North-Carolina, for the year commencing with the first day of November 1818, and ending with the 31st of October 1819, embracing sundry payments of arrearages and the public taxes of every description, which became due and payable at the Treasury within that period; together with the Dividends declared by our three several Banks on the stock or shares held in them respectively by this State, and the purchase money or proceeds of the vacant and unappropriated lands, lately entered and paid for; amount to one hundred and forty seven thousand and thirty four dollars and sixty cents; (147,034 60.)

To this sum, the balance remaining in the Treasury on the first day of November 1818, and thereafter to be accounted for, as reported by the Comptroller to the last General Assembly, being added, to wit: One hundred and twenty-five thousand, two hundred and thirty-four dollars and fifty-eight cents and one quarter; makes an aggregate or sum total, of two hundred and seventy-two thousand, two hundred and sixty-nine dollars and eighteen cents and one fourth of a cent, (272,269, 18 1-4.)

From this aggregate sum, disbursements have been made within the period first above mentioned, to amount of one hundred and twenty-five thousand, nine hundred and ninety-one dollars and five cents and a quarter, (\$125,991 5 1-4.) The vouchers for which are in the hands of the Comptroller, and are of course ready for the inspection and examination of the committee of finance.

This expenditure, taken from the sum total above mentioned, will be found to leave a balance of one hundred and forty six thousand, two hundred and seventy eight dollars & thirteen cents, (146,278 13,) remaining in the Treasury of this State, on the first day of November inst. say on the first day of November 1819, yet to be accounted for.

For a specification of the several items, forming or composing the receipt above mentioned, the Treasurer would ask leave to refer to the printed statement prepared by the comptroller for the use of the Members of the General Assembly.

It will be perceived from the above, that the disbursements at the Treasury in 1819, have been greater than the fund or balance remaining on hand and reported as aforesaid, in the year 1818, by the sum of seven hundred and fifty six dollars and forty seven cents, and that sum or amount was therefore, and of necessity, paid out of the taxes of the present year: And when to this circumstance is added the probability that several of the Navigation Companies, on whose books the State has ordered subscriptions to be made, and who have not been as yet in a situation to claim, will possibly apply for instalments in course of the year 1820: And when it is borne in mind likewise, that there are salaries and other known and contingent expenses, which operated and had a bearing on the Treasury, for, and during a part only of the last year; but which must be fully provided for and paid throughout the whole of the current year: the Legislature alone can best determine, whether it may not be expedient to authorize the Public Treasurer for the time being to borrow of one of the Banks, the sum which shall be found necessary to cover any deficiency of funds which may possibly happen to occur, before the coming in of the public taxes of the next year.

The nett amount of the Dividends declared by the State Bank on the shares held in it by North Carolina as above mentioned, (after deducting the interest retained by that corporation as due to it under the act of Assembly of 1811, on account of the unpaid for shares of the State up to December last,) was twenty thousand, one hundred and sixteen dollars and thirty six cents; (\$20,116 36) which sum was paid over to the Public Treasurer by the Bank, in money of the emissions of 1783 and 1785, and was thereupon burnt and destroyed, the law directs.

Before closing this part of my Report I may be permitted to say, that I should feel wanting towards all concerned were I not to add, that notwithstanding the pressure of the times and that scarcity of money which are so generally complained of, the public taxes have been paid with a promptness and punctuality highly honorable to the accounting Officers, and no less creditable to the citizens of the

State generally. In no one year have greater faithfulness on the part of the accounting Officers, nor more readiness on the part of the People, been manifested; and the consequence has been that there is not a Sheriff in the state who has not proved himself trust worthy and deserving as the Collector of public monies: All have attended in person or have sent to the Treasury, and all have settled in full, except in one or two instances, where inconsiderable balances remain due.

Pursuant to the directions of the last General Assembly, and growing out of the subscriptions then made by some of the Members, on behalf of the state, and by the Public Treasurer, nineteen additional shares have been had and obtained for this state, in the stock of the State Bank of North-Carolina; all of which have been fully paid for.

In the discharge of my official duty in that regard, I have taken care that the state should be duly and ably represented in all the General Meetings of the Stockholders of the several Navigation Companies, in which North-Carolina holds shares.—The works of these Companies have progressed, and as I am informed, promise as favorable results, in most instances, as might be expected, the want of experience in business of that sort, and the novelty of such undertakings among us, considered. I would most willingly here dismiss this subject, were it not that the duty I owe the state would seem to point out & to urge on me the necessity of adding, that it is a fact known to many and one much to be lamented, that the failure on the part of a number of Stockholders, in most of the Navigation Companies, regularly to pay up their instalments, whilst it would seem to be without excuse, is an evil of the most serious sort; and one which cannot fail to retard and jeopardize these undertakings, so vitally interesting and important in their nature and consequences, and to which the public look forward with such anxiety and high expectation: It is obvious that the prospects of the state cannot fail to be clouded, and its respectability and interest seriously and injuriously affected, should such failures continue to occur and be tolerated: but whether there be an effectual remedy for this great and growing evil, and of what kind or nature it is must rest with this General Assembly to determine: Having been long and well acquainted with many Members of each of the several Directories, the high sense I entertain of their personal worth and integrity, as well as the entire and unbounded confidence I have in them; utterly forbids the admission that any blame whatever, in this regard, is imputable to them or to any of them; and therefore I am bound to conclude, were I to risk an opinion, that the remedy in this alarming and highly interesting case (as the evil unquestionably exists and would seem to be growing) must be sought through further Legislating on the subject.

In continuation of this report, it remains that I ask leave to lay before and submit to this General Assembly, a couple of notes; the one written by me on the first day of October last, in my official capacity, and addressed to the President of the Branch of the United States' Bank, at Fayetteville; and the other written by the President of that Bank, and being in reply or answer to mine.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, much and respectfully, your obedient servant.

JOHN HAYWOOD, Pub. Treas. Raleigh, Nov. 23, 1819.

The sum of eleven hundred and twenty-five dollars, being the amount of a dividend of 7 1-2 per cent. declared by the "Cape-Fear Navigation Company," about the beginning of the last summer, on the stock held in that Company by North-Carolina, although it is included in the Receipt first above mentioned, was unintentionally and by accident omitted to be noticed in the enumeration of the sources of Revenue from which that Receipt is formed or made up: And although this omission occasions no error, nor does it affect or vary the calculations or sums above mentioned, yet it is thought proper here to notice it, in justice to the Company by which that dividend was declared.

J. H.

IN SENATE.

Thursday, Nov. 25.

On motion of Mr. Dick, the committee of finance was instructed to enquire into the expediency of repealing or modifying the 4th section of the act of last session laying a tax on sales at auction.

Friday, Nov. 26.

Mr. Shober, introduced a resolution instructing the committee on internal im-

provement to enquire into the expediency of changing the existing mode of keeping in repair public roads, &c. Passed and sent to the other house.

Two bills from the House of Commons, one to appoint commissioners to run the dividing line between the counties of Duplin and Onslow, and the other to increase the fees of the Surveyor of Currituck county, were read the first time and returned.

Saturday, Nov. 27.

Mr. Gaston, from the committee on the judiciary, reported a bill to authorize the Courts of Pleas and Quarter Sessions to appoint special justices. Read the first time and sent to the Commons.

Mr. Wade, of Randolph, introduced a resolution instructing the committee on the judiciary to enquire whether any alterations are necessary to be made respecting the Supreme Court; and whether more than adequate salaries are allowed to the judges. Read and sent to the House of Commons.

Mr. Gaston, from the judicial committee, reported a bill to compel, more effectually, the officers therein named to pass over monies received by them in virtue or colour of their office. Read and sent to the House of Commons.

Mr. Davidson, presented a bill to repeal the act of 1817, concerning promissory notes and other negotiable papers.

Monday, Nov. 29.

Mr. Wade's resolutions relative to the State Bank, were taken up, and after a slight modification agreed to without dissent.

Tuesday, Nov. 30.

Mr. Williams, from the financial committee made an unfavorable report on the bill to repeal the system of land tax, and bringing it back to the old method. Agreed, to 34 to 28.

The bill for the appointment of special justices, was postponed indefinitely.

Thursday, Dec. 2.

The Senate were engaged nearly the whole of this day, in committee of the whole, Mr. Atkinson, of Person, in the Chair, on Mr. Cameron's Resolutions for calling a Convention—Mr. Cameron occupied the floor about an hour and a half, in their favor. He was followed by Mr. Connor, of Iredell also in favour—Mr. Frazer of Hertford, and Mr. Gaston of Craven, replied. About two o'clock the committee rose and obtained leave to sit again.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Friday, Nov. 26.

On motion of Mr. Ramsay, it was proposed that the Governor be requested, on the arrival and reception at this place, of the Statue of Gen. George Washington, to present to the University of this State, the Portrait of the General now in possession of the General Assembly. Referred to the Committee in relation to the Statue.

Mr. Williamson, presented a bill to amend the Patrol Laws.

Received from the Senate, a bill to repeal part of an act passed at last session, to increase Constables fees in certain counties therein mentioned; and

A bill sent from this House declaring the manner in which the vote of the State shall hereafter be given in the election of Directors of the State Bank; which was referred to the Committee on the Banks, &c.

Monday, Nov. 29.

Received from the Senate, a Resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to enquire whether any, and if any, what alterations are necessary to be made respecting the Supreme Court, and whether the compensation allowed to the Judges be more than adequate for their services; and that the committee report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Iredell, presented a bill to prevent frauds in the revocation of last Wills and Testaments.

Tuesday, Nov. 30.

Received also from the Senate a Resolution of the Committee of Finance, to whom was referred the bill to repeal an act passed in 1818, fixing the sum hereafter to be paid to the State for vacant lands, recommending the rejection of the bill—Concurred with.

Mr. Hilman, from the Committee to whom was referred, the bill to amend the Patrol Laws, made a Report, recommending that the bill be amended by striking out the whole after the words, *Be it enacted*, and inserting in lieu thereof an amendment which he produced, which was agreed to, and the bill passed its first reading.

The following bills were presented: By Mr. L. Martin, a bill to prevent fraudulent trading with Negroes:

Mr. Graham, a bill to alter the mode of electing Sheriffs, (by the people, instead of the county courts;) and