

# Carolina Sentinel

VOL. X.

NEWBERN, N. C. SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1828.

NO. 519.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, BY  
**WATSON & MACHEN,**  
at \$3 per annum—half payable in advance.

## THE LAST HOURS OF WASHINGTON.

From the *Curtain Recollections, and Private Memoirs of the Life and Character of Washington.*

Twenty-eight years have passed away, since an interesting group were assembled in the Death-room, and witnessed the last hours of Washington. So keen and unsparring hath been the scythe of Time, that, of all those who watched over the Patriarch's couch, on the 13 and 14th of December, 1799, but a single person survives.

On the morning of the 13th, the General was engaged in making some improvements in front of Mount Vernon. As usual with him, he carried his own compass, noted his observations, and marked out the ground. The day became rainy, with sleet, and the improvidence remained so long exposed to the inclemency of the weather, as to be considerably wetted before his return to the house. About one o'clock, he was seized with chilliness and nausea, but having changed his clothes, he sat down to his in-door work—there being no moment of his time for which he had not provided an appropriate employment.

At night, on joining his family circle, the General complained of slight indisposition, and, after a single cup of tea, repaired to his library, where he remained writing until between eleven and twelve o'clock. Mrs. Washington retired about the usual family hour, but becoming alarmed at not hearing the accustomed sound of the library door, as it closed for the night, and gave signal for rest in the well regulated mansion, she arose again, and continued sitting up, in much anxiety and suspense. At length, the well known step was heard on the stair, and upon the General's entering his chamber, the lady kindly chided him for remaining up so late, knowing himself to be unwell; to which Washington made this memorable reply: "I came so soon as my business was accomplished. You well know, that, thro' a long life it has been my unvaried habit never to put off till the morrow the duties which should be performed to-day."

Having first covered up the fire with care, the man of mighty labors at last sought repose; but it came not as it had long been wont to do, to comfort and restore, after the many and earnest occupations of the well-spent day. The night was passed in feverish restlessness and pain. "Tired nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep," was destined no more to visit his couch; yet the manly sufferer uttered no complaint, would permit no one to be disturbed in his rest, on his account, and was only at day-break would consent that the Overseer might be called in, and bleeding resorted to. A vein was opened, but without affording relief. Couriers were despatched to summon Dr. Craik, the family, and Drs. Dick and Brown, as consulting Physicians, all of whom came with speed. The proper remedies were administered, but without producing their healing effects, while the patient, yielding to the anxious looks of all around him, waived his usual objection to medicines, and took those which were prescribed, without hesitation or remark. The medical gentlemen spared not their skill, and all the resources of their art were exhausted in unwearied endeavors to preserve this noblest work of nature.

Night approached—the last night of Washington; the weather became severely cold, while the group gathered nearer to the couch of the sufferer, watching, with intense anxiety, for the slightest dawning of hope. He spoke but little. To the respectful and affectionate inquiries of an old family servant, as she smoothed down his pillow, how he felt himself, he answered, "I am very ill." To Dr. Craik, his earliest companion in arms, longest tried, and most trusted friend, he observed: "I am dying, Sir—but am not afraid to die." To Mrs. Washington, he said: "Go to my escritoire, and in the private drawer you will find two papers—bring them to me." They were brought. He continued: "These are my wills—preserve this one, and burn the other." Which was immediately done. Calling to Col. Lear, he directed: "Let my corpse be kept for the usual period of three days."

Here we would beg leave to remind our readers, that, in a former part of this work, we have said that Washington was old-fashioned in much of his habits and manners; and in some of his opinions: nor was he the less to be admired on those accounts. The custom of keeping the dead for the scriptural period of three days, is derived from remote antiquity, and arose, not from fear of premature interment, as in more modern times, but from motives of veneration toward the deceased; for the better enabling the relatives and friends to assemble from a distance, to perform the funeral rites; and for the pious watchings of the corpse; and for the many sad, yet endearing ceremonies with which we delight to pay our last duties to the remains of those we have loved.

The patient bore his acute sufferings with many fortitude, and perfect resignation to the Divine will; while, as the night advanced, it became evident that he was sinking, and he seemed fully aware that his hour was night. He inquired the time, and it was answered, a few moments to twelve. He spoke no more—the hand of death was upon him, and he was conscious that his hour was come. With surprising self-possession, he prepared to die. Composing his form at length, and folding his hands upon his bosom—without a sigh—without a groan—the Father of his Country expired gently as though an infant died. No pang or struggle told, when the noble spirit took its noiseless flight; while, so tranquil appeared the manly features in the repose of death, that some moments had passed ere those around could believe that the Patriarch was no more.

It may be asked, and why was the ministry of religion wanted to shed its peaceful and benignant lustre upon the last hours of Washington? Why was he, to whom the observances of sacred things were ever primary duties, through life, without their consolations in his last moments? We answer, circumstances did not permit. It was but for a little while that the disease assumed so threatening a character as to forbid the encouragement of hope; yet, to stay still farther length of days to him whose "time-honored life" was so dear to mankind, prayer was not wanting to the Throne of Grace. Close to the couch of the sufferer, resting her head upon that ancient book, with which she

had been wont to hold pious communion, a portion of every day, for more than half a century, was the venerable consort, absorbed in silent prayer, and from which she only arose when the mourning group prepared to bear her from the chamber of the dead. Such were the last hours of Washington.

NOTE.—We understand that the publication of *Recollections and Private Memoirs of the Life and Character of the Pater Patrie*, which has been for some time expected by the American public, is delayed from the author not being as yet enabled to avail himself of the kind and paternal invitation of General Lafayette, to visit La Grange, where the valuable memoranda, to be obtained from the lips and papers of the good General, have long since been tendered to the author's acceptance. When we recollect that the venerable Patriarch of La Grange is the only survivor of the military family of Washington so far back as 1777; and, with two exceptions, of the whole military family of the Chief, is the war of the Revolution, we can duly estimate the importance of the truths which Lafayette can divulge, touching the life and character of the Pater Patrie in the momentous period of our days of trial. We learn, however, that, in the mean time, the *Recollections* are progressing, and that the work receives contributions from various and venerable sources, and consisting of details, anecdotes, and private memoirs, heretofore unpublished.

## COTTON.

From the Liverpool Albion, December 31.  
**Present state and future prospects of the Cotton Market.**—We propose, according to our annual custom, to make a few remarks on the above interesting commercial topic. The statement of the brokers will be made up in the course of to-day; and the announcement of the stock is looked for by the holders and speculators with an anxiety commensurate with the interests which they have at stake. On the favourable or unfavourable character of those statements, much is generally supposed to depend. That the stock on hand will be found to be unprecedently large, no man, who has noticed the imports of cotton during the present year, and compared them with the outgoing, will feel the least surprise. But whether that stock, heavy as it undoubtedly is, will, when officially declared, depress or elevate the hopes of holders and speculators, depends, in no considerable degree, on the knowledge, the forecast, the very temperament of the individuals whose attentions has been fixed on the subject, and who have made it a matter of minute examination as to the past and of probable calculation and reasoning as to the future. The great, the engrossing question with these persons is—Will the present holder of cotton, and the future importer, realize better prices during the next than they have realized during the past year? To enable them to solve this all-important question, the declaration of the probable stock in the ports is supposed to be indispensably necessary, although the loose and unsatisfactory manner in which that stock is ascertained, renders that statement scarcely more to be depended on than the private calculations of individual importers, brokers and speculators. Still, the declaration of stock has a powerful effect on the market; and, however its accuracy may be questioned, its influence is universally felt and acknowledged.

On a question which commercial men are the most competent persons to form a decision, it would be the height of presumption in us to hazard an opinion. We shall, therefore, content ourselves with making a few general and desultory observations on the subject; observations which, whilst they cannot possibly do harm, may, in some degree, tend to the elucidation of the interesting topic which will, to-day, engage the almost exclusive attention of the mercantile classes of this great commercial town.

In our last article on this important subject, we stated, that the comparatively low prices of cotton at that period, were not likely to check production; on the contrary, we anticipated that it would increase it, because, cotton being, for the most part, the produce of slave labour, the deficiency in price would, most probably, be made up by quantity, (the season being propitious,) until the crack of the whip had forced from the slave that effort beyond which his physical strength could realize nothing more. This position has never been doubted; and recent experience confirms its correctness. Whether the superabundant crop which the U. States yielded during the years 1826 and 27, was the consequence of such forced labour on the part of the slave, and whether the utmost has been extracted from the soil which his labour can be made to produce, we have not the means of judging. We are informed, that, in addition to the large plantations, it is common for even children to clear strips of land, and to sow them with cotton seed; that they weed the plants and gather the fruit, when there is nothing else to employ their time; and, such is the accommodating character of these little crops, that the picking can be put off until all other necessary labours are at an end. This class of producers may have sprung up in consequence of the high prices of the year 1825. But, be that as it may, the system continues, and the annual amount of the crops, from whatever cause, is greatly augmented.—This is evident from the crop of cotton in the United States, during the three preceding years, for which the returns were as follow:

Total Crop of 1824-5	569,240 bales.
Do. 1825 6	720,027 "
Do. 1826-7	957,281 "

The vast and increasing consumption of cotton, in the manufacturing states of Europe, requires, it is evident, a correspondent augmentation in the production; and, although prices do not appear, at present, to keep pace with the increased consumption, no other article of general use can be fixed on which offers greater inducements to speculators and capitalists than the staple. Whether or not the prices which have been current have remunerated the planter, we know not; but we know, that too many of the importers have lost this year, money on most of their transactions in cotton. And, if the following statement, which was handed to us in October by a respectable spinner, be correct, the manufacturing department of the business has been equally unprofitable: A third seven-hand-loom calico, in October, was selling at 5s. 10d. The price of cotton, bowed, was 63d., and Peruvia, 91d. The proportions of these descriptions for twist and welt make an average of 7d. per lb. The calculation, then, is as follows:

Cotton 3½ lb. at 7d. per lb.	2 8
Add 1-5 for waste	0 5
Spinner's wages	0 7
Interest of capital in machinery, cards, incidental expenses, &c.	1 2½
Weaver's wages	1 10
Carriage to market, expenses of sale, &c.	0 3
	6 3

Leaving a loss of 5d. per piece, or 7 per cent.; 1 per cent more than the duty on the cotton.

Having made these general observations on the increased production of cotton, particularly in the United States of America, and shown that some increase was required to supply the augmenting consumption of the staple in Europe, we proceed to state some facts respecting imports, prices and stock.

The import into the United Kingdom during the present year is 860,000 Stock, 31st December, 1826, 342,500

Total	1,222,500
Estimated consumption in Great Britain,	725,000
Export,	78,000
	803,000

Estimated stock in the kingdom at present, 419,500

Prices, last year, Uplands 6½ to 7½d.	
Peruans 9½ to 10½d.	
Prices, this year, Uplands 6 to 6½d.	
Peruans 8d to 8½d.	

The prominent features in the above statement, are the great increase in the consumption; the heavy stock remaining; and the great disparity between the prices at the present and at the corresponding period of the last year. The consumption of 1826 was 175,000 bales less than during the current year.—This great increase may be partially accounted for, by supposing that more than ordinary proportions of Brazil cottons have been used, which are only half the weight of American bales. If this be the case, the great bulk of the present stock must be of the latter description; thus constituting it really heavier than at first it appears.

The question, however, whether or not cotton will advance in price, during the ensuing year, requires us to consider the subject on a wider sphere than that of the British stock and consumption alone. France and Germany are making rapid progress in the art of manufacturing cotton goods. The former wants annually a supply of upwards of 300,000 bales; it is estimated that she consumed, last year, 310,000 bales. The supposed consumption of Europe and the United States is—

Germany, Switzerland, and the Netherlands,	100,000
England,	700,000
France,	300,000
America retains for her own use,	130,000
	1,230,000

The supplies are supposed to be as follows: North America, 900,000 Brazil, 250,000 East and West Indies, Egypt, &c. 100,000

Those who have watched the market during the present year, must have observed, at different periods, that a spirit of speculation has occasionally shown itself; but no sooner had a small advantage in price been gained, than languor again seized the dealer, and prices drooped below the currency. Capitalists were too doubtful, and importers too necessitous; and the improvement was not sustained. It is certain, however, that notwithstanding the heavy stocks in the ports, some bold operators entertain a favourable opinion of a speculation in cotton; and, looking at the production and consumption abstractedly, we can readily suppose these persons have before them a flattering hypothesis as to the cause, which may tend to increase the value of the article. The only doubt in our minds on the subject, originates in the unprofitable character of trade in general, owing to the action of a combination of causes at which we can only glance. Among these may be enumerated: The great diminution of capital by former overtrading. The weight of taxation. The multiplicity of commission houses, whose system of advances and accommodation to consignors, has inundated all the known foreign markets with goods to such excess, that years will be required to run off the stocks, and to restore prices to a remunerating level. The increase of foreign manufactures, as shown by the consumption of cotton in France and the Netherlands, &c.—The present heavy stock. And, lastly, the system of national legislation, which partially shuts the English merchant out of the Indian markets and closes the continent of Europe against our manufactures. But, in spite of all these drawbacks, there is, we think, from the detail we have given of the stock, the consumption and the supply, better ground to expect improvement than to fear the decline. A revival in the foreign markets is, however, essential to a permanent improvement; and we trust that this indispensable support to the cotton market will not be long delayed.

We anticipate no reduction on imports during the next year. The same sources will, we doubt not, continue to yield the same supplies. The cotton must come to Europe. It is the chief payment which the Americans and Brazilians can make to us; and, if they exported every pound of their wool, they would still be in debt to the Europeans for manufactured goods.

Whatever may be the future prospects of the cotton market, and he must be a bold man who will undertake, after the experience of the last two years, to pronounce a dogmatical opinion on the subject, one fact is certain, that there will be no scarcity of cotton during the coming year. There will be "enough and to spare." Egypt, as was predicted twelve months ago, has ceased, for the present, to afflict the holders of cotton by sending hither any of her plagues in the shape of cotton; and the Pacha of that country is too busily engaged in war and politics to attend to agriculture and merchandise. But America will continue to pour her myriads of bales into Europe, and make up, from her superabundant stores, for any deficiency in the imports from the East.

In conclusion, it must be expected that this article, like all other descriptions of property,

\* We have before us the quantity of Cotton taken out of the Havre market alone for the last ten years.

1817 62,186	1821 122,820	1825 120,749
1818 90,049	1822 129,221	1826 186,480
1819 95,821	1823 112,625	1827 160,000
1820 96,158	1824 144,970	Stock, 50,000

The quantity taken out of Antwerp, this year, is upwards of 50,000 bales.

time at least, remain undisturbed, and that the nominal value of all commodities will be well be sensibly affected in price by the acts of this legislature in the ensuing session of Parliament. If the Government, as at present constituted, would continue to rule the destinies of England, it is possible that the rigid course of legislation adopted last year, with reference to what the economists term, the monetary system of the country, will, for some time forced down to a point of unexampled depression. If, on the contrary, any material change of the ministry should occur, or any attempt be made, by the present cabinet, to soften down that inexorable policy which limits the small-note circulation to April, 1828, we may look for an immediate and a very perceptible advance in every species of property. The uncertainty which is felt on this subject, and the vivid recollection of the ruinous consequences of frequent changes in the money arrangements of the kingdom have, by creating a strong disinclination in the minds of capitalists to invest their money in articles of commerce, produced an effect such as might have been expected from any circumstance tantamount to the annihilation of half the unemployed capital of the kingdom. The attention of importers and speculators should, therefore, be strongly directed to the position which ministers take with regard to this all-important question; and, abstracting their minds from the more obvious considerations of supply and demand of Cotton, they ought rather to watch with an observant eye those great public measures which influence the demand and the supply of Money.

## IRISH BANKING.

**The Bank of Killarney.**—In the town of Killarney was one of these banks, the proprietor of which was a kind of Saddler, whose whole stock in that trade was not worth forty shillings; but which forty shillings, (even so much, was the entire amount of his capital in the banking concern.

I once accompanied a large party of English ladies and gentlemen to that enchanting spot, where, having amused ourselves for a few days, we were on the point of returning to Dublin, when one of the party recollected that he had in his possession a handful of the saddler's paper. Accordingly we all set out, by way of sport, to have them exchanged, our principal object being to see and converse with the proprietor of such a bank.

Having entered the shop, which barely sufficed to admit the whole company, we found the banking saddler hard at work, making a straddle. One of the gentlemen thus addressed him:—

"Good morning to you, sir: I presume you are the gentleman of the house."

"At your service, ladies and gentlemen, returned the saddler.

"It is here, I understand, that the bank is kept?" continued my friend.

"You are just right, sir," replied the mechanic; "this is the Killarney Bank, for want of a better."

My friend then said:—"We are on the eve of quitting your town; and as we have some few of your notes, which will be of no manner of use to us elsewhere, I'll thank you for cash for them."

The banker replied, "Cash! please your honor vat is that? is it any thing in the leather line—I have a beautiful saddle here as ever was put across a horse; good and cheap upon my say so. How much of my notes have you, sir, if you please?"

This question required some time for an answer, calculation being necessary; at length my friend counted them out as follows:

Three notes for 5d. each,	£	s.	d.
Two do. 4d. each,	0	0	8
Two do. 6-12d. each,	0	1	1
Two do. 8-12d. each, three fourths of a thirteen,	0	2	1-2
Two do. 3d. each,	0	1	6
One do. 1s. 1d. or one thirteen,	0	1	1
One do. 1s. 6d.,	0	1	6
One do. for 2s. 3-12d. or three thirteens and a half,	0	3	9-12
	£0	15	9

"There, sir," said he, "are no less than sixteen of our promises to pay, for the amazingly large sum of fifteen shillings and nine pence, sterling money."

By the powers, then, it's yer honour may say that thing; for if ailing means true to the bone, its the Killarney notes will keep out for the year round, without no changing at all at."

"No doubt, no doubt," said our spokesman; "but we are upon the eve of departure, and shall require change on our journey."

"Ye will require that same thing sure enough; but, I vow to my God, I have no more silver money in the place nor four tinpence and a few harpurs, as isn't worth yer lordship's notice."

"Good Heaven, sir," returned the gentleman, "how is it possible that you can carry on the banking business on so slender a capital?"

"O, by the hokey! sisy enough, my dear," replied the banker; "the cratur is delighted to have my beautiful notes; for there is very little other money stirring in these parts, and they buy their potatoes and butter-milk with them; and may be a sheep and pig or two, now and then; and so the notes pass on from one to the other very comfortably."

"But you are continually liable to have them sent in upon you for their value," observed one of the company.

"That's true enough, yer wurchip! whenever any one of the farmers wants a horse collar, or a straddle or other harness, they brings me a handful of the paper; and it's myself aiver refuses to give them a good article in exchange." "Do you mean to say, then," continued the gentleman, "that your notes are never required to be Cash'd?"

"Cash'd!" echoed the banker; "is it changed ye mane?"

"Certainly," replied the querist.

"It's that same is a great expense to me! The cratur brings me back the notes when they get old and ragged; and it's myself never yet refused to change them for beautiful new ones, fresh from Dublin city; and I put's my name to them to make them go the faster."

Here the whole party finding it impossible to restrain their mirth, set up a loud shout of laughter; upon which the banker thus continued—

"Upon my say so, I'm right glad to find so worchippful's company enjoy their merriment; but's myself knows well the power of mon it costs to get them engraved so beautiful, an. to

get them printed on such nice thick paper—aye, 500 at a time."

"Do you mean to say, then (said the first Gentleman,) that the holders of your notes never demand the lawful money of your country in exchange for them?"

"Sure, yer Lordship, isn't the notes themselves lawful enough any how? But is it siliver you mane?"

"Certainly," returned the querist. "Oh, by the powers," replied the Banker, "the people hereabouts wouldn't insult me by asking the question; if they did may be the bank would stop payment; and then there would be no money at all at all. No, they would be sorry to do any such thing; they give the notes to one another, when they're tired o'keeping them, or when they want to buy any thing. I get more bodher, axing yer Honour's pardon, on changing the notes for the gentry as comes to see the Lakes, than from all the rest o' my paper put together. The big Devil fly away with the Lakes of Killarney!"

"Then, I presume, Sir," said the gentleman, holding out the notes, "we have no occasion to waste more time in endeavouring to obtain payment for this parcel of paper of yours?" "I should be sorry, most noble," returned the Banker, "to waste any more of your Lordship's time or of those sweet beautiful ladies and gentlemen; but, I have an illigant bridle here, as isn't to be matched in Yoorup, Aishy, Afrikey, or Merikey; its lowest price is 15s. 6½d.—we'll say 15s. 6d to yer Lordship. If ye'll be pleased to accept of it, there will be two pence half penny or three penny note coming to yer Lordship; and that will close the business at once?"

"Really, Sir," said the gentleman laughing, "I have no occasion for the bridle; it would be an incumbrance to me."

"May I have the bouldness, then, to ax when your Lordship will have town?" Inquired the banker.

"Our carriages are at the door of the inn," replied the gentleman, "and we only wait for the adjustment of this affair with your bank."

"How unfortunate!" exclaimed the banker, scratching his head; "but, as neither a saddle nor bridle lie in yer Lordship's way, if we could but just delay yer journey till the Cork mill comes in, I expect, by the coach, a thirty-shilling Bank of Ireland; and then we'll settle the business in a jiffy, though upon my deed and deed, and double deed! you have no occasion to be in the least dread or uneasiness about the notes; because, d'ye see as how, there is not a banker from this to Dublin, ay, or to Galway, that would not be proud to take Jack Ryan's paper."

"That is not so very certain, my good fellow," returned one of the gentlemen; "the people on the road know us to be strangers, and they will require payment in the legal coin of the realm."

"Pray, Sir," said the banker, eagerly, does your honor mane to take the road to Mill-tree? because, as how, you must go that way any how, there being no other. Oh! then, it is there Mr. Cotter will be glad to see so fine a company at his alligant hotel; and joyful will he be to entertain you with the best, both for man and horse, for the notes of the Killarney Bank."

"It being in vain to think of any exchange of this non-circulating medium, the English gentleman not attaching the same importance to it as the banker, the party wished him a good morning, and took their leave; laughing heartily at the adventure."

It is an ill wind, however, which blow nobody good; when the party arrived at the inn door, they found the carriage surrounded by nearly 200 unfortunate mendicants; amongst whom the gentlemen let fly their notes, in order to have a passage cleared; and took their departure whilst the miserable creatures were scrambling for the alms.—*Clubs of London.*

## IRVING'S COLUMBUS.

The following is the first chapter of the 24 book of the *Life of Columbus*, which is now in press and will be published next month, by Messrs. G. & C. Carvill. It relates an incident in the life of Columbus not to be found in the common biographies of that great man, and being told in the agreeable manner which is characteristic of Mr. Irving's writings, will be perused with pleasure by our readers.

**First arrival of Columbus in Spain.**—It is interesting to notice the first arrival of Columbus in that country, which was to become the scene of his glory, and which he was to render so powerful and illustrious by his discoveries. In this, we meet with one of those striking and instructive contrasts which occur in his eventful history. The first trace we have of him in Spain, is the testimony furnished a few years after his death, in the celebrated law suit between his son Don Diego and the crown, by Garcia Fernandez, a physician resident in the little seaport of Palos de Maguen, in Andalusia. About half a league from that town stood, and stands at the present day, an ancient convent of Franciscan friars, dedicated to Santa Maria de Rabida. According to the testimony of the physician, a stranger, on foot, accompanied by a small boy, stopped one day at the gate of the convent, and asked of the porter a little bread and water for his child. While receiving this humble refreshment, the prior of the convent, Friar Juan Perez de Marchena, happening to pass by, was struck with the appearance of the stranger, and observing from his air and accent that he was a foreigner, entered into conversation with him, and soon learnt the particulars of his story. That stranger was Columbus, accompanied by his young son Diego. Where he had come from does not clearly appear; that he was in destitute circumstances is evident from the mode of his wayfaring; he was on his way to the neighboring town of Huelon, to seek his brother-in-law, who had married a sister of his deceased wife.

The prior was a man of extensive information. His attention had been turned in some measure to geographical and nautical science, probably from his vicinity to Palos, the inhabitants of which were among the most enterprising navigators of Spain, and made frequent voyages to the recent discovered islands and countries on the African coast. He was greatly interested by the conversation of Columbus, and struck with the grandeur of his views. It was a remarkable occurrence in the monotonous life of the cloister, to have a man of such singular character, intent on so extraordinary an enterprise, applying for bread and water at the gate of his convent. He detained him as