

The Newbernian.

VOL. I.

NEWBERN, N. C., SATURDAY, 15th JULY, 1843.

NO. 4.

TERMS:

The *NEWBERNIAN* is published weekly by **Machen & Hall**, at three dollars per annum, in advance. All orders for this paper out of the State, must be accompanied with the cash or a responsible reference. Advertisements inserted at seventy-five cents a square for the first insertion, and thirty-seven and a half cents for each subsequent publication. Any alteration made in a published advertisement, at the request of the advertiser, shall subject him to the usual charge for a first insertion. Court Orders, and Judicial advertisements will be charged twenty-five per cent. higher than the rates specified above; and yearly advertisements, thirty-three and a third per cent. lower. **UNPAID LETTERS**, addressed to "The *Newbernian*," will not, in any case, be taken from the postoffice.

AN ADDRESS

Delivered at the Methodist E. Church, Newbern, N. C., at the anniversary of the "Female Benevolent Society of Newbern," on the 4th July 1843.—By **REV. WM. E. PELL.**

(PUBLISHED BY REQUEST.)

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

The object which has brought us together has enough of interest thrown around it, to excite the sympathies of the patriot, the philanthropist, and the Christian, apart from the stirring associations of our nation's birthday. Yet, while our thoughts may be directed to subjects of the deepest possible interest, we are not to forget the general joy in which millions of our fellow-citizens participate, on the return of this day.

There is a charm in every thing connected with the history of one's own native land, which serves to interest and delight; but the feeling is heightened in the bosom of every citizen of these United States, when time's revolving wheel turns upon us the glad hour, which brings vividly before the mind, those struggles of our patriot fathers for liberty; and when as it were, we are made spectators of those scenes in which we witnessed the convulsive throes, and the up-heavings of a nation's subdued, yet restless, and at length triumphant courage, which burst the fetters of the tyrant, and trampled his shivered and broken sceptre in the dust! Who can resist the swelling emotion kindled in his heart, by the sound of its morning thunders, which mutter out in solemn tones the soft tread of twilight, as it comes forth from the east, proclaiming the approach of this day of days? And then comes the display of troops; and the sweet stirring notes of joyous music; and the lengthened procession; and the voice of prayer, piercing the ears of Deity,—burdened with a nation's grateful remembrance of mercies past; and the patriotic oration; and the cheerful festival.

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead," who, upon reviewing the proofs of his nation's glory, and witnessing the tokens of his nation's gratitude, does not proudly exclaim, "This is my own, my native land?" Patriotism, truthfully answers, *not one!*

We meet not now, to celebrate the anniversary of a great political event,—of a civil revolution upon the grandest scale; which, in its character astounded the world, and whose results must tell upon man's destiny to the latest generation. But our design is, to bring in review the organization of an institution, though modest in its pretensions, yet, truly effective in the circle of its operations, in its "work of faith and labor of love;" and which, while it may not attract the gaze of a selfish world, or elicit the applause of the populace, will ever be an object of the deepest interest to God, to angels, and to all good men.

It was an opportune suggestion, which fixed the annual meetings of the "Female Benevolent Society of Newbern," upon a day, hallowed by so many delightful associations, and embalmed in the hearts of Americans by events the most noble, benevolent and patriotic. That, which first claimed our thoughts on this day, was the work of the harder sex, to secure liberty of action and freedom of opinion to an enslaved people;—this, the labor of the more delicate and tender, to rescue the weak, and the afflicted and the poor of their own sex, from the unfeeling grasp of penury and want, and peradventure, from the slavery of moral degradation and ruin! Both were achievements of the highest moral sublimity. The one, gleaming out in all its glory and grandeur,—rising in strength and majesty, like

the sun in mid-heavens, a wonder to all eyes,—proclaiming a jubilee to the nation: the other, shedding upon us the benignant rays of heavenly light, reflected as they are converged, and softened, and sweetened in woman's heart,—whispering peace to the disconsolate, and relief to the distressed.

We need scarcely remark here, that this institution has now attained its sixth year. That it has, through "weal and woe," pursued "the noiseless tenor of its way," carrying out punctiliously the designs of its organization; and that we are now to recount its labors and its toils; to give it our hearty congratulations upon its success; and to send it forth strengthened with means to do yet more efficiently its work of charity and duty.

Since its establishment, the Managers by their commendable zeal and diligence, have collected, and disbursed to the objects contemplated by the constitution, about \$1000; their annual receipts averaging about \$166. This has required on their part much labor and sacrifice, for which they are entitled to the hearty thanks of the benevolent in our community. They have gladly and gratuitously bestowed their efforts in this work, feeling that they have been amply remunerated in the gratification they have had, in relieving the wants of the needy and the helpless. The only abatement of the pleasure they have enjoyed, has arisen from the fact, that their means have been too slender to furnish, as extensively as was desired, relief to many worthy cases which came under their notice. But then, even with such small resources, who can calculate the amount of suffering which has been mitigated and removed by these messengers of mercy? Who can determine the quantum of comfort which has been administered, in hours of deepest affliction, to the heart of the widowed mother? How many a friendless one, has been sheltered, and warmed, and fed, and clothed, through the agency of this institution? The records of eternity alone will reveal it, when the contributors to this worthy enterprise, and these dispensers of their bounty, shall receive their reward.

But the character and designs of this institution are fully known to you. Explanatory notices, of its plans of operation or the arguments by which its claims have been supported, cannot now need amplification. Indeed, one would think, that explanation alone would have been sufficient to recommend it to public favor. Yet, we marvel not, that argument and persuasion have been necessary, to give success to its efforts. Nay more, that its friends have had to fight it into favor; since in the ordinary course of things, that which is noblest, and best and most worthy, always meets with a jeer or a jibe, if not determined opposition, from this censorious and pitiless world. And opposition it has had,—though there may have been no show of open hostility; no formidable array of force to crush it. But still the chance-fires of the enemy were kept up at long intervals behind the batteries; till of late, the roar is hushed. Now, we have not to try a spear or break a lance with them. The arena has been cleared before us by chivalrous knights, well-harnessed for the conflict. We only remark, 'tis passing strange, that any one should have risked an engagement!—that at least, any of the sterner sex should have entered the lists at such fearful odds,—should have dared to encounter woman's invincible courage, backed by her smiles or her tears. But the battle is over,—and now the friends of benevolence have the field, and enjoy the full rewards of victory.

The prosperity which has attended the labors of this Society, in the midst of so many discouragements, is matter of unfeigned rejoicing. Originating as it did in the warm glow of woman's beneficence, it required nothing but an activity and a perseverance peculiarly her own, to give it success. Sending out its ready agents into the different wards of our town, no door has been passed where the hand of charity was open; nor has the most humble hovel been overlooked where relief was needed. Nor have they been baffled by the indifference of some or the chidings of others. Through heat and cold, wet and dry, they have gone upon their errand of mercy, to pour the balm of consolation into the wounded heart, and to dry up the tears of the sorrowful and afflicted. The unprotected and the helpless have found in them a ready heart to relieve and a willing hand to sustain. Nor has it been a question with them, as "to what sect they belonged,"—or "with what family are they

connected," but, "are they needy and deserving?" But while they have been ready so far as their ability allowed, to help the afflicted and the distressed, they have not been backward to inculcate the necessity of industrious and virtuous habits, as the only hope of countenance and support from this institution. Noble work this,—worthy of such agents! Blessed dispensers of charity, worth of such a work!

In multiplicity of objects which present themselves at this day, for public charity, it can hardly be supposed that all have an equal claim upon our sympathy and support. It cannot be doubted that some are of less utility and importance than others; and it is not improbable that some professedly benevolent enterprises of the age, are of questionable tendency; yet the utmost caution should be observed in judging of the claims of each. Better give heed to the cry of all, than close your ears to the wallings of one truly deserving. That there are objections made to many enterprises of this character, should not deter us from sustaining the most worthy; nor should small objections lead us to discard any. These we know are not wanting in large measure, even in seasons of great temporal prosperity; not to mention the clamors of complaint which come up from a thousand lips, under circumstances of great pecuniary pressure. But it becomes every one to prepare himself for these. He should resolutely resist the influence which, under such a state of things, objections of the most unworthy and ill-founded character exert upon him; and which are too frequently resorted to, to cover his indisposition to sustain a good enterprise, or to cloak his covetousness. Whatever importance may be given to many of the reasons urged against any particular institution, the one most frequently brought forward, is based upon the most slender grounds. The want of means,—the hardness of the times, and such like, need not be paraded against the exercise of our charitable feelings. We candidly affirm it as our deliberate judgment, that the ability to support every worthy measure which proposes the good of our race, is entirely within our reach, even in the midst of embarrassments altogether unparalleled in the world's history. The languishing condition of some, is therefore to be traced to other causes than this, unless the want of ability has grown out of a culpable extravagance or indolence. In that case, our guilt becomes two-fold; and the curse of God must rest upon us, if His cause should faint and die, on account of our criminal indulgence of these propensities.

But we unhesitatingly assume, that no solid or reasonable objection can lie against the institution whose claims we advocate to-day. We claim for this enterprise, entire freedom from the shadow of an objection.—And that none of sufficient consequence can be urged to thwart its efforts, or retard its progress in this community, is evident from the consideration, that bad as the times have been, it has gone on and prospered; and prosper it must, while, with the Divine blessing, it is conducted with the zeal and the energy which have hitherto characterized it. No, ladies and gentlemen! you cannot look with indifference upon the interesting spectacle, which the toils of its active agents and the designs of the institution present to your view. While you have watched their movements, and marked the good which has been effected, you have not found it in your hearts to withhold the needed support. Nor will you, while you have bosoms which heave with interest for suffering humanity, and purses that yield to the pleadings of helpless innocence.

Consider the causes which operated in the formation of this Society. Poverty in its most haggard and hopeless form, had pressed its heavy hand upon a portion of our population, the most helpless and forlorn, incapable of relieving themselves by an honest and virtuous bearing, and upon those too, who had none to help and but few to pity. Yes, that form of poverty too, which if not relieved or cured, so often brings its victim to disgrace and ruin. Disease, wasting, and blighting all the cherished hopes of support by personal effort, had in many cases, hung over its subjects clouds of darkness and death, while no kind hand of relief was near.—What was to be done? Shall virtuous innocence expire, and those who were once lovely and hopeful be left to perish, in a land like ours? Never, no never! In devising a remedy, what so likely to remove the burden,—to give hope to the disconsolate and forsaken, as an association of this

kind? But the sufferers were females,—females respected for their virtues but nevertheless friendless, because they were poor. Who so likely to feel for them,—who, so well prepared to do for them, as persons of their own sex, and especially such as we find connected with this association. We grant, that man's heart, hard and unfeeling as it is wont to be, is moved at scenes of human woe, and melts at the story of woman's sorrow; but then unlike woman, his heart does not break and overrun with tenderest sympathy at the miseries which the unprotected female is often called upon to bear. And then, who does not remember, when disease, unrelenting and pitiless, was preying upon the system, what a thrill of emotion rushed upon the heart, when the soft, sweet accents of woman's voice fell upon the ear, and her own tender hand pressed the head, racked and raging with pain. Woman is in her own province, when her hand is turned to relieve the necessities of the afflicted, and when her eye is moistened with a tear pressed out of her heart by the woes of human kind. Here, it is, she is most lovely and most amiable; and then it is, that fancy's dreams of woman's worth, and beauty, and benevolence, are made real.

While, however, we congratulate the conductors of this enterprise upon the prosperity which has crowned their labors, it is not unbecoming to pause and enquire, whether much more might not have been done? Have the benevolent feelings of this community been brought up to the proper standard in this work? Have all borne their proper share of this delightful burden? Or has it been sustained by the few, while the many have been indifferent to its claims? It is feared that this has been too much the case. It is gratifying however to know, that the few who have rallied around this institution, are tried friends. Their contributions have been made because the demands of the Society were reasonable, and because its principles were such as meet with a hearty response in their own bosoms. They have consequently been steady and constant;—moved by principle and not by the mere excitement produced by a tale of misery, or the eloquent appeal of an agent. Here, is the secret of its stability and its progress. It has relied for its efficiency, not upon the sudden outbreak of popular feeling which is as soon allayed; but upon the more regular, and systematic and certain plan of periodical contribution. Its current therefore has been deep and steady, rather than rapid and overwhelming; and as it should be, it has borne its small treasures to the relief of the necessitous, at such intervals as would likely be best suited to the wants of suffering humanity.

But it cannot be a mooted question, as to what individuals should sustain an institution of this character. Are there any who can be released from this obligation? We answer, not one. And yet the financial exhibits of this Society show, that many have been slow to perform the duty of contributing to its funds. We will not enter upon a harsh verdict against such. We do not denounce them as uncharitable or covetous. We leave every individual to the convictions of his own judgment and the suggestions of his own conscience; but then, we are sure, there is fault somewhere. Either some do not understand the objects of this institution, or its designs do not affect them as we have been affected. Either they do not know, or they cannot feel: Or perchance, they may conclude that the streams of their benevolence run in so many other channels, there are no drops for this. Let such see to it, that they are not deceiving themselves. What object can present a stronger claim upon our charities, than the relief of the suffering poor? What demands are more urgent or more binding, than the duty of helping indigent and afflicted females? O! there is much meaning in this thought. Much, to touch our sympathies and excite our benevolence. What! To help the distressed and the dying? To protect and relieve the innocent and the helpless? What obligation more easy, and more pleasant! What deed more noble and God-like! O! we know, you can but feel for such. Yes! and feeling as you do, your hearts respond to the demand, "Such things as I have, give I unto you."

This institution addresses itself to every noble sentiment of our hearts. As a humane measure, how does its design strike us. Created as all men have been by the same Almighty and benevolent hand, and placed in such condition as we find ourselves, what idea is more indigenous to the mind, than that

being of one common origin, we consequently belong to the same common brotherhood? Endowed as we are with a nature adapted to social existence, and dependent upon our fellows for comfort and happiness, what feeling so necessary to our condition, as that which prompts us to entertain a tender regard for our fellow men? Nor should the varied distinctions into which human society has been marked by arbitrary rule, lessen that bond by which God has bound us.—That very fact, so far from decreasing our obligations, should serve to make them stronger. That God permits such an arrangement, while at the same time, we find our mutual dependence not in the least lessened, instructs us that He still holds us together by a cord of his own making. It would be folly for the poor to say, we can do without the rich, or the rich, that we can do without the poor. Ye are all one, in nature, in interest, and pursuit; and while all cannot lie in the cradle of wealth, yet there are some to rock it. While the full horn of plenty is not emptied into every man's lap, yet God has many a hungry mouth which He will fill out of that abundance. To every feeling heart therefore, this association makes its appeal. To every lover of his species it holds out an imploring hand. Haste ye, to fill that hand with a portion of that which you possess.

There is another point of light in which the claims of this institution may be viewed, to which we invite your attention. All of us are clamorous for the glory of our country. You will not find an American citizen who does not profess an ardent attachment to his native soil. We are eager to place our own, highest among the nations of the world. We are not only proud of her present achievements, but we would push her forward in the career of renown. It was a source of unmingled joy to our revolutionary fathers, that they had not only secured liberty for themselves and their children, but that they had provided an asylum for the oppressed of all nations. That they had secured a land for the free and a home for the brave, and had planted a tree under whose shade all might seek shelter. This they have done, and its umbrageous branches still stretch towards heaven, and cover a land almost boundless in extent and of unlimited resources. Still may they wave in triumph, until they shall overshadow the world, and yield the fruits of freedom from every twig.

But the free institutions of our happy country furnish not the only proofs of her glory, nor do they present the only reasons why her own sons should love her, or why the oppressed of other lands should seek her shores. Nor does her climate or her vast means only, claim their attention. In extending to them the hand of invitation, we may proudly point to the peaceable, the affectionate and the benevolent dispositions of our people as proper inducements for them to make this a home. We may point to her charitable enterprises, as proof, that we not only love our country, but that we love our race. These are the roses and the dahlia of our land, which bloom perpetually over its extended surface, yielding their rich fragrance to every passing breeze. We can assure them, that though poverty should cripple and disease waste them, here they will find hearts to feel and eyes to weep for them. We know not that we speak the sentiments of others, but it is our belief, that the existence of our religious and benevolent institutions, more than any thing else, gives stability, and beauty and sweetness to our country. These send out their conservative influences in every quarter, breathing peace and good will to all, binding us together in stronger bonds. Lovers of your country! feeling these influences as you do, we call you to our aid in this work. Let not these almost spontaneous flowers of our land wither and die, but water them abundantly from the fountains of your overflowing benevolence.

Finally, we appeal to the Christian. And upon him, the most weighty reasons may be brought to bear. The most powerful motives which can move the heart, should move you. Duty and interest enter up their demands upon you, while the soft and sweet influences of our holy religion, claim help from you for this cause. It is in the nature of a Christian to be benevolent. Christianity itself is love,—love to God, and love to our neighbor. Faith too, is an element of our religion; but it is not that faith which says, "Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled," and withholds what is needful; but it is an active, working principle, which

gives even of the scrapings of "the barrel of meal," and the drainings of "the cruise of oil," to the needy and the distressed, and yet confidently looks to God for a fresh supply. Ah! my brethren, how little of this kind of faith is to be found even in the Churches. Now, that God is moving the world by the agencies of His Church, and now that He demands of us the exercise of this principle to a degree, perhaps before, never so strong, so realizing; how little of the genuine coin is among us. How much walking by sight, and how little living by faith. When appeals are made to our charities, how much cold, covetous calculation is there. The question which we ask ourselves, is not, what does God require from us as His steward for His own cause; but how little can I give to silence my conscience and save appearances? How much am I able to throw away upon this or that enterprise; forgetting that God hath said, "the liberal soul shall be made fat," and "he that soweth little, shall reap little," and again, "he that hath pity upon the poor, lendeth unto the Lord; and look, what he layeth out, it shall be paid him again."

But we are hastening to the hour of final reckoning. Ere it be long, we may hear the clangour of the last trump! We look upward, and soon we may see the Judge descending clothed with majesty and power. Another short period, He may take his seat on the great white throne, and the books shall be opened, and before Him shall be gathered all the nations of the earth to hear their doom. We shall be there brethren:—the rich and the poor, the small and the great shall stand before him. That poor and afflicted female to whose relief your own hands administered, will be there. Perhaps to your kind and pious efforts she may then attribute her salvation. O! how will you feel, when the Judge shall say to you and to all of like character, "Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was a hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me?" You may then say, "Lord when saw we thee a hungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick or in prison, and came unto thee?" He'll then say, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." O! this will be enough. But those who heeded not the cry of the poor; who hearkened not to the wallings of the widow and the orphan, may read their doom in the reverse of all this. In view then of your present responsibilities, and of your future destiny, cast in to-day of your abundance into the treasury of the Lord.

And now, Ladies of the Benevolent Society, what shall we say to encourage you in this work. If the toils through which you have passed have not dampened your ardor, nor curbed your zeal, all that is required of us is to bid you God-speed. The path of duty lies before you, and recollect, it is the path to "glory, immortality, eternal life."

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL,
Ravenscroft Grove, Raleigh, N. C.
Right Rev. L. S. Ives, D. D. Visitor,
Rev. ALBERT SMEDS, Rector.

THE Summer Session of this School will commence on the first day of June, and will continue five months, or till the 31st of October. A punctual attendance of the Pupil is requested. Application for the admission of new Pupils should be made to the Rector, as early as is convenient.

TERMS.—For Board, with every incidental expense, and Tuition in English, one hundred dollars per Session, payable in advance.
For Tuition in French, \$12 50 per Session.
For Tuition in Music on the Piano, or Guitar, \$25 00 per Session, with \$3 00 for the use of the Instrument.
For Tuition on the Harp, \$30 00 per Session, with \$10 00 for the use of Instrument.
April 22.—732.

The Standard, Fayetteville Observer, Wilmington Chronicle, Newbern Spectator, North State Whig, Edenton Sentinel, and Highland Messenger will give the above six insertions, and forward their bills to this Office.—Raleigh Reg.

Valuable Business Stand
FOR SALE OR RENT.

THE SUBSCRIBER, about engaging in a different business, offers for sale or rent, at a reduced price, the store and ware house that he now occupies on Craven Street. A bargain can be obtained if application be made soon.
T. L. BLACKWELL.
June 17th 1843. 733 ff.

Negro Boy for Sale.
A LIKELY Negro Boy, about fifteen years of age, for sale low.
T. L. BLACKWELL.
Apply to
June 17th 1843. 733 ff.