NORTH CAROLINA SENTINEL.

I was still as bold as could be. these two men," said I, "Tom and Bob, names unknown, with conspiring the ath of sundry individuals; and I command a," I continued, turning to the policemen, to carry them before a magistrate, when I

Com affected the most perfect amazement, and areated, the accusation with the greatest scorn. The mob, however, took part with me. the uproar increased, and the policemen carricd us all before Sir Richard Birnie.

The appearance of Bob and Tom at Bowgeet seemed to occasion some surprise, and Sir Richard, who appeared to know them, looked confounded on hearing the report of the policemen. "Gentlemen," said he, "this is a most extraordinary affair. I scarcely expected to see you before me on such an occasion." "You could not expect it less than we did," answered Bob. "It is not to be borne that gentlemen are to be pelted by a mob, and dragged here, like felons, on the bare assertion of a scurvy, half drunk tailor."-" I am not a tailor, Master Bob," I replied : "Lass an honest maker of saddles."-" I ed to put them on the right wish you had learn hold as brass. "Sir

horse," answered Bob, as our 2"_" If you Richard, I presume we may retire it them go, it will be at your own peril,

I. "Gentlemen," said Sir Richard, "have a moment's patience, and we shall soon settle instantly r this business. You, fellow, state your charge," -... By your leave, Sir Richard, I will first say though it a few words, which will make their conscience lead to a fly in their face. Hark ye, Master Bob and tion of t Master Tom, other names unknown, look at though me." " Well !" answered Bob, " we do look at you and see nothing but a half-starved wretch, which in a suit of clothes not worth eighteen-pence." soon -"If I took in hand certain jobs, and shared auth the cash like some people, replied I, staring inqu them full in the face, "I might have had a betshou ter coat on my back. You take me, Master Bob?" tural "I take you for an insolent scoundrel!" said Bob, who I in a rage. "No more of this," said Sir Richhad be ard; "but state distinctly your charge."-" I charge them with conspiring the death of a were colle gentleman of the name of Berkely, and of his to his ear. most gracious majesty, William the fourth." they amounted

exposed to much observation. While his father was yet alive, he had left his native county of great irregularities, and suspected of of obtaining those supplies of money of which be proved beyond the possibility of a doubt, the impressions that had been raised against he was continually in want, and which he seemed somewhat inexplicably to procure.

vived, and, probably with considerable additions.

a gentleman arrived at the place, impressed tures nothing but the calm placid quiet of repose

he body. This test was tried, and al- Forest.

decomposition had gore on rapidly, ough remained to identify the body, the brother did most satisfactorily. As as it was known that there was a person Id appear to have been otherwise than nahad been concerned in it, the reports which en previously floating idly about, and d without having any distinct object,

e it to say, that the brother laid At this Bob and Tom stared at each other, and mention : suffic tes of the district such evibefore the magistri m to commit Mr. Smith dences as incuced then al for the wilful murder to gaol, to take his trie As it was deemed essenof Henry Thomson. instice, to keep secret tial to the attainment of tnesses who were prothe examination of the w tes, all the informaduced before the magistra tion of which the public were which I have fore the trial took place, was that here narrated. anx-Never shall I forget the appearance of ety exhibited on every countenance on the entrance of the judge into the court. In an instant the most precaund silence prevailed ; that late be and interest, intense and impassed, though possitively, Is subdued, seemed to wait upon every word and every look, as if divided between expectation and doubt, whether something might not even der a tree; but that the conversation I had yet interfere to prevent the extraordinary overheard related entirely to the personages trial from taking place. Nothing, howevin a novel which he and his companion er, occurred; and the stillness was broken were writing jointly, and that this was by the mellow and silvery voice of Lord Mansthe plot they alluded to ! Master Tom, taking field-" Let John Smith be placed at the bar." The order was oboyed; and, as the prisoner bamboozted Sir Richard, that the good simple entered the dock, he met on every side the eaman dismissed the charge, adding a few remarks. ger and anxious eyes of a countless multitude so little complimentary to me, that I must bent in piercing scrutiny. A momentary suffustand excused for not setting them down. sion covered his cheeks; but it was only momentary, and less than might have been expect posed upon ;-these rogues are too much for ed from an indifferent person, who found him self on a sudden "the observed of all observers." He bowed respectfully to the court; and then folding his arms seemed to wait until he should be called upon to commence his part in that drama in which he was to perform so conspicuous a character, The counsel for the prosecution opened his case to the jury in a manner that indicated very little expectation of a conviction. He began by imploring them to divest their minds One of the most extraordinary and most in- of all they had heard before they came into the tcresting trials of which I find any account in box; he entreated them to attend to the evimy note book, took place on the Northern Cir- dence, and judge from that alone. He stated that, in the course of his experience, which was In the year 17-, John Smith was indicted very great, he had never met with a case involfor the wilful murder of Henry Thomson. The ved in deeper mystery than that upon case was one of a most extraordinary nature, upon which he was then addressing them. The and the interest excited by it was almost un- prisoner at the bar was a man moving in a reparalleled. The accused was a gentleman of spectable station in society, and maintaining a considerable property, residing upon his own fair character. He was, to all appearance, in estate, in an unfrequented part of ----shire. the possession of considerable property, and A person, supposed to be an entire stranger to was above the ordinary temptatious to commit him, had, late in a summer's day, requested so foul a crime. With respect to the properand obtained shelter and hospitality for the ty of the deceased, it was strongly suspected night. He had, it was supposed, after taking that he had either been robbed of, or in some some slight refreshment, retired to bed in per- explicable manner made way with, gold and fect health, requesting to be awakened at an jewels to a very large amount; vet in candor. early hour the following morning. When he was bound to admit that no portion of it, the person 'appointed to call him entered his however trifling, could be traced to the prisoner. room for that purpose, he was found in his bed, As to any motive of malice or revenge, none perfectly dead; and, from the appearance of could by possibility be assigned, for the pristhe body, it was obvious that he had been so oner and the deceased were, as far as could be for many hours. There was not the slightest ascertained, total strangers to each other. Still found, in the prisoner's house, the stopper of mark of violence on his person, and the coun- there were most extraordinary circumstances tenance retained the same expression which it connected with his death, pregnant with suspihad borne during life. Great consternation cion atleast, and imperiously demanding explawas, of course, excited by this discovery, and nation, and it was justice, no less to the acinquiries were immediately made,-first, as to cused than to the public, that the case should who the stranger was-and, secondly, as to undergo judical investigation. The deceased, how he met with his death. Both were unsuc- Henry Thomson, was a jeweller, residing in cessful. As to the former, no information London, wealthy and in considerable business: could be obtained-no clue discovered to lead and, as was the custom of his time, in the habto the knowledge either of his name, his per- it of personally conducting his principal transson, or his occupation. He had arrived on actions with the foreign merchants with whom horseback, and was seen passing through a he traded. He had travelled much in the course neighboring village about an hour before he of his business in Germany and Holland; and reached the house where his existence was so it was to meet at Hull a trader of the latter nainysteriously terminated, but could be traced tion, of whom he was to make a large purchase. that he had left London a month before his death. tioned, a' smile, as of scorn, passed over his the following scene. With respect to the death, as little could be It would be proved by the landlord of the inn med as of the dead man : it was, it is true, where he had resided, that he and his corresen-awfully sudden; but there was no pondent had been there ; and a wealthy jeweller on, that alone excepted, to suppose that it of the town, well acquainted with both parties it quickly subsided. I need not detail the who saw the light, that while the prisoner and used by the hand of man, rather than had seen Mr. Thomson after the departure evidence that was given for the prosecution : it the housekeeper were in the room of the formoned, and after an investigation, to there being then in his possession jewels of sel stated; nor was it varied in any particular. between the candle and the window, which le more could be proved than that large value, and gold; and certain bills of exhere stated, a verdict was return- change, the parties to which he could describe. hat the deceased died by the visi- This was on the morning of Thomson's deknowledge. Days and weeks passed on, parture from Hull; on his return to London, Ar was known. In the mean and was on the day but one preceding that on not been idle : suspicions, which he arrived at the house of the prisoner. Judge, addressing the counsel for the prosecu- account for the appearance alluded to, and the I, UUU

"I feastul character, were at first whispered, and not be ascertained; nor was the prisoner's house cient evidence to call upon the prisoner for his peared .- His object, therefore, was to obtain afterwards boldly expressed. The precise ob- situated in the road which he ought to have ta- defence; and if the jury were of the same from the housekeeper (the only person except ject of these suspicions was not clearly indica- ken. No reliance, however, could be placed opinion, they would at once stop the case.- the prisoner, who could give any clue to this,) ted; some implicated one person, some another, on that circumstance ; for it was not at all un- Upon this observation from the Judge, the ju- such information as he could get, without albut they all pointed to Smith, the master of common for persons who travelled with prop- ry turned round for a monment, and then inti- arming her by any direct inquiry on the subthe house, as concerned in the death of the erty about them, to leave the direct road, even mated their acquiescence in his lordship's view ject, which, as she could not help seeing its all substantiate the charge." At this Bob stranger. As usual in such cases, circumstan- for a considerable distance, in order to secure of the evidence.-The counsel folded up their importance, would have led her at once to a ces totally unconnected with the transaction in themselves as effectually as possible from the briefs, and a verdict of acquittal was about to positive denial. "He knew, moreover, that as question, matters many years antecedent, and robbers by whom the remote parts of the coun- be taken, when the prisoner addressed the she had not been in court, she could not know relating to other persons, as well as other times. try were greatly infested. He had not been court. He stated, that having been accused of how much or how little the inquiry had were used as auxiliary to the present charge. seen from the time of his leaving Hull till he so foul a crime as murder, and having had his brought to light; and by himself treating the The character of Smith, in early life, had been had reached the village next adjoining Smith's character assailed by suspicions of the most matter as immaterial, he might lead her to conhouse, and through which he passed, without afflicting nature, that character could never be sider it so also, and by that means draw forth all even a momentary halt. He was seen to alight cleared by his acquittal, upon the ground that that she knew. After some few unimportant try, involved in debt, known to have been guil- at Smith's gate and the next morning was dis-) the evidence against him was inconclusive, questions, he asked her, in a tone and manner covered dead in his bed. He now came to the without giving him an opportunity of stating calculated rather to awaken confidence than

> that the deceased died by poison-poison of a him, by explaining those circumstances which room, you stated that the candle stood on the Two months after the death of the stranger, tortions, or marks of suffer ng, it left upon the feawith a belief that he was his brother, and seek- Its effects, and indeed its very existence, were " said ing for information either to confirm or refute but recently known in this country, though it his suspicions. The horse and the clothes of had for some time been used in other nations fortunate man still remained, and were of Europe; and it was supposed to be a discoecognized ; one other test there was, very of the German chemists, and to be produ-

was uncertain whether that would ced by a powerful distillation of the seed of the by positive conclusion ;- the exhuma- wild cherry tree, so abundant in the Black But the fact being ascertained, that the cause

of the death was poison, left open the much more momentous question,- by whom was it administered ? It could hardly be supposed orized by relationship to the deceased to to be by the deceased himself there was noare into the cause of his death, and, if it thing to induce such a suspicion; and there was this important circumstance, which o , to take steps for bringing to justice those itself almost negatived its postonity, that no phial, or vessel of any kind, had been discovered, in which the poison could have been contained. Was it then the prisoner who admiected into one channel and poured in- nistered it? Before he asked them to come to What these reports were, and what that conclusion, it would be necessary to state ed to, it is not necessary here to more distinctly what his evidence was. The prisoner's family consisted only of himself, a housekeeper, and one man-servant. The man servant slept in an out house adjoining the stable, and did so on the night of Thomson's death. The prisoner slept at one end of the house, and the housekeeper at the other, and the dec ased had been put into a room adjoining the housekeeper's. It would be proved, re in possession be- by a person who happened to be passing by the house on the night in question, about three hours after midnight, that he had been induced to remain and watch, from having h mattenion excited by the circumstance, they very al, of a light moving about the l. use a hour. That person would state and 3 that he could distinctly see light go from the room in gure, holding a ept. to the housekeeper's which the prisoner stor room ; that two persons housekeeper's room. and for a minute. Whether the two person into Thomson's room he could not see, as the window of that room looked another way : but n about a minute they returned, passing quite along the house to Smith's room again; and in about five minutes the light was extinguished. and he saw it no more. Such was the evidence upon which the magistrates had committed Smith; and singularly enough, since his committal, the house keeper had been missing nor could any trace of her be discovered. Within the last week the witness who saw the light had been more particularly examined ; and, in order to refresh his memory, he had been placed, at dark, in the very spot where he had stood on that night. and another person was placed with him. The whole scene, as he had described it, was acted over again; but it was utterly impossible, from the cause above mentioned, to ascertain, when the light disappeared, whether the parties had gone into Thomson's room. As if, however to throw still deeper mystery over this extraordinary transaction, the witness persisted in adding a new feature to his former statement that after the persons had returned with the light into Smith's room, and before it was extinguished, he had twice perceived some dark object to intervene between the light and the window, almost as large as the surface of the window itself, and which he described by say ing, it appeared as if a door had been placed before the light. Now, in Smith's room there was nothing which could accourt for this appearance; his bed was in a different part, and there was neither cupboard nor press in the room, which, but for the bed, was estirely empty; the room in which he dressed being at a distance beyond it. He would state only one fact more (said the learned counsel) and he had done his duty; it would then be for the jury to do theirs. Within a few days there had been small bottle of a very angular description it was apparently not of English manufacture and was described, by the medical men, as being of the description used by chemists to preserve those liquids which are most likely to lose their virtue by exposure to the air. To whom it belonged, orto what use it had been applied, there was no evidence to show. Such was the address of the counsel for the prosecution; and fluring its delivery I had earnestly watched the countenance of the prislips; and the notice of the discovery of the stopper, obvicusly excited an inter- own mind attached considerable importance est, and, I thought, an apprehension, but to the circumstance mentioned by the witness found in the house; but no attempt was made to trace it to the prisoner's possession, or even

having been not over-scrupulous as to the mode most extraordinary part of the case. It would his own case and calling a witness to counteract excite distrust .---

most subile nature, most active in its opera- at present appeared doubtful. He urged the table, in the centre of the room ?- Yes. Ten years and more had elapsed since his tion, and possessing the wonderful and dread- learned Judge to permit him to state his casereturn and the events of his youth had been ful quality of leaving no external mark or to- to the jury, and to call his house-keeper, with you call it, opened once or twice, while it forgotten by many, and to many were entirely ken by which its presence could be detected. so much earnestness, and was seconded so stood there ?- A pause : no answer. unknown: but on this ocsasion, they were re- The ingredients of which it was composed were strongly by his counsel, that Lord Mansfield, of so sedative a nature, that, instead of the body though very much against his inclination, and Smith had taken the medicine out of the closet, on which it had been used exhibiting any con- contrary to his usual habit, gave way, and yiel- did he shut the door, or did it remain open !ded to the fatal request.

" Evertere domos totas, optantibus ipsis, Dii faciles-torrens dicendi copia multis, Et sua mortifera est facundia."

The prisoner then addressed the jury, and last time ?- Not above a minute. entreated their patience for a short time. He repeated to them that he never could feel sa- between the light and the window, would it tisfied to be acquited, merely because the evi- not ?- It would. dence was not conclusive ; and pledged himself. I forget whether you said the closet was on in a very short time, by the few obser- the right or left hand side of the window ?____ vations he should make, and witness whom he The left. should call, to obtain their verdict on much higher grounds,-upon the impossibility of his in opening ?- None. being guilty of the dreadful crime. With respect to the insinuations which had been thrown you ever opened it yourself, or only seen Mr. out against him, he thought one observation Smith open it ?- I never opened it myself. would dispose of them. Assuming it to be true that the deceased died from the effect of a poison, of which he called Gop to witness that he had never even heard either the name or the her eyes towards the spot where the prisoner existence until this day, was not every proba- stood, and the effect was almost electrical. A bility in favour of his innocence? Here was cold damp sweat stood upon his brow. and his a perfect stranger, not known to have in his face had lost all its colour; he appeared a possession a single article of value, who might living image of death. She no sooner saw him either have lost, or been robbed of, that pro- than she shrieked and fainted. The conseperty which he was said to have had at Hull. quences of her answers flashed across her What so probable as that he should, in a mo- mind. She had been so thoroughly deceived ment of despair at his loss, have destroyed by the manner of the advocate, and by the himself? The fatal drug was stated to have little importance he had seemed to attach to been familiar in these countries in which Mr. her statements, that she had been led on be Thomson had travelled, while to himself it was one question to another, till she had told him utterly unknown. Above all, he implored all that he wanted to know .- A medical man the jury to remember, that although the eye was immediately directed to attend to her; and of malice had watched every proceeding of his during the interval occasioned by this interror since the fatal accident, and though, the most tion to the proceedings, the solicitor for the minute search had been made into every part prosecution left the court. of his premises, no vestige had been discovered of the most triffing article belonging to the tended the witness returned into court. deceased, nor had even a rumor been circu- stated that it was impossible that she and lated that poison of any kind had ever been in present resume her place in the boould at his possession. Of the stopper which hadbeen gested that it would be much y, and sugfound, he disowned all knowledge; he de- her to wait for an hour conter to allow then came out of the clared, most solemnly, that he had never seen about twelve in the the light disappeared it before it was produced in court; and heasked, having direction the jury should be accomcould the fact of its being found in his house, modated with a room where they could be kept

During the time you were in Mr. Smith's

Was the closet, or cupboard, or whatever

I will call it to your recollection : after Mr. He shut it.

Then it was opened again for the purpose of replacing the bottle, was it ?- It was,

Do you recollect how long it was open the

The door, when opened, would be exactly

Would the door of the closet make a noise

Can you speak positively to that fact ? Have Did you never keep the key ?- Never. Who did ?- Mr. Smith always.

At this moment the witness chanced to tural In a short time the gentleman who had and Lord Mansheld. bundreds of people themselves, adjourned the court for two e upon partial hours. The prisoner was taken back to gaol, -the fact of his having gone to the bedroom one, except in the presence and hearing of the

Sir Richard looked confounded. "Yes," I continued, turning to the culprits, "I overheard your murderous schemes; and you, monster of iniquity ! you swore to assassinate the king! And what harm has Berkely done you, that he should be murdered by a slavedriver ? You boasted that your plot was well aid: but confess, ruffians, who are the three the easen marguesses, and the nineteen earls, who are engaged in it?'

At this, the hardened wretenes burst into such a shout of laughter as made the roof ring. Peal followed peal; though I saw plainly that this was done to gain time to concert some story to palm upon Sir Richard. At length, Master Bob owned that he and his companions had cortainly been in St. Jame's Park that night, and that they had sat for some time unhis hint, chimed in with the story : and they a "Sir Richard," said I, solemnly, "you are imwou; but since you are pleased to let loose Master Bob and Tom, other names unknown, I wash my hands."-" When your hand is in, wou had better wash your face," remarked Master Bob; and this was the last I saw of Master Bob and Master Tom, other names unknown.

From the London New Monthly Magazine, for February, 1834. From the Note Book of a deceased Lawyer.

cuit, very little less than fifty years ago.

no farther. Beyond this, all was conjecture.

only a few uays with had been there, produc mind even a momentary rejudice against him? and the witness to an apartment in the gaoler's One fact, and one only had been proved, to house; and strict orders were given that she which it was possible for him to give answer, should be allowed to communicate with no

of his housekeeper on the night in question. It was between four and five He had been subject, for many years of his o'clock when the judge resumed his seat upon life to sudden fits of illness he had been seized the bench, the prisoner his station at the bar, with one on that occasion, and had gone to her and the housekeeper hers in the witness box: to procure her assistence in lighting a fire. the court in the interval had remained crowded She had returned with him to his room for with the spectators, scarce one of whom had that purpose, he having waited for a minute in left his place, lest during his absence it should the passage while she put on her clothes, which be seized by some one else. would account for the momentary disappear-| The cross-examining counsel then addressed ance of the light; and after she had remained the witness-I have very few more questions in his room a few minutes, finding himself to ask of you: but beware that you answer

to bed, from which he had not risen when he thread. was informed of the death of his guest. It had been said, that, after his committal to prison, his housekeeper had disappeared. He avowed that, finding his enemies determined, Mr. Thomson's death. if possible, to accomplish his ruin, he had thought it probable they might tamper with cution entered the court, bringing with him his servant: he had, therefore, kept her out of upon a tray, a watch, two money-bags, a jeweltheir way but for what purpose? Not to pre- case, a pocket book, and a bottle of the same vent her testimony being given, for she was manufacture as the stopper, and having a cork now under the care of his solicitor, and would in- in it; some other articles there were on it, not stantly appear for the purpose of confirming, material to my story. The tray was placed on as far as she was concerned, the statement | the table in sight of the prisoner and the witwhich he had just made.

Such was the prisoner's address, which pro- mained in the mind of any man of the guilt of duced a very powerful effect. It was deliver- the prisoner.

ed in a firm and impressive manner, and its A few words will bring my tale to its close. simplicity and artlessness gave to it an appear- The house where the murder had been commitance of truth. The housekeeper was then put ted was betw en nine and ten miles distant. into the box, and examined by the counsel for The solicitor, as soon as the cross examination the prisoner. According to the custom, at that of the housekeeper had discovered the existence time almost universal, of excluding witnesses of the closet, and its situation, had set off on from court until their testimony was required, horseback, with two sheriff's officers, and, after she had been kept at a house, near at hand, pulling down part of the wall of the house, had and had not heard a single word of the trial. detected this important place of concealment." There was nothing remarkable in her manner Their search was well rewarded, the whole of or appearance; she might be about thirty-five, the property belonging to Mr. Thomson was or a little more; with regular though not found there, amounting, in value to some thouagreeable features, and an air perfectly free sand pounds; and to leave no room for doubt, from embarrassment. She repeated, almost a bottle was discovered which the medical men in the prisoner's own words, the story that he instantly pronounced to contain the very idenhad told of his having called her up, and her tical poison which had caused the death of the having accompanied him to his room, adding unfortunate Thomson. The result is too obthat, after leaving him, she had retired to her vious to need explanation. own room, and been awakened by the man-ser-The case presents the perhaps unparalleled vant in the morning, with an account of the instance of a man accused of murder, the evioner, who had listened to it with deep atten- traveller's death. She had now to undergo a dence against whom was so slight as to induce tion. Twice only did I perceive that it pro- cross examination; and I may as well state here, the judge and jury to concur in a verdict of duced in him the slightest emotion. When that which, though not known to me till after- acquittal; but who, persisting in calling a witwards, will assist the reader in understanding ness to prove his innocence, was, upon the testimony of that wi ness, convicted and exc-The counsel for the prosecution had, in his cuted. ECCLESIASTICAL NOTICE. THE PRESBYTERY OF ORANGE will hold its next stated session in this place, on Wednesof God. A coroner's jury was, of of the Dutchman; and could speak positively amounted, is substance, to that which the coun-mer, something like a door had intervened day the 30th April, 1834, at 7 o'clock P. M. SALT AFLOAT. The stopper was produced, and proved to be was totally irreconcilable with the appearance 1800 BUSHELS coarse Turks Island of the room when examined; and he had half-SALT, cargo of the British Schooner persuaded himself, that there must be a secret Fame, for sale by J. M. GRANADE, & Co. closet which had escaped the search of the CORN WANTED. When the case was closed, the learned officers of justice, the opening of which would BUSHELS White Flint CORN for which a liberal Cash price will indefined, but of a dark and What had become of him in the interval could tion, said, he thought there was hardly suffi- existence of which had so mysteriously disap- be given. Apply to J. M. GRANADE, & Co March 28th. 1834

better, he dismissed her, and returned again them truly, for your own life hangs upon a

Do you know this stopper !-- I do.

To whom does it belong?-To Mr. Smith. When did you see it last ?- On the night of

At this moment the solicitor for the proseness; and from that moment not a doubt re