

# HALIFAX MINERVA.

NORTH CAROLINA PORTFOLIO

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, N. C. MARCH 5, 1829.

NO. 6.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED  
BY JOHN CAMPBELL.

CONDITIONS.

The Minerva will be printed every Thursday morning at \$2 50 per annum in advance, or \$3 if payment is not made within 3 months.

No paper to be discontinued until all arrearages are paid, unless at the option of the Editor; and a failure to notify a discontinuance will be considered as a new engagement.

Advertisements, making twenty lines or less, inserted three times for One Dollar, and twenty-five cents for every subsequent insertion. Longer ones in proportion. All advertisements will be continued unless otherwise ordered, and each continuance charged.

Letters to the Editor must be post paid, or they will not be attended to.

SCOTLAND NECK  
Private Academy.

The subscriber having determined on the removal of the institution formerly kept in Halifax town, to the neighborhood of Scotland Neck, begs leave to inform those concerned, and Parents and Guardians generally, that the Spring Session of the above Academy will commence on Monday the 9th of March, and terminate on Friday the 31st of July. This institution will include two departments—MALE and FEMALE; and will be open to children of any age. The course of studies will be as follows:

4th CLASS—Spelling, Reading & Writing, with first Principles of Arithmetic. 2d CLASS—The same, with the addition of English Grammar, Geography and Arithmetic advanced. 2d CLASS—Including the studies of the 3d and 4th, with the addition of Modern History, Epitomes of the Arts and Sciences, and Epistolary Writing. 1st CLASS—All the former studies reviewed, with the addition of Parsing and Latin Composition on Selected Subjects, and Irving's Catechisms of Astronomy, Botany, Practical Chemistry, Jewish, Grecian, and Roman Antiquities, Mythology and Biography, with Ancient and Universal History.

The Female Department will be under the charge of Mrs. Norment, who will teach, in addition to the studies above enumerated, the more peculiar branches of Female Education, viz. Ornamental Needle Work, Drawing and Painting, and Music on the Piano Forte.

RATES AS FOLLOWS:

Literary tuition, per Session, \$10 00  
Needle Work, 5 00  
Drawing and Painting, 5 00  
Music—when added to the above branches 10 00  
With any of the above omitted, 15 00  
Tax for fire wood, per session, 50

Persons wishing to patronise the above institution, will please send their children, punctually, on the day of opening the School, that all may be classed, and commence their studies at the same time. It will be necessary, however, that the tuition of each session be paid at the time of entrance. Without this requisition, no pupil can be received.

Boarding may be had in the immediate neighborhood at \$5 per month.  
JOHN HAYWOOD NORMENT.  
25th February, 1829.

THE

Washington City Chronicle,  
A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,  
Published in the City of Washington  
By ROTHWELL & USTICK

THIS paper has been established at the seat of the general government, under auspices which the publishers think favorable to the encouragement of a periodical devoted, as it is, to the diffusion of literary, scientific and useful miscellaneous information. Its object has been, as it will continue to be, to promote the cause of letters, and to spread, within its range, a knowledge of all that may be new, interesting and valuable, in science, literature and the arts, together with the latest foreign and domestic intelligence. Mere party disputations are, and shall be sedulously avoided, and nothing will be admitted but what may tend to enlarge and interest the mind, and improve and benefit the heart.

A summary of the proceedings of Congress will, during the sessions, be regularly given.

The Chronicle is published every Saturday; and is printed in the best manner, on a large sheet, (imperial size.) Price \$3 per annum, or \$2 50 if paid in advance.

R. & J. DUNN & CO.,

INFORM their friends and the public, that they are receiving their  
SPRING SUPPLY OF GOODS,  
which comprises a handsome and very extensive assortment of nearly every article, New, Fashionable or Desirable in the

DRY GOODS LINE.

A very large supply of Groceries of all descriptions,

HARDWARE,

HATS,  
of every quality.

China, Glass and Earthenware.

SADDLERY,

BOOTS AND SHOES.

and an assortment of TIN WARE. Together with an assortment of Sole, Upper, Harness, Skirting and Bridle LEATHER.—Calf, Kip, Morocco and Sheep Skins.—Soaps; Perfumery.

Ladies' Leghorn Hats and Straw Bonnets.  
Work Baskets, Brushes of all kinds, Books, Stationary, Tortoise-shell, Ivory, and Horn COMBS. Paints, Oils and Drugs; Pocket Books; Fur, Seal skin, and Morocco Caps, &c. &c.

All of which will be offered at very moderate prices—many of the goods MUCH lower than they have been heretofore sold in this market. They have on hand a consignment of

HERRINGS AND SHAD,

of the best quality, which they will sell at reduced prices.

Being confident that they can give satisfaction to those who call on them as regards the quality, style & prices of their goods, they respectfully invite all who want to purchase to examine their assortment.

N. B. We will continue to buy COTTON and CORN for cash, and to take them in trade or payment. Those of our customers who wish to send their Cotton to Dennis & Mill waine of Petersburg, to be Stored or Sold, will find us accommodating in our arrangements and anxious to promote their interest.

R. & J. D. & Co.  
Halifax, N. C. Jan. 1829.

Saddle and Harness Making Business.

THE subscribers embrace this opportunity of informing their customers, as well as the public generally, that they have on hand, and intend keeping,

A General Assortment of Articles in their Line,

which will be sold on very moderate terms, for Cash; or on a short credit to punctual customers. Those in debt to us, would do us a considerable favor by coming forward and settling their accounts, as it would be much to our advantage at this time.

CLARK & LITCHFORD.

N. B. Old Work repaired with neatness and despatch. C. & L. January 30.

THE CABINET,

Of Literature, Instruction and Amusement.

CONTENTS OF NO. 6.—FOR DEC. 1. Fort Niagara, with an engraving. The Woodsman, Henry, or the Captive, Destructions of Jerusalem. Manners in Venice, A true Fish Story, Envy, The Curate of Survisio, Chances of Marriage, Pelham, or the Adventures of a Gentleman, Patrick Henry, Weyer's Cave in Virginia.

POETRY.—The Maiden's Wail, The Saint's Rest, Winter is coming, Nothing's amount to Something, A Farewell, A Dream, to W. S. The Village Church, The Grave, Useful Domestic Hints, &c.

This work is published at No. 61, Fulton Street, and may be had of the principal booksellers and news carriers. It is published on the 1st and 16th of every month, each number containing sixteen large octavo pages with double columns, and embellished with an elegant engraving, at 6 1-4 cents per number—being unquestionably one of the cheapest works in the United States. Country subscribers will be required to pay \$1 50 in advance.

The Cabinet will be forwarded regularly to the editors of newspapers who advertise the Contents of each number.  
New York, Dec. 6.

WOOD, FEATHERS AND MOST KINDS OF COUNTRY PRODUCE WILL BE TAKEN IN PAYMENT FOR THE MINERVA.

Cheap CASH STORE.

The undersigned has taken the

Store in

HALIFAX,

opposite the Farmer's Hotel, and next door above the Bank. He intends supplying the Planters and Inhabitants on the most favorable terms, and respectfully solicits a share of their patronage.

In his assortment, which he has just received from NEW YORK, may be found:

Superfine Blue, Black, Mixed, Olive and Drab Cloths  
Satinets, Bombazettes  
White and Red Flannels  
Cotton and Woolen Socks and Stockings  
Furniture Calico  
Fancy Calicoes  
Plaid do. a new article

Book, Mull, Jaconet, Cambric and Figured Swiss Muslins  
Muslin Robes  
Irish Linens, Linen Cambric  
Cotton Shirting  
Domestic Cottons, white and colored

Italian Crane  
Green, Pink, White, and Blue Florences  
Levantine, Sinehews  
Silk, Barege and Gauze Shawls  
Black and White Silk Hose  
Gloves

Blankets  
Plaid Silks  
Fancy Cravats and Stocks  
Bleached and Brown Sheetings  
Fancy and Black Silk Vestings  
Camblet and Plaid Cloaks  
Silk and Cotton Umbrellas  
Beaver Hats, 1st, 2d & 3d qualities  
Wool do.  
Shoes, Prunella and Leather  
Negro Shoes

An extensive assortment of Hardware  
Saddlery, Crockery and Looking Glasses  
Imperial and Young Hyson Teas  
French Brandy  
Holland Gin  
Jam. Rum  
N. E. Rum  
Apple Brandy  
Whiskey  
Country Gin  
Sugars

Powder and Shot  
Raisins, Figs, &c. &c.  
Soap and Candles  
Glauber and Epsom Salts  
Copperas, Chalk  
Allum, Lamp Black  
Flor and Roll Brimstone  
Madder  
White Lead  
Spanish Brown, Whiting  
Ground Nic and Logwood  
Castor and Olive Oil  
Laudanum, Hartshorne  
Paregoric, Alcohol  
Staughton's Bitters  
Ess. Peppermint  
Bals. Copavia, Spt. Nitre  
Copal Varnish  
Spts. Turpentine, Linseed Oil  
Sedlits and Soda Powders  
Lavender, Antique Oil and Cologne  
Water

Aloes, Arrow Root, Opium  
Cantharides, Camphor, Cammomile  
Flowers  
Gum Guaiac, Arabic and Foetid  
Senna, Magnesia, Manna Flake  
Pulv. Ipecac, Merc. Precip. Rubi  
Peruvian Bark, Jalap  
Calomel, Burgundy Pitch  
Columbo Root, Rhubarb  
Snake Root, Liguorice Ball & Root  
Sem Anisi, Tartar Emetic  
Cream Tartar  
Ref. Borax  
Sal Nitre, Chrome Yellow  
Black Ink Powder  
Indigo, Annatto His.  
Cloves, Cinnamon, Glue  
Ground Verdigris Pruss. Blue  
Blue Vitriol, Opodiodoc  
Harloem Oil  
Sulphate Quinine, Powders & Mixtures  
Lee's Hooper's, and Anderson's Bilious Pills  
Tooth Brushes, Sealing Wax, &c.

An additional supply of GOODS will be received by the February Court.

J. HEMPSTED, JR.  
P. S. COTTON and CORN wanted at the highest market prices.  
January 13.

NOTICE.

AT February Court, 1829, the subscriber qualified as Administrator, *de bonis non*, on the estate of Hilliard Fort, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate, are hereby requested to present them, legally authenticated, within the time prescribed by law, otherwise this notice will be placed in bar of their recovery. And those indebted to said estate, will make immediate payment.

RICE B. PEARCE,  
Administrator *de bonis non*.  
Halifax County, N. C. }  
February, 1829. 5—

FRANTIO



Will stand the ensuing season at the following places, viz. one day in every week at Day, Esq.'s, in Halifax county, one day in every week at Mr. William Leigh's, in Greensville, Va. and the balance of his time at the stable of the subscriber, in Northampton county, N. C. and will be let to mares at the reduced price of TWELVE DOLLARS the season, and TWENTY DOLLARS to insure a mare to be in foal—the insurance money to be demanded as soon as the mare is discovered to be in foal or the property changed.

FRANTIO is a beautiful Sorrel, of fine Action, seven years old, now in the prime of life, and nearly Fifteen and three quarter hands high. The subscriber will use great exertions to prevent accidents or escapes, but will not be liable for either.

Mares left at either stand will have every attention paid them, and grain fed at the neighborhood prices, if requested. The season will commence on the 1st day of March and end the 1st day of August.

R. CRUMP, JR.  
P. S. For further particulars see Hand-bills.  
Feb. 13.

FOR SALE, AT THE POST OFFICE, IN THIS PLACE.

The following Articles, to wit:  
BACON, LIME,  
HERRINGS, SHAD,  
Stained Curtain Bedsteads,



Windsor  
Chairs,  
LEATHER,  
WAGGON COLLARS,  
FLOUR,  
TOBACCO, (twist and Bundle.)  
wholesale and retail.

ALSO—The following articles:  
Bottle Coris, Fly Stone, Termerick Liquid Blacking, Ginger, Spice  
Venetian Red, Red Lead  
White Lead, Verdigris  
Baitman's Drops, Opodiodoc  
Nutmegs, Allum, Letheridge  
Ink Powder, Pearl Ash  
Ground Paint Brushes  
Assorted  
Shaving Boxes and Soap  
Spanish Whiting, Turkey Umber  
Crom. Yellow, Prussian Blue  
Durable Ink, Staughton's Bitters  
Tooth Brushes, Mace, Snuff Boxes  
Spanish Annatto  
do. Blueing  
do. Indigo  
Spinning Wheels  
Waggons ironed  
do. not ironed  
Garden  
Marrowfat  
Early six week  
Green Bunch  
Shaving Brushes, Razors  
Blank Warrants  
do. Notes  
do. Bonds  
Almanacs

JUST RECEIVED, in addition to the above articles, some Drab and Blue Cloths end Cassameres, Violins, Bridges and Strings for ditto, Flutes, Fifes, Brier Scythes, Spirits Turpentine, country made Russet and Black Shoes, Fur Hats, a complete assortment of Garden Seeds, Candles, Wafers, Gentlemen's and Ladies' Plaid Cloaks. Also—a few bushels Ewepon Tea, an article which is but seldom offered in our market, and one that never fails to insure one thing that is sought for by all, viz. HEALTH, where it is regularly used. I speak not without experience.

All of the above articles will be sold very low, for Cash only.  
JOS. L. SIMMONS.  
Halifax, Feb. 6th, 1829. 2—

NOTICE.

WE have just received a parcel of FAMILY FLOUR, on consignment, which will be sold low for cash.  
HAWKINS & HARRIS.  
Halifax, Feb. 2d, 1829. 2—

AGRICULTURE.

From the American Farmer.

INDIAN CORN.

Richmond Jan. 5, 1829.

Mr. SKINNER:

SIR—I have been induced to make this communication to you by two recent notices in your journal; the one of the unusual luxuriance of the stalk of corn produced in the state of North Carolina; the other, of the size and productiveness of an ear of corn raised by a gentleman on the eastern shore of Virginia. With regard to the stalks of corn which have grown on my farm, I can affirm nothing with precision, having never made these a subject of particular attention. That they should be very tall, or that the ear should shoot at any extraordinary distance from the earth I have always regarded as a disadvantage; the plant being, by either cause, rendered more liable, to the influence of the violent gusts by which we are, not unfrequently visited during the summer months. The ear of corn presented by the gentleman from Virginia, (Mr. Upshur) certainly indicates considerable fertility in the soil in which it grew, and great perfection in the product of that soil; nevertheless, the specimens of Indian corn herein described, (and which by the first safe opportunity shall be forwarded to you,) will, I think for the present at least, support that gentleman's estimation of surpassing all other in superior samples of Indian corn. I shall send you four ears, taken from my crop of 1828. The first of them is 8 inches in length, 8 inches and 1-8 of an inch in circumference at the larger end, and contains 1200 grains. The second ear is in length 9 inches; in circumference at the larger end 8 1-4 inches and contains 1056. The fourth ear measuring in length 9 1-2 inches; in circumference at the larger end 8 3-4 inches, and contains 1014 grains. The length of these ears has been taken so far only as the cob is covered with grains; and it is somewhat curious that the number of grains increases inversely with the length of these ears. Connected with the production of this corn, are some facts, not unworthy perhaps, of being noted, inasmuch as they manifest, I think, in strong light, the importance of good husbandry, and tend also to show that the Indian corn cannot be the exhauster of land which by many it has long been deemed. The ears of the corn above mentioned are a part of the twelfth successive crop of corn made on the same land. I pretend to no experience or skill in agriculture, my walk in life having led me to pursuits of a wholly different character. My course of husbandry has however been this. About twelve years since I commenced the cultivation of a small farm in this vicinity, consisting (with the exception of a few acres of bottom land, appropriated exclusively to grass) of high land only. The soil of this farm contains a considerable proportion of sand, and had been much impoverished by the improvident course of tillage, long and generally prevalent in this part of the country. It was what is here usually denominated old field, producing chiefly the broom grass and a few dwarf pines, it would not perhaps have produced three barrels or fifteen bushels of corn to the acre. I caused this land to be ploughed into beds five and a half feet in width, these were opened by a single plough, and manure being placed in the opening furrows, the corn was planted therein at the interval of three feet between the stalks. On the succeeding year, manure was applied to the middle spaces between the beds, these last were then reversed with a two horse plough, the beds formed by this operation opened as already described, and the cor-

planted in the same manner. By this process the land whilst yielding an annual crop, has been gradually ameliorated, the stalks of corn have consequently been brought nearer each other, till at length they have been planted at the distance of two feet only apart; and the two last years, 1827-8, the average product gathered from this land has been six barrels or thirty bushels to the acre. An error was at first committed (as must be expected in every novitiate,) by raising, or rather by leaving the beds too high, or convex on the surface; but this was corrected, and they now are reduced nearly to a level in the progress of tillage by the five-hoed cultivator, merely leaving a trace as a guide for placing the manure for the succeeding crop. In the course of improvement here delineated, the manure has been almost exclusively supplied by my farm stable, my cow yard (in which every corn stalk, and every other species of litter have been carefully deposited) and from my stable in town in which only three horses are kept. But I find myself drawing into a prolix commentary, what was designed to be a simple notice of an instance of luxuriant vegetation. I will therefore conclude, with the remark, taking into view the product of my corn, the regular contribution from the land, and the progressive amelioration of the soil, I think I may venture to anticipate your upraise upon my title to Mr. Upshur's barrel of corn, proffered to the person who shall surpass him. The species of corn, described by him I am unacquainted with, or know it not by his description. The ears I shall send you are of a kind called the gourd seed corn. It is valuable for its increase for being easily crushed in grinding, and yielding consequently a large proportion of very white meal. One of the ears I shall send has some stains upon it, these have been produced by these circumstances, after the crop was gathered and thrown into bulk, before being shucked, there came on a long season of warm rain, by which some loss was sustained. By the same cause many ears were discoloured, but a close examination will show that the grains have perfectly formed and matured.

Yours respectfully,  
P. V. DANIEL.

PLOUGHING IN MANURE.

The old system of putting the manure in the hill, is justly exploded by good farmers; yet the modern practice of spreading it all, is, in my opinion erroneous. I am aware that the best farmers defend it. I took occasion to enquire of one who had received a premium for the best crop of corn, his process of cultivation. He informed me that he spread the manure and ploughed it in. I asked him whether he did not reserve some for the hill. On his answering in the negative, I further inquired, whether, if after he had spread what he should judge a sufficient quantity and had some left, he would not put that in the hill. His reply was, no—I would spread that also. My practice, as before observed, is otherwise. My reasons for it are that at the time of planting, the ground if not wet, is unusually heavy, and necessarily of a low temperature. The furrow for planting if it does not remove the best part of the mould, leaves little or none at the bottom. Instead of being supported on matter, warm and quickening, hastening vegetation and affording a free exit and expansion of the roots, the seed is consigned to a hard and cold surface, is more exposed to perish, more feeble if it vegetates, and more tardy in its early progress. To obtain a prolific crop; with early maturity, it is essential not only that the seed should be good, but that it should have some extra stimulus, to induce a healthy and vigorous outset. Under a favorable commencement it is better enabled to overcome all the impediments in its course. To those