MISCELLANEOUS.

From the North Carolina University Magazine "ON THE BANKS OF THE TAR."

MESSRS. EDITORS: As a matter of course, every one has spent a very pleasant vacation, including a "merry Christmas" and "happy new year." Each of the many students of the University, have during the holidays shaken the hand of relation or friend; received the warm embrace of kind mother or affectionate sisters; listened to the wise advice of father or friend; shared in the joys of beloved brothers; or perhaps, like myself, "a stranger in a strange land," have formed new friends, and "grappled them to our souls with hooks of steel," which will serve as connecting links to the good old State, when the purposes for which we visited North Carolina are completed and we have returned to our distant homes.

It has often interested as well as amused me; when my friends at the beginning of the session " --- hath into bondage

Brought my too diligent ear ' by relating the different manner in which they have spent their vacation and have "with as greedy ear devoured up the discourse" of my companions as did Desdemona that of her loved Moor reciting his "hair-breadth 'scapes i' the imminent deadly breach."

My western friend will tell me of scenery grander far than any Switzerland can boast of. He will have his adventures among the mountain crags; of dangers met and overcome, and situations in which he was placed, compared to which, the vulture guarded position of Arthur Philipson, over the abyss of Mount Pilate was as firm as the rock of Gibralter.

Then a friend from one of the larger towns of the State has interesting narratives of balls, par ties and the flirtations attendant thereon. One has a brilliant account of a brilliant flirtation, and another, more serious, by way of confidence, tells of a genuine courtship, of many and lavish protestations of love; (which with a collegian is binding until he meets another interesting or susceptible lady.) or claims my attention by informing me of the changes in the love market; how one young friend is "laid on the table you know," and another taken off, or perhaps how one has been kicked under the table and an "outsider" taken his place. (Here I should like to make a quotation suitable, but I know none.)

Then again an eastern friend will tell-but read and I will relate an incident or two which happened during my last vacation spent "On the Banks of the Tar.

I will not be so palpably guilty of tautology as to say that I spent a pleasant six weeks. Nor would I be able in any reasonable space to tell many pleasant adventures and enjoyments, but will select two incidents which I witnessed and mentally jotted down at the time, to illustrate quite different points. The first to point out what a baneful influence the opinions and writings of Judge Edmonds have upon the people; and the last, to show, what every southern resiident and traveler knows, that Mrs. Stowe wrote a li-li-liber.

On or about the 20th December, my friend with whom I was spending the vacation, propos ed that, for the day, we should suspend our usual sport, viz: hunting (my friend, who is leaning over my shoulder, wishes me to say that it was hunting game not wives-and let me add only by way of a double parenthesis, that he is a very modest young man,) and ride over to where a "spirit," according to the neighborhood gossip. was to astonish the Satives, in the way of holding converse with a little negro girl, belonging to the estate of the person whose ghost was about to "revisit the glimpses of the sun" to

> Why his canoniz'd bones, hearsed in death, Have burst their cerements.'

Not wishing to be contrary I consented and off we started, taking care to fill our "tickler," with some old "Apple Jack," rightly supposing that for the occasion

We arrived an hour or so before the moment appointed for the "curtain to rise," which we occupied in looking at the promiscuous assembly of men, women and children, mostly negroes and listening to the various conversations concerning the approaching "performance." Here a county dignitary, full of lip-wisdom, was explaining the causes why this "spirit" was "doom'd for a certain term to walk the earth." Here two or three old ladies, whose features we house of joy. As we entered rather a broad were compelled "to spy down a leghorn lane," and whose dresses were equally as unfashionable, were discussing the destiny of the world and oracularly devining what such manifestations as they were about to witness, foreboded. And here and there were collected squads of negroes, in very bad spirits, surmising "what the ed by a number of young attendants. The girl, sperit would say."

'As the hour drew near, we collected into a room in which was seated the "medium." The crowd by this time were on the qui vive for the mysterious knockings and grave voice of the "spirit." The conjectures as to the exact direction of approach and other doubts were freely discussed, until the clock struck twelve, the ap- I must say, she blushed, concluding that she was Yearly however, I have been gaining on; your pointed hour, when three distinct knocks, in one of those flowers, so beautifully described by what direction no one could tell, were heard. A Gray that was "born to blush unseen." The silence as mysterious and profound as that caused by the sudden appearance of the Black Priest of St. Paul's in the top room of Meinherr John Mengs, followed these spiritual manifestations. The "medium," who sat with her back to the crowd, informed us that the ghost of her departed master had appeared to her and wished to have some conversation with her, if they would remain silent for a few moments. But this last request was useless, for each " sat like his grandsire cut in alabaster."

Then commenced a series of questions by the "spirit," which seemed to be below, and answers by the girl, concerning the old man's worldly friends and possessions, which would be uninteresting to the reader. For some fifteen minutes lasted these questions and answers, the crowd, especially the women, during the time becoming "small by degrees and beautifully less," perhaps it might have been, as they said, because their curiosity was gratified, but I thought it was from fear. My friend and myself, the only representatives of the "highest literary institution in the State," were rather expected to solve the mystery. We soon formed our plan, which my friend promised to execute, to see if the girl was not a ventriloquist, and by

getting under it, which would serve as a screen. the bride and groom. Under the bed my friend crawls, (rather an un-

the girl. Just as the "spirit" was about to ask nessing, but I was invited by the bride to take a question, he placed his hand upon her breast, a peep at the supper, which was indeed a fine re-(here is the place for Mrs. Partington to blush) past. After this I left, having received the and the ventriloquist was unable to stop asking thanks of the happy couple and the promise that the question in time to escape being caught. - the first boy should be named-after me. Perfectly satisfied, my friend withdrew. The "spirit," at once became enraged at this atro- bride's maids presented, in the name of the city and threatened direful calamity upon the bride, to my friend and myself, some very nice perpetrator and witnesses, which very much ter- cake, accompanied with the hope that we would rified the assembly, and they, like the guests at have pleasant dreams of our-. We placed Macbeth's feast, "stood not upon the order of the cake under our pillows, with some names, their going, but went at once."

way home in a great hurry, and wild confusion, and we did have pleasant dreams. My friend except my friend and myself. We explained insists that his shall not be told, but I dreamed the whole affair and only waited to see the girl (I forget whether I was asleep or not) of a mara well planned scheme to accomplish an object, but was thus foiled.

If the reader has got putiently through the first incident and is willing to follow me through another, I will give an account of a marriage during the Christmas holidays, among the "colored population."

in from their different homes during the past year, preparatory to a grand gala week, precedkept time with the music of the fiddle and banjo, London no safer concern than that of Messrs. ding was to take place during the latter part of likely to insure the ruin he sought to avoid. the week, and of course expectation was on

The only difference between the happy pair was to be tied. Do not misunderstand me. I do not mean that one wished to be married by the deremony of a particular church, and the other by another. But Bob, who was rather an "Old Fogy," and had all the superstition natural to his race, did not wish to be married "by the books." as it was a certain forerunner of bad luck, but wished to imitate the example of his parents, by like to come straight to the point." dispensing with all ceremony and be declared "man and wife" simply by "jumping the broom stick." Nancy who had spent some time in a city and had there seen marriage ceremonies performed with great pomp, was entirely too aristocratic for that trivial manner of entering into so serious a compact. She insisted on beng married by the regular ceremonies of the church. Bob, making necessity a virtue, gave way, for she would have her will, nor could she

be blamed, imitating her betters. This being settled, another difficulty sprung up, caused by the man giving way, which is generally the case. There was no minister near, and your hands as for a magistrate, they had a natural jear for the name. The only alternative left was that my friend or invself should perform the ceremony, which, at the earnest solicitations of the parties, we promised to do. After a long debate as to who should act as parson, it was decided that I shouldtake the part, on the ground that I could look the character better. (Was the decision a compliment?)

The day, on which the wedding was to take place, was rather a quiet one, being the only day, since the beginning of the week, that there all the spirits they would have, would be made was a cessation of dancing. The wedding was the entire theme of conversation. I had, by way of preparation, been reading repeatedly the ceremony, (barring the prayers,) and by the time the marriage was to take place, concluded that I could go through very well.

When the appointed hour drew near I don

ned my best suit of black, with white cravat and hair roached up, presenting, on the whole, an appearance that a young theologian might have envied, and started, with my friend, to the grin sat upon the countenances of many of the guests, for they had already collected, awaiting the approach of the bride and groom, but it was suddenly chilled by the sacerdotal dignity of my appearance. We waited but a few moments for the happy couple, who soon approached followalthough she had not, after the manner of modern brides, consulted for the greater part of the day, her "Psyche," looked extremely well. Her dress, pure white, including gloves, formed a remarkable contrast with the ebor hue of her complexion. As a matter of course, she had seen too much of society not to blush, therefore, I suppose bridegroom was indeed a fine looking specimen of his race, something, I imagined, similar in complexion to fair Portia's suitor-" The shad ow'd livery of the burnish'd, sur." He, too, was appropriately dressed and presented an appearance in accordance with his happy feelings. The candle holders" being near the minister. My friend was standing near enough to the blushing pair to make known to them, by means of a they should answer.

becoming dignity and went through the cere- was so noble, that even a millionaire sobbedmony with an accent and modulation, "suiting he could not help it. The firm is still one of the action to the words and the words to the ac- the first in the city of London. tion," that would have done credit (how vain) to The £30,000 of the turnpike-boy is now the Bishop himself. My visible faculties were grown into some £200,000. Fortune has well only once excited during the marriage. When disposed of her gifts. Bob was asked whether he would take Nancy for his wedded wife, &c., he answered, reminded by a vigorous poke from my friend, very emphatically, "yes sir, Master." When they were pro- one; nounced "man and wife," I gave the direction "to salute the bride," a scene ensued utterly indiscribable, only the noise which arose was more to their position—it is certain that we were

this means, playing upon the credulity of the of an undrilled company of artillery, than any crowd. The "medium" was sitting near the thing that I can now think of. It is needless foot of a bed, and could only be approached by to say that the salutation was not confined to

When order was restored the dancing began, dignified position for a sen or) and drew near which my sucred office debarred me from wit-

Before we retired for the night, one of the pretty ones too, but we thought a change would In a few minutes every person was on their improve them, (excuse me for not saying who,) decently whipped, concluding that the "spirit" riage at which I played a more important part would not shortly revisit those scenes. It was than parson, but it was only a dream, which will cause me ever to remember the marriage "On THE BANKS OF THE TAR."

"COUSIN LIOE."

THE TURNPIKE-BOY AND THE BANKER. It was during a panic, some years since, that a gentleman, whom we shall now call Mr. Thompson, was seated, with something of a On Christmas day, the negroes had collected | melancholy look in his dreary back room, watching his clerks paying away thousands of pounds hourly. Thompson was a banker of excellent ing "hiring day." Night and day their feet credit; there existed perhaps in the city of and truly "all went merry as a marriage bell." Thompson & Co., but at a moment such as I It appears that during the week before, Bob had speak of, no rational reflection was admitted asked Nancy, (the names are changed, not be- no former stability was looked to: a general cause I am afraid the parties may read, this distrust was felt, and every one rushed to his sketch and become offended, but merely to imi- banker's to withdraw his hoard, fearful that the tate the example of writers of "true tales,") next instant would be too late, forgetting entireto become his "better-or worse." The wed- ly that this step was, of all others, the most

But to return. The wealthy citizen sat tip-toe concerning the approaching ceremonies, gloomily, watching the outpouring of his gold. especially as it was hinted that it was to be rath- and with a grim smile listening to the clamorer a grand affair. As the day approached, on ous demands on his cashier; for, although he which was to be consummated the earthly happi- felt perfectly easy and secure as to the ultimate ness of these two persons, quite, a stir was made strength of his resources, yet he could not reamong the poultry, and the cooks were busily press a feeling of bitterness as he saw constituent after constituent rush in, and those whom he always fondly imagined to be his deares was respecting the manner by which the knot freinds, eagerly assisting in the run upon his

> was ushered in, who, after gazing for a moment at the bewildered banker, cooly drew a chair, and abruptly addressed him. "You will pardon me, sir, for asking rather a

Presently the door was opened, a stranger

strange question; but I am a plain man, and "Well, sir!" impatiently interrupted the

-" I have heard that you have a run on your

"Is it true?"

" Really, sir, I must decline replying to your very extraordinary query. If, however, you have any money in the bank, you had better at once draw it out, and so satisfy yourself; our cashier will instantly pay you;" and the banker rose, as a hint for the stranger to withdraw.

"Far from it, sir; I have not a sixpence in plumes curving over the end. "Then may I ask you what is your business

you at this moment?" "Why do you ask that question?"

"Because, if it would, I should gladly pay in

a small deposit."

The money dealer started. "You seem surprised; you don't know my person or-my motive. I'll at once explain .-Do you recollect some twenty years ago, when

you resided in Essex !" "Perfectly."

"Well then, sir, perhaps you have not forgotten the turnpike gate through which you passed daily? My father kept that gate, and was very often honored with a few minutes, chat with you. One Christmas morning, my father was sick, and I attended the toll bar .-On that day you passed through, and I opened the gate. Do you recollect it, sir?"

" No, sir, few such men remember their kind deeds, hut those benefitted by them seldom forget them. I am perhaps prolix; listen however. for a few moments, and I have done."

The banker, who began to feel interested, at

"Well, sir as I said before, I threw open the gate for you, and as I considered myself in duty ound, I wished you a happy Christmas. Thank you my lad,' replied you; "thank you, and the same to you; here is a trifle to make it so: and you threw me a seven shilling piece. It was the first money I ever possessed, and I never shall forget my joy on receiving it, or your kind smile when bestowing it. Ilong treasured it. and as I grew up added a little to it, till I was able to rent a toll myself. You soon after left present brought a goood fortune with it; I am owe all. So this morning, hearing accidentally that three was a run on your bank, I collected all my capital, and have brought it to lodge with you in case it can be of any use; here it is, sir-here it is:" and he handed a bundle of bank notes to the agitated Thompson. "In a waiters were arranged in the usual manner, the few days I'll call again;" and snatching up his hat, the stranger, throwing down his card, immediately walked out of the room.

Thompson opened the roll; it contained £30 .sharp stick, which he held in his hand, when 000! The stern-hearted banker—for all bankers must be stern-burst into tears. The Every thing being in readiness, I arose with firm did not require this prop; but the motive

CHARACTERISTIC .- The London correspondent of the Boston Post has the following real good

Whatever may be said of other of our foreign embassies-and I know of nothing disparaging like the distant roar of the discharged muskets never better (in every best sense of the word)

represented in the chief, secretary and attache, at the court of St. James, than the present time. ing to the thaw, the slush became ice upon the To say nothing of the dignified and independent by-ways of the city. Fortunately the pavements course of Mr. Buchanan, which inspires univer- had been cleaned off the day before. But the sal respect, nor of the regrets expressed at the streets-alas! in what language shall I describe temporary absence of Colonel Lawrence from them! They were intolerable-and I might ala position which he always fills with great ac- most say they are still so. At this juncture too, ceptance to all Americans abroad, Mr. Sickles, the Mr. Arcularius, the metropolitan street-sweepsecretary of the embassy, is achieving for himself a er has resigned his office-prospectively it is reputation, not only as a man of rare ability and true, but then nobody is green enough to imafine acquirements, but as a thorough genteman, gine that he will do any thing at all towards the highly honorable to himself and his country, purification of the city in the six weeks which An anecdote is told of him in the upper circles intervene his proposed and actual retirement. I with a good deal of gusto. He was standing in have before time introduced this gentleman to a public saloon with a lighted cigar in his hand, your readers, but before he sinks into the deep when two Englishmen passed by him smoking. mud of our streets-no-pardon me-I meant Addressing one of them, he courteously asked into the oblivion of private life, I must say somefor a light. "Yonder is a light," replied the thing more concerning him. He is probably is a light, and I thought here was a gentleman." time. His resignation was unanimously ac-John Bull like, the insult was pocketed without cepted by the Aldermen, and unanimously ap-

YOU WILL BE WANTED.

Take courage, my lad. What if you are but heap were his fitting apotheosis! an humble, obscure apprentice-a poor, neglectthoughtless and gay, who despise virtue in rags, thing fowler still to occupy our attention. I alyou from the multitude. Be chivalric in your tion. combat with circumstances. Be ever active, will surely enlarge with every movement, and your influence will have continual increment.

"In the world's broad field of battle. In the bivouse of life, Be not like dumb driven cattle, Be a hero in the strife."

testify that often when clouds are blackest, and wanted .- School Visitor.

THE UMBRELLA BIRD.—The next morning my hunter arrived, and immediately went out in his canoe among the islands, where the umbrella birds are found. In the evening after dark he returned, bringing one fine specimen. This singular bird is about the size of a raven, and is of a similar color, but its feathers have a more scaly appearance, from being margined with a different shade of glossy blue. It is also allied to the crow in its structure, being very similar to it in his feet and bill. On its head it bears a crest, different from that of any other bird. It is formed of feathers more than two inches long, very thick set, and with hairy

These can be laid back so as to be hardly visible, or can be erected and spread out on every side, forming a hemi-spherical, or rather a hemielliposidal dome, completely covering the head. and even reaching beyond the point of the beak : the individual feathers then stand out something like the down-bearing seeds of the dandelion .--Besides this, there is another ornamental appendage on the breast, formed by a fleshy tubercle, as thick as a quill and an inch and a half long, which hangs down from the neck, and is thickly covered with glossy feathers, forming a large pendant plume or tassel. This also the bird can either press to its breast so as almost to conceal the forepart of its body.

In the female the crest and the neck plume are less developed, and she is altogether a smaller and much less handsome bird. It inhabits the flooded islands of the Rio Negro and the Solimoes, never appearing on the main-land. It feeds on fruits, and utters a loud, hoarse cry, like some deep musical instrument, whence its Indian name Ueramimbe, "trumpet bird." The whole of the neck, where the plume of feathers springs from, is covered internally with a thick coat of hard, muscular fat, very difficult to be cleaned away-whi h, in preparing the skins, must be done, as it would putrefy, and cause the feathers to drop off .- The Amazon and the

METROPOLITAN CORRESPORDENCE. LETTER XXXV.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18, 1854. and Swans-Crowing and Quackery-A Chronological Notability-A New Grand Musical Hall-The Opera House-Music in the Metropolis-The Opera at Church-Musical Purvey-

avoid beginning this letter with an allusion to unquestionably the most magnificent piano forte the weather of the week just ended-it has been of American manufacture. so notably bad! Monday, Tuesday, Wednes- To-day I have seen the last instalment of the day, Thursday rain and mist and snow above, Illustrated Record of the New York Crystal and mud and slush below. Hood's description Palace, and I should do injustice to the liberal of a London November-which if I recollect spirit of the publishers of this magnificent work aright I quoted from in its season-was realized if I failed to bestow upon it at least the lowest here to the very letter! The man with eves mark of favor recognized by the Crystal Palace and the man with no eyes, were exactly upon a juries-that is-an "honorable mention!" par. as to "the other side of the way "-for it deserves vastly more than this-for it is the chief was generally invisible to both; and had the excellence and trophy of the Exhibition. Messrs. limits of vision been the boundary lines of the Putnam & Co. have fulfilled their pledge to the city. New York would have had no metropoli- public in the handsomest possible manner. They tan extent to boast of! Through the smoking, have spent thousands of dollars in the production reeking streets, ever coming out of and ever of this great work, and now that it is complete. going into a misty obscure, there poured, as I feel bound to commend it to the favor of the usual a tide of human beings, all of them look- whole American public as a work of great artising intensely damp and uncomfortable. The tic excellence and of vast and varied interest. shop windows streamed with condensed fog- It is a folio volume of 200 pages, embellished through which the gas lights struggled in vain with 500 original engravings-embracing nearly to glow brightly. At night the illuminated dial every thing that was rare and beautiful in the of the great clock on the City Hall gleamed Crystal Palace, which in the hey-day of its glory with a feeble and ghostly pallor; and the senti- realized the gorgeous and prophetic fancy of nel gas-lamps along the streets looked like rows | Chaucer, as recorded in his exquisite "House of faint halos around invisible heads.

Yesterday the sky cleared, and frost succeed person addressed, pointing to a burning lamp. the most unpopular, and certainly ought to be "Yes," was the reply of Mr. Siekles, I see yonder the most unhappy man in New York at this proved by the people. The next day he was buried in effigy, in the mud of our streets. Has and boots and broom sticking out of a much

Notwithstanding the weather of the week has ed orphan-a scoff and a bye-word to the been so notoriously foul-we have had somebecause of its fatters. Have you a virtuous aim, lude of course, to the great National Poultry a pure desire, and an honest heart? Depend show at Barnum's Museum. There have been upon it, one of these days, you will be wanted. congregated all-imaginable varieties of fowls-The time may be long deferred. You may grow shanghais, cochin-chinas, bantams, peafowls, to manhood, and you may even reach your ducks, geese, turkeys, swans, pigeons, et id omprime, ere the call is made, but virtuous aims, ne genus, besides rabbits, gazelles and terriers! pure desires, and houest hearts are too few and These last named animals would seem to be cut sacred not to be appreciated—not to be wanted, of place in a poultry show—but we learn that Your virtues shall not always wrap you about as they are of essential service in the fowl-yard, with a mantle-obscurity shall not always veil and hence they are included in the great exhibi-

This Convention of 'useful and ornamental however small may be your sphere of action. It bipeds (barring the terriers, gazelles and rab bits!) has laid a great obligation upon the news papers of the city, which have been all the week hatching bad puns and fowl jokes therefrom .-The Tribune has crowed amazingly loud, and other papers have generally cackled in concert. The front of the Museum has been decorated Work on, for surely you will be wanted, and with fac similes of mammoth shanghais and oththen comes your reward. Lean upon the sacred er Asiatic varieties of roosters-while inside the verity, "I have never seen the righteous for great "curiosity shop," there has been a consaken or his seed begging bread." Never des- stant crowd of visitors inspecting the live specipair; for the lives of good men abundantly mens. I certainly never saw such remarkable "chickens"—and as for ducks—why quackery the tempest is fiercest, and hope is faintest, a has advanced fifty per cent, since they appeared 'still small voice" will be heard, saying, amongst us. I could readily fill my sheet with "Come hither, you are wanted," and all your amusing incidents of this interesting exhibition, powers will find ample employment. Therefore, but perhaps some of your readers might considtake heart, young man, for ere long you will be er such cackling quite repre-hen-sible and there fore I will content myself by observing that it must be regarded by all as one of the most

egg-straordinary events in modern crow-nology. The recent destruction by fire of the Lafarge Hotel was regretted chiefly for the loss of our magnificent musical hall-which was comprehended in that edifice. It is now announced, and I believe there is no doubt of the truth of the statement-that the spacious property of the National Academy of Design adjoining the ruins of the Lafarge Hotel has been purchased for the erection of another grand Concert Hall, in which the very patent defects of the Metropolitan Saloon will be avoided. The new hall will have besides the grand saloon-two or three fine rooms of more moderate size-available for concerts and lectures. A company of wealthy and enterprising gentlemen has taken this matter in hand, and the execution of the design is entrusted to Mr. Walter Hard ng-a gentleman of great energy and admirable tact-who will loubtless make the New Hall-the very ne plus ultra of elegance and commerce. The ground lies upon Mercer street-like that of the old Metropolitan Hall-but has a front of twenty-five feet upon Broadway, serving for a grand ornamental entrance passage.

The new opera house, upon Fourteenth Street, has been carried up with great dispatch, and bids fair to be an architectural ornament to that beautiful street. It is not yet positively known whether it is to be opened with Grisi and Mario or not; though this impression generally prevails. Music now ranks as the first amusement of the metropolis. Opera and concert rule the day. Even the sanctuary is invaded by the rôle of Italian music, and the fashionable habitues of Grace Church are frequently regaled by strains from Somnambula and Norma. I would not have your readers understand me as intimating that operatic airs are common in our churches, for this is n t the case; but they are heard in that temple of the "upper ten" which I have

While I am discoursing-not music-but about music-I will take the opportunity of counselling any of your readers who may have need of musical purveyors in this city to entrust their business to Messrs. William Hall & Son. These gentlemen are the largest music publishers in this country, and they make and import The Weather-New York in a fog-The Metropol- every species of musical instrument in use. Their itan Street-Sweeper buried in Effigy-A store, which is situated on Broadway, near the Fowl Matter-Poultry and Puppies-Shanghais | City Hall, is the grand rendezvous of musical celebrities, and, I may say without exaggeration, the great musical centre of the new world. cannot too highly extol the courtesy, liberality ors-The Illustrated Record of the Crystal Pa- and affability of the Messrs. Hall-father and son-in all their dealings with their customer I think I mentioned in one of my letters that My DEAR Post :- It is quite impossible to they had upon exhibition in the Crystal Palace

of Fame"-

"But as I slept me mette I was Within a temple ymade of glas, In which there were mo images Of gold standing in sundry stages, In mo rich tabernacles And with perrie mo pinnacles And mo curious portraitures, And queint manner of figures Of gold work, than I saw ever.'

tome of the World's Art and Industry, thev should procure the beautiful work which I am Union for the intelligence of her people, as de now speaking of.

The Caloric ship "Ericson" is moving again, ble credit. and a public trial trip is soon to be made. It is confidently asserted by those who ought to know that the trial will result in the complete triumph of the new motive power.

I do not think that I can protract this letter to the edification of your readers, and I will therefore bid them all "good night."

THE Sonthern Weekly Post. RALEIGH, MARCH 4, 1854.

WILLIAM D. COOKE, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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OUR COMMON SCHOOLS.

Convention, recently held in this city in favor of of his anxious son, and preparing him for his Common Schools, must excite in every part of perilous expedition, by timely warning and sun the State new interest for that important cause. able instruction. Among the most emphatic in We take it for granted that the Democratic Convention, which will assemble here in April, will care, was that conveyed in those familiar words, express itself on the subject in terms equally "medio tutissimus ibis." We think a whole strong. Both of the great parties have, no some lesson in politics, morals, and religion, may doubt, clearly perceived that devotion to this de- be deduced from this celestial fable, penned as a partment of the public interest is essential to was by one of the most immoral of the Roman

the integrity of any platform that may be erect- poets. We hail this evidence of the popularity of Common Schools with profound satisfaction .-They are, indeed, the touchstone of parties, by proposition, that it is difficult to stop at precisely which we may fairly test the genuine democra- the right point when once a man has aquired ev of their faith. It would be useless in any the mementum necessary to carry him up to the man, or body of men, to boast of fidelity to the line of his duty. It is, however, less obvious true interests of the people, and at the same what is the usual cause of this propensity. We time be indifferent to the moral and intellectual | think it may generally be attributed to the inimprovement of their children.

distinguish their public career by an active and who from good or bad motives differ from them zealous advocacy of distant and sometimes obso- Impelled by their anxiety to ove. come such opbusiness connected with Washington city is the into the boiling vortex of fanaticism. great cone rn of a state Legislature, whilst others have been equally impressed with the delusion that the purpose for which it is elected, is the construction of the greatest number of roads. with the least possible amount of money, and rate the value of their gardens, and consider the we verily believe that many have been ignorant. labor bestowed upon them as almost lost. This ly honest in these opinions. But the days of is a grave errof, which has cost us an incalculathese narrow and contracted views of the duties ble amount of money, and interfered with the and responsibilities of statesmanship are happi- general thrift of our agriculture to a greater xly passing away, and with the increase of gener- tent, perhaps, than any other cause. It would al intelligence, a far more elevated and compre- be no difficult task, if we were disposed to go hensive view begins to be entertained. Men are into a minute calculation, to show that a well beginning to enquire what constitutes a State, cultivated garden, is relatively the most profits and to believe that moral and intellectual power | ble part of an ordinary plantation. Not to speak in the people are quite are essential to its progress of the luxuries it may be made to furnish, the and prosperity as the advantages of nature or amount of nutritious food it contributes to the the achievements of art.

ple have a right to make ample provision for the education of their children, by the adoption of laboratory of instruction, where the man of obsome cheap and efficient general system, and because the State cannot safely and prosperously practical lessons in the art of husbandry. without it. We cannot see how any one who ductive culture, and the farmer who acquires by Colleges, can hesitate about the propriety and gardening, can hardly fail of success in the apschools for the education of the children of the ed theatre. people. The reasons that have led to the establishment of the former, would seem to apply hand must be employed in all the various branwith ten-fold force to the latter. In a govern- ches of cultivation, and the garden especially ment like ours, it would require uncommon har- will demand early and punctual attention. This dihood to deny the fostering care of the legisla- department is often left to the management of ture for the education of youth to the great body | the mistress of the family, and the proprietor of our citizens, which is in many cases so libe- seems to consider one acre of a garden unworthy rally and bountifully bestowed upon the child. of his care. Many a conflict cours, on account ren of the wealthy and more infl uential classes. of the supposed conflicting interests of the gar-Such distinctions can no longer be safely made den and the plantation, and the useless labor of recognized as equally entitled to the benefits of by the sovereign of the soil in reluctant defer good government, and as the protection of law ence to his wife's importunities. All this, we is extended with perfect impartiality over high contend, is miserably bad economy. The garand low, rich and poor, it is also understood den should be cultivated, as a primary object, by that an enlightened legislation should be direct. an intelligent laborer, and the farmer should reed without distinction to the benefit of all.

of justice, in respect to the claims of different field. classes of citizens to the benefits of legislation, all such differences ought to vanish from view only to suggest that our rural readers shall take when we reflect upon the necessity that exists a little pains to convince themselves. It seems for the general diffusion of intelligence. If men to us to require but little reflection. A little would only remember that the duration of so- experience will at any rate suffice to establish the ciety, under the circumstances of our country, truth of our proposition. We hope the sugdepends upon the acquaintance of the people gestion we throw out will prompt some who with their rights, and with the principles of go- have hitherto neglected this department of invernment—that the permanence of liberty, as dustry to turn their attention that way, and we well as the security of property, can only be se- conclude by reminding them that travelers gecured by qualifying each generation of vouth nerally compare a well cultivated country to a for the duties of citizens, there could be no mis- garden, which seems to us sufficient to prove giving in regard to the policy of Common that good gardening is the recognized standard Schools, and they would be willing to endure of successful husbandry. still heavier burthens than they do for the purpose of increasing their efficiency.

tendent who is warmly devoted to the cause Hill, John Averitt, Esq., Postmaster,

and whose labors in its behalf have been also universally commended and encouraged. that a generous rivalry seems about to stan up between the two political parties of the Si each endeavoring to excel in earnest zeal foradvancement of the system, we hope that more general interest in its favor will be made If any of your readers desire to possess an epi- fested throughout the State, and that North Co. rolina may soon become as distinguished in the is now for her sound currency and unimpeacha-

MODERATION.

It was a remark of Jean Paul, "that in the easiest thing in the world to do more than right; the most difficult thing to do right as no more." The sentiment is not precisely con sonant with our experience, nor we presume with that of the generality of mankind, as all me have felt how hard it is to stem the current our natural propensities. But the remark embodies and expresses one great truth which would be well that men should keep habitual in view-a truth which every day's observation tends more fully to confirm, viz: that hard as it is to do right, it is still harder to avoid bush ing our conduct into extremes, and committing those extravagances which are unfortunated more agreeable to human nature than rectitude itself. To use a homely figure, the cance will rock in the most placid stream, if it is not kept

steady by a cool head and a skilful hand. We have often thought of Ovid's beautiful fable of Phaeton, as one of the most instructive in the whole compass of ancient mythology. The adventurous youth, true to the instincts of his age, aspired to guide alone the chariot of the sun. A more glorious frolic could hardly excite the ambition of a high spirited boy, and the indulgent sire is represented by the poet, with true fidelity to the failings of a nature less di-THE resolution adopted by the Whig State vine, as reluctantly yielding to the importunities junctions dictated by the paternal wisdom and

But to return to the sentiment of Jean Pan we suppose very few will dispute the general patience produced by the resistance so frequent The present is an appropriate occasion for ly encountered in the conflict between the champresenting the claims of this cause to the most pions of good and evil. Men who have taken earnest devotion of our public men. Hitherto, any good object under their especial charge are our statesmen and legislators have sought to very apt to be chafed by the opposition of those lete measures of federal policy, or by skill and position, they are betrayed into a zeal which is tact in manœuvering on the floor of the legisla- largely made up of egotism and passion. Their ture, in behalf of some sectional or neighbor- views, through frequent repetition and intense hood scheme of internal improvement. Their expression, become, as it were, burnt into the ambition seems to have been to identify them- soul. They are a part of the man's being, a selves with measures of inferior and subordinate second self, whose claims are as imperative as dignity, whilst few seem to have aspired to that the cravings of nature. No wonder that such more enduring celebrity which a zeal for higher persons, in their eagerness to do good in a parobjects can alone secure. Some of our representicular way, are carried by their impetuosity be tatives have appeared to imagine that political vond the goal of sober usefulness, and plan ed

LOOK TO YOUR GARDENS

If we are not seriously mistaken, it is a com mon fault of Southern farmers that they undertable during the year, is generally far greater in We take this ground, both because the peo- proportion to the labor expended upon it than that from any other source. It is, moreover, a servationmay constan.ly learn the most useful maintain her position in the sisterhood of States | good garden is a modelof neat, refined, and proapproves of the endowment of a University and experience, the tact necessary for successful justice of organizing and sustaining a system of plication of his knowledge upon a more extend-

The season has now arrived when the diligent an American commonwealth. All classes are an ignorant field hand is occasionally conceded flect that such a hand will produce ten times as But even if there were differences in the eve | much, for equal times, in the garden as in the

We do not intend to argue the question, but

NEW POST OFFICE -- A new Post Office has We have now, in North Carolina, a promising been established on the Greenville & Roanoke system of schools, presided over by a Superin- Railroad three miles from Gaston, called Spring