THE NORTH-CAROLINA STAR.

THOMAS J. LEMAY, Editor — NORTH CAROLINA—"Powerful in intellectual, moral and physical resources. The land of our sires and home of our affections." — & Public Printer.

VOL. XLII. — WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 14, 1851. — NO. 20

AGRICULTURAL.

WILL GOOD FARMING PAY.

We [illegible] provoked by the receipt [illegible] farmers who coolly undertake to [illegible] with regard to what we may [illegible] Farming—they considering [illegible] occasionally indicated in the Tribune [illegible] erroneous, or at least unsuited to the present condition of Agriculture in this Country. "Land is so cheap and Labor so dear," say they, "that we *can't afford* to [illegible] as the English and Belgians do."—Now both the men who talk in this way know [illegible] idea of what superior farming really is; but, if pressed for a definition of [illegible] the unproductive expenses of whitewashing trees, planing boards for fences, or something of the sort, which has nothing to do with Farming at all. A farmer, [illegible] or fool, may expend so much [illegible] money-work as to render his farm unprofitable and even a expense to boot. Folly does not invalidate the sound general rule that "Any thing *can* profitably be *well* done which can profitably be done at all." To [illegible] we know no exceptions.—One man's land may be unsuited to Corn, or Wheat, or Barley, so that he ought not to attempt the growing of that particular grain; but it will pay for growing *any* crop of it at all. It will pay for growing a *good* one.—It will not pay for such a crop, it will not pay for any; and should be turned over to something of which it *will* yield a generous return; and, in default of that, given up to pasture and put into wood as soon as possible. To raise a twenty-bushel crop of Indian Corn might be admirable as a perversion and abuse of the counties of Providence.

The farmer who plows (*once*) five or six inches, and no more feebly, and gets in his crop late, and about half cultivates it through the Summer, and gets a meager half-crop in the Fall, and [illegible] happen to break over the shallow [illegible] and rat it up meantime) not only [illegible] himself to fence, and watch, and plow twice or thrice the extent he might, but he is committing a flagrant crime against Nature by exhausting the Soil of its virtues. An official survey of our National Agriculture estimates the deterioration of the soil of this country since its settlement by white men as detracting at least Five Hundred Millions of Dollars from its value!—All who read [illegible] are familiar with facts which sustain the estimate. "There are whole Counties, and almost whole States, which would once have yielded an average of twenty bushels of Wheat or forty of Indian Corn to the acre, yet would now (unmanured) average not more than twenty of Corn and not five of Wheat. "The virgin has gone out of them." They have been gradually robbed of their fertility by late, miserable, wasteful culture. The elements essential to the production of [illegible] crops have been gradually abstracted, but not returned nor replaced. They have been sent off to the cities, to Europe, and have long since served to fertilize British fields, or have been thrown from the docks, or run through the sewers of our seaboard cities into the ocean. Every dollar of the diminished value of the Soil is so much robbed by evidence and ignorance on the part from the guardians of future generations.

[illegible] acre of land may be exhausted so that it will not repay enough for the tillage thereof. It may not, indeed, be in condition to produce a larger amount of *that same crop*; so that it may be wise to discontinue growing it. The way to pay a farmer is to give the fertilization and culture needed to enable any bushels of corn to an acre, [illegible] own, fence and pay taxes on the twenty bushels, is an amazing absurdity.

[illegible] of New Jersey, in his Work [illegible] for April, thus bears testimony [illegible] of science in improving the Agriculture of that State:

"Within the last three years we have visited many farms in New-Jersey, and some of the owners of these farms sent contributions to the State Tretion. One report said that only our advice he had added the missing constituents to his soil, at an expense of only $4 12½ per acre, with proper tillage, and produced, in consequence, the following crops: Corn 128 bushels of ears per acre, where formerly with much larger expenditure for manures, but 30 bushels of shelled corn had been produced. Potatoes 310 bushels per acre, Mangle Wurtzel 16 tons per acre, and other crops in proportion. Another (a member of the House of Assembly) represented that on a piece of ground in Passaic County which had been considered of very inferior quality and unworthy cultivation for corn, he had raised, by adding the missing constituents of his soil, under our advisement, 138 bushels of ears of corn per acre, and that his crop of long orange carrots average 600 bushels per acre, and that the expenses for fertilization were less than for the ordinary method by barnyard manuring.

Another farmer from Monmouth County represented that by the use of the subsoil plow, under a recommendation contained in one of our lectures, on a field of twenty acres, and by the application of decomposed hog on another field of similar size, he had increased his corn crop on each from 20 to 25 per cent.

Another farmer of Freehold represented that he had raised between 4,000 and 5,000 cabbages on half an acre, and at the prices at which he had made sales, the returns were at the rate of from $400 to $500 per acre. This land was thrown into garden heart at one operation, and the land left in so improved a condition after the cabbage crop, as to be benefited for future crops more than the whole cost of fertilizers used for cabbages. Many other farmers reported large crops resulting from our advice, and from some neighborhoods large numbers signed statements that the whole crop of the township had been materially increased by our efforts. It was also shown to the Legislature that we have taken the first premium for our market garden farm the American Institute, and that we had raised 1,500 bushels of parsnips, 900 do. of carrots, 800 do. of ruta baga turnips per acre, and other crops in proportion, but all these facts could not avail in causing the Senate to appropriate a sum only equal to the necessary expenses of a State Agriculturist during the delivery of five lectures in each county in the State.

We asserted, without the fear of contradiction, that in no case where we had been furnished with an analysis of the soil, had we failed in increasing the income of the owner more than one-third, and this, too, after having advised under such circumstances more than one hundred farmers in New-Jersey.

Some members could not believe that we had discovered so much that was new as to enable us to produce such results, and they were right. We do not claim any such credit, but simply that we have put in practice what is well known to the few among the many. We often hear of large crops raised by individuals, whose neighbors produce no such results. In such cases we visit the growers, and find out, if practicable, their methods, manures, &c., and then by an analysis of the soil, compared with that of the crop, are enabled to advise others so as to enable them to produce similar results. We claim no originality, but merely, with the assistance of chemistry, to be able to duplicate on any soil containing a fair average of constituents, the same results which may have been produced on any other soil—all of which may be done by adding the missing constituents to the soil, with such cultivation as the peculiarities of the crop, mechanical condition of the soil, &c., may require."

In another article in the same paper, Prof. Mapes gives the following glance at what is doing for Agriculture in Europe by Governments which we are accustomed to consider as far behind our own in knowledge of, and devotion to, popular well-being:

ADVANCEMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Our readers will be surprised to learn how much is being done by European Governments for the advancement of Agriculture, while our own General and State Governments are supinely inert on this all-important subject.

Every political economist knows that an increase of production adds permanently to national wealth, and hence the English Government are ever ready to lend judicious aid to their farming interest. As an example:—by long experience it has been ascertained that by thorough under-draining, an acre of land will produce one-third more neat results to the owner, and therefore the Government have enacted laws and appropriated funds to be used for this purpose. Several appropriations have been made during the last session of Parliament, one of which is £2,000,000 sterling, equal to $10,000,000. This sum is placed at the disposal of commissioners, who loan it to applicants on the following terms:—The farm of the applicant is first valued, and then a loan is made to him on mortgage, to be applied to under-draining his land under the inspection of the Commissioners. This mortgage is only active on the increased value of the farm by under-draining. The borrower is required to pay 5 per cent. interest, payable annually, and 5 per cent. of the principal and thus in 20 years both principal and interest will be paid off; and the first instance has not yet occurred where the increased products of the land have not been sufficiently great to enable the occupant to meet these payments. Should the borrower fail to meet the requirements of the mortgage, then the farm may be sold, but before the Government can appropriate any part of the amount toward the liquidation of their mortgage, they must first pay the borrower the amount at which the farm was valued before being under-drained; and long experience has established, that under-drained farms will always sell for more than the cost of under-draining added to Commissioners valuations.

Now, look at the position of all the parties at the end of twenty years. The owner of the land having paid off the mortgage for a improved productiveness, is as much richer as the value of the improvement; while the Government have been repaid, and the wealth of the nation has been increased equal to the increased amount of products. Add to this the future ability of the soil to continue to produce this increased ratio, and the whole result is before us. In the face of the experience of a whole nation, is it not ridiculous at this time to hear American farmers raling against the practice of under-draining? In addition to this loan of $10,000,000, the Government have appropriated $1,000,000 for similar purposes in Ireland, and a further sum of $4,000,000, if the Commissioners shall think advisable.

Many other acts have been passed for improvements, general public drainage, &c., &c., all requiring appropriations from the Public Treasury. In addition to those appropriations by the Government, we find half a column of advertisements in the Mark Lane Express of chartered companies, with capitals varying from $500,000 to $5,000,000, offering to make loans for under drainage of land in terms nearly as liberal as those offered by the Government. We find, also, the reports of County Agriculturists paid by County Societies, whose business is to visit the different localities, deliver lectures, and give gratuitous advice to farmers. Schools for instructions in Scientific Agriculture are being established in almost every township, and the wisest and best men in the land are lending their aid to the general advancement of Agriculture.

Necessity may truly be said to be the mother of invention; but in our country it would seem as if old Mrs. Necessity was away from home, and her offspring had gone to sleep.—Why is it, that while our mechanics are busily employed in the application of the sciences to their vocations, that farmers alone will suffer theirs to remain without improvement?—The exceptions to this rule are really rare, nor do we claim from our legislators any amendment.

We find our Government ordering new steam vessels almost monthly, for the mere purpose of testing new inventions in steam machinery, and the whole mechanical interests of the country using their interest and influence to press forward the appropriation. More than $100,000 have been spent for improvement in the telescope, and not one cent has yet ever been appropriated for improvements in the plow. Within the last twelve months France has endowed 180 Agricultural Colleges and Académies, while the politicians of the United States have told the farmers that they were the bone and sinew of the country, and paid nine-tenths of the taxes, in consideration of which they had better attend to their business in the old way, and vote for them again at the next election.

Prussia, and indeed all the continental powers, are organizing institutions for the advancement of the agricultural interest, and while all the world beside are busy in the good work, both our General and State Governments fear to act with promptness and decision. The hackneyed excuse that we have so much spare land will no longer avail.—Our whole sea-board, and indeed our middle States, do not produce half the grain crops of thirty years ago. The great majority of our bread-stuffs are brought from the West; and even the wheat-growers of the far famed Mohawk and Genesee Valleys, are driven from the field by western competitors. One competent lecturer on Agriculture, visiting the different counties in either of the Northern Atlantic States, and delivering free lectures on Agriculture, would double the crops in five years. Let those who doubt it spend a single hour with us, and if we cannot produce the evidence beyond a cavil to any unprejudiced mind, we will break our pen and cease to urge our readers to increased exertion.

FRUIT.

From the American Phrenological Journal.

A good fruit tree will yield more real market and nutritive value than any other crop that can be produced from the same soil. No labor of the farmer, and no use of the soil pays more abundantly than when applied to the culture of good fruit. As a tree of choice fruit covers no more land than a poor one, it is of the first importance to make the best selections, and render the most faithful attention to its full development. Man does not use one half the quantity of fruit that he should do as an article of food. Thousands of farmers live mainly on salt beef pork and fish, who might have the luscious luxury of fruit at every meal, every month in the year. Besides, man is adapted in his nature to subsist principally on a vegetable and fruit diet, and would be far more healthy, happy and long-lived for so doing. As an article of general food, fruit in its vast varieties is without a parallel. Our friends, at a distance from cities, will find it a source of profit, as railroads now bring them so near the market as to enable them to compete with farmers, in the suburbs of cities. We have felt keen regret in travelling in different portions of the country to see so little attention paid to the subject of good fruit.

The Spaniards have a maxim, that a man is ungrateful to the past generation that planted the tree from which he eats; and deals unjustly with the next generation, unless he plants the seed of that fruit, that it may furnish food for those who come after him. Thus when a son of Spain eats a peach or pear by the road side, wherever he is, he digs with his foot in the ground, and covers the pit or the core. Consequently, all over Spain, by the road side and elsewhere, fruit in great abundance temptes the taste, and is ever free. This is an easily wrought charity, and an evidence of a noble soul. Let this practice be imitated in our own country, and the weary wanderer will be blest, and bless the hand and the liberal charity that ministered to his comfort and joy. We are bound to leave the world as good, or better than we found it, and he is a selfish churl who basks under the shadow, and eats the fruit of trees which other hands have planted, if he will not also plant trees which shall yield fruit to coming generations. No young man should vote or marry until he has planted at least one tree as an evidence of good citizenship. Who planted the elms of Boston Common, and of New Haven, which are so justly celebrated? Surely not the present generation. Let fruit trees be in like manner bequeathed, that unborn generations may be grateful to them.

From the Southern Cultivator.

WATER MELON CULTURE.

Mr. Editor:—As the southern Cultivator was mainly concerned, as I conceive, for the purpose of advancing the Southern planting and farming interests, &c., &c., I will give your numerous readers my mode of cultivating the Water Melon; provided you think it worthy of some nook in your paper.

Select a piece of land (fresh is the best) that lies fair to the morning sun, and free of shade. If it is rich, manure will benefit; but if not rich, make it so by manuring. Plow deep and break well. As soon as you think the frost is done, you can plant; lay off with a scooter or shovel plow, 18 or 20 feet square, scatter a little more manure where the furrows cross, and mix well, and form a flat hill, raising it a little above the surface, in order to drain. If you have seed plenty drop 15 or 20 to a hill, sucking them in with your finger up to the first joint, filling up the hole, and it dry press the earth on them lightly.—When they come up and stand a few days, draw up the sickly plants, and cover lightly the old hill or crust with fresh pulverized soil, and about this time, plow your ground again. Prepare yourself with an iron tooth (square teeth) hand rake; in a few days the ground will become hard—work the hills by loosening the ground all about the little plants; plow, to keep the middles mellow and clean. The next dressing will be with the rake; continue to thin out (leaving the most vigorous plants) from time to time, down to two plants; two are sufficient. About now they will begin to run, and now be sure to keep the ground raked mellow and clear of weeds and grass.—You may train your vines the course you want them to run, but to shift, turn and twist them while working. All you have now to do is to keep the ground clean and mellow by raking before the vines, if you have treated them well, you will make a good crop; they will soon cover the whole ground. The idea is this, the roots under the surface in the mellow, moist earth as far or farther than the vine, above the ground, literally filling the earth with roots.

From the above treatment I have grown water melons to weigh from 40 to 50 and 60 pounds.

JOHN HARLIN.

Coila, Carroll Co., Miss., Feb. 1850.

LAWS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

BY AUTHORITY.

AN ACT

To increase the capital of the Bank of Cape-Fear.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the act entitled "an act to recharter the Bank of Cape Fear," passed by the General Assembly at the session of 1832 and 1834, and which was amended by the act of 1835 and 1836, be, and the same is so amended as to increase the capital stock of said Bank five thousand shares.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That the President and Directors of the Bank of Cape Fear may convene the stockholders at any time before the first day of July next, for the purpose of ascertaining whether they desire to increase the capital stock of said bank; and in case they determine to increase the capital stock, there shall be added five thousand shares, of one hundred dollars each, to the capital stock of said company, so as to make the capital stock of said company two millions of dollars.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That if the stockholders shall assent to the increase of the capital stock of said company, the President and Directors of said company shall, in one month after the acceptance of the amended charter, open books of subscription, under the direction of two or more commissioners to be by them designated, at the city of Raleigh and in the towns of Wilmington, Fayetteville, Newbern, Edenton, Hillsboro, Salem, Salisbury, Charlotte, Elizabeth City, Halifax, Tarboro', Lincolnton, Morganton, Washington, Wadesboro', Wilkesboro', Greensboro', Rutherfordton, Oxford and Asheville; and the same to keep open for subscription ten days; and if it shall happen, when the books shall be open as aforesaid, that more than five thousand shares of stock shall be subscribed for, it shall be competent for the President and Directors to reduce the shares so subscribed, by a scale by them to be adopted, so as to make the number of shares five thousand; provided, that if the whole number of five thousand shares shall not be subscribed in the ten days allowed for that purpose, the President and Directors may and shall have power, from time to time, to reopen books, at such times and places, and under such commissioners as they shall appoint, to receive addition al subscriptions of stock, until the whole amount is subscribed.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That it shall be incumbent on the said Bank to establish a branch in the town of Greensboro' within six months.

Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That the President of said Bank shall give notice to the Governor of the acceptance by the stockholders, of the amended charter, within thirty days of the decision of the company.

[Ratified 28th January, 1851.]

AN ACT

Concerning the duties of sheriffs.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North-Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That hereafter it shall be the duty of the sheriff of each county to lay before the Grand Jury of his county, at each court, as soon as the said Grand Jury shall be assembled, a list of all persons who may have obtained license to retail spirituous liquors by the small measure during the time he may have been sheriff, not exceeding two years previous to said court. And any sheriff failing to perform the duty aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay to the State the sum of ten dollars, to be sued for and recovered for the State by the prosecuting officer of said court.

[Ratified 28th January, 1851.]

RESOLUTIONS

Providing for the publication of Colonial Records, and for other purposes.

Sec. 1. Resolved, That the Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer and Comptroller be instructed to contract for the printing of one hundred and fifty copies of the following records now in the office of the Secretary of State, viz: (1) Journals of the Assembly of the Province of North Carolina, held in the year 1715; (2) Journals of the Assembly of North Carolina, from the year 1754 to 1763; (3) do. of do. from the year 1763 to 1768; (4) do. of do. from the year 1769 to 1771; (5) do. of do. from the year 1773 to 1775; (6) Council book or Records of the proceedings of the Governor and Council of North Carolina from the year 1731 to 1740; (7) do. of do. from 1761 till the Revolution; (8) Journals of the Provincial Congress of N. Carolina from 1776 to 1780; and that they have them bound and deposited in the office of the Secretary of State, subject to the future order of the Assembly.

Sec. 2. Resolved, That William Hill, the Secretary of State, be, and he is hereby instructed to certify to the correctness of each printed copy to the original in his office; and that for the cost of printing and binding the said books, the sum of one thousand dollars is hereby allowed from any monies in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

[Ratified 29th January, 1851.]

RESOLUTION

Appropriating one thousand dollars for furnishing the Governor's house.

Resolved, That the sum of one thousand dollars be, and is hereby appropriated to the purchase of furniture for the Governor's residence, the purchase of said furniture to be made under the direction of the Governor.

[Ratified 27th January, 1851.]

RESOLUTION.

For opening a communication between Beaufort Harbour and the waters of Pamlico Sound.

Whereas in the year 18—, it was successfully demonstrated that the channel of Core Sound could be so deepened by dredging, as to open a communication between Beaufort Harbour and the waters of Pamlico Sound, for the passage of Merchant vessels; and the complete success of said undertaking was only prevented by the accidental destruction of the instruments then employed for said purpose; Therefore,

Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be, and they are hereby requested to use their best exertions to procure an appropriation of money by the General Government for opening said water communication, and the completion of the work undertaken as aforesaid in the year 18—.

Resolved 2nd, That a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolution be transmitted by the Governor of this State to our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

[Ratified 28th January, 1851.]

RESOLUTION

Requesting our Senators and Representatives in Congress to endeavor to procure a Hydrographic survey of the waters lying between Pamlico Sound and Beaufort Harbor.

Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be, and are hereby requested to procure a Hydrographic survey of those waters lying between Pamlico Sound and Beaufort Harbor, known as Core Sound, with a view of having the channels of said sound deepened by dredging or otherwise.

2. Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

[Ratified 28th January, 1851.]

RESOLUTIONS

In relation to the encouragement of Home Industry, and requesting our members in both branches of Congress to vote against any increase of tariff duties.

Whereas, The Southern States of this Union have, since the formation of the Federal government, assisted in fostering and nourishing the manufacturing and mining interests of the non-slaveholding States, by voting to impose high taxes upon importations from foreign countries which might come in competition with the productions of the labor and industry of the aforesaid nonslaveholding States; and whereas these acts of generosity and self sacrifice have been unappreciated at the North, and the people of that section show a disposition to make unceasing attacks upon our institutions and property: therefore,

Resolved, That the State of North Carolina feels herself under no further obligation, by the votes of her representatives in Congress or otherwise, to protect the "Home Industry" of the non-slaveholding States.

2. Resolved, that if our own industry needs protection it can be better effected by State than by Congressional legislation.

3. Resolved, That the present tariff is high enough to afford sufficient revenue to carry on an economically administered government, and ought not to be increased.

4. Resolved, That the foregoing resolutions be transmitted to our members in both houses of Congress, with a request that they lay them before their respective houses, and with the further request, that they vote against any change in the present tariff laws which may have the effect to protect or encourage the manufacturing or mining interests of the free States or which may have the effect to increase the cost to the Southern consumer of any of the products of foreign countries.

[Ratified 22nd January, 1851.]

RESOLUTIONS

In relation to the block of marble presented by the citizens of Lincoln county for the Washington Monument.

1. Resolved, That His Excellency the Governor cause to be transmitted the block of marble presented by the patriotic citizens of Lincoln county, for the Washington Monument, and that he cause to be made on it the following inscription, together with the coat of arms of the State, to wit:

NORTH CAROLINA

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

Mecklenburg,

May, 1775.

2. Resolved, That the Governor draw his warrant on the Treasurer of the State, for such sum as may cover the expenses for the freight, and for carrying into effect the foregoing resolution, and that the Treasurer be authorized to pay the same.

[Ratified 15th January, 1851.]

A RESOLUTION

To provide a safe depository for maps and documents relating to public surveys and internal Improvements of the State, and for other purposes.

Resolved, That in order to preserve the maps, charts, documents and other material relating to surveys which have been or may hereafter be made with reference to any work of public improvement in this State; the room in the west wing of the Capitol, known as committee room, No 3, be appropriated and set apart as a permanent bureau of engineering; and the same is hereby directed to be fitted up, under the superintendence of the clerks of the two houses, with the requisite tables, cloets and other fixtures; and that hereafter all companies incorporated for said purposes of public improvements, be required to furnish to this bureau, for the use of the General Assembly and the public officers of the State, a correct map and profile of the contemplated improvements, drawn to an uniform horizontal scale of four hundred feet to an inch; and that all such charts and other documents of a like character as may be furnished to the State shall be deposited for safe keeping in said room, under the charge of the State Librarian or State Engineer, should there hereafter be one appointed; and the expense of so fitting up said room to an amount not exceeding twenty-five dollars, be defrayed from the Public Treasury.

[Ratified 1st January, 1851.]

RESOLUTIONS

Directing the Adjutant General to publish copies of the Muster Rolls of the soldiers of the war of 1812

Resolved, that the Adjutant General be and is hereby directed, to have published a hundred copies duly certified of the muster rolls of the soldiers of the war of 1812, which are on file in his department, and that one copy be sent to the clerk of the county court in each county of this State.

Resolved further, That when it shall be made to appear to the Treasurer that the requirements of the above resolution, have been complied with, he shall pay to the Adjutant General, as a compensation for his services out of any money not otherwise appropriated, the sum of one hundred dollars.

[Ratified 28th January, 1851.]

RESOLUTIONS

In Relation to Nag's Head

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, That the re-opening of the Inlet at or near Nag's Head, between the Ocean and Albemarle Sound, is a work of deep importance to a very large and wealthy portion of this State, and of vast advantage to the general commerce and navigation of the whole country.

2. Resolved, That this work is peculiarly within the power and duty of the General Government, and that Congress will fail in one of its great duties to the State of North Carolina, and to the commerce and navigation of the country, if the necessary appropriation of money for the construction of this great work is not promptly made, and the work prosecuted to completion with all reasonable dispatch.

3. Resolved further, That it is a matter of just complaint, on the part of the people of North Carolina, that this work has been so unreasonably delayed, and its further delay will be considered a palpable wrong and injustice to the State, as one of the members of the Confederacy, possessing equal rights, and bound to equal duties with her sister States, which cannot fail to produce great discontent and dissatisfaction.

4. Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to use their best exertions to effect the object contemplated by the foregoing resolutions.

[Ratified 15th January, 1851.]

RESOLUTION

Authorizing repairs of the Raleigh and Gaston Rail Road.

Resolved, That the President and Commissioners of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad, be authorized to anticipate the usual receipts of said Road, by the purchase on time of two hundred and fifty tons of iron for the purpose of repairing said Road, and that they be authorized to pledge the receipts of said Road for the payment of said debt; and the said iron, when the charter shall be accepted by the stockholders under the charter granted by this present General Assembly, shall be sold for the benefit of the State.

Provided, That the State shall not in any manner or in any event, be held responsible or liable for the purchase money, which may be due for said two hundred and fifty tons of iron.

[Ratified 28th January, 1851.]

RESOLUTIONS

Directing the Treasurer to subscribe for two thousand shares of the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad stock

Resolved by the General Assembly of North Carolina, That the Public Treasurer of the State of North Carolina be and he is hereby authorized and directed to subscribe in the name of the State for two thousand shares of the capital stock of the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad Company: Provided the said Wilmington and Manchester Railroad Company will agree in due form of law according to their charter to accept in payment for said subscription, two thousand shares of the stock belonging to the State in the capital stock of the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad Company, and the Public Treasurer is further authorized and directed to assign and transfer to the said Wilmington and Manchester Railroad Company or to their assigns, the said two thousand shares of stock, part of that held and owned by this State in the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad Company; whenever the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad Company will issue to the State and deliver to the Public Treasurer a certificate for the same number of shares in the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad Company.

Resolved further, That unless the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad Company will in due form of law agree to and accept the foregoing proposition within twelve months from the date of the passage of these resolutions, the same shall be null and void.

Resolved further, That nothing in the foregoing resolutions shall be taken or construed as an engagement upon the part of the State of North Carolina to become responsible for or on account of any other dealings, acts or contracts of the said Wilmington and Manchester Railroad Company, or for any loss or discount, if there should be any upon a sale of the stock hereby directed to be assigned.

And provided further, That the said stock shall not be sold below par either directly or indirectly.

[Ratified 28th January, 1851.]

MENTAL CULTURE.

Of all the works of creation, the human mind may be considered the noblest. Like all else created it is capable of cultivation, and perhaps to a greater degree than any other of the works of nature. Just in the degree that the mind is cultivated and rendered pure, is man fitted for great action, and high enjoyment. Man's great concern on earth is to educate and strengthen the mind, and through it the heart. A great truth which the mass have yet to learn. It is wonderful that mortals endowed with such noble qualities and capable of the highest intellectual attainments, should slumber on through a world like ours, which cotains every thing beautiful, lovely and sublime, to awaken and call forth their energies; a world which opens a scene of the richest variety to the eye, the mind, the heart, so diversified that we may never grow weary in contemplating it. If you wish to live in the true sense of the term, cultivate the mind, enlarge its capacities, and give vent to pure and noble feelings. Let the purest sentiments of virtue arise and endow us with the noblest worth. Each of our minds is but a portion as it were of one vast machine, in which each piece has a part to perform, capable of the highest, noblest action, capable of being expanded and elevated in a degree almost illimitable. Every cultivated mind turned out into the world exerts a powerful influence either for good or evil.

Here we see the need of right education; such as will render the mind capable of exerting a happy influence on the community, and raise it to a just perception of its duties both moral and rational. Its influence will be felt in future generations. What then is our duty in reference to that influence. It is very evident it is to use all the means in our power without stint, grudge, or prejudice, to acquire that mental culture which will make us instruments of the greatest good; that which will enable us to unlock the door of science, and leave an example worthy of imitation. May the time speedily come when all classes of persons shall be educated to a greater extent than now; when there shall be more equality, and crimes in all their forms may be checked; when religion, justice and humanity, shall govern the people, and ignorance be forever blotted from the face of the earth. An overruling desire for wealth narrows the mental vision, deprives the mind of its capacity for expansion; deadens the finer sensibilities, and chains the whole immortal to a few petty atoms of this dust. In a country like ours, where merit gives the preference—where talent rises superior to riches, the cultivated minds elevate themselves over their ignorant cotemporaries, and perhaps unconsciously sway the minds and control the actions of all around them. This should furnish a new incentive to renewed exertions. It should stir up the inmost soul, awaken feelings of self respect, and throw a ray of light over them that should continue to glow brighter and brighter till the summons for our departure comes.

The cause of mental culture becomes the cause of humanity. Mind sways the destinies of nations. Its cultivation enlarges the power of reason and judgment, and raises men to honor and distinction. Though its onward progress be silent and imperceptible, it is nevertheless rapid and powerful, and when guided by moral principle and skill, demolishes the strong hold of ignorance and superstition. Consult the pages of history;—draw out its truth, and you cannot find a name cherished for its noble worth, that belonged not to a cultivated mind. A person having no heart beating in common with those of his fellow man, no feeling on which self is not the beginning and the end, may truly be said not to live. May right mental culture never cease till it shall fill the earth with its wonderful fruits, and show to man his capacity for mental improvement, and finally raise the people of this common country, to the true condition they ought to occupy. If you have any regard for the well being of posterity, apply yourselves with redoubled energy, and an unyielding determination never to cease your exertions, till this end be secured. Let us act as those who know their rights, and who their duties know, and knowing dare perform.

A MINE UNDER THE SEA.

The following description of a visit to Botallack Copper-Mine, in England, is from a work recently published, entitled "Rambles beyond Railroads." In complete mining equipment, with candles stuck by lumps of clay to their felt hats, the travellers have painfully descended, by perpendicular ladders and along dripping-wet rocky passages, fathoms down into pitchy darkness; the miner who guides them calls a *halt*, and their exact position with reference to the surface of the 'terraqueous globe' is thus described:

"We are now four hundred yards out, *under the bottom of the sea!* and twenty fathoms, or a hundred and twenty feet below the sea level. Coast-trade vessels are sailing over our heads. Two hundred and forty feet beneath us men are at work, and there are galleries deeper yet, even below that! The extraordinary position down the face of the cliff, of the engines and other works on the surface, at Botallack, is now explained. The mine is not excavated like other mines under the land, but under the sea!

Having communicated these particulars, the miner next tells us to keep strict silence and listen. We obey him, sitting speechless and motionless. If the reader could only have beheld us now, dressed in our copper-colored garments, huddled close together in a mere cleft of subterranean rock, with a flame burning on our heads and darkness enveloping our limbs—he must certainly have imagined, without any violent stretch of fancy, that he was looking down upon a conclave of gnomes

After listening for a few moments, a distant, unearthly noise becomes faintly audible—a long, low, mysterious, moaning, that never changes—that is *felt* on the ear as well as *heard* by it—a sound that might proceed from some incalculable distance—from some far invisible height—a sound unlike anything that is heard on the upperground, in the free air of Heaven—a sound so sublimely mournful and still, so ghostly and impressive, when listened to in the subterranean recesses of the earth, that we continue instincively to hold our peace, as if enchained by it, and think not of communicating to each other the strange feeling and astonishment which it has inspired in us both from the first.

At last the miner speaks again, and tells us that what we hear is the sound of the surf lashing the rocks a hundred and twenty feet above us, and of the waves that are breaking on the beach beyond. The tide is now at the flow, and the sea is in no extraordinary state of agitation; so the sound is low and distant just at this period. But, when storms are at their height, when the ocean hurls mountain after mountain of water on the cliffs, then the noise is terrific; the roaring heard down here in the mine is so inexpressibly fierce and awful, that the boldest men at work are afraid to continue their labor—all ascend to the surface to breathe the upper air and stand on the firm earth; dreading, though no catastrophe has ever happened yet, that the sea will break in on them if they remain in the cavern below.

Hearing this, we get up to look at the rock above us. We are able to stand upright in the position we now occupy; and flaring our candles hither and thither in the darkness, can see the bright, pure copper streaking the gallery in every direction. Lumps of ooze, of the most lustrous green color, traversed by a natural network of thin red veins of iron, appear here and there in large, irregular patches, over which water is dripping slowly and incessantly in certain places. This is the salt water percolating through invisible crannies in the rock. On stormy days it spirts out furiously in thin, continuous streams. Just over our heads we observe a wooden plug of the thickness of a man's leg; there is a hole here, and the plug is all that we have to keep out the sea!

Immense wealth of metal is contained in the roof of this gallery, throughout its whole length; but it remains, and always will remain, untouched; the miners dare not take it, for it is part, and a great part of the rock which forms their only protection against the sea, and which has been so far worked away here, that its thickness is limited to an average of three feet only between the water and the gallery in which we now stand. No one knows what might be the consequence of another day's labor with the pickaxe on any part of it."

FRIGHTFUL DEATH OF A PHYSICIAN. The following shocking details of the death of Dr. E. Morey, of Westville, N. Y., we copy from the Malone Palladium:

The Doctor started Wednesday afternoon, April 16, to visit a patient at the junction of the Constable and Malone roads, in Burke. He was overtaken by night at Constable, and remained there until 3 o'clock, A. M., of Thursday. With a spirited horse and frail gig he then left, and when within a short distance of the Burke line, the right wheel of the gig ran into a deep hole, causing him to break the seat of his gig, and fall on the wheel, which carried him forward of it, and then ran over his shoulder, thus bringing him immediately under the gig, with his face turned upwards. The injury might have ended here, but in falling his right foot slipped inside of the shaft under the floor of the carriage, and was held there by an iron bolt which held the seat to the floor, and which, striking in his instep, tore through his boot, rendering it impossible for him to extricate his foot. After dragging about a rod, the horse apparently running at full speed, he reached up and caught the hind part of the shafts, and held himself from the ground for thirty or forty rods, when he again dragged, his hold being loosed, probably for want of strength to hold himself up.

The horse ran nearly three miles, and the Doctor, as appears by the trial of his body, held himself up at three different times for the distance of 125 rods; being still alive, and holding himself up when passing Goodspeed's, in Burke, some 3 or 4 miles from the place of his fall.

When found, his horse had travelled 7½ miles in less than an hour, over the roughest of roads, and was walking slowly homewards, while the lifeless corpse dragged in the mud, divested of nearly all the upper clothing, his gold watch also trailing by the string, with his arms and torn garments behind. His flesh was horribly mangled, but no bones were broken. Thus ends the story of his death, than which we have never heard or read of one more revolting and painful.