

# THE NORTH-CAROLINA STAR.

THOMAS J. LEHAY, Editor.

NORTH-CAROLINA—Powerful in intellectual, moral and physical resources, the land of our sires and home of our affections.

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## AGRICULTURAL.

### HON. REVERDY JOHNSON'S EXPERIMENT IN AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY.

In the last report of the Farmer's Club, this distinguished experiment was mentioned, and fully acknowledged by Mr. Johnson as exactly correct.

About thirteen months ago Mr. Johnson acquired the farm on which the experiment was made, 200 acres, about 2 and a half miles from Baltimore, (West.) 200 acres cleared originally good, but utterly impoverished by a long course of bad husbandry.

Doctor Stewart states, the reason for using the di-phosphate of lime on a soil will be seen by the following careful analysis of that soil. In my notebook I made the following comment on the occasion of my visit to the farm:

Table with 2 columns: Name of substance and its weight/percentage. Includes items like Sand and basis insoluble, Magnesia, Potash, Water and organic matter, Phosphoric acid, Iron and Alumina.

It is recommended to be added to this soil the purest preparation of phosphoric acid that we can adapt to agricultural purposes.

It is demonstrated, that bones, lime, plaster and salt, are only relatively good, and that even the best guano must fail, if applied to soils that have the experience of the most intelligent and best farmers in the State.

Recent investigations have made it appear that our country contains numerous and almost inexhaustible deposits of Marl.

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clearly belonging to races of animals which have long since ceased to exist. One of a very remarkable size has been found upon the lands of Mr. James Deans, about six miles from this place.

### A NEW AND CHOICE VARIETY OF COTTON.

We had the pleasure of examining, a few days since, a new and most choice variety of the great Southern staple, and as nothing can be of more importance to planters, or more conducive to their interest and welfare than superior seed, we are confident that we will be doing our readers a positive service by thus calling their attention to the silk cotton grown by Col. F. L. Calhoun, of this District.

The original seed of this new variety of cotton was sent from South America to a gentleman named Augustus, who presented some of them to a brother of Col. Calhoun in Abbeville, from whom the Colonel obtained his supply.

Its color is remarkably brilliant and in addition to a long and unusually fine fibre, it yields tremendously. Boiling as free as any other variety—one hundred of its bolls will weigh thirty ounces; whilst an hundred bolls of the Petit Gulf will only average from fourteen to sixteen ounces.

In 1848, Col. Calhoun informs us, that he planted an acre of old gulf, managed light and drill, with the silk cotton seed—the growth of this acre was not good until the middle of January, and then yielded four hundred and two pounds of superior cotton; and he also says, that in either Hamburg or Columbia the buyers will always give 1-4 of a cent more per pound for the silk cotton, than for any other kind that is brought to their markets.

Desiring that the benefit of raising a superior cotton may be within the reach of all farmers, Col. Calhoun desires us to inform those who wish to improve their crops, that having a small surplus on hand, he will sell the seed of the silk cotton at two dollars per bushel—his Post Office is Mirengo, Laurens District, and we think that those who make the experiment, will find that the Colonel, whose character as a frigate practical and scientific farmer is so well known, has not over-rated the superiority of this new variety of the staple which rules the world.

### GUANO ON TOBACCO LAND.

It is quite certain that a compost essential to the growth of one kind of grain is not equally efficacious when applied to another, and that which may be good for one production, does not contain the nutritious powers demanded by another plant. It has been established beyond controversy that guano is the best aid that can be applied to wheat and corn, but we are not aware that it was so peculiarly adapted to the growth of Tobacco. A gentleman in Florida, who is rather largely engaged in the growth of the tobacco plant, made an experiment the last season, and he has satisfied himself most thoroughly of its entire adaptation to the growth of that crop.

### MR. GORRELL'S ADDRESS.

Extracts from the Address of RALPH GORRELL, Esq., before the two Literary Societies of Davidson College, on the 13th Aug., 1851.

### INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

It is a truth not to be disguised, that the community in which our lots have been cast, has not adequately improved the many talents which have been committed to her charge.

baths, instead of among the towering heights, the refreshing valleys, the gushing fountains, and healing waters of their own mountains; for the reason that they can reach those Northern resorts of infirmity and fashion, in less time, with less money and more comfort than they can reach the healthy regions of their own State.

But although this unfortunate state of things has long been known to exist, although the most eloquent appeals have been made to the pride, the interest, and the patriotism, of our State, for more than a quarter of a century, not till within a few years past, has the public mind been awakened to the magnitude of these evils, and been induced to enter upon a remedial system commensurate with our wants.

The diseases of the State require a prompt and extensive remedy, and never will its constitutional vigor be restored till the whole of its territory is covered with a fastidious work of railroad, plank road and river improvements, extending into every important section of its territory.

### AGRICULTURE.

Another cause which has greatly retarded the improvement of our State is the depressed condition of her agricultural interests and pursuits, and the want of a proper stimulus to her industry.

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to prosperity. In vain the agricultural press, weekly and monthly offers to pour its treasures at their feet; most of them have strong prejudices against what is called "book farming," and look upon money spent for information as wasted.

Few, in proportion of the number of educated men, in our State, have entered upon the cultivation of the soil as their sole pursuit; most of them have gone into the learned professions, or have left the State, and there is reason to fear that there is a prejudice among men of letters, and especially young men, against engaging in this employment.

No occupation ought to be esteemed so contemptible for the employment of an educated mind, as the one which is pursued in which requires no mean knowledge of the sciences of Chemistry, Mineralogy, Mechanics, and Botany.

### AGRICULTURE.

I do not wish to be understood as urging you to the adoption of agricultural pursuits and labors as the sole business of your lives, nor by any means to dissuade you from entering upon what is usually called the learned professions; but I desire to call your attention and recommend to your adoption, the plan of combining the cultivation of the soil, either upon a larger or smaller scale, with whatever profession or business you may adopt as your employment thro' life, and the entrance upon this collateral pursuit with animation and zeal.

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as well as in vegetables and inferior animals, phosphate of lime as well as albumen and fat is absolutely essential for the formation of cells, and he considers that many of the pathological states of the system depend upon a deficiency of this salt.

Struck by this article, Prof. Stone tested it, and he thus describes three cases in which its virtues were very obvious. The first was that of a slave, who was admitted to the Professor's infirmary in July, with a disease of the nose, the whole system showing great progress in scrofulous decay.

The second case is that of a young lady aged 24. Her disease was one of "unmixed phthisis, which might have been expected to terminate in the course of a few months" fatal. The upper part of both her lungs was filled with tubercles, and in some places were beginning to soften.

### SINGULAR CIRCUMSTANCE.

A reliable friend detailed recently to the editor of the Memphis Enquirer the following singular and interesting occurrence: "Since the commencement of the term of the Circuit Court for our county, it became necessary for Merriweather, brother of the gentleman some time since murdered in our county, to attend as prosecutor of Peterson, the perpetrator of the horrible crime. It so happened that he rode the horse that his deceased brother was riding on the day of his murder by Peterson. He was in the company of some friends, and travelled the same road. The horse is a very fine spirited bay, docile in temper, and with an intelligent eye.

### LARGE LUMP OF GOLD.

MR. WILLIS BRADLEY showed us a lump of gold last week, which he had just found, and which takes the shine off of all small California specimens. It is about 21 inches long, about one inch wide, and of irregular thickness, resembling, by a little stretch of the imagination, the form of a young lady, (not in Bloomer costume,) with her arms folded on her bosom. It is the prettiest specimen we ever saw, presenting the appearance of having been fluted and partially polished.

### SOUTH AMERICA—HORRIBLE CRUELTY.

The subjoined is from the The Journal du Havre. The News was furnished by the Sirena, Capt. Audaire which left Montevideo on the 19th of August. If the news be true, the present century is stained with a deed of blood transcending in barbarity anything we remember to have read in the darkest and most brutal times. The facts detailed are as follows: On the 1st of August the National Guard of Colombia had ventured to manifest their satisfaction at the departure of the troops of the garrison, commanded by Lieut. Gen. Moreno.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

#### NEW CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.

We find the following statement in the Mobile Herald and Tribune, and if substantiated the discovery will be invaluable, especially in this section of the country. We regret that the quantity of the medicine to be administered at a dose is not given: In the first number of the New Orleans Monthly Medical Register, which we noticed a few days ago, we find an article by Professor Stone on the virtues of phosphate of lime in Scrofula and other depraved states of the system, which is of some moment. It was suggested by an essay in the London Lancet, on the physiology and pathology of the osseous and phosphate of lime, and their relation to the formation of salts.

Fearful incidents marked the progress of this scene of carnage. These executioners, infuriated against their victims, were seen to mutilate them, to rub the corpses of their jewelry and earrings, and, not satisfied with cutting off their fingers and noses, to cut their skulls in strips to make ropes for their cat harness. The redemptive of cruelty which cannibals inflict upon their prisoners has been fully surpassed by a lieutenant of Oribe.

It is beyond a doubt that among the victims, the precise number of whom had not been ascertained at the departure of the last letters, was a Frenchman, who had been a long time established in Colonia, where he executed Daguerrotype portraits, and who had always kept himself aloof from the political affairs of the country. This unhappy man has been basely massacred. At the moment when the cut-throat of Moreno entered Colonia he was enjoying the amusement of fishing. Two of the wretches were expressly detached from the troop to put an end to him, and a few moments afterwards his mutilated corpse was streched upon the shore.

### EXTRAORDINARY OCCURRENCE.

A letter to the editor of the Fredericksburg News, dated "Whitehall, Spottsylvania county, Oct. 21," gives the following account of a very singular occurrence in the writer's neighborhood: "On Friday morning last, a suit of clothes and a gun were found upon the Mill Dam of Whitehall Mining Company, and upon examination were recognized as belonging to Mr. James Martin, of this county, who, it appears, left home the morning previous. A search was promptly made by the neighbors for the body, which was unsuccessful until Monday, when it was found. On being removed from the water, a duck was discovered in the grasp of the right hand."

### OPENING A MOUND.

The workers of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad opened an Indian mound on Saturday, the 18th, on the farm of B. McMechen, Esq. The mound was about seventy feet in diameter and eleven feet high. Nearly on a level with the surrounding earth were found an altar of stone, evincing the action of the fire; west of north of the altar the head and body of an Indian extending west of North, at a slight declivity from the head to the feet. This body was covered to the depth of a foot or more with shells, in which the soil was still moist to the touch, as we were told. The body was remarkably perfect, and was nearly perfect. Around this body was twelve other things, which were scattered all round it, and were of the most valuable nature. No articles of art were found except a polished stone tub, twelve inches in length.—Wheeling Gazette.

### THE PRESIDENT AND THE ABOLITIONISTS.

If anything were wanting to prove Mr. Fillmore's fidelity to duty, it would be furnished by the unceasing hostility manifested towards him by the abolitionists, who never neglect an opportunity to abuse him in the most formidable manner. Their late encounter with Gerrit Smith, in his late address to the President, and subsequent treatment of the English slave law, and his ground upon them the whole stock of epithets of which he is master. He speaks of them as "attempts to murder men" for "rousing the operation of the law"; and throughout the whole document labors to convey the impression that they, and they alone are to be held responsible for the compromise, and for the enforcement of its provisions. Republic.

### From the Lewisburg (Va.) Chronicle.

#### AN IMPORTANT FACT FOR THE PEOPLE.

We have been closely observing the course of the Democratic party towards the Administration of MILLARD FILLMORE, and as far as we have seen, there is less objection to his than to any previous administration. In all the primary meetings held in Virginia by that party we have the first word of condemnation of the President yet to hear, and, as far as we have been able to ascertain, out of the fifteen Democratic candidates for Congress in Virginia, not one has taken open and decided ground against a single act of the present Whig Executive of the country.

### PLANK ROAD TO SALEM.

We learn by letter from Fayetteville, that at a meeting of the Directors of the F. & W. P. R. Co., held on the 10th inst., a resolution of the road was made to this place. We have been favored with a copy of the following Resolutions adopted at the meeting.—People's Press (Salem).

### A DANGEROUS CONSPIRACY.

We learn that two counterfeiters, Frank Norton and Fayetteville Branch of the Bank of the State of North Carolina were seen in this town last week.—They are counterfeiters of an older plate than that now used by the Bank, and both admirably good, so far as the engraving, paper &c. are concerned. One of the notes, signed Dan. Cameron, Free, is filled up bodily, the signature closely executed; and the imposture palpable in any eye. This Branch has some considerable bill of \$50 of the old plate signed by Mr. Mordant. Fayetteville.

### THE WAY ONE CUBAN GOT RELEASED.

The New Orleans Delta tells a good story of how Major Kelly, a member of the ill-fated Cuban Expedition under Lopez, made his escape from death, or the chain-gangs, in Spain. Upon being brought to Havana, his head was shaved, and he was stuffed into a prison suit too small for him—being a very large man, and the largest suit at hand being a great deal too scanty for his massive frame. Upon being put through this ceremony, he struck the Major that he would try the effect upon the Cuban authorities of the assumption of some personal consequence. So he sat down and wrote a very familiar letter to Mr. Webster, as a fair version of which, the Delta offers the following:

CASTLE OF LA PENYA, 7 HAVANA, August 23rd, 1851.

His Excellency, DANIEL WEBSTER, Secretary of State, U. S. Dept., Washington, Dan. Old Boys—You will be surprised, I doubt not, on receiving a letter from an old friend and one whom you so often befriended, from this place; but, as the old lady said when she cracked her tea pot, what's it to do, and what is the use of kicking up a d-d fuss generally about it? When, in September of last year, I partook of your powder in Marshfield, and cracked with you a half-dozen of that old Madeira, I little anticipated that I would be placed to-day in my present position. But, 'tis all destiny. Who can tell to day what is going to befall him to-morrow? Had I taken your advice, and accepted the mission to the Farney States, things would have been better,—I, at least, would not be so barbarously treated, as I am in this prison, where they have not left the first sign on my head or face of hair or whisker. Concha, I am inclined to think, is, on the whole, a good fellow, and I think if you were to whisper a word to the Spanish Minister in Washington, Calderon de la Barca, in my favor, there may be still hopes of my release. Remember me to our mutual friend, the Hon. M. Conrad, Secretary of War—when I supported him for the Second Congressional District of Louisiana, I always called him "Charley."

Yours, as ever, J. A. KELLY, Captain of the late Liberating Army of Cuba.

The Major also wrote a familiar letter to Henry Clay, alluding to the many pleasant days they had spent together in Washington, when he represented the Tenth District of Tennessee in Congress, and also the happy days he had passed at Ashland. These letters were delivered to the messenger unsealed, and were, of course, read by the high official. The Major was soon after sent for, and after some conversation, in the course of which the Captain-General is said to have remarked upon his ludicrous appearance, the Major was informed that he was released. The Major soon fled his light fit, for which he said to the Captain-General he had been indebted to some unknown friend, and put on one more becoming, and in due time safely arrived at home! Rich. Dis.

### BEFORE AND AFTER THE ELECTIONS.

The Washington Union for months past has been abusing Mr. Fillmore as an abolitionist, because he supported Gov. Johnson of Pennsylvania. Now, the Union is abusing Mr. Fillmore because he opposed Gov. Johnson's election, and detached from his support so many Whigs as to defeat him! The first assertion was made to affect the Southern elections which are now over. The last is intended to affect those at the North which are yet to be held. Fly, Os.

### EFFECTS OF RAIL-ROADS.

At the late sale of property in Fort Valley, belonging to the estate of James Everett, deceased, we are informed that some thirty lots brought the handsome sum of \$6,000. One lot was the depot, and was sold for over \$1,000. Fort Valley has been nicknamed into a new category by the Rail Road, and her citizens are daily giving new proofs of their faithfulness, by contributing liberally of their abundance to every enterprise that is calculated to enlighten and benefit mankind. Mason's Journal's Messenger.

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