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." — TERMS—Two Dollars in Advance.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

[Although we have another department devoted to the ladies, we are sure they will find this also highly entertaining.]

THE BROKEN PANE.

A question now universally asked in every society in Paris is, "Have you seen the broken window?"

This refers to an incident of a very ordinary nature, followed, however, by an infinitely improbable result, which occurred a few days since in the Rue de la Bourse. M. Moulier, a bootmaker, at No. — in that street, has had fortune "thrust upon him" by a cart knocking against his shop window. Rather late at night a restive horse backed a cart against the iron shutters of the shopfront with such force that a pane of plate glass immediately behind the part struck was cracked into a thousand of splinters. M. Moulier's first care was to secure the address of the owner of the horse and cart, and in the morning he was about to send for a glazier, whose bill he would have charged to the person responsible for the trespass upon his property; but his window was cracked in such a manner as no window ever was before, and M. Moliere observed that every passer-by in the street stopped to look at it, and exclaimed, "How curious!" "How extraordinary!"

During the whole day a crowd was collected in the front of the house. It then occurred to M. Moliere that since his broken window appeared to possess such attractions for the public, it might answer his purpose to make the public pay for the gratification of their curiosity. Accordingly he put up his outside shutter and charged one franc per head for admission into his shop. Visitors flocked to the exhibition, and in a few hours the fame of it spread far and wide. Not a single particle of glass has fallen out, but the cracks radiated from the centre with wonderful regularity are so numerous that the pane presents the appearance of a gigantic cobweb. Seen from the interior of the shop by gaslight, it reflects the prismatic colors with extraordinary brilliancy and may be compared to the peacock's tail.

A speculator has offered the enormous sum of 4000f for the purchase of the fragile property and the offer has been refused. M. Moliere calculates that he shall receive diusum in francs from the Parisians alone, and afterwards the pane may be removed in its iron frame and carried round the provinces.

The event has made more sensation than any other that has occurred in Paris since New Year's Day. The excitement is on the increase. Crowds too poor to pay the admission money, stand about the house to talk over the story and mathematical students in the Quartier Latin are working problems, in the confident hope of finding out how to crack another window in the same way.

SERGEANT JASPER.

A TALE OF THE REVOLUTION.

At the commencement of the revolutionary war Sergeant Jasper enlisted in the 2d South Carolina Regiment of Infantry, commanded by Col. Moultrie. He distinguished himself in a particular manner at the attack when was made on Fort Moultrie, on Sullivan's Island, the 28th of June, 1776. In the warmest part of the contest, the flag staff was severed by a cannon ball, and the flag fell to the bottom of the ditch on the outside of the works. The accident was considered by the inhabitants of Charleston as putting an end to the contest, by striking the American colors to the enemy. The moment that Jasper made the discovery that the flag had fallen, he jumped from one of the embrazures, and mounted the colors, which he tied to a sponge staff, and replanted them on the parapet, where he supported them until another flag staff was procured. The subsequent activity and enterprise of this patriot induced Col. Moultrie to give him a sort of roving commission, to go and come at pleasure, confident that he was always usefully employed. He was privileged to select such men from the regiment as he should choose to accompany him in his enterprises. His parties consisted generally of five or six; and he often returned with prisoners before Moultrie was apprised of his absence. Jasper was distinguished for his humane treatment when an enemy fell into his power. His ambition appears to be limited to the characteristics of bravery, humanity and usefulness to the cause in which he was engaged. When it was in his power to kill but not to capture, it was his practice to permit a single prisoner to escape. By his sagacity and enterprise he often succeeded in the capture of those who were lying in ambush for him.

In one of these excursions, an instance of bravery and humanity is recorded by the biographer of Gen Marion, which would stagger credulity, if it was not well attested.—While he was examining the British Camp at Ebenezer, all the sympathy of his great heart was awakened by the distresses of a Mrs Jones, whose husband, an American by birth, had taken the king's protection, and been confined in irons for deserting the royal cause after he had taken the oath of allegiance. Her well founded belief was that nothing short of the life of her husband could atone for the offence with which he was charged. Anticipating the scene of a beloved husband expiring upon a gibbet, had excited inexpressible emotions of grief and distraction.

Jasper secretly consulted with his companion, Sergeant Newton, whose feelings for the distressed female and her child were equally excited with his own, upon the practicability of releasing Jones from his impending fate.—Though they were unable to suggest a plan of operation, they were determined to watch for the most favorable opportunity, and make the effort. The departure of Jones and several others (all in irons) to Savannah for trial, under guard consisting of a sergeant, a corporal and eight men, was ordered on the succeeding morning. Within two miles from Savannah, and thirty yards from the main road, is a spring of fine water, surrounded by a deep and thick underwood, where travellers often halt to refresh themselves with a good draught from the clear fountain. Jasper and his companion considered this the most favorable to their enterprise. They accordingly passed the guard and concealed themselves near the spring. When the enemy came up, they halted, and only two of the guard remained with the prisoners, while the others leaned their guns against the trees in a careless manner, and went to the spring. Jasper and Newton seized two muskets and disabled the two sentinels. The possession of all the arms placed the enemy in their power, and compelled them to surrender. The irons were taken off, and the arms put into the hands of those who had been prisoners, and the whole party arrived at Purysburg the next morning, and joined the American camp.

There are few instances upon record where personal exertions, even for self-preservation from certain prospect of death, would have induced resort to an act so desperate of execution. How much more laudable was this, where the spring to action was roused by the lamentations of a female unknown to the adventurers.

Subsequently to the gallant defence at Sullivan's Island, Col. Moultrie's regiment was presented with a stand of colors by Mrs. Elliot which she had richly embroidered with her own hands, and as a reward for Jasper's particular merit, Governor Rutlege presented him with a very handsome sword. During the assault against Savannah, two officers had been killed, and one wounded, in endeavoring to plant these colors upon the enemy's parapet upon the Springfield redoubt. Just before the retreat was ordered, Jasper endeavored to replace them upon the works, and while he was in the act received a mortal wound and fell into the ditch. When a retreat was ordered, he recollected the honorable conditions upon which the donor presented the colors to his regiment, and among the last acts of his life succeeded in bringing them off. Major Horry called to see him soon after the retreat, to whom, it is said, he made the following communication:

"I have got my furlough. That sword was presented to me by Gov. Rutledge, for my service in the defence of Fort Moultrie. Give it to my father, and tell him I have worn it in honor. If the old man should weep, tell him his son died in the hope of a better life.—Tell Mrs. Elliot I lost my life supporting the colors which she presented to our regiment. Should you ever see Jones, his wife and son, tell them that Jasper is gone, but that the remembrance of the battle he fought for them brought secret joy to his heart when death was about to stop its motion forever."

He expired shortly after closing this sentence.

BE COMPREHENSIVE.

Talk to the point, and stop when you have reached it. The faculty that some possess of making one idea cover a quire of paper is not sort for much. Be short and comprehensive in all you say or write. To fill a volume upon nothing is no credit to any body; though Lord Chesterfield wrote a very clever poem upon *nothing*. There are men who get one idea into their heads, and but one, and they make the most of it. You can see and almost feel it when in their presence. On all occasions it is produced, till it is worn as thin as charity. They remind me of a twenty four pounder, discharged at a humming bird. You hear a tremendous noise; see a volume of flame; but you look in vain for the effects. The bird is scattered to atoms. Just so with the idea: it is enveloped in a cloud and lost amid the rumbling of words and flourishes. Short letters, sermons, speeches and paragraphs, are favorites with us.—Commend us to the young man who wrote to his father, "Dear sir, I am going to be married," and to the good old gentleman who replied, "Dear son, go ahead." Such are no men of fiction. They do more than they say. The half is not told in these cases.—They are worth their weight in gold for every purpose in life. Reader, be short, and we will stop short with the advice.

Pitiable sights not unfrequently suggest the ridiculous. Thus it is the depth of sadness to behold a fellow-being drunk and rolling in the gutter. But how ridiculous, when, on going up to him and asking him how he got there, he replies: "I made an appointment to meet a man here!"

THE CAT AND THE AIR PUMP.

The following anecdote of the cat is related by De la Croix, as having fallen within his own observation: 'Once I saw,' says he, 'a lecturer upon experimental philosophy place a cat under the glass receiver of an air pump, for the purpose of demonstrating that very certain fact that life cannot be supported without air and respiration. The lecturer had already made several strokes upon the piston, in order to exhaust the receiver of air, when the animal, who began to feel uncomfortable in the rarified atmosphere, was fortunate enough to discover the source from whence her uneasiness proceeded. She placed her paw upon the hole through which the air escaped, and thus prevented any more from passing out of the receiver. All the exertions of the philosopher were now unavailing; in vain he drew the piston—the cat's paw effectually prevented its operation. Hoping to effect his purpose he again let air into the receiver, which as soon as the cat perceived, she withdrew her paw from the aperture; but whenever he attempted to exhaust the receiver, she applied her paw as before. All the spectators clapped their hands at the wonderful sagacity of the animal; and the lecturer found himself under the necessity of liberating her, and substituting in her place another that possessed less penetration, and enabled him to repeat the cruel experiment."

SIAMESE TWINS.

We learn from a letter just received from Mr. Airy that the Siamese Twins, Chang & Eng, will soon visit this busy world again.—They have been employed by some Northern men (some say by Barnum,) at a salary of $5,000 a year. We feel an interest in their happiness, we have eat salt at their hospitable board, and been pleased and instructed by their conversation. In the poetical language of their fatherland :—"May their shadows never grow less." *Salisbury Whig.*

MINING PROSPECT.

We were shown a day or two since some of the finest samples of gold ore that we have ever seen in this country. They were taken out of a new vein at the Capps mine in this county, at a point hitherto not opened, by Mr. Penniman an experienced miner who has recently reopened operations at that celebrated mine. We learn that Mr. Penniman intends sending the samples North, for exhibition in order to induce capitalists to enlist with him in the enterprise of extracting the precious metal. *N. C. Whig.*

MESSAGE.

From the President of the United States, transmitting a report in reference to the inter-oceanic canal by the Nicaragua route.

February 18, 1853.—*Referred to the Committee on Commerce.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I transmit a report from the Secretary of State, embodying the substance of recent communications made by the minister of her Britannic Majesty to the Department of State on the subject of the inter-oceanic canal by the Nicaragua route, which formed the chief object of the treaty between the United States and Great Britian, of 19th April, 1850; and the relations of Great Britian to the protectorate of Mosquito, which she expresses herself desirous of relinquishing on terms consistent with her honorable engagements to the Indians of that name.

In consequence of these communications, and other considerations stated in the report, it is deemed advisable by the department that our diplomatic relations with the States of Central America should be placed on a higher and more efficient footing; and this measure meets my approbation. The whole subject is one of so much delicacy and importance, that I should have preferred, so near the close of my administration, not to make it the subject of an executive communication. But inasmuch as the measure proposed cannot, even if deemed expedient by my successor, take effect for near a twelvemonth, unless an appropriation is made by this Congress, I have thought it my duty to submit the report of the department to the two houses. The importance of the measure seemed to require an exposition somewhat in detail of the grounds on which it is recommended.

MILLARD FILLMORE.

WASHINGTON, *February* 18, 1853.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, February 16, 1853.

SIR: Recent communications have been made to this department by the British minister relative to the affairs of Central America, of which I deem it my duty to report to you the substance.

It may first be proper to observe that the relations of the United States with some of the States of Central America have of late years, assumed an importance wholly out of proportion to the political consequence of those small republics, or the extent of our commercial intercourse with them, which is inconsiderable.—This importance grows chiefly out of the fact that one of the most advantageous routes of inter-oceanic communication lies through this region. The public policy of the United States presents two objects, at the present day, of equal interest with a direct, expeditious, and economical line of intercourse between our Atlantic coasts and the members of the Union on the Pacific.

It was mainly to effect this object that the treaty of April 19, 1850, was negotiated between the United States and Great Britain.—By this treaty the high contracting parties bound themselves to use their influence with any State or States, or governments, possessing, or claiming to possess, any jurisdiction or right over the territory which the proposed ship-canal may traverse, or which shall be near the waters applicable thereto, in order to induce such States or governments to facilitate the construction thereof by every means in their power; and they also agree to use their good offices, wherever, or however it may be most expedient, in order to procure the establishment of two free ports, one at each end of the canal.

It was also stipulated by the treaty of April 19, 1850, that, if any differences should arise, as to right or property over the territory through which the said canal shall pass, between the States or governments of Central America, and such differences should in any way impede or obstruct the execution of the said canal, the governments of the United States and Great Britain would use their good offices to settle such differences in the manner best suited to promote the interests of the said canal.

In execution of this stipulation certain propositions were agreed upon by this department and the British minister, in the month of April last, having for their object to settle the territorial controversies which existed between the States and governments bordering on the line of the canal. These terms of settlement were assented to by Costa Rica, but did not prove acceptable to Nicaragua.

In making these propositions to the States interested, and in all the negotiations carried on by this government, the only object has been to secure, as far as possible, the passage of the canal through one and the same civilized State, in order to preclude the evils too likely to arise from its passing through more than one jurisdiction, and to exercise the influence and meditation of the United States, which had been invoked by the parties in controversy, in the manner best calculated to promote their respective interests.

The conflicting claims of Great Britian and Nicaragua, with reference to Mosquito, are among the difficulties which embarrass this subject. These difficulties arise principally from the fact that the port of San Juan del Norte, the eastern outlet of the canal, is claimed to belong to the Mosquito territory. By the first article of the treaty of 19th April, 1850, the two parties agree that neither the one nor the other will ever erect or maintain any fortification commanding the canal, or in the vicinity thereof, or occupy, or fortify, or colonize, or assume or exercise any dominion over Nicaragua, Costa Rica, the Mosquito coast, or any part of Central America. But the relations of Great Britain to Mosquito and the Mosquito Indians, over whom she claims to have exercised a protectorate for a long course of years, remained under this treaty somewhat indeterminate.—The port of San Juan del Norte, to which the name of Greytown has been given by Great Britian, though claimed as within the limits of this protectorate, has, for about a year, been really governed in the name of the titular King of Mosquito by a committee of five American citizens, chosen by the people. Nicaragua claims the rightful sovereignty over this port (from which her authorities were, after a brief possession, ejected by a British force in January, 1848,) and over the whole Mosquito region, of which however, it is maintained by Great Britian that Nicaragua never at any time had possession.

Information has lately been received at this department, from the minister of her Britannic Majesty, that the company which had contracted to build a ship-canal across the Isthmus of Nicaragua, having found it impossible to carry out the plan as originally contemplated, has resolved to propose to the government of Nicaragua a modification of that plan, with the view of constructing a canal of smaller dimensions than those specified in their contract; and the British minister has been instructed to intimate to this department that if this information should prove correct, her majesty's government would feel themselves at liberty, under the seventh article of the treaty of 19th of April, 1850, to withdraw their protection from that company, and to transfer it to any other company which should undertake a canal on the original plan; it being deemed of the utmost importance by the British government that the great conception of an inter-oceanic canal, adapted to the accommodation of the vessels of the whole commercial world, should not dwindle down to an ordinary transit route for coasting vessels, which, to distant nations, would be comparatively destitute of value.

The British minister has also been instructed to signify to this department that, since Great Britian first assumed the protection and defence of the Mosquito Indians, the position of all parties had changed. Spain instead of exercising absolute sovereignty over Central America, and prohibiting all commerce on the coasts under her sway, has entirely lost her dominion over all parts of this continent. The Mosquito Indians, instead of governing their own tribe according to the customs of their race, furnish only a name and a title by which foreigners trading at San Juan del Norte, and along the Mosquito coast, according to the usages of civilized States, exercise the effective government of the country. In consequence of those changes, Great Britain, instead of having, as formerly, an interest in the defence of the Mosquito Indians, for the sake of exempting a part of the territory of Central America from Spanish control, and thereby obtaining admission for her commerce, has now no other interests in Mosquito but such as she derives from an honorable regard to her old connexion with the Mosquito nation of Indians.

It has been further stated to the department by the British minister that her Majesty's government has for several years endeavored to suit her engagements to the altered circumstances of the case; but that every proposal to that effect has encountered insuperable obstacles. The contentions in Central America between Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Honduras, the absence of any authority with which a permanent agreement could be made, and various other causes, have hitherto prevented a settlement of this vexatious question.

The British government regards the committee of government of San Juan del Norte, above referred to, as in fact the real power which exercises authority in that part of Central America. It would be a matter of indifference to Great Britian whether that authority was exercised in the name of the King of Mosquito, or in the name of the city of San Juan del Norte itself; but it is desired by the British government that the apparent state of things should be made to conform to the reality, which is not now the case, the government being nominally carried on, in the name of the King of Mosquito, while it is really exercised by the committee organized at San Juan del Norte, or Greytown, under a popular election.

What the British government would consider a good and final arrangement, would be—

First. That San Juan del Norte, or Greytown, should be a free and independent port, connected with Mosquito by such relations of friendship and alliance as may be agreed upon.

Secondly. That indemnification or advantages equivalent to those laid down in the project of convention of the 30th April, 1852, should be assured to Mosquito in return for its withdrawal from its present position in reference to San Juan del Norte.

Thirdly. That the United States and Great Britain, without formally guaranteeing San Juan del Norte, should be ready to act in concert to defend the independence of the free city or port from whatever quarter it may be attacked.

The British government deem it essential that the city and port of San Juan del Norte, or Greytown, should be established either in a state of unqualified independence, with an engagement to defend Mosquito, or of qualified independence, owing allegiance and support to Mosquito.

In lieu of an indemnity in money to Mosquito for relinquishing her claims to San Juan del Norte, it is suggested by the British government that a greater security for a certain fixed territory should be the consideration for that object.

For these purposes they propose to despatch some person qualified to treat with the authorities of this city; and in case the United States concur in these views, the British government would recommend that a new convention, in the place of the unaccepted agreement of the 30th of April, 1852, should be proposed and concluded, and that a person well qualified for the purpose should be sent by this government to act conjointly with the Commissioner of her Britannic Majesty.

The British government is not unaware of the difficulties arising from the fact that certain neighboring States deny altogether the independence of Mosquito, and that the Mosquito tribe of Indians are liable every day to new incursions upon their territory. They do not expect to make a complete provision against this danger. They consider it, however, their duty to do what is required by honor and humanity in behalf of the Mosquito nation; declaring, at the same time, that they intend to adhere strictly to the treaty of Washington of the 19th of April, 1850, and not to assume any sovereignty, direct or indirect, in Central America.

Such is the substance of the communications which, within a few days, have been made to this department by the British minister, under the directions of his government; from which it will be perceived—

First. That, in consideration of the altered state of things under which it grew up, that government is disposed to relieve itself from the protectorate of the Mosquito Indians, provided that a security can be obtained for them against hostile incursions from the neighboring States.

Secondly. That the British government regards the creation of San Juan del Norte into a free and independent city, whose political condition would resemble that of the free cities of Germany, as the best course to be pursued for settling the controversies relative to the sovereignty of that place, and as the most convenient mode of insuring protection to the Mosquito Indians.

Thirdly. That though a formal guaranty of the free city is not proposed to be entered into by the two powers, Great Britain desires the concurrence of the United States in effecting these objects.

An opinion from this department on the merit of these suggestions, as a mode of settling the questions at issue in this part of Central America, would, under existing circumstancing, be of little weight. They are given only as the views of the British government. It may be proper, however to state that, in the opinion of the department, it would be more advisable that the two governments should use their influence with Nicaragua to induce her to accept the proposition of 30th April, 1852, than that they should resort to terms of settlement less advantageous to that government, as in the case with those now suggested by Great Britain. Recent events are believed to encourage the expectation than an effort of this kind would be successful. However this may be, the communications of the British minister, made by order of his government, will no doubt be regarded as a satisfactory indication of a desire on the part of Great Britain, by resigning the protectorate of Mosquito, to remove one of the most serious embarrassments of the case. They seem to this department also to suggest the expediency of a new effort to induce all parties to enter into an amicable settlement of their conflicting claims and interests. Such an effort might advantageously begin by putting the diplomatic relations of the United States with Central America on a better footing. Of the five States included under that name, Costa Rica and Nicaragua have appointed ministers plenipotentiary to this government; and the Costa Rican minister is also minister plenipotentiary of Guatemala. The United States have at present a charge d' affaires at the capital of Nicaragua; and a charge d' affaires to Guatemala was appointed last August, who, for causes beyond the control of the department, has not proceeded to his post. To the other States of Central America we have no representative. The Secretary is of opinion, taking into view these circumstances with the great magnitude of the interests of the United States to be promoted by the construction of a canal, the importance, delicacy, and complication of the territorial and political relations above referred to, with the overture for our friendly concurrence made by the British government, that much benefit might attend the appointment of a full minister to Central America, to be accredited to each of the governments included in that name, to reside successfully at such of their capitals as he should deem expedient, with full powers to treat with any or all of them, and with instructions to use the influence which his rank would give to promote the great work of conciliation. If some distinguished citizen of the United States, possessing the high qualifications required for the trust, should be despatched upon this friendly mission, there is reason to hope that he would be able to convince the governments concerned that nothing can be gained among equals by adhering to extreme rights and pretensions, however strong the conviction on which they are founded, when an opposite conviction is entertained by the other party; that their true interest lies in a compromise of their conflicting claims; that the mediation of the United States and Great Britain may be honorably and safely accepted; and that its only alternative is a too probable succession of border wars and domestic convulsions, which can have no other effect than that of defeating the great work of inter oceanic communication, and other respects inflicting the most deplorable calamities upon countries which in the pursuit of the arts of peace, might attain a high degree of prosperity. In addition to these considerations in favor of the proposed measure, it may be mentioned that there are important private interests of American citizens at and near San Juan del Norte, which merit the protection of an influential representative of the government.

Nothing would be added to the expense of our diplomatic relations with Central America, beyond the outfit, by substituting a full minister for two of the lower rank. It may be stated that our charge d' affaires to Nicaragua has already been directed, on a contingency of not improbable occurrence, to return to the United States, and that the appointment of a charge d' affaires to Gautemala has been revoked.

The action of Congress being required for the appropriations necessary to carry the proposed measure into effect it is respectfully recommended that this report should be communicated to the two houses.

Respectfully submitted:

EDWARD EVERETT.

To the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

LIQUOR LAW IN SWEDEN.

In Sweden, whoever is found drunk is fined, for the first offence, three dollars; for the second, six; for the third or fourth imprisonment is added to the fine, and deprived of the right of voting at the elections, or holding office, and exposure in the church on Sunday. If the same individual is found committing the same offence a fifth time, he is imprisoned six months and condemned to hard labor.

If a professor of religion, it is still more severe, and he is cut off from the church.—Whoever is convicted of intoxication is fined three dollars, which sum is doubled for every offence. An ecclesiastic who falls under the offence loses his benefice. It is strictly forbidden to give or sell spirituous liquors to students, servants or apprentices. Whoever is found drunk in the streets or making a disturbance in a public house, is imprisoned and fined—one half the fine goes to the informer, and the other to the poor. Twice in a year these ordinances are read aloud in the churches by the clergy, and every tavern keeper is bound to frame a copy hung up in the principal room in his house, under heavy fines. Under these regulations scarcely a drunkard is to be found.—*Sherberts Travels.*

NEWSPAPERS IN THE WORLD.—The following is supposed to be the number of newspapers in the world:—Ten in Austria, fourteen in Africa, thirty in Asia, sixty-five in Belgium, eighty-five in Denmark, ninety in Russia and Poland, three hundred in Prussia, three hundred and thirty in other Germanic States, five hundred in Great Britain and Ireland, and eighteen hundred in the United States.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT.

RAIL ROAD CONVENTION.

A Convention will be held in the town of Taneyville, N. C., on Tuesday the 5th of April, it being the week of April County Court, for the purpose of forming a joint stock Company to construct, and build a Rail Road from some convenient point on the Richmond and Danville Rail Road through the towns of Milton and Taneyville to the N. Carolina Central Rail Road, so as to form the desired connection between the two Roads.

The counties of Rockingham, Guildford, Alamance, Orange, Person, in N. Carolina, and the county of Halifax, Virginia, also the Cities of Richmond and Petersburg, with such other counties or towns as may feel interested in this enterprize, are earnestly invited to send delegates to this convention. MANY CITIZENS.

Feb 12th, 1853. 74—

We publish the above notice as a matter of Courtesy to those who have made the request; but we are very far from believing that good policy will permit co-operation in the project by the people of North Carolina. We go for the *North Carolina* Rail Road; and we hold that any project which would divert from it either travel or freight would be fatal to its success. Good faith to the stockholders, we think, would forbid our Legislature from making any connection that would prejudice the road; and we do not think that individuals, *even if they had the power*, should attempt to do what the Legislature could not with propriety sanction. It was one of the great objects of the road to connect the eastern and western sections of the State, and make us one people; and that object would be in a great measure frustrated by constructing a branch, as proposed, to carry the trade and commerce of the west to the cities of Virginia. State pride should teach us to look more at home. Our road was projected with the expectation that it would open a way to market for the produce of the west, and that, in turn, it was expected, would give prosperous activity to the trade and commerce of the east; and both of them united are necessary to give profitable employment to the Road. If two-thirds of the Road is to be in a degree paralized, by drawing off the travel and transfering the produce of the west to the Virginia Rail Road, is there any good reason to suppose that a sufficiently increased activity would be given to the business on the remaining one-third to compensate the loss and prevent a depreciation of the stock? We do not think it would. The travel might be somewhat increased; but not the freight. But even if it should, what will become of that other feature of the enterprise which gave existence to our Road—to build up our seaports, to bind together the East and the West by identity of interest, and to make them feel more sensibly their relation as citizens of the same State? This is the true policy which should govern our actions. It will be time enough, after our Road has passed its infancy, and secured for itself a profitable business, to talk of new experiments. The construction of a connecting link between the North Carolina and the Virginia Road would unquestionably benefit the district of country through which it passed; but it would be at too great a sacrifice of the general good—it would greatly impair the trade of our own towns, and depreciate the value of the most important of our State improvements. The people of Caswell we hope, will be accommodated with some commodious way of getting their produce to the North Carolina Road; but it must be without sacrificing the interest of our own State for the benefit of Virginia.

The Raleigh Standard concludes an article upon this subject with the following sentiments, which we heartily endorse:

"The true policy of North Carolina—no matter what effect it may have upon particular localities—is to *build Roads for herself* and not for her sister States—to aid her own market towns, and not those of South Carolina and Virginia. If extensions of her present roads must be made, let them be to Beaufort in the East, and to the Tennessee line, West; at any rate, let our people prefer what we have, *and a long trial of what we have*, to any connection which shall add to the existing drain upon our resources for the benefit of other States."

Our Milton friends must therefore excuse us for expressing the wish that, if their convention is well attended, enough true hearted North Carolinians may be present to defeat the project of connecting the two Roads in the manner proposed.—*Hills. Rec.*

A RAILROAD TALK.

The resources of Western North Carolina can never be developed until it is pierced by a railroad; and the sectional jealousy now existing between the Eastern portions of the State can never be obliterated until the people of the two sections are brought into intercourse; and until this jealousy can be removed we may look in vain for wise and wholesome legislation.

It is true that Rutherford county, and some other counties bordering on South Carolina, will naturally seek a market for their surplus produce through this latter State. If the Central road is extended West it *may* pass through this county, but we do not believe it will.—We think it will run nearer the centre of the State, but even then it must be brought within 25 or 30 miles of us. With the railroad to Spartanburg, we of this county would then be placed about equi-distant between the two roads, and even if we are not permitted to have a line uniting the two roads, we shall, at least, have choice of markets with about equal facilities for transportation. If Fayetteville, Wilmington, &c., held out more inducements for our trade than Columbia, Charleston, &c., then the former cities would command it; and *vice versa*. Therefore we are in favor of the extension of the Central road, both East and West, let it take what route it may. It certainly will be of some advantage to us, and cannot possible be a disadvantage.

Some people talk about being "taxed to death" to build the railroad. Now we think we can clearly prove that we of the West are in far more danger of being "taxed to death" for *want* of a railroad. Take, for instance, the articles of salt, molasses, sugar and coffee. These are articles that enter into consumption of every family; they are heavy articles, and transportation by wagon any considerable distance greatly enhances their value. In Wilmington and Charleston salt is rarely worth more than $1 per sack, and sometimes less; and yet we here in the mountains think salt remarkably cheap if, as is rarely the case, we can get it as low as $3 per sack. Molasses, which we buy in Charleston at from 30 to 35 cents per gallon, will cost us from 45 to 50 cents per gallon by the time we get it here. Three or four cents per pound will be added to the original cost of sugar and coffee by the time we receive it; and so of many other articles in common use.

It must be plain to every one that it is the transportation by wagon which produces the most of this increase of price. With a railroad to Spartanburg, or one within 25 or 30 miles of us in the opposite direction, we could save at least $1 per sack on every sack of salt consumed, 8 or 10 cents on every gallon of molasses, and at least 2 cents on every pound of sugar or coffee. Then there is scarcely a family that would not save from $20 to $30 a year if we had a railroad, and to many the saving would amount to hundreds of dollars. And who supposes that the increase of taxation, in order to build the road, would amount to one-tenth the sum thus saved? And by having an outlet by which we can get our produce to market, we shall be in a better condition to pay our present taxes. And as a market was afforded for our produce, its quantity would be increased; capital would be more abundant; factories would be built upon our streams; and in a few years we should present an aspect of thrift, energy and prosperity in strange contrast with our present inactive, Van Winkleish position.—Capital and enterprise would be attracted thither, and our mineral and agricultural resources would make ours one of the richest and most delightful sections of the Union.

There is another view which we of the West should take, and to which our Eastern brethren cannot object. We have been taxed our proportionable share for Eastern improvements, which have been of no benefit to us; and now it is but right and just that we should have some improvements for which the East shall pay its proportionable share of taxes.—We have paid taxes without benefit, and would it not now be the part of wisdom to pay a little more taxes in order to obtain some benefits.

We believe that the faith of the State will be pledged, at the next session of our Legislature, for the extension of the road both East and West, and when this is done we shall hail the dawn of a brighter day for North Carolina.—*Mountain Banner.*

THE DANVILLE CONNECTION.

We are rejoiced to notice that our Raleigh cotemporaries, without exception or distinction of party, have announced themselves plainly, openly and strongly opposed to the effort now being made in certain quarters to connect the North Carolina Central Road with the Richmond and Danville Road, and thus practically to nullify the intention of the framers of the charter of the road, under which the State subscription of two millions of dollars was obtained. The object in projecting the Central Railroad at all, was to defeat the Danville and Charlotte connection, which would have cut the State in two, and in order to carry this object into effect, the present route was proposed, and a subscription of two millions of dollars made by the State. The Danville project could have been carried out without asking a dollar from the State; and it would certainly be a strange manouvre, were North Carolina first to incur a debt of a large amount to guard against the probable fatal results of that project, and then, afterwards, virtually to allow the works constructed by her to be used for the furtherance of the very scheme they were planned to defeat, or render unnecessary.

We should sooner perhaps, have alluded to this stand taken by our Raleigh cotemporaries. The Standard promptly responded to our short paragraph calling attention to Mr. Palmer's letter from Richmond, and we are pleased to see that the Star and Register have followed suit. It will be some time, we think, before the Central Road will be tapped by Richmond—either at Greensborough or Graham. Of course, we regard the press of Raleigh as speaking the views of the Raleigh interest, which, combined with the other elements of opposition to the Danville connection, render its defeat certain for long years to come.—*Wil. Journal.*

The idea of connected the Danville Railroad with the North Carolina Railroad is by no means abandoned, and is spoken of to be accomplished at no very distant day; and the citizens of Charleston, S. C., are moving and agitating the idea of tapping our Coal and Cotton regions. The Raleigh and Cape Fear interests are of course opposed to this movement, and so are we, for the present. North Carolina has been tributary to other States long enough; and now when she has works of internal improvements progressing which will tend to build up her own towns, and raise her in a commercial point of view, it will be well enough to be a little selfish, for a time at least.

Should market facilities not be afforded within ourselves, in a sufficient degree, when we get all our internal improvement machinery fairly at work, it will be time enough to look abroad. The extension of the Railroad into this State has been spoken of as *the road* for this section of country, but circumstances alter cases. Banish the thought. *People's Press.*

THE DANVILLE CONNECTION.

We have made some allusion to the connection of the Central Railroad with Danville, Virginia, but have not treated it as an event to be expected. It will be found that such a connection will be adverse to the wishes, as it will certainly be to the interests of the people of North Carolina, both of the East and West. A few near the line, and a few individuals elsewhere, whose sympathies are altogether Virginian, will advocate this suicidal course; but there is not sufficient power among them to accomplish the ruin.

But North Carolina will never consent to the connection.—*Commercial.*

VALENTINES.—Valentines fell so thick and fast in the post office at St. Louis on Monday last, that the postmaster was compelled to *close doors* for an hour or two to give time to *distribute*. It is supposed that from twenty-five to thirty thousand were circulated in that city.

We witnessed the sale of a bright mulatto female slave at Statesville this week for the sum of one thousand and twenty-five dollars. She was sold at public Auction. This looks as if the times were not piercingly hard. *Salisbury Whig.*

The Mormons, according to last accounts, are split into two religious sects. There is some probability now out of their family jars to get at the truth of their mode of life.