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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AGRICULTURAL.

From the Asheville Spectator.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The undersigned, having been appointed by the Buncombe county Agricultural Society, a committee to address the citizens of the county on the subject of Agriculture, and of the importance of organizing societies to promote this most important of all pursuits, only regard it as necessary to call attention to the subject.

We cannot believe, that at this day, argument is necessary to convince our fellow-citizens of the change and improvement in our mode of farming in all its departments. All admit the want of skill and care, in the draining, plowing, manuring, and cultivating of our lands, and we suppose it as clear, that our system of rotation of crops, (if it may be called by that name,) as absolutely demands reformation.

The undersigned, do not aspire to be teachers, nor would we venture even a suggestion as to the remedy for either of these defects.—We acknowledge, that in our own farms, the want of skill and care is manifest, and there as well as in the farms of our neighbors, may be seen evidences of the defects alluded to.—We nevertheless see and feel the importance of improvement, and call upon our fellow-citizens to unite with us, and the friends of improvement, that we may more fully organize ourselves into a society for the purpose of mutual improvement, and with a view to benefit the county at large.

The organization of Agricultural Societies, in which free discussion is allowed and encouraged, and in which the most approved books and papers devoted to the subject are introduced and read, and in which experiments are made, reported, and premiums awarded, whereby a laudable emulation is created, has in other sections of the country been most successful in bringing about the reformation so much required in our section of the country. Is it, then not likely favorable result would be found amongst us, if we use the same means? No one who has observed the capability of our soil for improvement, and the great facilities with which the most unfavorable positions are rendered productive and beautiful, can doubt this. Indeed, we would hazard nothing in saying, that no portion of the State will pay better for manuring, and but small portions of it so well.

The Legislature at its last session, granted a charter to an Agricultural Society in each county in the State; and with a view to encourage us to organize and continue in force such societies, has given us a corporate existence, and appropriated the sum of fifty dollars to be paid annually to any such corporation, on the society raising a like sum, to form together a fund to be awarded in premiums to the producers of the best crops, to the raisers of the best domestic animals, and to those who make the best articles of domestic manufacture, the society may order. In some of the older counties of the State most important improvements have been made by means of societies, voluntarily formed, and for several years a spirit for further improvements has been constantly growing. In the county of Edgecombe, a flourishing Agricultural Society has existed for several years, the effect of which has been to more than double the crops of the county within a few years, and to restore to cultivation much of the worn out and abandonded lands of the county.

We call upon the people of the county of Buncombe, to say whether we shall be the last to avail ourselves of the encouragement held out to us by the Legislature. We call upon the farmers of the county to attend the next meeting of the society, on Monday of the Spring Term of our Superior Court, and take this matter in their own hands. It is remarkable, that societies should be formed and kept up to promote any and every other object; but in this, the most important of all pursuits, and directly interesting nine-tenths of our population, should be so much neglected and disregarded. We believe that this has been so, only for want of proper efforts to organize ourselves into societies, and because the importance of seeking information on this subject has not been sufficiently brought to public notice. We are pleased to see the interest that the farmers are now taking in their own welfare, and confidently predict, that in a few years quite a revolution will be effected in our agriculture and a nicer face given to our much favored but long neglected county.

Respectfully,

N. W. WOODFIN,
J. W. PATTON,
J. M. SMITH,
Committee.

WHAT TWO ACRES CAN DO.

The twenty-sixth meeting of the Germantown (near Philadelphia) Farmers Club, was held at the house of Philip R. Freas, on the 23rd of November. He is the editor of the Germantown Telegraph, a warm and active friend of agriculture, horticulture, etc., and the originator of the Club. Though his whole plot of ground comprises less than two acres and a half, yet he manages to produce upon it in perfection, a little of everything. Those who are sighing for more land will do well to read this statement carefully, and inquire whether it would not be wise to cultivate their present acres better than to add to their number. The reporter at the meeting states that during the present year there was cut two tons and a quarter of prime hay; there were patches of turnips, carrots, parsnips, beets, cabbages (three kinds, onions, peas, frijole and half a dozen of other kinds of beans; salsify, lettuce, okra, corn (Stowell's Sugar, and Adams,) potatoes, pumpins, (three varieties,) squashes and tomatoes—egg plants, asparagus in abundance, celery (of splendid quality,) together with almost every other kind of vegetable to be found in the catalogue. His fruits consist of melons, six kinds of cherries, five kinds of plums, peaches; twenty-eight varieties of select pears; twelve varieties of apples; red, white and black currants; gooseberries, blackberries, and four varieties of raspberries, grapes, etc., etc.

In the garden and mansion yard three was a very choice collection of flowers, among them many select roses and rare vines. The ornamental trees consist of five varieties of firs; the Japonica cryptomeria, the Deodar cedar, the Irish yew, and the American arbor vitæ; the European linden, the sugar and silver maples, the English and mountain ash, etc., etc. In addition to these, there was a number of beautiful Polish fowls—black, white and spangled—and pea fowls in the barn yard—a fish pond in the garden—and a large number of choice, fancy pigeons at the house. In all this there is an excellent taste displayed. We noticed that the house and offices were lighted with gas, warmed with a heater, and supplied with water from the public works. Baths, hot and cold, have, for years been supplied by a reservoir on an elevated back building, holding some fifteen hundred gallons, which has also furnished pure, soft rain water for various parts of the buildings.

In the garden is a small green house excavated in the ground, say to the depth of three or four feet, framed up at the sides, raised a couple of feet above ground, and covered with glass. In this enclosure or pit are arranged the usual shelves to receive the pots; and we are assured by Major Freas, that it is the best possible provision for flowers, and almost every description of plants in winter. Roses, particularly, flourish in much greater perfection. During the whole of the last unusually severe winter, but a single delicate night-blooming jessamine was at all injured by the frost. This green house requires no artificial heat. In the hot beds we found cucumbers and cauliflowers up, lettuce heading and spring radishes full grown. We may truly say, in regard to the "Telegraph Farm," that it is a farm in miniature, but in comfort, convenience and taste, without any large pretension to more costly elegance, it is a pattern "plantation," and would in the full-growing season, afford compensation for a visit from any of our ponderous farmers. In a word, it is, in the strict sense of the word, a home.—*N. E. Farmer.*

AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

At a meeting held at the Court House in New-Berne, on Saturday April 2d, for the purpose of forming an Agricultural Society, on motion of W. B. Wadsworth, Council B. Wood was requested to take the Chair and Wm. H. Oliver appointed Secretary.

The Constitution and By-laws reported by a committee appointed for the purpose were unanimously adopted. After which the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

William B. Wadsworth, President.
C. B. Wood, Frederick P. Latham, W. S. Blackledge, Vice Presidents.
W. H. Pearce, Treasurer.
Samuel W. Chadwick, Corresponding Secretary.
W. H. Oliver, Recording Secretary.

It was moved that each member be requested to deposit with the Recording Secretary a sample of the different kinds of Marl found on his plantation.

The following Committees were appointed to experiment with and report the effects of the following Fertilizers, viz: Samuel W. Chadwick, C. B. Wood, V. A. Folsom, W. R. Wadsworth, Jno. Richardson, with Guano. Frederick P. Latham, Walter Duffy, Wm. B. Wadsworth, with Chappell's Fertilizer.—John Winthrop, Samuel W. Chadwick, W. S. Blackage; with Sulphur Phosphate of Lime.

Moved that the next regular meeting be held at the Court House on Tuesday night of April Court week. The President then offered the following topics to be discussed at next meeting, viz: The best manner of reclaiming land involving the points, to wit: the best method of laying off and cutting ditches. The advantages and disadvantages, and best mode of constructing under-drawing; whether they will answer in very stiff land, and keep open in very light lands. Whether lands can be made to dry by ditching, and the cost of draining swamp lands.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

WM. B. WADSWORTH, *President.*
WM. H. OLIVER, *Secretary.*

BEAUFORT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this association assembled in the Court House at Washington on Tuesday the 22nd March, at 7 o'clock P. M.

The President, Col. Wm. H. Tripp, called the meeting to order, and H. G. Hilton was appointed Secretary, pro tem.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read by the Secretary, after which the committee of three reported through Dr. Tompkins that they had failed to procure any gentleman to deliver an address upon this occasion.

The committee of nine, appointed as executive committee, also reported that they had not been able to secure the sum entitling the Society to the amount provided by our last Legislature, whereupon J. B. Lucas moved that the members proceed to make up the sum required, which was done, and that too in a spirit of enthusiasm seldom witnessed. The committee of arrangement then proceeded to make the following report, which was received and adopted:

Beaufort County Agricultural Society, March 22, 1853.

The executive committee to whom was referred at the last meeting of the Society, the awarding of premiums, beg leave to make the following report:—

Resolved, That in order to encourage and stimulate the farmers and mechanics of this county to a laudable competition, we would recommend to the society that the following premiums or rewards be offered to those who shall according to the terms herein stated, be entitled to them.

Resolved, That there shall be held in or near Washington, on the 8th of October next, an annual Fair, for the purpose of making an exhibition of the largest products, best stocks, best pieces of mechanism, and best specimens of home industry made or produced in this county.

The following are the premiums to be awarded:

For the largest crop of corn raised on one acre,	$3,
For the largest crop of wheat, " "	3,
For the largest crop of oats " "	3,
For the largest crop of cotton, " "	3,
For the largest crop sweet potatoes "	2,
For the best Stallion raised in the county,	2,
For the best two year old Colt, "	2,
For the best one year old Colt, "	2,
For the best five-month's Colt, "	1,
For the best brood mare, "	2,
For the best harness horse, "	2,
For the best Saddle " "	2,
For the best Jack, "	3,
For the best Mule, "	3,
For the finest Ball, "	2,
For the best milch cow, "	2,
For the best heifer "	2,
For the best yearling calf, "	1,
For the best yoke of oxen, "	3,
For the best buggy made in the county,	5,
For the best cart for manuring, "	2,
For the best specimen of cabinet making,	3,
For the best " blacksmithing work,	2,
For the best piece of woollen cloth, "	1,
For the best pair of stockings, "	50c
For the best pair of boots, "	2,
For the best suit of clothes, "	3,
For the best essay upon an agricultural subject,	[illegible]

Resolved, That those persons who wish to compete for the premiums above named, shall make known their intention by letter to the Secretary of the Society on or before the first August next.

Resolved, That those persons contending for the premiums awarded for the various crops shall produce on the day of the Fair, a certificate signed by three respectable persons in the county, testifying as to the amount of the land cultivated, and of the crop produced.

Resolved, That the competitors in crops shall also produce on the day of the Fair a written statement of their manner of manuring, their mode of culture, and any thing else worth noticing in the production of said crops.

Resolved, That the competitors for the premiums for the best of the various kinds of stock, and best specimens in the various mechanic arts, and of home industry, shall certify that they were raised and manufactured in this country.

Resolved, That the President of the Society shall be considered as the chairman of the executive committee, and if at any time he should be absent, the acting Vice President shall perform his duty in this respect.

Resolved, That the President appoint a marshal and two assistant marshals, whose duty it shall be to attend on the day of the Annual Fair, and see that strict order is preserved, while the exhibition is being made.

Resolved, That the President shall appoint a committee of seven, to be styled The Committee of Arrangements, whose duty it shall be to solicit subscriptions, for the purpose of purchasing a suitable location and for the erection of suitable buildings for the holding of the exhibition, and also to superintend all preparations necessary for the same.

Resolved, That a committee of three shall be appointed by the President to procure some person to deliver an address before the society at some place in Washington on the evening of the 8th October next.

Resolved, That all members of the Beaufort Agricultural Society and their families shall be allowed to enter the Fair grounds free of charge, and that all other persons shall upon entering, pay the sum of 25 cents, which shall be regarded as belonging to the Society.

M. G. HILTON,
G. W. GRIFFIN,
J. M. PATRICK,
SAM'L T. BROWN,
J. B. LUCAS,
H. A. ELLISON,
HENRY HODGES,
J. F. CLARK,
JNO. F. TOMPKINS
} Committee.

Dr. Thompkins then delivered a speech in his usually interesting style, and was followed by F. B. Satterthwaite, Esq. Mr. S. showed the difference in the rank of agriculture now, and when he was a youth, and fully proved by an account of his own experiments in manure making that all it requires to make it the most profitable as well as the most honorable avocation, is the application of science and he longed to see the day when he could retire from the bar and confine his attention exclusively to farming—He closed by exhorting the Society to renewed efforts in the cause, assuring them that a brighter day is not far distant.

The Society then proceeded to the election of officers for another year, as follows:

Samuel C. Ebern, President; James F. Clark and N. W. Guilford, Vice Presidents; H. G. Hilton, Recording Secretary; Jno. F. Thompkins, Corresponding Secretary; Jesse Lucas Treasurer.

Dr. Thompkins, Jas. F. Clark and Henry Dimock were appointed a Committee to wait on Mr. Bridgers, of Edgecombe, and solicit him to deliver an address before the Society.

The following gentlemen were appointed a committee of arrangements and especially directed to get a suitable location in or near Washington for the exhibition in October next and to make such other provisions as the nature of the case may demand, (viz) H. A. Ellison, H. Dimock, W. W. Norman, Dr Thompkins, Saml Clark, Saml. T. Carrow, and B. F. Tripp.

It was moved and carried that the thanks of the Society be tendered to the officers for the past year.

It was moved and carried that our next meeting be held in Washington on Tuesday evening of May Court.

The following gentlemen became members of the Society, (viz) Saml. Clark, Lewis Clark, J. B. Marsh, Saml. T. Carrow, B. F. Tripp, Charles Tripp, J. R. Stubbs, Winfield Muse, Henry A. Ellison, W. W. Norman, and Jarvis B. Harding.

It was then ordered that the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Farmer's Journal and North State Whig.

The meeting then adjourned.

W. H. TRIPP, President.
H. G. HILTON, Secretary.

OCHRA HEMP.

A new and most valuable article of commerce is likely to be added to the resources of Louisiana in the hemp made from the ochra plant. We have a specimen of it before us, the threads of which are over ten feet in length. We have seen cording made from it, equal in strength and appearance to any we have ever seen manufactured from the ordinary hemp. We cannot see how rope made of ochra hemp, would answer for marine purposes; but whether it would or not, there are so many purposes for which it can be employed, that its value would not be depreciated to any great extent, were it unfit for application in this particular. Bagging of every description, used in commerce for packing, can be manufactured of it, better than with the common hemp—for, besides being equal in strength, it possesses one great advantage over the other—it may lay in water for three years and it will not rot. Door mats and floor-matting can be manufactured of it; and, as it takes dye splendidly, matting can be made as varied as carpets. No machinery has been employed to dress any of the specimens we have seen, and yet it looks as clean as any operation can well make it. Hemp, we believe, is worth about $100 per ton. The ochra hemp can be prepared and sold for nearly half that price. A company of gentlemen, in connection with the proprietors of the City Hotel, we believe, are about to invest some capital and enterprise in the cultivation and manufacture of this hemp. They are greatly encouraged in this enterprise by the opinion of some of the most scientific men in the country, in relation to its certain success. The expense of manufacturing this hemp for the market will be inconsiderable. The refused wood from the stems of the ochra will more than suffice to supply fuel for the steam engine.—The tow is admirably adapted for mattresses, and is superior to moss for bedding. The upholsterers are already on the *qui vive* to obtain it. We are collecting some information in relation to this business, and shall, with all dispatch, lay it before our readers.—*N. O. Daily Delta.*

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT.

From the Wilmington Herald.

Public Meeting on the Subject of the Cape Fear River and Bars.

In pursuance of public notice, a meeting of the citizens of Wilmington interested in the preservation and improvement of the entrance to the port, was convened at the Methodist Episcopal Church on Wednesday evening, the 6th inst., for the purpose of taking into consideration the proper means to be adopted to secure these desirable ends.

On motion of Dr. A. J. DeRosset, Jr., the meeting was organized by calling John Dawson, Esq., M. P. to the chair, and appointing James Fulton and T. Burr, Jr., Secretaries.

The meeting having been organized, Geo. Davis, Esq., in a few eloquent remarks, introduced to the audience Professor A. D. Bache, the distinguished head of the U. S. Coast Survey, who had kindly consented to be present, and explain the conclusions to which the Commission had come, with regard to the present state of the Harbor—the causes which had produced such state, and the means proper to be adopted for the prevention of further evil effects from the operation of these causes, as well as to restore the former state of things, and with it the former depth—being equal to 20 feet at high water.

Professor Bache commenced his lecture by a general description of the coast of North Carolina, and of the several inlets lying under the protection of its Capes, and the shoals projecting from them, and alluded briefly to their changes. The Cape Fear inlet, though protected by the Cape, and by extensive shoals (the Frying Pan shoals,) had, in consequence of the opening of New Inlet, shoaled from before the beginning of the present century, and at such a rate, that now there was two and a half feet less water on the Main Bar at high water, than there had been in 1797 at low water; now there was twelve feet only at high water, where there had formerly been fourteen and a half at low. The Cape Fear entrance was in a condition of rapid deterioration, and hence the importance, and, indeed, the urgent necessity of immediate action, to endeavor to arrest the evil.—Natural causes were at work which must be counteracted, or the inlet would become too shoal to meet the demands of commerce.

The importance of this inlet, in a national or general point of view, was explained, as a harbor of refuge, and as a harbor of supply for coal for the small naval steamers, and for those of the mercantile marine, from the immense deposites on the head waters of the Cape Fear. To accommodate the larger coasting trade, a depth of fifteen to eighteen feet on the Bar is necessary.

To Wilmington this outlet for its commerce is of vital importance. Close this outlet, and of what avail will be the large expenditure, amounting to millions, on railroads to bring the produce of twenty eight counties of this State and of several in South Carolina to the wharves of Wilmington. Of what avail to open the Coal Mines if the products cannot be sent to market. Limit the exit to New Inlet alone, and the capacity for commercial increase will soon be reached. The coastwise trade of Wilmington, now estimated at four millions of dollars, and the foreign exports of half a million, must evidently dwindle away. Of twenty-eight vessels at the wharves when the commission on the improvement of the entrance, met in Wilmington in December last, four were barques, and fourteen brigs.—With a decrease of the depth of water, these will be replaced by schooners, and the larger schooners by those of lighter draught, and these being unable to compete with coasting vessels of greater draughts and therefore transporting with greater economy the commerce of Wilmington must undoubtedly retrograde. A large portion of the State is interested as well as Wilmington in arresting such a calamitous state of things.

Professor Bache next described by reference to maps, prepared by the Coast Survey, the present condition of the Main Channel, the Middle or Western channel, and the New Inlet. In 1851 the depth on the Main Bar was 8 feet, on the bulk head of the Western channel 7 feet, and at New Inlet Bar 8 feet. Between 1851 and 1852 the Main Bar was shoaled nearly nine inches. Reference was made in complimentary terms to the labors of Lieut. Maffitt and of Mr. Bolles, and Mr. Gregorie in making these surveys. Cape Fear entrance was shown from Moseley's Map of 1733, passing directly out to sea, through an opening in less than three quarters of a mile wide, the course of the river direct and not winding as now, the depth on the Main Bar, 19 feet at high water. Where New Inlet now is, there was then, a sand beach nearly a mile in width. By reference to Joshua Potts' Map of 1797, (from which Prof. Bache acknowledged his indebtedness to R. W. Brown, Esq., the pioneer in the Cape Fear improvement,) a motion of the Main Bar towards the land was shown, the New Inlet was opened but the passages between the two islands north of Smith's Island did not exist, and the inlet was comparatively shoal, if, as is most probable, the sounding on Potts' Map, refer in all cases to high water.

A table was shown containing a summary of the observed depths on the Main channel, the Western Channel, and the New Inlet Bars from which the deductions were drawn. That the observations were exact enough to show that the combined depths had always been from twenty to twenty-four feet, and, of course, the water, which escaped through New Inlet was lost to the Main Bar. 2d That the depths on the Western Bar had always been variable. Incidentally the differences were explained between this channel and Moffitt's channel, in Charleston, which a commission had proposed to open by dredging the bulk head at its inner entrance. The question of the action of the jetty on the depth of the Western channel was also discussed, and a diagram, showing the short line of Oak Island, by accurate survey, before the Fort was constructed, and, annually, after the construction of the jetty was commenced, was referred to as proving that the present shore line was several hundred feet inside of that of 1820. The effect of permitting the washing away of Oak Island was shown to be the inevitable destruction of the Western channel. The jetty altered the position but not the depth of the channel, and until one was constructed of sufficient length to reach the middle ground, such must continue to be the case. 3d. The depth on the Main Bar has steadily decreased, though at an irregular rate, since the opening of the New Inlet. The commission on the Cape Fear improvement has endeavored to ascertain the date of the opening of that inlet, and have fixed it at about 1780. It was at first very shoal. The rate of Shoaling of the Main Bar was about two feet in ten years, from 1800 to 1820 nine inches in ten years to 1849, and one foot in ten years to 1850. Unless by some changes in the physical causes now operating, this shoaling must go on. 4th. More water now passes out of New Inlet than formerly, as was shown by the sum of the depths of the Main and Western channels being less than formerly. 5th. Bald Head is rapidly wearing away. The stone jetty on the opposite shore, probably increase the wear of the Bald Head Isle. 6th. The middle ground shoal, between the main and western channel, has very much increased, and the area at low water has much extended. 7th. The southern side of Smith's Island is abraided by the waves, and furnishes the fine sand of which the Main Bar is composed. 7th. New Inlet is underlaid by rock, pronounced by Profs. Agassey and Holmes to belong to the newest tertiary. On this fine sand is thrown and moved to and fro by the waves, forcing the Bar inwards in North Easterly gales, and diminishing the depth on it—carrying it outward by Southwardly winds and increasing the depth.

Prof. Bache then read the conclusions of the Commission, composed of Lt. Davis, of Major Stevens and Lieut. Woodbury, of the Corps of Engineers, and of himself, remarking on the constitution of the Commission, and on the peculiar adapedness of the Engineer officer selected by the department for executing the work.

The principles laid down by the Commission were to attempt no work, which, if it should fail, would injure the navigation, but on the contrary, only such as would do some good, separately and collectively, even if they did not produce the whole effect desired. To attempt by gradual steps the restoration of the shore line as it was previous to 1780, as nearly as possible, expecting to obtain again the twenty feet at high water, or nearly that depth, then existing upon the Main Bar. The details of the works should be left to the observation and experience of the local Engineers, who should not be changed during the progress.

The works proposed were 1st, Jetys for protecting the North and South side of Bald Head, and preventing further wear there.—Fences and the sowing of grass to avert the motion of the sand near the point as subsidiaries. The estimated costs forty thousand dollars. 2nd. The closing of the two openings between Zeek's Island and Smith's Island, one four hundreds yards wide, and two feet in the middle. These works if made with piles, and sheet piles were estimated at eight thousand four hundred dollars. It was supposed that the sand would accumulate before the piles were destroyed by the worms. The large opening might be required to be closed by stones. 3rd. A break-water to protect Zeek's Island, which is gradually wearing away. The cost estimated at twenty thousand dollars.

These works intended to prevent matters from deteriorating and calculated some what to improve the Main Bar were estimated together in round numbers, at eighty thousand dollars, with a margin for contingencies.—Twenty thousand of this is now in hands by appropriation at the first session of last Congress. Would not the town of Wilmington undertake at least this? While waiting for the action of the General Government things are getting worse.

4th. From Federal Point a sand spit projects to the Southward, having less than six feet of water upon it. A stone jetty following the crest of this shoal to a point opposite to Zeek's Island, where the New Inlet channel is three hundred and fifty yards wide, and thence across the channel would close the New Inlet. This work was estimated at $379,000, including the break-water for the protection of Zeek's Island.

The whole work was very much smaller than what the citizens of Wilmington had undertaken when the town contained three thousand inhabitants.

With the energy and enterprise hitherto shown by the citizens there could be no such word as fail in the town vocabulary.

After the conclusion of Prof. Bache's Lecture and the subsidence of the applause which followed it, George Davis, Esq., was called upon and forcibly urged the necessity and propriety of exertion.

O. G. Parsley, Esq., introduced the following resolution, which he prefaced by a few pertinent remarks:

Resolved, That we, the citizens of Wilmington, convinced of the necessity of immediate action towards arresting the shoaling of the main bar of the Cape Fear River, and relying on the aid of the General Government hereafter for the same, pledge ourselves to advance the means necessary to carry on the work first recommended by the commission, as this evening explained by Prof. Bache.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

On motion of P. K. Dickinson, Esq., the Chairman of the meeting was authorized to appoint a Committee of ten, to wait upon the citizens of Wilmington, and solicit subscription, to the amount of $50,000, the sum necessary, with the $20,000 already granted by Congress, for the completion of the work, to be commenced at once.

The following gentlemen were appointed said Committee: Gilbert Potter, John A. Taylor, Miles Costin, B. Flanner, James Cassidey, W. C. Bettencourt, James Anderson, Jacob Wessel, C. D. Ellis, Ben. W. Berry.

On motion of Dr. James H. Dickson, the thanks of the meeting were tendered to Professor Bache for his able and lucid exposition of the state and requirements of our harbor, for the friendly and courteous interest which he has manifested in the subject.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

JOHN DAWSON, Ch'n.
JAMES FULTON, T. BURR, Jr., } Secretaries.

RAILROAD MEETING AT BEAUFORT.

A meeting of the citizen of Beaufort was held at the Court House on Monday the 21st ultimo, Elijah W. Piggott, Esq., was called to the Chair, and Dr. M. F. Arendell appointed Secretary.

The Chair stated the object of the meeting to be the appointing a delegate or delegates to attend a meeting of the Stockholders of the Western Rail Road to be held soon at Fayetteville. A connection of this road was contemplated with our Harbor.

The following resolutions on motion were unanimously adopted, viz:

Resolved, That we, as North Carolinians, unbiased by either sectional interest or prejudice, would hail with pride the first attempt of Internal Improvement to make our Harbor what, for the interest and honor of North Carolina, it ought long since to have been; (being of quick and easy access over a bar where depth of water at average tide is 19 to 20 feet—the best on our Southern coast,) the great outlet for the productions of the State, and great mart of commerce.

Resolved, That we have heard with pleasure of a contemplated connection of the Fayetteville and Western Rail Road, by the Stockholders thereof, with our Harbor; and we would welcome the Stockholders, whosoever they may be, to all the advantages of our navigation, and to the enjoyment of all the profits which their enterprise could yield.

On motion of Mr. James Rumley, the Chair appointed Mr. Benjamin L. Perry, Dr. M. F. Arrendell, Rev. William J. Langdon, and C. R. Thomas, delegates to attend the meeting in Fayetteville.

ELIJAH W. PIGGOTT, Ch'n.
M. A. ARRENDELL, Sec'y.

MISCELLANEOUS.

KATE ALLIN.

BY JENNY F. FELL.

But where is the lover,
Who shall be here to-day?

Kate Allin, she was a glorious creature, and as I sit gazing into the flickering waves of the fire light, memory is revealing in the 'store-house,' of by-gone reflections, that were once the 'starbeam of all my days.' Out from the heart's deep chamber, where it has been cherished as a holy thing for long weary years, comes the remembrance of Kate Allin, as I knew her at nineteen.

It was her bridal day, and there were busy fingers making preparations for the entertainment of the expected guests. All day had the handsome figure of Kate glided softly in and out with its peculiar air of indescribable grace, and the large dark eyes were filled with an expression of tender seriousness, touchingly beautiful to behold. Taken altogether, the dark, handsome face had forgot its mirth-inspiring smile, and wore a look of strange earnestness, entirely foreign to its usual reckless gaiety.

The day was drawing to a close, everything was in readiness, and after taking a last peep into the prettily arranged, half shadowed rooms, where the sun light was leaving his last golden gleamings, Kate drew the curtains into a more graceful droop, and with a half gay, half sad smile, sprang up stairs, followed by cousin Alice and myself to don her bridal attire.

Soon the long black curls were sweeping over the faultless shoulders, and our fingers were rapidly threading the luxuriant mass as we performed the office of the women. Ere an hour had elapsed, the little chamber contained the most radiantly beautiful being I ever beheld. A simple dress of white muslin fell in snowy folds around her graceful figure, leaving the beautiful neck and arms just discernable through the gossamer trimmings of rich blond. The raven ringlets were not flowing in their usual style but caught away from the shoulders, and fell half shading, the face with a tiny wreath of snow-berries and myrtle. After pressing a kiss of mingled love and admiration upon Kate's forehead, cousin Alice, who was to officate as bridesmaid, tripp lightly down stairs, and soon returned with Mrs. Allin.

Oh Kate, my beautiful, so soon to leave me forever, murmured the mother, as the impulsive Kate sprang into her embrace, the sad dishevelment of the nicely arranged hair, and Kate, dame own, God bless you! and may you be always faithful to the great trust reposed to you.

Mrs. Allin did not trust herself to speak again, for her voice was unsteady, and a tear glittered on the tremulous hand that sought the door.

Kate turned to the window and stood gazing out into the deepening twilight, 'Why don't the come?' she murmured more than once, and then commenced walking rapidly the floor. Again she paused before the window half started back, and then said in a low excited tone, 'Come here, girls.'

We obeyed. What a change had come over the late fair heavens. The gorgeous sun dyed and crimson clouds were fast giving place to one large, dark, and murky, that came rapidly up, shadowing the beautiful landscape with its broad wing, like a bird of ill omen. And away far off in the western sky, the fierce lightning flashes threw out their glittering chains and gave warning of an approaching tempest.

We stood there and gazed until the twilight all faded away, and the shadows gathered so thickly in the little room, that the white robed figure, standing so mute at the window, was barely distinguished from surrounding objects. And yet no bridegroom! Mr. Allin had joined us now; and had spoken half cheerfully of the loiterer, but Kate showed no sign of attention save a momentary trembling of the lip.

All at once a quick coming sound of horses feet broke upon the silence; Kate heard it for the small hand resting upon my arm clasped more firmly each coming moment, then uttered an involuntary cry of pain. Nearer, nearer, and nearer yet came that impetuous gallop, and at last a foaming horse, and the outlines of the rider's figure were just discernable, and then plainly distinct.

Now Kate's hand left mine, and was pressed firmly down against the wildly throbbing heart. The equestrian neared the house—we saw the cap raised gallantly in acknowledgment of Kate's presence, and then—O, heaven! what a booming thunder, what a fearful flash! one one dazzled eyes recovered their vision, the white steed dashed by the window; but, oh, God! it was riderless.

I shall never, to my dying day, forget the heart breaking cry that rang through that little chamber, and then fell shuddering into silence; and Kate Allin sprang past us; and before we could recover from the shock, her white dress gleamed before us, and then sprang through the door, ran down the yard and passed the gate; suddenly she stopped; a moment and she was out again.

We saw the white arm raised toward heaven, as if invoking His mercy, and then one wild chilling cry of 'Oh mother, mother!' and then shriek after shriek rang upon the night air, wildly piercing in their anguish, and fell down upon our hearts like a death knell.

We were soon gathered around the spot where she stood. The blinding lightning, the deafening thunder crash, we heeded them not. Every eye was riveted upon the spot where lay the handsome figure of the fearless bride-groom, stricken down instant death, when so near the goal of earthly happiness.

They raised the manimate form, and bore it through the bright lighted rooms, up into the bridal chamber. So life like looked the pale, handsome face we could hardly deem it possible that the manly spirit had gone to Him who made it.

But it was even so; far over the proud forehead, and, down the right temple, showed the lighting's broad, fearful track. And Kate, since the first awakening of the stern reality of her desolation, she had moved almost like one half crazed; and as the company gradually dispersed, leaving the stricken one alone with her mighty sorrow, then were 'flood gates' of grief opened, and Kate Allin knelt down by the stilled formed, so life like even in death, and thought of the happy past, the fearful present, and of the dreary, joyless future.

Thus was Kate Allin's bridal night spent in earnest supplication for strength to endure the bitter trial. That prayer was waited to the Throne of Grace. 'A bruised reed he will not break, and Kate Allin had learned the entire frailness of earthly hope; and came forth from the trying ordeal, chastened in heart—a purer and holier being.

☞ The murder of Melville by De Corn, in New York, on Thursday last (says the Richmond Dispatch,) is one that excites more than ordinary attention in the great Gotham. Eugene Melville was a young Frenchman, about 25 years old. He had not been long in this country, and had lived in New York, Cincinnati and New Orleans. In the last named city he met with Emma Eugenia Woods, a native of Connecticut, who had started to California to meet her uncle there; but being taken sick at Chagres she returned to New Orleans. Melville travelled with Miss Woods to New York and there married her in October last. His wife, in her testimony at the Coroner's inquest, briefly tells these particulars, and furnishes a hint at the incidents of the drama which terminated in her husband's death. She stated that De Corn, the murderer, and his partner, Giraud, were at the wedding; that she and her husband had lived together since their marriage till about eight days before the murder; that she had an income of $800, which her husband had exhausted in his own expenditures, leaving their board unpaid; that she had supported him; that he had grown jealous of Mr. De Corn, and frequently threatened to take his life; she added: "Mr. De Corn has been a good friend to him to Melville and myself; he has loaned me money to enable me to pay my board." Quite a remarkable statement for a wife!

Melville called to see De Corn on the morning of the murder, and held a paper in his hand, which he showed him. De Corn returned in the store a little while, after which he returned, and without any ceremony, shot Melville through the body—the latter betraying no signs such as one who expected an assault would have exhibited. Melville fell back, exclaiming, "Good God, Mr. De Corn!" and died. De Corn escaped, but was found in *Melville's Room*, at the Franklin Hotel, and one of Colt's revolvers found on him, with which he acknowledged he committed the murder.

The funeral of Melville took place Friday. Mrs. M. was present with a lady friend; but the show of grief is said to have been very moderate.

When Melville was shot he held in his hand a letter, from an aunt in France, who must have been a very good woman. She tells him she sends him by express a great many things, and some money, and some presents for his wife, who she "hopes is a dear good little wife who knows how to keep house with order and economy." She expresses herself delighted that Eugene did not marry a Paris girl—alluding to the distress a Paris wife had given Eugene's cousin by her vagaries. Poor lady! she is yet to learn that all wives outside of Paris are not immaculate!—She shows the most devoted attachment to her nephew Eugene, and gives him the very best advice. From her letter it appears that his social position in France was very good indeed. He had received an excellent education. She advises him if he cannot enter commercial life, to turn his attention to literature.

De Corn is committed to await his trial.—As he entered the prison, he earnestly requested the police officer not to allow his private letters to be read.

CONVICTION OF SPRING.

PHILADELPHIA, April 7. The jury came into court this morning and rendered a verdict of "Guilty of Murder in the First Degree" against Spring. After the jury were polled the prisoner asked permission to make a statement. Leave was granted, and he made a long address, giving an account of his acquaintance with the murdered women, and visits to their house. He says his son told him he would go to Carroll's house on Thursday night, but he (the prisoner) says he had gone to New York. He tried to dissuade him from the robbery, but not from the murder. His son told him on that night to go to bed and he did so. The boy came home some time in the night and asked for a pocket book. He said he had the money. He went out in the morning and bought the shirt, but only gave him (Spring) a dollar note and a gold dollar. His son said nothing of the murder, and he knew nothing of it till he was arrested. He closed with solemn asseverations of his own innocence and the guilt of his son. He was willing to die, but would die innocent.

Judge Kelley rebuked the prisoner for his hardihood in persisting in such improbable statements when his moments on earth were numbered. He went over the history of his son and the evidence in the case, to show how utterly false was all that he had stated. He concluded by urging him not to die with a falsehood on his lips, but by telling the truth to clear the character of his son from suspicion.

Sentence was deferred, and the prisoner sent back to the prison. The court house and vicinity was densely thronged; but no manifestation of feeling took place, though the crowd was evidently overjoyed at the result.

A farmer who recently had his butter seized by the clerk of the market for short weight, gave as the reason that the cow from which the butter was made was subject to the cramp, and it caused the butter to shrink in weight.