



The "Tarborough Press,"
BY GEORGE HOWARD.

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Letters addressed to the Editor must be post paid, or they may not be attended to.

Miscellaneous.

Dismal Swamp Canal.—We announced some time since, the restoration of the navigation of this canal, and our marine list has exhibited the most gratifying evidences of its utility and importance, not only to Norfolk, but to the interests of North Carolina, in affording to a large section of that State, a speedy conveyance for her produce, to a convenient, safe, and ready market.

The Directors have applied to Congress for an appropriation for removing some obstructions in the navigation of Deep Creek, the northern, and of Joyce's Creek, the southern outlet of the canal, which is asked, from a conviction that, under the power of Congress over rivers and harbors, it may be granted without infringing the Constitution. And here we will state a fact, which shows how important this work is to the General Government, in the procurement of masts and timber for the navy, both of which have become very scarce and dear in this State, and must be drawn from the almost untouched forests of North Carolina.

In the year 1833, the quantity of mast and other timber for naval construction, brought through the canal from North Carolina, was 629,235 cubic feet, value \$229,989.

During the past year of partial suspension of navigation, there came through the canal only seven hundred and seventy cubic feet of mast timber, and 19,181 cubic feet for naval construction; of the latter, more than one-half was from the north-west canal. In truth, the supply from North Carolina was stopped; it was impossible to pass the heavy timber over the short portage made for other produce but at an enormous expense. Very large quantities of this kind of timber were brought to the south end of the canal, and have, since the renewal of the navigation, been brought through. It is known to most persons, that vessels sufficiently large to take in heavy timber and long mast pieces, cannot enter the waters of North Carolina, and consequently this kind of timber must come through the canal.

The Directors have applied to the State Legislature for permission to subscribe for four hundred and sixty shares of additional stock, to be created, which will make the capital of this Company 1900 shares at 250 dollars each; amounting to \$475,000. Should the State grant the application, she will own 731 shares of stock including the stock she now holds, which is less than two-fifths, the proportion which she holds in the stock of other works of internal improvement. But this is not all. The whole of the tolls have been expended, amounting to upwards of \$300,000, no dividends having been made.—The cost of the work, as appears from the books of the Company, exceeds \$700,000.

It is curious to observe what were the calculations of our ancestors (for the Company has been chartered 49 years) of the cost of this canal. The original estimate was eighty thousand dollars! which is very little over the cost

of the two out-fall locks. A power however was judiciously given to increase the capital, when it should be deemed necessary by the Stockholders.—*Norfolk Her.*

☞ The Richmond and Fredericksburg Rail Road has been completed to the South Anna, a distance of 20 miles. Six cars, carrying 150 passengers, made an excursion from Richmond on the 13th ult, to the present termination of the road.

☞ The Elizabeth City Herald states that there has not been a new case of the Small Pox in that town for the last ten days.

Remarkable Fact.—In the last number of Silliman's Journal, in an article 'On currents in Water,' it is asserted that if a tube or other vessel be filled with water, and a hole made near the middle of the bottom to discharge it, the water will acquire a rotary motion from west to south, opposed to the apparent motion of the sun; and if means are used to produce an opposite motion, upon withdrawing those means, the former direction will be resumed. This cannot be the effect of chance, but of natural laws constantly operating.

New Theory.—A short time since a man was speaking about shooting, he said he did not believe when a person shot at an object that the ball went to it, he believed that the rapid motion in which the globe was turning bro't the object to the ball. "Don't you believe it?" said he to a bystander. "O yes, sir, I believe every word of it," said he. "The other day I shot at a hare running the same identical course in which the globe was turning and the ball has not caught it yet. And had it been going the other way, the ball would have hit it instantly."

☞ A man in Ohio was pursued lately a black snake. All at once it occurred to him, just as the reptile was preparing to jump at his throat, to run round a small birch tree, which stood in his path; as tight as he could spring; he did so till he'd got the creature in a snarl, when stopping suddenly, he threw a back somerset, and the snake trying to follow him, tied itself in a hard knot. Can you swallow that?

Banking.—Col. Crockett used to tell a good story of the Arkansas Banks. He said it was the custom of one of them (with a capital of \$100,000, of which about \$300 had been paid in, and with which the building was mortgaged to secure the rent and cashier's salary) to take racoon skins at par for a dollar, while a bear skin was as good for a \$10, or a beaver for \$35, as the note itself. He went a trapping one season and had great luck. Collecting his duds, he trudged off to the bank with the plunder and drew the money, which took pretty much all of their available funds, as he threw off 50 per cent. for specie, rather than take their notes. This done, and snugly deposited in the *hand-safe* (a long shed in the rear) the Colonel marched off. A few days after, he called with another lot of skins, which he said were finer the first, and sold them. The next day he called with a third lot, still finer, so continued to do until at length he *broke the bank!* The fact was, after selling his plunder 'during bank hours,' the Colonel made tracks, but he returned to the bank-safe at night, and thrusting his screw ramrod thro' the logs, he fished out the skins and sold them over again the next morning until the bank was 'busted.'

Davy Crockett's last.—Rumor says Col. Crockett died soon after reaching Texas.

Rebecca Peake.—Of this woman, sentenced to be hung at

Chelsea, Vermont, on the 26th of this month, the Morning Post gives the following account:

The prisoner is somewhat advanced in life, and the second wife of Mr. Peake of Randolph. Mr. Peake had several children by a former wife, as had also Mrs. Peake by a former husband. Difficulties having arisen in the family, Mrs. Peake was desirous of a separation, and proposed to her husband to set out to her a third of his property on which she might live with her children. To this he would not accede, but in consequence of some embarrassments, conveyed his farm to his son Ephraim, who came to live with him. This occurred about a year ago, and at that time, Mrs. Peake very freely threatened vengeance against the whole family. In July she went to Royalton, under pretence of attending one of the Rev. Mr. Burchard's revival meetings. While there she purchased an ounce of arsenic, professedly for Dr. Tower of Roxbury. She carried the arsenic home, and kept it in her trunk more than a month.

About the middle of August she put a quantity of the arsenic in the salt cup, and while preparing hash for dinner, sprinkled the poison upon it, and served up this dish for the family, consisting of her husband, his two children, Fanny and Ephraim the deceased. All three were immediately taken sick with the symptoms of poison, but would doubtless have soon recovered, if the wife and mother had not renewed her experiment in the afternoon by drugging them with poisonous custard. The result was, that old Mr. Peake, his daughter and son were seized again with violent sickness, the last died, and the former, though escaping with their lives, have entirely lost the use of their limbs, through the influence of the poison. During the sickness of Ephraim, drinks were administered by Mrs. Peake or prepared by her for him, were undoubtedly poisoned. It would seem that no less than three times was he made to drink diluted arsenic while lying helpless on his bed.

Mrs. Peake, who caused all this mischief, was very careful to eat none of the hash or custard, representing that she was unwell and had no appetite. But no sooner did the other show symptoms of sickness than she too complained of being sick. Her symptoms kept pace with theirs, and the cunning woman expressed a great deal of concern lest they had all been poisoned together. Her artifice was too clumsy to deceive, and in the end she confessed her

guilt, with all its circumstances. The only excuses she offered were, that "she was crazy," "the devil made her do it." The defence of this bad woman, on trial, was insanity. As every one must see, it could not avail her. She was found guilty, and is now under sentence of death.

It is said that strong efforts are making to procure a pardon for this woman. We know not the grounds of the applications, but it is certain that the reported trial discloses no reason for interposition between her and the gallows. *Boston paper.*

Banking Capital.—The banking capital of Louisiana will have been enlarged before the close of the present session of the Legislature of that State, to about seventy-two millions of dollars! Upon which it is supposed discounts will be made to the amount of one hundred and fifty millions of dollars. The progress of banking in Louisiana has been very rapid, though up to the present year it has not perhaps more than kept pace with the demand created by the increasing culture of Sugar and Cotton, and the increasing commerce of the port of New Orleans. The following statement of the progressive increase of bank capital in Louisiana, will probably not be unacceptable to our readers.

In 1811,	\$754,000
1815,	1,432,000
1820,	2,597,420
1830,	5,665,980
1834,	23,664,755
1835,	27,172,145
1836, about	72,000,000

Pet. Int.

☞ At the close of the execution of Prescott, a few weeks since, while the multitude were silently and intently gazing on the 'remnant of mortality' as it hung suspended between the heavens and the earth, a *pedlar*—a real Yankee blue stocking, drove up his tin cart, and cried out—

"Ladies and Gentlemen, I am requested in behalf of the deceased, to tender you his thanks for your attendance upon his last moments—and offer for sale a few articles of *tin ware*, the proceeds of which are going to the surviving widow.—What am I offered for a *tea pot?*"

☞ In the late duel, between Mess. Caldwell and Gwynn, at Clinton, Miss. 400 persons were present as spectators. Caldwell died in about 10 hours. Gwynn received a glancing ball in the fleshy part of the chest, and is recovering

RULES AND REGULATIONS,

To be observed by the Patrollers of the several Districts in the County of Edgecombe.

THEY shall go by night, at such hour or hours thereof as they shall think will best answer the object of their appointment, to all the houses inhabited by slaves within their respective districts, once in each and every month, or oftener if necessary; and if they shall find in any of said houses, or in the possession of a slave, or in any place of concealment, any fire arms or other warlike instruments, or seditious publications, which they are diligently to search for in all suspected places—they shall seize the same and present them in the state they are found to the Court of the County, which shall happen next after the finding, with a return in writing specifying the time when, the place where, and the person or persons in whose possession or care they were found. And if any circumstances indicating danger to the peace or safety of the State shall attend the finding, they shall apprehend the slave or slaves on whom suspicion shall attach and carry him, her or them before some Justice of the Peace to be dealt with as the law directs. On any slave they shall find by night or by day more than one mile from the house or plantation in which he or she usually resides, without a pass in writing or some other strong and convincing evidence of leave or orders from his or her owner, overseer or employer, they or any two of them, may inflict punishment, according to the opinion they shall entertain respecting the design of the offender, not exceeding fifteen lashes. On any slave they shall find behaving himself in a riotous or disorderly manner, whether at or from home, or with or without a written pass, they, or any two of them, may inflict a punishment according to the circumstances of the case, not exceeding fifteen lashes; provided, they shall be of opinion that such riotous or disorderly behavior did not proceed from a premeditated design to disturb the public peace. But when they shall see or know of a riot or other disorderly behav-

our among slaves, indicating danger to the peace or safety of the State, they shall take and use all necessary and proper means to apprehend the offenders, and having apprehended them, shall, without inflicting any punishment, other than such as may be necessary to their safe keeping, carry them before Justice of the Peace, to be dealt with according to law.

It is to be understood and at all times remembered, that the object of patrolling is to prevent any public mischief without creating private injury, and that therefore a slave found from home by day or at an early hour of the night, without a pass, but behaving in an orderly, peaceable manner, and having in possession something known to belong to his or her owner, overseer or employer, as a horse, an ox, &c. or seeming to be engaged in the performance of some duty to the person to whom he or she owes obedience, is not to be punished or turned aside, or unreasonably detained; but the patroller or patrollers, meeting or finding a slave in such a situation, may go with or carry said slave to his or her owner, overseer or employer, to know whether the story by him or her told be true or false, and if false, then due punishment may be inflicted.

And as it is known that some owners, overseers or employers of slaves are not capable of writing it is to be further understood, that a negro man of good moral character and peaceable demeanor, is not to be punished for the mere act of going without a written pass, on a Saturday night, Sunday or Sunday night, to see his wife at a house of good fame, to which he has been long accustomed to in such manner, by the declared consent of his own and his wife's master, mistress, overseer or employer.

The patrollers in each district of the county shall call on the master, mistress, overseer or employer, as the case may be, for the names of their slaves from twelve years of age and upwards, which slaves they shall enrol on a list to be provided and kept for that purpose; And at each succeeding time they shall go through their district, they shall call over the names of the slaves they have so enrolled, and if any should be absent between the hours of 9 o'clock and 6 o'clock in the morning, or on the Sabbath day, they shall call on the master, mistress or overseer of such absent slaves, to know whether they are gone on their business, or by their special permit or knowledge. If neither can be made appear, they shall be adjudged guilty of the same crime and liable to the same punishment as if caught without a permit from home.

If a disagreement should arise between the master, mistress, or overseer, and the patrollers, with respect to the punishment of said slave, then it shall be the duty of the patrollers to order the said master, mistress, or overseer of such slaves, to bring him, her, or them, before some Justice of the Peace of said county, at a time and place which they may appoint, and on refusing to comply therewith, the patrollers shall apply to some Justice of the Peace for a warrant, and cause said slave or slaves to appear before him or some other Justice of the Peace, to be examined for said offence, and the cost thereby incurred shall be paid by the holder of said slave.

It shall be the duty of the patrollers to patrol the place or places of public worship, on the Sabbath days at the hours of public worship in their respective districts, and shall correct all slaves they may find behaving themselves in a disorderly manner, or may be found strolling about not attending to the service of the day, and all such as may be found with any article of any kind whatsoever to sell or dispose of in any way.

The following is an extract from the Act of Assembly, passed at the session of 1830, and is here inserted for the information of the patrollers and the Patrol Committee as forming a part of these rules. The 1st section of said Act authorises the County Court "to appoint a Patrol Committee of three persons in each captain's district in said county, whose duty it shall be to employ a patrol," &c.

The 2d section makes it the duty of the County Court "to lay a tax of not more than ten cents on each taxable slave in said county, and be applied under the direction of the County Court to defray the expenses of the patrol."

The 3d section provides "that it shall be the duty of the patrol to visit the negro houses in their respective districts as often as may be necessary, to inflict a punishment not exceeding fifteen lashes on all slaves they may find off their owner's plantation without a permit or pass. It shall also be the duty of the patrollers to visit all suspected places, and suppress all collections of slaves; it shall also be their duty to be diligent in apprehending all runaway negroes in their respective districts; to be vigilant and endeavor to detect all thefts, and bring the perpetrators to justice, and also all persons guilty or trading with slaves. The Patrol Committee shall hear all complaints lodged against the patrollers for abuse or neglect of duty; and shall have full power and authority to discharge any one or more of the patrollers, and employ others, at any time when they may think it expedient. The patrols thus employed shall have as full powers as those heretofore appointed by the County Courts; and if upon taking up a negro and chastising him as now directed by law, he shall behave insolently, they may inflict further punishment for his misconduct, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes."

And the 6th section of the said Act provides "that any person who shall be appointed a patrol under this Act and who shall refuse or neglect to serve, shall be subject to a penalty of twenty dollars to be sued for by the Patrol Committee of his particular district, and when recovered shall be paid over by them to the County Trustee, to form a fund in aid of the tax for the support of the patrol."

And whereas it is understood, there are persons willing to volunteer their services, as patrollers, in districts where a greater number than the Court has authorised, are required: Ordered, that all such persons, who may be regularly appointed by the Patrol Committee, shall have the same powers, and authority as other patrollers who are paid for their services.

Ordered, that the Clerk furnish each company of patrollers with a copy of these Rules; which shall be returned by the said patrollers to the County Court at the expiration of the time of service; And all patrollers hereafter appointed shall receive for their services a rateable proportion of the fund authorised by law to be raised for that purpose, and to be paid at the expiration of the time of service, upon their furnishing to the County Court satisfactory evidence, that they have discharged their duty as such, as far as was in their power, agreeably to the Rules laid down for their government; of which fact they shall make oath if the Court shall require it.

By Order, February Term, 1836. Test,
MICHL. HEARN, C. C.