TARBORO' PRESS.

Whole No. 609. | Tarborough, (Edgecombe County, N. C.) Saturday, June 11, 1836 | Vol. XII—No. 23.

The "Tarborough Press,"
BY GEORGE HOWARD,

Is published weekly, at *Two Dollars and Fifty Cents* per year, if paid in advance—or *Three Dollars*, at the expiration of the subscription year. For any period less than a year, *Twenty-five Cents* per month. Subscribers are at liberty to discontinue at any time, on giving notice thereof and paying arrears—those residing at a distance must invariably pay in advance, or give a responsible reference in this vicinity.

Advertisements, not exceeding 16 lines in length, (or a square) will be inserted at 50 cents the first insertion & 25 cents each continuance. Longer ones at that rate for every 16 lines. Advertisements must be marked the number of insertions required, or they will be continued until otherwise ordered, and charged accordingly.

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

Miscellaneous.

MR. VAN BUREN.

It having been industriously circulated for political effect that Mr. Van Buren was a Roman Catholic, the Hon. Zadoc Casey of Illinois, addressed a letter to the Hon. A. Vanderpoel, representing the district in New York in which Mr. Van Buren was born, enquiring of him whether "Mr. Van Buren is, or has been, a member of the Roman Catholic Church?"—to which the following is the reply:—

Washington City, H. of Reps.
9th April, 1836.

Sir: I have just received your letter of this date, requesting me to state for the information of certain citizens of Illinois, whether Mr. Van Buren is, or has been a member of the Roman Catholic Church.

Agreeing with you in the great principle to which you refer, as well as also in the belief, that there can, notwithstanding, be no valid objections to have the fact upon the point to which your inquiry relates truly stated, I cheerfully comply with your request.

I have been acquainted with Mr. Van Buren and his family from my earliest recollection. I was born in, and now reside in Kinderhook, which is the native town of both of us. He is not, and never has been, a Roman Catholic.—That there may no longer be any excuse for the further circulation of the statements which have already been so extensively and industriously spread upon this subject, I have thought proper, in fulfilment of your wishes, to obtain his authority for this declaration.

Mr. Van Buren was bred in the religious principles of the Reform Protestant Dutch church, whose tenets are similar to those of the old Presbyterian churches. Whilst he resided in Kinderhook this was the only church in the village; his parents attended it, and he was baptised in it; and until his removal to the city of Hudson, he was a regular attendant on its services. There being no Dutch church in Hudson, and Mrs. Van Buren becoming a member of the Presbyterian church at that place, he attended with his family until her death, a church of that denomination, first at Hudson, and afterwards at Albany, under the care of the late Dr. John Chester. Since the death of Dr. Chester which occurred I think in the beginning of 1829, he has been a pew-holder in the church, and has usually attended, when in Albany, on the ministrations of the Rev. Dr. Welsh, of the Baptist church, a selection which, I presume, may be ascribed to personal friendship, and to the high character of that distinguished clergyman for ability and eloquence.

It is due to Mr. Van Buren to add that he is no Sectarian, and that he uniformly has been and is a decided advocate of freedom of conscience, and of the equal rights of all persons to participate in the privileges and blessings secured by our constitution.

I have the honor to be
Your obedient servant.
AARON VANDERPOEL.
Hon. Zadoc Casey.

Death of Mr. Livingston.—The New York Star of the 24th ult. announces in a brief paragraph, the death of the Hon. Edward Livingston, our late Minister to France. He died at Red Hook, on the 23d, after a short illness. The light of a splendid luminary is extinguished. He had attained a venerable old age, being within four days of 72, and has left behind him a name which memory will embalm with the brightest hues of moral and intellectual excellence. As a Statesman, he stood among the highest in our Republic—as a Jurist, the name of Marshall and Livingston will be linked as twin-spirits of wisdom—as a Scholar, the republic of letters has lost a brilliant star—as a Diplomatist, a Talleyrand and a Pozzi de Borgio have looked upon him with admiration. His civil code, by which the constiution and laws of Louisiana are supported and administered, won for him an imperishable fame among the diplomatists of Europe for its depth of thought, and the intimate connection of mercy and equity therein exhibited. Surely, when such men depart, an efficient pillar of the State evanishes, and we look upon the blank which their death has made with a mournful assurance that but few can fill it with equal honor.

☞The interesting Phenomenon described in the following articles, was seen by several persons in this vicinity.—*Ral. Reg.*

From the Carolina Gazette.

Mr. Editor: You will please give the following note a place in your paper:—

A Strange Sight was seen by several citizens of Franklin, Macon county, N. C. about half past 10 o'clock, on Friday night, 22nd of April, in a north westerly direction in the elements. A great red cloud, of a blood red appearance, boiling over and over for a short time, and three large streamers went off from the main body, one west, one north and one east. They first had a white appearance, but directly turning red; and finally, the whole horizon north of us, became of a deep red, to an exact line over us. It then gradually sunk down, to the north west.

From the Charlotte Journal.

An interesting phenomenon was visible at this place on the night of the 22nd instant, which has been significantly called *the blazing heavens.*—All the northern section of the celestial hemisphere seemed to be turning into blood. It was first observed at about 10 o'clock in the evening. At the time a greater portion of the illuminated sky was west of the polar star; but as the evening advanced it moved gradually to the east. It was faintly visible in our *zenith*, and seemed to fade out at 10 or 15 degrees above the horizon. At about 40 minutes past 10, the period of its most brilliant appearance, it extended from the constellation Auriga, in the west, to that of Lyra, in the east, a distance of about 80 degrees. Its colour was that of a deep pink, resembling the strongest tints of the peach blossom, with the exception of a few saffron streams which descended at right angles to the horizon, and the broadest of which passed across the principal stars in Ursa Minor.—Soon after this it began to disappear; and at half past eleven it was nearly invisible.

This beautiful appearance is doubtless to be referred to the same cause as that of the Aurora Borealis; or more properly it is be identified with it. The phenomenon has heretofore been exhibited under a variety of forms and hues, although we do not recollect to have seen any account of its having presented before as deep and sanguinary tints as were witnessed on this occasion. The philosophic and the curious may find it an inviting topic of speculation. By what mysterious and singular influence has the electric principle so skillfully decomposed the lucid ray, and sent down upon us this rich commixtion of the orange and the red? As the atmosphere was extraordinarily pure and transparent, the effect cannot be ascribed to any interception of the light by this medium.

The exhibition was, indeed, sublime and affecting. It irresistibly put into action the moral sensibilities, and stimulated to serious reflection. Many no doubt had their thoughts insensibly borne forward to the period of the great conflagration, when both the heavens and the earth shall be consumed together, and since that august event will assuredly transpire what could more appropriate than that this scene should be viewed as a lively emblem of that fearful "day of God, wherein the heavens, being on fire, shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat!"

Charlotte, N. C. April 26th, 1836.

The Swash.—The following interesting information is derived from a letter addressed to the Editor of the Newbern Sentinel by a gentleman residing at Portsmouth:

Portsmouth, April 29th, 1836.—"I have it in my power to state, without fear of contradiction, that our navigation has been much improved by dredging, and that the amount expended is a mere trifle in proportion to the advantages already derived. This day, I have witnesssed proof positive of the fact; three vessels from your ports, besides several from Washington, Bay River, &c, have passed through the Flounder Slue Channel and out into the Roads, drawing 7½ and 8 feet water, without any detention—and the tides far from being good. This is now almost an every day occurrence, while there is not over 6 feet water on the old Swash, where vessels crossed before the deepening of the Flounder Slue. Persons residing in the interior have no correct knowledge of what has been done, and the immense quantity of sand that had been removed. Some, indeed, have reported that the channel fills up nearly as fast as it is dug out. I wish they were here to satisfy themselves that this is certainly a mistake. The distance of one mile and a quarter has been deepened from 5 feet to 8½ at least, and the navigation is now better than it was last fall, when the operation ceased, by seven inches. This is no exaggeration, and the fact can be proved by any Pilot in the navigation."

Rhode Island.—A call for an anti-slavery Convention, lately held in Rhode Island, was signed by eight hundred persons, and the Convention itself was very large, though we have no data to ascertain the precise number. We have never thought that the doctrines of the abolitionists prevailed generally at the North; but believe that silence on this subject by the southern Press is calculated to increase the evil. The Convention to which we allude, adopted Resolutions, replete with the usual cant in vogue with the abolitionists, a fulsome panegyric on the foreign incendiaries, George Thompson and Charles Stuart.—Upwards of two thousand dollars were subscribed in one evening, in this Convention, to be appropriated to the printing and dissemination of the doctrines of its members. The southern public should be kept in the light on this matter—avoiding the extremes of apathy and excitement.—*Wil. Adv.*

Caution.—A woman of slender form, ordinary stature, genteel figure and address, and prepossessing countenance, in appearance about 35 years of age, recently came to our town, and by tales of distress and appeals to the humane, obtained a considerable contribution. Some reported inconsistencies in her accounts, led the town authorities to examine her; aud afterwards they proceeded to investigate her case. As soon as she heard of this latter step, she disappeared, and cannot now be found. There is no doubt, that she is a vile imposter; and we take this opportunity to put neighboring communities, and our sister towns, on their guard. We hope they will be vigilant and alert.—*ib.*

An Impostor.—The Edenton Gazette of 24th ult. contains an editorial notice of an Impostor, who is one out of several referred to, as travelling about the country and practising impositions, under the pretext of being authorized agents for the collection of donations to the Methodist Episcopal Book Concern in New York, which was recently destroyed by fire.—The fellow mentioned in the Gazette, had been in Virginia, trying to impose on the people of that State. He professes to be a preacher, and attempted to preach in the church at Greensborough. He is thus described in the advertisement copied from the Greensborough Patriot into the Gazette:

"He alledged that he had left his credentials at Wilson's on Dan river, calls himself, *John A. G. Hemmings*, is about 22 or 23 years of age, about 6 feet high, slender made, fair complexion, light hair; and little or no beard, except on his upper lip and chin; and had on a blue broadcloth coat, white hat, &c.—*ib.*

☞A duel was recently fought in St. Augustine, between Lieut. Simons and Lieut. Pillans, an officer in Captain Fripp's commad, and both of Charleston, in which Lieut. Simons received his antagonist's ball, and expired within two days after.

Militia System.—Col. Cass, the Secretary of war, pronounces the militia system, on the present plan, to be a burden on the public, without any corresponding advantage. A single classification, he thinks, would be quite as efficient, without any of the present ridiculous parade, vexatious requirements, and expence.

A new order of Fantasticals.—It appears that down at Brunswick in Maine, where Bowdoin College is, all the students, medical and otherwise, by a late law, were ordered out at the May Training. They demurred, but came out as warned, and according to previous agreement, made a most laughable affair of it. They suspended a huge flag from the vane of the meeting house, four yards long, with the word "Bellum" inscribed on it in large capitals—another on the spire of the chapel and a third from the college. At the muster in the college yard, 150 turned out, arrayed in the most fantastic and ridiculous manner their imagination and ingenuity, which had been at work a week preparing, could conceive.—Some were in drawers—some in shirts—some with their clothes turned wrong side out, bedizzened with ribbons—some wore *moustaches* half a foot long, and whiskers made of buffaloe skin. Some had painted hats three or four feet high—armed with fire pokers, &c. The banner of the Freshmen had the picture of an ass, size of life—another, the motto Death and Victory. The Juniors a full grown hog rode by an officer—the Medical Students a skeleton. The band of music bore one with the Devil Fiddling, and tin horns and conch shells for instruments. When the names of the company were called, they all shouted "here!" at once, and the scene is described throughout as inconceivably ludicrous to the spectators and all concerned.—*N. Y. Star.*

Important discovery, if true.—Our pretty young girls and exquisites who are always in such natural dread of having their beauty disfigured and their faces pitted by the varioloid and small pox, will be rejoiced to learn that Dr. Luzenburg, a respectable physician of New Orleans, professes to have discovered an easy method by which this deformity—should they be so unfortunate as to have either disease, may be prevented. He avers that the pits never appear but on those parts of the skin which are exposed to the light, and that therefore, they never, or very rarely are found on the surface of the body, generally, though it may have been covered with pustules as well as the face and hands. He has found that on exposing certain portions of the skin, and covering other portions, the latter never, but the former always become pitted.—*ib.*

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*Trades and Professions...*There are about 300 young Lawyers in this city, who, we venture to say, do not, each, earn three hundred dollars per annum. A mason or a carpenter, boldly asks twenty shillings a day and gets it, all the year round—and yet parents scorn to make their sons mechanics—but rather allow them to starve in professions. How injudicious!! If it was more fashionable to be a Carpenter than a Lawyer or Physician the difficulty would soon be overcome. We know one contract given to a Carpenter and Mason for $100,000! This is really business.—*ib.*

☞On the 13th ult. a girl named Mary Kogan, of Sandy township, Tuscarawas county Ohio, stole a horse from Mr. John Coventry of New-Philadelphia, made a bridle with hickory, mounted him bareback, rode some distance, sold him and walked home. For this feat she was apprehended and is now in jail awaiting her trial.

Child Dropping.—A very considerable excitement has been occasioned at Petersburg, Virginia, by the discovery of a new born infant left at the door of a gentleman in that city. It was enclosed in a pine box wrapped in a flannel shirt, and contained also a memorandum written in an elegant hand, stating that the child was of respectable and wealthy parents, who would reward the person that should take care of it. There was also a gold ring and a $5 bill in the box. The child it is supposed was alive when left at the door.

Suicide.—It is mentioned in the Rahway Advocate that Mr. John E. Bowyer, (of the firm of Richard M'Donald & Co. Druggists, New Brunswick) put a period to his existence on Sunday morning last, by shooting himself with a pistol. He had been married only three weeks to a young lady of Newark. No cause is assigned for this rash act.

A Warning.—We learn from the Philadelphia Gazette that a man was killed on Saturday, on the Norristown Rail Road, about three miles from that place in the following manner. He was riding on one of the return cars, in a state of utter intoxication. Strenuous efforts were made to keep him quiet, and in safety; but he kept moving about continually, against the express commands of those present, until, in a fatal moment, he fell directly under the cars, on the rail. His head was literally severed from his body, by the wheels. Not the slightest blame can be attached to the excellent conductors, who are proverbial for their scrupulous care and attention.—*N. Y. Gazette.*

Poisoning of a family.—The family of Dr. Hays, in Fifth street, Cincinnati, were poisoned by their black female servant, who introduced arsenic into their coffee.—The family had all recoverd excepting the wife of the Doctor, who continued dangerously ill. No other cause can be assigned for the act, than the girl was laboring under the idea that she was perfectly justifiable, from the reasoning of the abolitionists, the doctrines of which she had become completely imbued with.

A Fair Business Transaction... A fellow was engaged to a girl in Maine, but liked her sister better than he did her. Wishing to be off with the old love before he was on with the new, he asked his betrothed what she would take to release him—she replied that about sixty two dollars, she thought, was as much as he was worth; whereupon he ponied up the dust took a quit claim, and married the sister.—*Boston Post.*

Remarkable Feat.—By the Fredonia N. Y. Consor of May 18th, we learn that a man entered a store in that village a few days before, and offered some persons there if they would "foot the bill," that he would swallow a pint of wine and five dozen eggs, which he accomplished with perfect ease.

Falling in of a house and death of two persons.—The greater part of the three story brick warehouse of Messrs. McIlvaine and Hayslon, in Wall street, Louisville, Ky. fell in on Wednesday last, covering beneath its ruins four or five individuals. Mr. McIlvaine was rescued from the ruins exhausted, but not dangerously hurt. Mr. Newton, a clerk in the house was taken dead from amidst the rubbish, also the body of a small colored boy.

Views of Religion.—The following table, compiled from the official publications of the several sects, is supposed to afford a fair view of the comparative strength of the different religious denominations in the United States. The figures do not of course indicate members in full communion, but the whole number of people who manifest a preference for this or that persuasion—*New Yorker.*

Baptists,	4,300,000
Methodists,	3,000,000
Presbyterians,	2,175,000
Congregationalists,	1,400,000
Roman Catholics,	800,000
Episcopalians,	600,000
Universalists,	600,000
Lutherans,	540,000
Dutch Reformed,	450,000
Christians,	300,000
Friends,	220,000
Unitarians,	100,000
Mormonites,	12,000
Dunkers,	10,000
Shakers,	6,000
Moravians,	5,576
Swedenborgians,	4,000.

☞Envy shoots at others and wounds herself.