

ing with his labor upon his farm—the grading he will be prepared to do with his own hands, and the implements they are accustomed to use—while the timber is standing all along the line of the Road, ready to be cut down and used, with very little expense even for preparing or hauling—the timber thus acquiring a value, and yielding a profit which, under ordinary circumstances, it could not do, being almost valueless as it stands.

We suppose that a good part of the Fayetteville and Salisbury Plank Road might be built upon the old Roadway—but of this we have no knowledge. The distance is some 125 miles. A rough estimate of its average cost, per mile, we have seen, which may or may not be readily correct—but there can be no harm in giving it; because if there are errors of fact or calculation in it, they can be easily pointed out:

Estimated cost per mile.	
Fill 4 by 4 inch settling,	14,000 50c
Plank 6 feet long, 4 inches thick,	10,000 00
	182,000 00
Which at \$1.00 per M. amounts to	\$732 00
Laying and grading,	500 00
Engineering, Superintendence, &c.,	100 00
Cuts and Tote Houses,	20 00
Bridges, Water ways, &c.,	100 00
	\$1,282 00

Such is the estimate. We suppose that \$1250 per mile would be about the actual cost on the line of the Road, making the whole but not far from \$250,000. We say so, because the experiment is new in the State, and all such cost more at first. We are confident, when our people have experienced, and the modes *operandi* is familiar to them, these roads can be built for \$1000 per mile—having a double track wherever, and only wherever, they are actually needed, for the convenience of teams passing one another. Wherever the ground is sufficiently firm, they will have no difficulty in getting off and on the track at pleasure.

A friend near us insists that Timber can be got up where at \$1.00 per M. Surely not, in market. But the Plank Road Company can procure it in quantities, where they want it, no charge for hauling being ascertained, at quite a low price. We shall inquire further into this matter.

But our article is sufficiently long for the present.

RALEIGH AND GASTON RAILROAD.

This Road is closely connected with, and forms a part of the grand Plan of Improvements adopted by our State—part of the connecting link in the great line of Southern travel—and, as such, important as any, and to this section of the State peculiarly so. We hope to see it become the object of interesting and earnest solicitude to our people. Will it be regenerated, and made useful and profitable? That it can be made so, we have never for one moment doubted. Let the people have light and knowledge for their guidance and direction,—let them take into consideration its advantages and importance to them, even in its present condition—let them ponder and reflect upon what would be its facilities if it were made what it ought to be—and then, superadded, let them see, that, when connected with the Central Road, its stock will become a profitable investment, and pay, and who can doubt that money for its proper completion will be forthcoming? Our Virginia friends will doubtless help us somewhat; they feel a lively interest in this Road, the prosperity of their own so much depending on it. We have had evidence of their good wishes in our favor already—and we may expect them to come promptly forward, as soon as the opportunity is offered, to our aid.

That this Road has many enemies, we are not now, for the first time to learn—and their first demonstration has been to pick a flaw in the Charter. We took up our pen to notice the objection we have heard started, which, if we understand it, is something like this: That if, in pursuance of the act of last Session, the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad Company be revived as a Corporation, every private claim against the former Corporation (of which there are said to be many) will in like manner be revived, and come against the newly formed Company.

We believe there is no weight in it, allowing that there were such claims. For, to our mind, the act of assembly creates a new Company, making provision, it is true, for "the late Stockholders, and obligors for the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad Company, or any part of them," to become members, "and such other persons and corporations as may associate with them," yet while investing them as a new Company, with all the "rights, franchises, powers, &c., surely, there is nothing in the act to subject them to the payment of the debts of the former Company—all of which, we humbly conceive were concluded and lost, (if there were any) when the State closed its mortgage, and exacted and seized upon the "pound of flesh," as the Lion's share. We must leave this however to be answered by those friends of the Road "learn'd in the law."

Meanwhile, we take the occasion earnestly to impress upon the friends of the Road the importance of action! Let them agitate! AGITATE!! AGITATE!!! Let them get up Mass Meetings and Conventions, and stir up the hearts of the people. Let the friends of Improvement sustain each other every where, until all shall be aroused to the momentous importance of the work we have got to do that we may be prepared to go forth with good will, and accomplish it with cheerful alacrity. We can ride upon a full tide if we choose—we can make it for ourselves—the control of our destiny, in this respect, is in our own hands, and there is no time for slumber. Let us up, and push forward, storm fortune, and command success! We are bound to have it!

The Rail Road Journal, summing up the extraordinary influence of Railroads upon the Country and upon the world says:— "It may be safely estimated that the entire expenditure, within the last 25 years in the projection and construction of railroads, will not fall short of one thousand million of dollars! and that their influence in facilitating business, in reducing the expense and time of travel, and in opening up new regions of country, has given an increased value to property of twice that amount—and yet their influences are only just beginning to be felt."

A CROAKER—A DEMAGOGUE!

We trust that the liberal, enlightened, and patriotic citizens of the State, of all parties, will follow indignantly upon the attempt of a writer in the Standard, who signs himself "Anti State Debt," to array the Democratic party in opposition to the improvement of the State, and to create a prejudice against Mr. Speaker Graves, for the noble stand he took in favor of the State's great measure, when he gave his casting vote for the Central Rail Road Bill. The broken-down political demagogue, who writes these articles, sees his whole stock of capital departing from him, and hence his spleen and malevolence rises to the full tide; and hence his wish to wake up the party to which he belongs in opposition. He cannot do it. The high-minded and enlightened leaders of the Democrats in the last Legislature will still stand by the high-minded and enlightened leaders of the Whigs—and still exhibit the noble spectacle of striving who shall be foremost, most zealous, and efficient, in carrying out and perfecting the grand schemes authorized by their united and vigorous efforts, when laying down party names, and party feelings, they co-operated together for the welfare and honor of the State. And we trust that no one would attempt to excite party feeling upon the subject. We are mistaken. This miserable croaker, from the marshes of Martin, introduces his harsh and discordant note, and lifts once more the injurious song of the demagogue, which has been sung in the ears of the people of the Old North State for the last twenty-five years, lulling them in inglorious slumber and sloth, while, with half-shut eyes, they saw the profits of their labor stealing away from them to enrich the merchants and traders of the neighboring States, until poverty, desolation and ruin staring them in the face, they have awakened with a start, and have resolved to go vigorously to work, to be prosperous and independent. We say he sings through his nose that "same old tune"—and rings the changes on it thus dementally, commencing at the top: "A new Debt," "involved the State in debt;" "a debt of two millions of dollars;" "a will and profligate scheme of Internal Improvements;" "taxation to the amount of five times what we now pay;" "an enormous State Debt!" &c. This has been the cry of demagogues for the last twenty-five years—their counsels have prevailed, and what are we? What have we got to boast of? Why "the State has been out of debt!" And so she has—and her people have been deeply in debt, and she has done nothing to help them out of it, and improve their prospects and better their condition. The State has held out no hand to help them; opened for them no highways, for want of which their products have rotted upon their hands; given them access to no markets; afforded them no inducements to improve their lands, and increase their labor—left them and their children to contend with poverty—until the Sheriff has sold them out; and, melancholy and broken-hearted, they have packed up all in one little cart, on the top of which they seat helpless infancy, pull the wool-lap over their mad and determined brow, and turn their backs upon their slothful mother, to seek in distant lands another home, of poverty, indeed, but one on which the light of hope may smile.— The State she goes too, may not boast that she is out of debt, like the one he left—but he goes not there to inquire either the amount of her debt, or of his taxes. Both will doubtless be heavier—yet he can live, and do better than he could in North Carolina. No such ideas enter his brain. He will hunt some spot favored by nature, or aided by the improvements of the age, where he may reach a market and find a purchaser for the products of his labor! both of which have been, through his life, denied him here!

MR. SPEAKER GRAVES. Assuredly, not upon us devolves the defence of the Speaker of the Senate from the strictures of that arrogant scribbler, "Anti State Debt." "One self approving hour whole years out-weighs" of such narrow-minded carping—and the Speaker, when the fruits of that policy he approved shall be dispensing benefits and blessings over the whole State, will have reached the acme of an enviable and honorable fame, to which it would be vain for his *Cursor* even to look up, much less hope ever to reach. And yet, with abusive tongue, he seeks to tarnish the Speaker's reputation and standing with his party; by epitomizing him as an *astute*! Let him bandy epithets with his grovelling peers! His hand can never reach the high elevation of Mr. Speaker Graves; supported by the gifted, the eloquent, and the patriotic of all the parties; and cheered by the approval of the true friends of our native State, who tender her honor too much to permit political shades of opinion to intermeddle with what no man of sense can regard in a partisan light at all. On this subject, we should be all Whigs—all Democrats. We should be united, we mean—for Whig and Democrat has nothing to do with it—we should be North Carolinians, wide awake and active, because we have been *slandered* too long.

A writer in the Greensboro' Patriot and Carolina Watchman, over the signature of "Protest," assails our last Legislature for its Improvement spirit as well as announces himself by finding fault generally with every-body, and the people of Raleigh and Greensboro' in particular. We must tarry to our friends up that way to deal with him; pretty certain they will serve him out, before he gets through.

He is welcome to grumble and scold as much as will do him good, about that Latinic Asylum—we mean its location. After having been fixed at Lexington once, we admit it was hardly treating Davidson fair to take it away from them. However the Raleigh people had very little to do with it, we believe—no certainly saw no exertions made by them for its location near this City. Oh, yes, he may growl away about that, as much as he likes—but he must not pull our old State back into the dark ages again. Day is breaking for her—may we live to see its meridian brightness.

THE HON. MILLARD FILLMORE.

Vice-President Elect, has sent to the Legislature of New York his resignation of the office of Comptroller of the treasury of that State, to take effect on the 20th of this month.

FROM THE COMMERCIAL.

WILMINGTON, February 12th, 1849.
MEXICO.—A friend has handed to me your paper of the 10th inst., and pointed out the remarks in which you were pleased to make honorable mention of certain duties which I was called upon to perform, in the late battles of the valley of Mexico.

Although I would have preferred not having my name brought before the public, still, as a kindness to me was intended, I return you my thanks for the manner in which you made use of it.

There is, however, one impropriety in your remarks, which you will permit me to correct: It regards my conduct at the Fort of San Antonio. This Fort, a field work, had been constructed around a large Hacienda, (or Mansion, of a great landed proprietor,) and was supposed to contain several batteries of heavy guns, of the position of which, Gen. Worth was ignorant. My duty was to advance with my company, several hundred yards in front of our Brigade, (Garland's) on the command leading to the Fort, for the purpose of drawing the enemy's fire; by their firing at me, the position of their batteries would be discovered to Gen. Worth, who had ordered the Brigade from which I was taken to support me, and to storm the works immediately after their fire had been drawn. There were no barricades, and consequently no occasion for the use of the axe which your informant placed in my hands.

If you will give a place to the above correction, you will oblige your obedient servant,
R. M. JOHNSTON,
Late 1st Lieutenant 3d Artillery.

With pleasure we give place to the above letter, and in doing so it is proper to remark in explanation of the article alluded to, that the facts were furnished us by a friend, whose knowledge on such subjects is generally quite thorough and accurate; and in whose suggestion we cordially concurred—(that the Public Press of North Carolina, should not fail to bestow even in detail, proper honors upon the gallantry and good conduct of her sons.

The truth is, that there is too little sensibility in North Carolina to matters directly pertaining to our own citizens, and to the character of the State as an individual sovereignty.

In conclusion we must say that we hardly regret our mistake, since its correction has disclosed the performance by a gallant Officer at the head of a North Carolina company of a duty, which is confessedly one of the most desperate in Military tactics. To march coolly upon a concerted enemy, for the purpose of drawing his fire, and discovering his position, is the acme of courage, discipline and patriotism.

A VETERAN.

The New Orleans Picayune of the 11th ult., reminds the public that the previous day, formed the 50th anniversary of the day on which Major General Gaines received his first commission in the United States Army as Ensign in the 10th infantry. The commission was issued by President John Adams on the 10th January, 1799.

LETTER FROM A GOLD DIGGER.

A letter from a young man named Sheldon, to his father at Newport, Rhode Island, dated San Francisco, Oct. 7, says:— "Immediately after writing to you last, I left town for the gold mines. At the mines I had, at first, rather bad luck, but subsequently made out pretty well, and at the end of six weeks returned to this place with one hundred ounces of pure virgin gold, worth in the United States \$21 per ounce; here, however, it brings but \$8 in cash, or \$16 in goods, &c.

"Part of my gold I invested in two town lots—one in this place, and one in the town of San Jose; this latter is situated in certainly the most beautiful valley I ever saw in my life. You will see by the paper of this date, that the old firm of J. D. Hopps & Co., (publishers of the California,) have been dissolved, and that a new firm has been formed. The office is now worth \$8 per day to each of the three who own it. California is, indeed, the place now—the best place the poor man ever saw, as far as the opportunity for making money goes.

"I do not think I shall stay here more than two years, and by that time expect to be worth something handsome."

CALIFORNIA GOLD.

THE CALIFORNIA GOLD excitement has had or is having the effect to stimulate a closer search for precious metals, in other portions of the Union. If Gold exists West of the Rocky Mountains in a certain latitude, why, it is asked, and very justly, may it not exist east of them in the same latitude? Surface indications are similar; the earth has the same auriferous glow in Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia, as in Upper California, the latitude of the two regions is fac simile, why not their productions?

But little noise has been made, respecting the Virginia and North Carolina mines—no tide of adventure, roused by keen excitement has led to a thorough searching and sifting of the sands of their mountains, valleys and river beds, but there is little doubt that ere this golden age be passed, they will undergo a scrutiny as keen as the fires of Alchemy. Even far North of the California latitude saffron-colored lines are developing themselves, and rumors reach us of Gold deposits found among the hills of New Hampshire.

It would not be strange if such proved the case. There is beyond doubt, untold mineral wealth in our mountains, of which adventure has as yet dreamed. Woful for us it would be, however, if up and down our country we should find, as is now told of California, exhausted Gold. Such a treasure would be a terrible curse. On its other would be sacrificed the industry, the happiness and humanity of our race. We believe this excitement will turn such attention to the precious metals as will vastly increase their product here on the Atlantic seaboard, and that surrounded as they will be by the conservative influences of industry, science, art and education, they will be kept in their true place, subservient to the necessities of man.

N. Y. Sun.

Gold and silver are metals quite too heavy to be carried to Heaven, but in good hands they may pave the way to it.

ARRIVAL OF GEN'L TAYLOR'S FAMILY.

We learn that Col. Pitts, accompanied by his lady, and Mrs. Taylor, arrived in the Washington (20th), and proceeded to the residence of Mrs. Graham, in Stanton's street, where they will remain until after the inauguration. We learn from Washington that on their arrival in that city, they were welcomed on the wharf by a considerable number of citizens and friends, and that the steamer Powhatan, Capt. Rogers, on which they came up the Potomac, was decorated with flags and banners.—Hall's Sun.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH.

The Georgia Annual Conference of this Church, commenced its session at Augusta, on the 10th ult., and continued its sittings until the evening of the 19th.

Twenty-three Preachers were admitted on trial, and three were re-admitted after temporary connection with other Conferences. One of these latter, Rev. Francis Hod, was seventy years old, and had been located forty years. Rev. Dr. A. B. Langstaff, having been chosen President of the Conference, was transferred to the Mississippi Conference, and Rev. Dr. W. A. Smith to the Louisiana. Both of these gentlemen took an active part in the discussion of the General Conference held in New York City, in 1841, when the Division of the Church took place.

The Secretary of the Conference reported the numbers as follows: whites, 49,736; colored, 16,934; local preachers, 503. Increase during the year, whites, 2,237; colored, 523; local preachers, 99. Total increase, 2859; Money raised for Missionary purposes, for 1848, \$24,532.55. Increase over former year, \$3,491.53.

CUBA.

The New Orleans Bee is of opinion that Cuba will yet become the property of the United States, and that General Taylor, with that unerring sagacity and strong common sense which mark his intellect, can neither be insensible to the innumerable advantages which would result from the acquisition of Cuba, nor blind to the fact, that in the fulness of time, that splendid and fertile island must become part and parcel of the gigantic American republic.

The Bee states that dissatisfaction towards Spain is a prominent sentiment in the bosom of every native Cuban. It mentions as the cause of this dissatisfaction, their distance from the mother country; and its selfish dominion; their proximity to a land of free institutions; the fact that the entire power and authority of the colonial government is vested in a handful of greedy Spanish officials, whose rapacity and emoluments are boundless and whose arrogance intolerable. No native Cuban is ever appointed to an office of trust by the Spanish government. Yet the planters fear the consequences of a rebellion, and their natural intolerance prevents them from making energetic efforts to redress their wrongs.—Richmond Republican.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES.—

There is much excellent advice given in the following observations, which we take from Wright's Casket, and which not a few of our cotemporaries of the Press might well take to heart, and "see themselves as others see them."

A long newspaper article, like a great look, is a "great evil." They are less apt to be read; and if perused at all, a good part of their effect is necessarily lost, the beginning is forgotten before the end is reached. Short articles on the contrary, as they are most easily read and remembered, are most likely to be useful. Virgil's good old maxim in agriculture is equally applicable in writing for the public. "Admirer, says he, large farms, cultivate small ones."—Many subjects cannot justly be treated with brevity. But such are not suitable to the columns of a newspaper—they should be discussed in the monthlies or quarterlies, or in books. A newspaper paragraph (they should be nearly synonymous) should be brief and to the point. It is a great art to say, either verbally or in print, just what one has to say, and no more—and to stop when you have finished.

DEATH OF HON. B. W. LEIGH.

This distinguished citizen of Virginia, formerly one of her Senators in Congress, died at Richmond on the 2d inst., after a long and painful illness, in the 68th year of his age.

SUPERIOR COURTS.

The Judges of the Superior Courts will ride the ensuing Spring Circuits, in the following order:

1. Edenton Circuit,	Judge Manly
2. Newbern "	" Battle
3. Raleigh "	" Battle
4. Hillsboro' "	" Dick
5. Wilmington "	" Caldwell
6. Salisbury "	" Ellis
7. Morgantown "	" Bailey

BLANK ROAD.

It will be seen that the Books for subscription to the Stock of this Company were mailed in Fayetteville on Wednesday, and will be distributed at places on Monday next. So far as this Company is concerned, we imagine it is only necessary to mention the fact. We think it our duty to say are fully prepared to take their full share of the stock. It should be done promptly and cheerfully. *Fig. O.*

The eccentric John Randolph once ascended a lofty point of the Blue Ridge to see the sun rise. The scene was one of great sublimity, and it overwhelmed him with the sense of a present Deity. "Jack," said Randolph to the servant who accompanied him, "if any body hereafter says that there is no God, tell him he lies!"

DUMB.

A negro asked charity on pretence of being dumb. A lady having asked him with equal simplicity and humanity, how long he had been dumb, he was thrown of his guard, and answered, "from birth, madam." "Poor fellow," said the lady, and gave him a dollar.

ELEVATED.

A farmer was elected to a corporality in a militia company. His wife, after disparaging with him some time upon the advantage his family would derive from his exaltation, inquired in a double sense, "Shouldn't it be proper to let our children play with the neighbor's boy?"

One of the great events which terminated Europe some centuries ago, is said to have produced the direful catastrophe of giving all the cats in Westphalia the stomach-ache.

"Them misty what do you callin' you may think look well enough," said Mrs. Parlington to her nephew, who had returned from a voyage to Havana with his mouth covered with a profusion of coarse yellow hair; "but you had better cheer 'em off before you're seen round much;" and she looked mysteriously at him as she continued, "It may have a bad effect on the children near, as it did when Mr. Brown built his catcombed houses, where, don't you think, three hundred and fifty little innocents in the neighborhood was burn with cross eyes! You had better cut 'em off that there may be no danger—there's no knowing what might happen!" and the old lady went on explaining the circumstance of the cross eyes, and cited Jacob's sheep in evidence of certain causes producing certain effects.

FIRE COMPANY.

THE Citizens of Raleigh are hereby invited to enter their names as members of a FIRE COMPANY, according to the provisions of an Act of Assembly entitled "An Act for the better protection of the City of Raleigh from losses by Fire." Persons disposed to volunteer as members of the same, will furnish the City Constable with their names, on or before Saturday, the 24th day of February, 1849.—on which day, if the prescribed number, (Forty,) have not previously volunteered, a draft will be made from the whole number of citizens to supply the deficiency. Members of the Fire Company are exempt by Act of Assembly from Military duty, during their term of service, except in cases of hostile invasion.

W. D. HAYWOOD,
Intendant.

P. F. PESCUD,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN Drugs, Chemicals, & Dye Stuffs, FAYETTEVILLE ST. RALEIGH, N. C.

Mr. PESCUD informs his customers and the public in general, that he has bought of Dr. JOHNSON his entire interest in the late concern of PESCUD & JOHNSON, and will continue the business at the Old Stand as heretofore, where he will be happy to accommodate all that favor him with their orders. His long experience in the business he is prosecuting, and a determination on his part to spare no efforts to GIVE UNIVERSAL SATISFACTION in the Quality of his Goods, and the Cheapness of Sale, induce him to believe that Purchasers MUST BE SATISFIED.

The Assortment of Goods in his Store is arranged in a manner to please and gratify OLD AS WELL AS NEW CUSTOMERS, he having spared no expense, time or labor to refit his establishment, and to place everything in view for those who buy. The observation of a moment will be sufficient to discover his arrangement, and test the truth of this advertisement.

MEDICINES, DRUGS, DYE STUFFS, CHEMICALS & PAINTS.

Some portion of these Goods are required by every Country Dealer, and it is to their interest to buy the best articles at the lowest rates to gain customers at home.

P. F. PESCUD,
Wholesale Dealer in Drugs, Dye Stuffs, and Chemicals, Fayetteville Street, Raleigh, Feb. 16, 1849.

BLAKE PITTMAN,

(LATE OF HARRIS, N. C.) Commission Merchant, Petersburg, Va. Gives his special attention to the sale of all kinds of Country Produce, the purchase of Goods, and the receiving and forwarding of Goods.

Refer to H. F. Moore, Esq., Raleigh, N. C.
"Thos. K. Thomas, Esq., Louisiana, N. C.
"W. T. Ditch, Esq., Rocky Mt. N. C.
"M. Weston, " " " " " "
"Jesse H. Powell, " " " " " "
"D. J. J. Phillips, " " " " " "
"N. M. Long, Esq., " " " " " "
"J. M. Long, Esq., Weldon, N. C.
"James Simmons, " " " " " "
"Patterson, Cooper & Co., " " " " " "
"Wills & Lee, " " " " " "
"F. F. Halsey, " " " " " "
"F. S. Marshall, Halifax, N. C.

Petersburg, Feb. 16, 1849. 11-34

To the Patrons of the Temperance Communicator.

IOWE an apology to my Patrons for the temporary suspension of the Communicator. At the same time solicitation of many friends, I have changed my location from Pittsboro' to Fayetteville, where the mails diverge in many directions, and by which I can send the Communicator more speedily and with more certainty to all my subscribers. This suspension of the Communicator may be expected as soon as the press can be put in operation—may also be made by W. M. FOTTER, Ed. Com. Fayetteville, Feb. 7, 1849.

LAW NOTICE.

C. C. BATTLE having returned to this City, and restored the Practice of the Law, in this and the adjacent Counties. All business entrusted to him, will be promptly attended to.

He is prepared to make out and prosecute all DEEDS, CHAINS, &c. every description, at the lowest rates, according to prescribed forms.

Raleigh, August 7. 11-12