

THE STAR, and North Carolina Gazette, PUBLISHED WEEKLY, BY LAWRENCE & LEMAY. TERMS. Subscription, three dollars per annum—

SIT TO GEN. LAFAYETTE. We copy from our countryman, Mr. ... interesting account of his ... the venerable soldier of Liberty ...

On Thursday, October 8th, we received a second call from Gen. Lafayette, who offered us two vacant seats in his carriage with himself and grand ...

As we entered the boundaries of La Grange—Now, cried the General, ... are upon American ground. In a few minutes the turrets of the ancient ...

When the carriage stopped at the door, we found all the family assembled there, ready to welcome their ...

We now ascended to the saloon, where a bright and cheerful fire shed ... of comfort and hospitality around ...

After remaining here a short time, we were conducted to our own apartment, in which a fire was also burning ...

At six o'clock the bell rang for dinner, and we repaired to the saloon, where the numerous family of the ...

It was at this time, that Madame Perier made me acquainted with the names of the family, and their relationship to each other, and I shall mention them here. There were, first, the eldest daughter of the General, Madame de la Tour Maubourg, and her youngest daughter Jenny. Next, Madame Lastrye, who has one son, Jules, and three daughters. The eldest, Pauline, is married to the Count de Remusat, and has an infant son named Pierre. Her husband was with her at La Grange. The second daughter is named Malanie, and the third Octavine. There were three daughters of George W. Lafayette, who, with his wife and two young sons, Oscar and Edmund, were now absent. The eldest daughter Natalie, wife of M. Agustin Perier, had with her a lit-

tle girl, Octavine, about ten months old. Her sisters are Matilde and Clementine. Madame de la Tour Maubourg has still another daughter, Celestine, who is married to Baron de Briggs, and has four children. This, I believe, a correct list of all the family of the excellent General, who appeared among them like the patriarch of the flock, and fully realized all my ideas of that ancient and venerable character.

"Having finished dinner, we returned to the parlor, and the evening passed in general and agreeable conversation. At ten o'clock the next morning we again met at the breakfast table, and afterwards took a walk around the domain. The General first conducted us to a pretty little building, with painted windows, in which was placed the Whitehall boat, called the American Star, presented to him at New York. Thence to an enclosure, where were a beautiful American stag and a doe, presented to him from the Jardin des Plantes, but of American parentage. We then entered a large yard, surrounded by the buildings of the farm, at one side of which was the aviary, containing a number of very curious and beautiful birds. Then we were conducted to the various sheep folds, which enclosed flocks of merinoes, amounting, in the whole to a thousand, all remarkable for the fineness and beauty of their wool. Entering the farm house, we were shown two fine cool dairies, placed half underground; and like all the other apartments which I saw, remarkably clean and nice.

"After having seen all the different parts of the farm we walked into the woods, which are beautifully laid out, in the General's own taste; and a great number of the trees were planted by his own hand. Our walk terminated at a pretty little artificial lake, with an island in the midst of it, and a pleasure boat was sailing. Returning to the Chateaux, we took a run over the beautiful lawn in front of it, with trees so planted in groups, as to afford open vistas between them. After this we all separated, to pursue whatever occupation we chose.

"And this is one of the great charms of La Grange; all are left at liberty to go and come as they please, without any of the restraints of ordinary visiting. You may read or write—walk, sail, or as the one or the other is most agreeable to your taste, until the dinner bell gives the signal for again uniting. It seems to make not the slightest difference in the arrangements of the family, whether there are twenty guests or only one. All that come are cordially welcomed, and they have only to make themselves as happy, as the numerous attractions of the place enable them to be.

"At dinner we were pleased to meet Mr. Levasseur, who, with two other gentlemen, had arrived during the day. The evening was spent in music and dancing, the young ladies taking turns to play for each other. The room appropriated for these purposes, possesses quite as many memorials of America, as the adjoining saloon. The most conspicuous object on one side was the star spangled banner, suspended between the portraits of Washington and Franklin, the latter painted by Madame Perier. There were also busts of J. Q. Adams and Mr. Monroe, a portrait of the commander of the Brandywine, the Declaration of Independence, and Washington's Farewell Address.

"After breakfast the next morning, we were shown the little room, which they called the museum, filled with various presents made to the General in America. There were a number of Indian dresses and canoes, a beautiful mahogany model of the celebrated water works near Philadelphia, a little box of bird's eye maple, containing water from the Erie canal, a birch bark box filled with maple sugar, collections of shells, and other curiosities too numerous to mention.

"We then followed to the library, which adjoins the General's sleeping chamber. Just outside the door of this room is a small picture of the prison at Olmutz, and the jailer unlocking the door of the cell in which the General was confined. The bedchamber was adorned with prints and paintings of different kinds: some of them portraits of personal and family friends, and others of public characters, such as General Jackson, Henry Clay, William H. Crawford, and others. There were likewise prints of the Hancock house, of Mr. Adams's residence at Yorktown, with the figures of Washington, Lincoln, and Lafayette, among others, represented in it. Upon a table was placed a splendid silver urn, a present from the officers of the Brandywine. On one side was seen the harbor of New York, at the moment of the General's departure, and the ship just setting sail. On the other was the open tomb of Washington, and three persons about to descend into it, namely, General Lafayette, his son, and Mr. Levasseur.

"The library is a handsome circular room, containing a large number of beautiful books, conveniently arranged in open book cases, and consisting of all the most popular French, English,

and American works, ancient and modern. Beneath these were other cases, the doors so ingeniously contrived as perfectly to resemble ranges of books. In these were kept splendid specimens of binding and printing, executed in the United States; and large drawers full of testimonials of affection and regard, which the General had received at different periods of his life; all which he seemed to value very highly, and to exhibit with the utmost pleasure. In the first drawer he opened, among a variety of pretty little boxes, was a pocket Testament, bound in red Morocco, which he said a pious female friend was so kind as to give him when he last visited the United States. Upon the blank leaf of it is written "Be America his resting place and Heaven his home." He then showed us the contents of all the other drawers, the umbrella which Washington was accustomed to use, his silver spectacles, the cane of Franklin, a sword blade made of the bolts of the Bastille, a large collection of canes, and a chair-cushion, worked by Mrs. Washington at the age of seventy years. The most beautiful case that the General possesses, and which he always carries, is one cut from an apple tree, beneath which he breakfasted with General Washington, on the morning of a memorable battle. The head is of gold, inscribed with his name, and beneath—"It shaded him and his friend Washington."

"A striking proof of the inherent and delicate politeness, which displays itself in all the members of this charming family, is the interest that they manifested in looking over these gifts, and expressing the greatest admiration of their beauty, as it seeing them for the first time, though, in fact, they must have exhibited them to hundreds of their different visitors, always, I doubt not, with equal gratefulness and alacrity.

"Among other curiosities, the General showed us a small full-length portrait of himself, taken at the age of nineteen, and dressed in the uniform worn by the officers of the American Revolution. The General entertained us highly by his interesting remarks, and the anecdotes which he related in connexion with the different portraits.

"At length the hour for separation for the night arrived, and as we were to leave La Grange early on the following morning, we were obliged to take a reluctant farewell of this most interesting family circle, in whose delightful society two days had flown away upon the wings of the wind.

"I had heard and read much of La Grange, but the reality far exceeded my expectations. Never did I imagine a scene of more unfeigned harmony and domestic love, more unbounded kindness and hospitality than this noble mansion presents. And, faultless as had ever appeared to us the character of our venerable and illustrious host, it was in the privacy of domestic life, in the bosom of his family, that we were to learn all its perfection. I believe, if there exists a happy man on earth, it is Gen. Lafayette. In every vicissitude of fortune, through praise and censure, through prosperity and adversity, he has alike been true to himself, to his conscience, to his country. No recollections of lawless ambition, of cruelty, or wanton bloodshed can mar the tranquillity of his declining years. His name is still the rallying point to the lovers of liberty in his own country, and is hailed with the warmest gratitude and affection by millions of the freeborn citizens of a millant world.

"His children, to the third generation, "rise up and call him blessed," while his servants, and numerous dependents, look up to him as their protector and friend, and ever find in him an affectionate and considerate master. To the rich he is a delightful companion, to the poor a generous benefactor. No man can justly breathe a word of censure against his name, and I believe his own breast to be the seat of the kindest feelings and good will even to those whom he is compelled to call his enemies."

An Address to the Citizens of North Carolina. The Internal Improvement Convention which assembled at Salisbury on 17th ultimo, have made it the duty of the undersigned, to express to you some of the views and sentiments of that body, on the important subjects which engaged their deliberations; & while we undertake the task with a zeal proportioned to its magnitude, we cannot help remembering that our feeble effort will be exposed to comparison with an accomplished production on this subject from the pen of one of the most talented and experienced Statesmen of the present day; did we not hope that the deep interest which attaches to the occasion would throw a veil over our deficiencies, we would hesitate long to encounter the appalling contrast.

We forbear to press upon your consideration the melancholy and destitute condition of our State, because we think late circumstances (and some of them sufficiently gall-

ing in their character) have awakened the public mind to a full sense of our humiliation; we prefer congratulating you on the present occasion, to congratulate you, that a more enlarged spirit has gone abroad; we rejoice that a generous determination has pervaded every class to do something for our redemption from prejudice and supineness. Although for a long time this spirit had slumbered as if it were dead; at length, however, we think we may hail it as triumphant—the people appealed to by a few patriotic citizens, amongst whom we may number our high-minded Governor, enlightened and inspired by the example of our neighbors, have taken these matters into their own keeping. In their primary assemblies they have argued and deliberated, and in spite of the blinded and self-seeking counsels of those who have striven for pre-eminence rather by ministering to old prejudices than by maintaining truth, have generously resolved upon prompt and efficient action.—The next General Assembly, we confidently believe, will bring together, fresh from their constituents and almost from every part of the State, more enlightened zeal and correct opinion than ever united in that body before upon this subject; many of them were elected under the formal pledge of maintaining this policy in a liberal application of it wherever and whenever it is required by the public good; the rest have heard, and are still hearing a voice from the People which they cannot disregard.

But while in the fullness of our hearts, we thus offer our congratulations, we cannot disguise from you that our dawn of hope has its clouds; much of prejudice for old times and old forms, and the every day habits of our fathers, grapes close to the hearts of many—much doubt and ignorance of the necessity and use of public works, and of the means for achieving them remain to be dispelled.—The suspicion, and even resentment of some, engendered in the decay of former hopes and rendered almost ferocious by the loss of fortune, will certainly fall upon our cause; we therefore, call upon such as think with us that so much of the welfare and character of our State is involved in this policy, to be instant and persevering in seconding our efforts—and on all who doubt or disbelieve, patiently to regard the following considerations.

It will strike you all as an undeniable maxim, that the true wealth of a country consists in its capacity for production, and that the most essential contributors to her are the industry and wealth of her citizens. Is it not then a source of alarm that so many of the wealthy and industrious natives of North Carolina are continually withdrawing themselves from her limits? The evils of emigration have often been set forth so strongly and so eloquently, that we think it scarcely required that we should in this paper dwell upon them extensively; but we cannot pass by this part of our duty, without asking if any of you have ever had a neighbor, to whose indolence and intelligence you were indebted for instruction in business and examples in virtue. On whose wisdom you leaned in the hour of trial, whose benevolence had helped you in distress; and who was reluctantly drawn from amongst you by the more alluring prospects of the distant West? You can appreciate, then, with some certainty the affliction of the statesman at this eternal drain of the most essential elements of his country's greatness. Our arrogant neighbors have sometimes in moments of spleen denominated our land the Bœotia of America—a country "where genius sickens and where fancy dies." Who among us can look to the Senate of the Union, and perceive so many of her emigrants reflecting the lustre of their names upon other States, who can visit one of our outstripping neighbors, and perceive the Bench, the Bar and the saloon of the private circle, graced with genius, & sparkling with wit and elegance, which a narrow course of State policy had driven from North Carolina, without feeling the agony of merited reproach and mortified pride? It is painful to have pursued thus far this unpleasant topic, but truth, though it may occasion momentary mortification, cannot produce other than salutary effects; could it but shame us into a system of public improvement, that by opening new pursuits and creating new attractions might stay this tide of emigration, and thus at once add to the productive energy of the State, surely every patriotic heart would rejoice.

One of the first and most important benefits that we might expect to result from an enlightened system of Internal Improvement, is the prosperity, that the execution of the system itself would diffuse through the community, by the extent of profitable employment it would open to a large number of persons, beginning with the day-labourers, and proceeding through all the grades of the mechanical arts to the scientific scholar; also the vigour which will be given to every kind of business, and all the professions by the expenditure of large sums of money. We may the better estimate this effect by considering what life and activity one million of dollars would infuse into the trading classes; we must not contemplate the amount as divided among the people and ask what would be the share of each, but we should consider how much good could be produced by the successive transits of the same sum through various hands; thus one thousand dollars could be made to extinguish debts to the amount of ten thousand dollars, by passing into the possession of ten persons successively who happened to be at the same time in the condition of creditor and debtor. You all know how very generally this condition exists amongst our citizens, and how vainly they have hoped for a change of times to alter it; many have been the schemes and propositions which our Statesmen have suggested as remedies for this depression and stagnation in our business, and though few of them were entitled to the sanction of wisdom, some of them, we all admit, were adapted to our emergencies, and but for the distraction & jealousy that has so long prevailed in our councils, measures of relief would long since have been adopted. To this spirit of dissension and want of mutual confidence amongst our citizens, is owing much to our backwardness in the march of intellect and great achievement; it is then one of the most consoling anticipations of the policy which we recommend, that these jars and local conflicts of interest shall be driven from our Legislative Halls. By making the same interest common to the now discordant sections, by establishing a social intercourse between men who have heretofore been strangers; because no common concern has ever called them together, the evil will be destroyed by removing the cause which produced it.

One other consideration we beg leave to urge upon your attention, and we will then proceed to a more particular view of the subject. The reputation of a State amongst its neighbors, is in a great degree founded upon the magnitude and importance of its Public Works, they are what a State may point to when asked for her jewels.—Who ever hears the name of New York without thinking of her canals? Or of Maryland without adverting to the magnificent structures of her monumental City? Who tells of Louisiana without mentioning the embankment that commands the Father of Rivers to its channel, or of our young sister Ohio, without styling her the Holland of America? North Carolina until lately could boast of one work that added much to the credit of her name, she enjoyed the rare possession of the best piece of statuary that was wrought by the great Canova; but that now lies a crumbling mass.—Can that State which so liberally opened her hand to the foreign artist to honor the memory of the departed Washington, who so gallantly threw open her treasury to welcome the chivalrous La Fayette—remain heedless to the call of reason and patriotism, again bidding her erect her monuments, not for parade or useless show; but to diffuse comfort and wealth among her sons—which shall add an enduring credit to her name, because they add to the real blessings of life.)

In venturing upon a more particular contemplation of the prospect before us, we greet you with the hope of better days to come. While water communication was considered as the only successful mode of effecting Internal Improvements, they who had studied the face of our country and regarded the Impracticable channels of our rivers, however ardent they were for the honor of our State, had nevertheless their doubts whether our condition could thus be bettered; and a melancholy destiny did it seem to promise us; but thanks to the genius of modern invention the best mode of transportation is within her reach; nay, we are bold to say that it offers to North Carolina advantages and facilities that will put her further beyond the

point of competition, than she was behind it under the former plan of improvement. The profile of much of our country is so uniform—every sort of material is so abundant, and of such superior quality—our climate so genial, and withal, the scope of country that could use its advantages is in many instances so extensive and fertile, that the rail road would almost seem a blessing peculiarly intended for North Carolina. We have heard it confidently asserted, that this sort of improvement could be completed in our State for the amount that it would take in the Northern States to get the land and materials, and to secure the work when completed against the effects of their climate. We beg leave here to submit some views of an experienced Engineer on the South Carolina Rail Road, which we think contains matter of deep interest to us.

Mr. Dexter in his remarks on the cost, &c. of the South Carolina Rail Road, has gone into a minute comparison between the expense of that and several of the Northern roads. He states the expense per mile of the Camden and Amboy road at 21,000 dollars; while the cost of the Southern road, embracing every thing necessary to its full operation, is only 6,700 dollars per mile, or less than one third of the other. But, although the expense of the Northern roads is so great, its stock is at least 50 per cent. above par. The Frenchtown and Newcastle Rail Road, he shows to have cost 25,000 dollars per mile, or nearly four times as much as the Southern road, and the stock of this road he quotes at 66 per cent above par. The Hudson and Mohawk rail roads he states to have cost 50,000 dollars per mile, and that the stock is still at 32 per cent above par. As extravagant as this appears, yet this gentleman assures us that these Northern roads cost as much to keep them up, as it will cost to keep up the South Carolina road. This great difference in the relative costs of these works, Mr. D. attributes 1st. To the great abundance and cheapness of timber, which he says must constitute a part of every Rail Road, 2nd. The less undulating profile of the country. 3rd. The advantage of slave labor. 4th. The cheapness of land; affording almost a gratuitous right of way. He goes on to shew that though this road passes through a barren region that the profits of it to the proprietors are already handsome; and the lands in its immediate vicinity are increased at least 50 per cent. in value; and that towns are already springing up along its course, and the whole face of the country brightening with prosperity. What its effects will be upon the two cities of Charleston and Augusta, the points of its termination, he does not state, but we may well conclude that it will be immense. Now all the advantages here pointed out as pertaining to the South Carolina enterprise are known also to belong to this State in an eminent degree; and there is one disadvantage which considerably swells the estimate of the former, which none of the contemplated routes in our State would have to bear, and that is the passage of this road through swamps. We may reasonably calculate on the avoidance also, of those errors in the progress of our works which cost our Southern neighbors so dearly.—It is also observable, that there are various charges mentioned in this estimate, which do not properly belong to it, such as the purchase of adjacent lands, that the company may avail themselves of its improved value. (There is one item of 12,000 dollars for this.) also charges for the expense of running cars on the finished part of the Road with passengers, merchandise, &c. These things certainly ought not to be reckoned in the cost of construction, and were they excluded the difference would be considerably greater in favor of such works in the Southern country. We have already adverted to some of the general advantages which a Rail Road would produce to the country. We will now notice some of the more immediate. (To carry a barrel of flour from Rowan, for instance, to Fayetteville, costs about one dollar and fifty cents, viz, about one third of its value, whereas, if there was a Rail Road from that part of the country to Fayetteville, a barrel of flour according to the rates on the Northern roads mentioned, would cost from 40 to 50 cents, viz, only about one tenth of its value at the highest calculation.) But the saving to the productive labor of the country is still more remarkable; to carry