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COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE STAR. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

At a meeting of the students of the University, held in the College Chapel, on Friday, 8th Dec., to take into consideration the departure of Prof. Hooper, Benj. F. Hobson was called to the chair, & Jas. M. Burke appointed Secretary.

Saturday, 9th Dec.

Pursuant to adjournment, the meeting was called to order by the President, at 12 o'clock; when the Committee appointed for the purpose reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we regret the departure of Prof. Hooper from amongst us and believe it a great loss to the Institution and to the State. Resolved, That during our long intercourse with him we bear testimony to the purity and dignity of his deportment, and to a delicate sensibility and kind feelings which he has ever manifested towards us.

BENJ. F. HOBSON, Pres. JAS. M. BURKE, Sec.

FOR THE STAR.

Mr. LEMAY: On a recent visit to the back woods? I came across a very singular book; from which I have made some extracts. I think it unnecessary to give the name of the book; doubtless one of your readers will recognize it from the identity of the extracts.

How often, when viewing the rude one that covers the humble dust of many of those who preceded the present generation, have the lines of Cowler recurred to my mind!

the people are not so ignorant that they cannot discern their rights. They are sufficiently intelligent to know the value of their institutions and liberties; and to know further, that without the acquisition of learning and intelligence by posterity, those institutions and liberties will wither—or prove inadequate to their substantial happiness.

The light of learning is also irradiating the Western world. The glorious sun of literature & science was doomed to set amid the long night of Grecian despotism and darkness—of eastern idolatry and superstition; but it has arisen with resuscitated energy and radiance upon the Western world.

When we view man in all his bearings and dependencies, we find, and the profoundest philosophers have done no more, that he is involved in mystery. The greatest philosophers have only discovered that they live; but from whence they came, and whither they are going, are by nature altogether hid; that impenetrable gloom surrounds us on every side, and that we can seek in revelation alone, the only source of comfort and explanation.

Behold the changes that have taken place in the wide western country within the lapse of a few short years! Look for the wigwag of the poor Indian, who was once lord of the soil you now possess; it is gone, and his bones mingle with the dust of his habitation.

With such honied phrases and soft speech, they fan the flame of his vanity, until he acquires, like them, an insatiable propensity for show and extravagance. Soon he finds the fund of money which he received previous to his leaving home entirely exhausted; and lured on by the tide of his vanity, he contracts debt after debt, until he finds his accounts are multiplied to an alarming extent.

The writer in thus vividly portraying the triumphant advancement of learning and civilization is rather sympathetic in regard to the "poor Indian." But I pass that by—he has doubtless had opportunities of knowing their whole treatment; and probably the picture is not too highly wrought.

EXTRAVAGANCE & ITS CONSEQUENCES.

The pathway of life along which man is destined to travel, is ever beset with the most dangerous temptations. From the period when the light of reason dawns on his intellect, until he sinks into the grave, he is ever bound to guard with the utmost vigilance and precaution, the citadel of his affections against the encroachments of vice; for the music of her sirens falls softly on his ear, and her emissaries of death are ever dressed in the most fascinating garb.

But the hour eventually comes, when he is to take his departure for the walls of an academy or college, and then comes on the change. Now he is to hear no more the kind expostulations of his father, admonishing him to beware of the numerous temptations with which his pathway through life is beset.

He returns again to take shelter under the parental roof, but vice, as a "strong man armed," has bound him with an "hundred brazen knots," and every effort to extricate himself only confines him the more closely.

Young man, the picture which I have here drawn and presented to your view, is not merely the workings of fancy, but it is taken from real life. Beware, lest, on your dying pillow, you do not find it to be a mirror in which your own history has been too plainly portrayed.

Oxford, N. C. Dec. 11, 1837.

PENNSYLVANIA—GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The Message of Gov. Ritner, communicated to the Legislature on the 6th inst. is a long document, but interesting and able. All the important topics of state concern, are treated of in a spirit indicative of an ardent devotion to the interests of Pennsylvania.

These reflections drive "sleep from his eyes, and slumber from his eyelids;" and thoughts of care and anxiety begin to trace their furrows on his once calm and placid brow.

He has already communicated to his comrades the sad intelligence of his being deeply involved in debt, and consults with them to know, if there is any way by which he may extricate himself from the difficulties in which he is involved.

that if he would hazard a shilling or two, he would soon find he could hold his hand with the shrewdest gamster. Beguiled with such language, and elated with the hope of success, the unsuspecting boy is deceived and cheated of the last farthing which his father has sent him, to procure those articles which are necessary for his comfort & accommodation.

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8. After a certain number of years, no notes to be issued less than \$10.

9. President and Directors personally responsible for all claims, in case of suspension of specie payments.

10. The excess of 7 per cent. to be hereafter the only bonus for a charter. Stock to be sold at auction, and the premium to go to the safety fund.

11. No bank to go into operation until two-thirds of its capital be paid in.

The state of the public treasury is highly cheering. The balance on hand is \$2,220,135 1-4; and it is recommended that \$100,000 be added to the annual appropriation for schools, which is now \$200,000.

On the subject of Education and Internal Improvement the Governor takes up a large portion of his message; and while every philanthropist must feel pleasure at the efforts making in Pennsylvania relative to the former, no American can suppress a due degree of national pride for her advancements in the latter.

For want of time and room we cannot take a more particular notice of this document.—Rich. Comp.

Report of the Secretary of the Treasury.

For the benefit of the general reader, who may not have time or patience to wade through this intricate document, we propose a condensation of the more important portions. To arrange & condense a voluminous paper, filled with details, is at no time a very pleasant undertaking—it is peculiarly irksome to clarify the muddy effusions of the wool-gathering intellect of the First Lord of the Treasury.

The present report of the profound financier though not so full of provoking passages of this character as some of his previous documents, has yet enough to vindicate its paternity and puzzle the reader.

There was in the Treasury on the 1st day of Jan. 1837, \$45,968,523—the receipts during the year from all sources 23,499,981, which together make an aggregate of 69,468,504.

Of this enormous sum, the Administration—this economical Administration, has expended 35,000,000—being 12,000,000 more than the income.

This unparalleled extravagance, the simple Secretary confesses, was induced, as it was justified, by the overflowing Treasury—now that the national fisc is reduced to beggary, he says they will be more economical.

Deducting the 35,000,000 for expenses, there should remain in the Treasury on the 1st of January, 1838, 34,000,000. But as ill luck would have it, in consequence of the disastrous "Experiment" and other incidental causes, only 1,000,000 of this sum will be available on the 1st of January, 23,000,000 of it are deposited with the States, and 3,500,000 are in the Deposit Banks.

The receipts for the year 1838 are estimated at \$1,959,787. The expenditures at \$1,926,892. Thus on the new scale of economy proposed by the Secretary, the expenditures will fall below the income about 30,000. In this aspect of the case, the learned Secretary considering "the fluctuating condition of our receipts and expenditures," very gravely doubts whether the receipts in 1838 will exceed the expenditures, so far as chartered rights and the faith of the State will allow, to the Banks now in existence:

- 1. Limitation of bank dividends to 7 per cent. 2. Limitations of issue in proportion to specie. 3. Severe punishment for exceeding the above limitations. 4. No loans to be made to brokers and directors. 5. Limitation of loans to any one firm or person. 6. Excess of profits over 6 per cent. to be reserved and invested as a species of safety fund. 7. Banks to keep their notes at par at Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Pittsburgh.

ports during the year amounted to 116,000,000—being about 34,000,000 less than last year. This decrease the Secretary ascribes to the fall of cotton last spring. The imports were 140,000,000 being 49,000,000 less than last year.

During the last quarter ending the 30th of September, the imports were 22 millions and the exports only 19 millions. This unexpected result has surprised the Secretary; but he thinks, notwithstanding the 3 millions which it shows against us, that in consequence of remittances in stocks of various kinds, "the foreign debt so far from having been increased within the quarter, has been lessened some millions, but not so great an extent as most persons have supposed."

To the importation, or rather to the cause of the importation, of 4 1-2 millions of bread-stuff within the year, the Secretary ascribes the most wonderful results. It has increased the cost of bread alone to 100,000,000, he says and put an additional tax upon each man of 37.

We are informed, that the postponement of the 4th instalment has afforded great relief to all concerned. This will be news to all the States, and particularly to those who have already appropriated the money, and who will now have to tax their own citizens to raise it.

It now appears probable that, during the next year, means will be possessed, without any permanent loans, real of former deposits, or increases of taxes, sufficient to redeem seasonably the Treasury notes that become payable, as well as to meet all the ordinary appropriations.

The Secretary has instituted an inquiry into the condition of all the banks, some since January last, and some since the suspension of specie payments. The exhibits which have been made to him show some improvement in the affairs of the banks in the aggregate.

The Secretary asks Congress to grant him the power "to issue Treasury Notes for mere temporary purposes" to meet contingencies. We hope Congress will grant no such power.

Snuff Rubbing.—There is no practice of which we have ever known our females to be guilty, that is so disgusting, and at the same time so injurious, as that of rubbing with snuff. We had a conversation the other day with a gentleman of the Medical profession on this subject; he gave it as his opinion, that there was nothing more destructive of female health, and more poisonous to the human system than the habit of Snuffing. He assures us that two deaths have come within his own knowledge, that had unquestionably proceeded from the imtemperate use of snuff, & that he young ladies, of inestimable worth, who are fast impairing their health, and ruining their constitutions in the same way.

We have long believed that snuff rubbing was attended with the most injurious consequences; and we now have high authority for the opinion.

Ruth. Gaz.

Lord Melbourne and the Queen.—The following extraordinary fact was told by Major Comming Bruce to the conservative dinner given to him and Mr. McKenzie, Jr., of Scotland, at Forbes, on Friday week: Major Comming Bruce said he rose not only to tell a tale, but to crave a bumper.

The circumstance alluded to by the Chairman was not a tale, but a fact.—Lord Melbourne, the prime minister, in the course of his official duty lately, waited upon the Queen at Windsor.—After the business was concluded, the noble lord said there was a subject which he felt called on to press upon her Majesty's attention. It was, whether there was any individual for whom her Majesty entertained such a preference that she might wish to have associated with her in the cares of that sovereignty with which Providence has blessed her. The Queen, no doubt, felt a little surprised at being thus addressed by a person who had acquired some notoriety, not very creditable in matters of this kind, and she requested to know if it was as a minister of the Crown, and a matter of state policy, that he asked the questions for if it was, she would endeavor to give him an answer. His lordship replied, b