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ADVERTISEMENTS

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THE PILOT AND SAWTOWN MOUNTAINS.

From Professor Umsted's Report on the Geology of the State.

CONCLUDED

After feasting for a week on the native luxuries of the Pilot, we next passed a few miles eastward to the Sawtown mountains, which we ascended at the highest point of elevation, called Moore's Mountain. The eminence, though higher than the Pilot, is less difficult and perilous to the ascent, though sufficiently laborious. The view which its summit presents, is similar to the other, except if the outline of the Blue ridge loses a little of its grandeur by a small increase of distance, the loss is more than compensated by the pilot itself, which stamps on the landscape most beautiful feature. The scenery that adorns the sides of Moore's Mountain, is also of a highly interesting character. On the ascent, we are conducted to a cascade which, though small, is eminently worthy to the visitor, its chasm between perpendicular rocks, sixty five feet in height, a narrow sheet of silvery foam, falling first down a precipice 30 feet, and then rolling down an inclined plain with peculiar grace and beauty. This water-fall is so hidden among inaccessible rocks, and remained without a name. But our party, learning that Mr. Schweinitz, the celebrated botanist, had recently penetrated to this spot, in pursuing his favorite objects among the mountains, and had expressed a high admiration of its romantic scenery, we agreed with one consent, to designate it afterwards by the name of Schweinitz Falls.

On our return, we visited a celebrated grotto called the *Tory House*. The access to it on all sides is precipitous and difficult. Hence it was selected during the Revolutionary war, by a number of Tories, forming a party of marauders, who, like Scottish Highlanders of former times, sallied forth now and then upon the neighboring lowlands, and plundered the inhabitants. In this secluded spot, we discovered an arched entrance, through which we passed, and found ourselves in a vaulted cavern of very regular structure, fifty feet high, fifty feet long and twenty feet wide in the center, but converging towards the further end. The arch is throughout remarkably well turned; hardly a knob or angular point appears to impair the smoothness of the surface. The rocks consist of angular pieces of quartz, so wedged as to fit each other with great precision, and of white micaceous rocks nicely pared by the hand of nature to the same level.

We returned from our excursions with a full conviction, that if the summit of the Sawtown mountains, had inspired us with notions less sublime than that of the Pilot, yet it was only because we had there taken the first view of the landscape.

For measuring the elevation of Moore's Mountain, a good station is obtained on the banks of Dan river, which flows at its base. From such an observation, Messrs. Caldwell and Andrews ascertained the height of this mountain to be 1833 feet and consequently 282 feet greater than the highest point of the Pilot.

From different persons who had attended us in our rambles over these mountains, we had heard frequent mention of the PINNACLES OF DAN—remarkable eminences, where the head waters of the Roanoke find their way thro' the Blue ridge. Every one who has visited this spot, described its scenery in terms that made us impatient to see it; and, though it is within the limits of Virginia, and therefore aside from the route which we had prescribed to ourselves, yet our curiosity was too much awakened to permit us to rest, and we set off for this region of wonders. A day's ride from Moore's mountain, brought us to the base of the Blue ridge, and having provided ourselves with guides we set off early in the morning for the Pinnacles of the Dan, and reached the top of the ridge long before the sun (which shone gloriously on the conical mountains, the form an interesting series a little eastward of the main ridge,) had removed the veil of light from the profound valleys which lay at our feet. I cannot, without wandering too far from the principal objects of this Report, attempt a description of the feelings with which we traversed this region of clouds, where Great Nature dwells in awful solitude. The ridge is so well defined in some places, that we, were at one time, within a stone's throw of the waters that empty into the Mississippi on the one side, and of those that empty into the Atlantic on the other. Of the former are the head waters of the New River, and of the latter are the remotest fountains of the Yakkia and the Roanoke. The Pinnacle of the Dan are sharp conical peaks, rising twelve or fifteen hundred feet above the bed of Dan River, and converging nearly to a point, that one standing on the vortex may almost reach round the mountain with his eye. There are several of these sharp peaks which together constitute the Pinnacles. The mica slate rocks at their base project their perpendicular strata (called by the inhabitants *saw-teeth*;) into the stream, first on one side and then on the other, forcing it into a zigzag course down the declivity, an obstinate and angry conflict with its waters.

A DISH FOR THE HUNGRY.

FROM THE NATIONAL ADVOCATE.

Large Potatoe.—A potatoe, of the long red kind, weighing three pounds and twelve ounces, was raised in Woodbury, Conn. the present season, by Mr. Benj. Andrews. A radish measuring 23 inches in circumference, was raised in a garden in this town.

We have often thought of preparing a dish of remarkable potatoes, wonderful apples, ambitious pumpkins, Napoleon squashes, and Julius Caesar beets, with which to regale our readers. It is but proper that our city readers should know what the pumpkins, &c. have been doing in the country last summer. The Jackson men have issued new papers, but no journal has yet been started to record the glories of squashes. After a potatoe and radish, comes a thundering beet.

A turnip Beet, which was raised by Mr. Wm. Manfield, near New Haven and may now be seen at his store in Free street, measures two feet and one inch round—weight 13 pounds and 15 ounces.

There's for you! But the editor ought to have given us a description of the many housewives, old maids, &c. who flocked to the store and held up their hands in wonder. Well, what next?

An Apple.—A gentleman of this city (New Haven), informs us that he has in possession, an apple weighing 25 1-2 ounces, and measuring 16 inches in circumference; it is nearly globular.

This apple would make a pie for a whole family, cook maid and all, but as New Haven is a place of learning, and the apple globular, perhaps they may peckle it, make it a globe, and study geometry on its surface. "Po what strange uses, &c." But this is not all. Here is a new way of telling an old story.

Mr. Editor: There seems to be so much interest taken in giving statements of large apples, specific pumpkins, &c. that I have the liberty to mention a large potatoe raised by Mr. Benjamin Andrews, of Woodbury, Conn. It is of the Merino kind, and weighs 3 pounds and 12 ounces.

This is the same potatoe with which we began our dish. It is cooked over again, called a Merino, and sent to another editor as a communication. In a short time our worthy country friends will have the Eclipse turnips, Sir Henry potatoes, Merino beets, &c. &c. There is nothing like a good classification. Well, let us go on.

Aerial Pumpkin.—As you have taken the pains to mention many extraordinary productions lately in your paper, I should be pleased to have you notice a curiosity lately observed in Hamden, Conn. A pumpkin vine it seems had become disconcerted with its proper sphere, and had climbed up the side of a barn to the ridge, which might be 30 feet, where was suspended a fine yellow pumpkin; it will probably take its flight in about two weeks for thanksgiving.

Better still. A vine climbing up to heaven on the side of a barn, and the pumpkin taking a flight to Thanksgiving as Noah's dove did from the Ark, are truly new and highly poetical ideas. This article was taken also from a New Haven paper, and the story must have come through the brains of some of the Connecticut poets or pedlars. But Connecticut must not have all the glory. Make way for Virginia.

Mammoth Cynlin.—A cynlin (or squash) was raised by Mr. Teylor Foulkes of his county, weighing 8 pounds and measuring 6 feet in circumference. It grew on a plant patch and is of a winter species. It is now exhibiting at this place. Halifax, C. H. (V.) Oct. 15

There's the "old dominion" for you; if they cannot give the nation more Presidents, they intend to try their luck in squashes. But think ye the noble Virginians would call it by the vulgar name of squash? By no means. A cynlin they call it for the sake of the sound. Well, after travelling over the different states to give our readers one good substantial dish, we ought to serve them up with something from our good State of New York. So here comes it from Westchester in our neighborhood.

Extraordinary Exuberance.—We are informed that Mr. John Titus, of Somers, has raised in his garden this season, from a single pumpkin seed, fifty pumpkins, weighing one thousand pounds, on a vine measuring 4,650 feet! Let the annals of pumpkin

growth in our country outstretch this fact if they can: and, in the mean time, we add that standing toast of Uncle Leabud—"Old Westchester forever!"

And so be it, "Old Westchester forever!" In our lively active state, there is not a doubt but we have squashes, and apples, and turnips, and beets, &c. &c. to rival or out-strip all our sisters. Only observe, moreover, how the Westchester editor issues his "extraordinary" to the world. It is quite in the style of New York. He announces a pumpkin as we would a Macready or a Kean, an opening of a Bull's Head, or a bobbing of a Havre packet. Farewell

FOREIGN

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

By the arrival of the packet ship Lewis, Capt. Macy, from Havre, several files of Paris papers to the 28th of September, and Havre to the 29th inclusive were received. A London paper of the 25th, two days later than before received, came by this vessel.

Col. Fabvier has at length driven the Turks from before Athens, and opened a communication with Aegina and Napoli. A National Assembly was to be held in the Morea on the 12th of September, at which it was hoped Lord Cochrane would be present. Colajotroni was collecting troops to attack Ibrahim at Tripolizza and Castina, who is said to have got a reinforcement but it will be easy to crush him. A letter from the French Agent to the Greek Committee of Pariss, dated at Napoli de Roma, July 24th, states that twelve vessels from England and France, laden with munitions, &c. had arrived in safety. A great fire broke out at Constantinople, on the 31st of August, which continued on the 3d of September when the last accounts were received. Fakes of fire were then falling upon the Seraglio, the gates of which were opened to all the fugitives who had favored the reformation. Several thousand houses, it was believed, had fallen a prey to the flames. It is added that the People opposed the measures taken to extinguish the fire, observing that it was a punishment sent from heaven for the late destruction of the Janissaries. The fire had penetrated from the garden gate to the mosques of the sultans Armarat and Bajazet, thence along the walls of the Seraglio to the Sea of Marmora, taking in its routes many palaces of the great, containing immense riches.

On the authority of the French papers, it is stated that Com Hamilton has communicated to the Greek authorities, that the British Ambassador at Constantinople, is authorized by the European powers to treat with Turkey for a settlement of Greece, but that the negotiations have been delayed in consequence of the recent difficulties in Constantinople.

RUSSIA.

The intelligence from St. Petersburg is to the 8th of September. It is stated in the Paris papers that there is no probability of an amicable adjustment of the differences between Russia and the Porte.

The Persians are said to have invaded the frontier of Russia with a powerful army from Georgia, and Russian troops have marched for the Crimea. Forty-five thousand men are ready to cross the Pruth, and one hundred thousand are on their way to reinforce.

The Emperor Nicholas has published a manifesto, in which he says, that in the rules prescribed by the