

COMMUNICATION.

FOR THE REGISTER.

To the Farmers of North-Carolina.

The following statements from authentic documents, will show you, what an immense tax your produce pays for Lighterage over the mud flats below Wilmington; and also the tax you pay upon every bushel of Salt:

The average quantity of Tar exported per annum from Wilmington is about 100,000 bbls.	
The price of Lighterage taken from a printed statement published in 1810, over the flats to Smithfield, is 20 cts. per bbl, which upon the whole would be,	\$20,000
Average export of flour per annum is about 50,000 bbls.—Lighterage 20 cts per bbl, on the whole,	10,000
Average export of cotton from Fayetteville 20,000 bales.—Lighterage 75 cents per bale, making,	15,000
1500 hogheads of Tobacco, from Fayetteville.—Lighterage 2 per hhd.	3,000
Average quantity of Salt sold at Fayetteville, is about 100,000 bushels per annum.—Lighterage is 6 cents a bushel, upon the whole,	6,000
Total	\$54,000

When these flats are removed, which they certainly will be in 8 or 12 months, at the rate the channel over them has already deepened, this enormous expense will be saved to the farmer—for it is he who pays in, inasmuch as the Merchant adds on to the price of the salt and goods he sells him, and deducts it from the price of the cotton, corn or tobacco he buys from him. In the short space of a few months it has been ascertained, that the channel has deepened two feet and more, which will warrant a reduction of 25 or 50 per cent. in the rates of Lighterage, whereby a saving may already have taken place of from 12 to \$25,000; this however, is not one third of the expense of an obstructed navigation.—Take for instance the article of salt, and compare the price of it when the river is in boating order, with the price when the water is so low that boats cannot pass the Shoals. The average quantity of Salt sold at Fayetteville, per annum, during the months of October, November and December is about 50,000 bushels.

When the River is not in boating order, the price is about 1 dollar and 25 cents per bushel, on the whole would be,

When in boating order, it is at about 90 cents per bushel, on the whole quantity,

Difference, 17 50

This difference of \$17,500 is therefore a tax which a few men have to pay upon the simple article of Salt, or thirty-five cents per bushel. If such a tax was levied by an act of the Legislature every man in the community would revolt at it. But this is not all; bear with me, reader, a little longer; these are not the less truths because they astonish you. Remember, that all the coffee, sugar, molasses and merchandise you buy is charged not only with Lighterage, but a freight of 50 per cent. higher, because of the risk and uncertainty of an imperfect navigation, and an advance often of 50 per cent. upon the ordinary price, because of the same risk and uncertainty. The farmer complains that the price of produce is so variable, and believes it to be a trick of the merchant, but see how unfounded. Most of the produce shipped from Southern towns is to orders of Northern merchants. A merchant of Fayetteville receives an order from a merchant of New-York, to ship so many bales of cotton, and after the order arrives the river falls; the price of cotton falls also; and why? because the merchant here will not buy in as much, as he cannot ship it in time to answer the object of the order; (which was no doubt to catch the rise of the market in N. York or elsewhere,) for certainty is the life of trade; but as soon as the river is navigable, the price of cotton advances, and bears, a correspondent uniformity with the state of the river, (supposing all other things equal.) Again, a merchant here makes large purchases, of merchandise in New-York; when they arrive at Wilmington, the River is not in boating order, and perhaps continues so for some time; the consequence will be an immediate advance of 20 or 25 per cent upon the goods already in the market; during which time, the merchant here is paying 7 per cent interest upon the amount of goods he cannot sell, and may be, before he gets them into market, the time of credit expires upon his purchase, and he has to pay for that, which as yet, has yielded him nothing but vexation and loss. Should others also, have imported large amounts of goods at the same time, the price of his must fall so low by the competition, that he must be either a great loser, or be compelled at a more favorable juncture of trade, to redeem his ill-luck by an advance upon his goods sufficient to cover all losses and expenses; and who pays this?—the farmer.

These plain statements show us, that all the expenses and losses of an obstructed navigation, are sustained at last by our farmers; for all other consumers are few in proportion to them. Had we time and opportunity, of referring to the proper documents, to ascertain the amount of the loss and ex-

pense upon all the merchandise imported into, and the produce exported from this State, in one year; the amount would be amply large to repay the State all she has ever expended in Internal Improvements; and open the navigation of every river in the State. It would be millions for the last thirty years. Millions!! then, have we been paying for tribute to these obstructions in our rivers; suffering worse than Turkish exaction, from these sappers of our posterity and wealth, and beacons of our blindness and folly. We may fairly conclude, that as the mud flats below Wilmington can be removed for a few thousand dollars, and that as the reach of nearly 60 miles in the river above, has within the last summer been rendered a certain navigation by our Engineer, for less than \$3000, that the balance of the River to Fayetteville can be opened at an expenditure less than the sum which has already been appropriated, so as to afford a sure navigation the whole season. No one acquainted as we are with these facts can doubt it. The town of Fayetteville will then be as well supplied with goods and groceries every year in the months of September and October as Petersburg and Charleston. Country merchants can here obtain those supplies as cheap and early in the season as elsewhere; these charges and expenses will fall off from our trade, like the chains from an emancipated prisoner; our farmers, now bowed down and pining under them, will rise with recuperative energies and speed the shuttle and the plough, by the animating prospect of great prices and cheap purchases.—Cheered at the lively scene of labour, stimulated at every pore by the rapid pulsations of an unshackled commerce, their thoughts will be withdrawn from wandering on schemes of emigration, and will be placed upon their homes, their country and their friends, with unalterable affection.

But these obstructions cannot be removed, without the aid of a competent Engineer and Board of Internal Improvements, to make the proper estimates and to direct and control the operations. Their talents and experience will save thousands and ensure success; without them we will blunder on in abortive plans, and sink ourselves in deeper ruin and expense. See how a plain tale proves it. While Mr. Abernathy and others superintended the operations of the Cape Fear Navigation Company, before the State had procured an Engineer, he expended \$23,000 upon a part of the River, without effecting any valuable result: our present Engineer, in a shorter time and for a greater distance on the same part of the River, has opened a good and safe navigation for less than three thousand dollars. It will be said, however, that the Engineer and the Board cost the State 5 or \$6000 dollars, per annum, true, and also true that this expense falls upon all the taxables equally, yet I have shewn you above that a tax of \$17,500 is paid by a few men who purchase salt at this market every fall the river happens to be unboatable, which would pay the salary and expenses of an Engineer and Board for 3 years; besides, the expenses of an Engineer and Board are but temporary, ceasing when our Rivers are opened—whereas the latter endure forever, if the channels of our trade remain as they are. Lastly, the money now invested in the Stock of Navigation Companies throughout the State is equal to \$800,000 dollars or thereabouts, of which the State owns about \$140,000. It may be safely said that this Stock now is not worth more than half, or has fallen 50 per cent. below par, and so it will remain or grow worse, unless something is done to enhance its value, many of the holders of it will be ruined and the State a great sufferer. But open the navigation of our rivers, and dividends that will be immediately derived from tolls will enhance it to a par value, and thus \$400,000 will at once be added to the Capital of our State, yielding profitable dividends and seeking employments in our markets in the operations of trade.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

SENATE.

THURSDAY, DEC. 2.
On motion of Mr. Bryan,
Resolved, That the Comptroller of this State be required to obtain from the Clerks of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions and Wardens of the poor in each county in this State, or from any authentic source, a statement exhibiting the amount of tax and sums of money levied and disbursed in their respective counties, annually, for the support of the poor, during the last five years, and report to the next General Assembly.
Mr. Williams of Beaufort, from the committee appointed on the subject, reported unfavorably to the petition of the Cavalry Company of Rutherford, praying to be furnished with arms.—Concurred in.
Mr. Johnson presented a bill to authorize Charles Phelps, late Sheriff of Washington County, to collect the arrears of taxes for 1822—also a bill, to appoint Commissioners to lay out a road from Lee's Mills to the head of Newland in Washington county, & for other purposes therein mentioned. These bills were read the first time, and the

latter referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Pool presented a bill to legitimate Eliza Bailey and Ambrose Bailey of Pasquotank—Read and referred to the committee heretofore appointed, to consolidate Bills on this subject.

The Senate entered upon the orders of the day, and took up the bill, "for the better regulation of slaves and free persons of color." Mr. Hill moved an amendment to the bill, and Mr. Joiner moved for the indefinite postponement of the bill and amendment, which was carried.

The bill authorizing the Supreme Court to regulate the practice of taking depositions, was read the second time, and on motion of Mr. M'Leod, ordered to lie on the table.

The bill to amend an act, passed at the last session of the Assembly, to amend the laws making provision for widows, was read the second time. Mr. M'Leod moved an amendment to the bill and Mr. Barringer moved that it be committed to a select committee, which was agreed to, and Messrs. Barringer Bryan, M'Leod, Hogan and Hargrave were named as the committee.

Mr. Pool presented the petition of John Reardon of Pasquotank—Referred to the committee on Divorce and Alimony.

Mr. Johnson presented a bill, authorizing the Commissioners of the town of Plymouth, to make conveyances of lots in said town in certain cases—Read the first time.

The bill authorizing Charles Phelps to collect arrears of taxes &c. was read the second time and rejected.

The bill to amend an act, for establishing a College in the Western part of North-Carolina—the bill to appoint Commissioners to superintend the laying off and improving the great State road lying between Jefferson in Ashe county and the Tennessee line—the bill for the relief of the Trustees of the Oxford Academy, and the bill to prevent actions from abating in certain cases, were read the second and third times and ordered to be engrossed.

FRIDAY, DEC. 3.

Mr. Hill from the balloting committee for Governor, having reported that Hutchins G. Burton was duly elected, a joint committee was appointed to wait upon him to inform him of his election, and to ascertain when it will be convenient for him to qualify. Messrs. Hill and Bryan of the Senate and Messrs. Donoho and Williamson of the Commons, form the committee.

Mr. Shober from the committee of Indian Reservations, moved that the said committee be vested with power to send for persons and papers. Agreed to.

Mr. Wellborn from the committee of Divorce & Alimony, reported a bill to divorce Lewis Tumberau of Wake, from his wife Nancy; also, a bill to divorce Solomon Davis of Carteret, from his wife Celia; also, a bill to divorce Elizabeth Ferguson of Wilkes, from her husband William Ferguson—which passed their first readings.

Mr. Forney from the committee on Internal Improvements, to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of Wilkes, reported a bill to make a road across the Brushy Mountain at Greer's Gap. Read the first time and passed.

Mr. Forney from the said committee reported unfavorably to the petition of John King and others—Concurred in.

Mr. Legrand presented the petition of John Kirk, dec'd.—Referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Bethune presented a bill respecting the election of Sheriffs, and other County Officers, laying the county taxes and appointing Jurors to serve at the Superior Courts in Cumberland county, and Mr. Davidson presented a bill to amend an act, for the better regulation of the Town of Statesville in Iredell county—Read the first time.

The Senate resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, Mr. Wilson in the chair, for the purpose of taking into consideration the bill to advance the administration of Justice in Courts of Equity and to establish a Court for that purpose, and the resolution relative to the Supreme Court, being the unfinished business of Monday last. After considerable debate, the committee rose, the Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. Wilson from the Committee of the whole, reported progress and obtained leave to sit again on to-morrow.

SATURDAY, DEC. 4.

Mr. Bryan from the committee on that part of the Governor's message, relating to free persons of color, reported, that in the opinion of the committee, the provisions of an act passed in 1795, to prevent any person who may emigrate from any part of West India or Bahama Islands, or the French, Dutch or Spanish settlements on the Southern Coast of America, from bringing slaves into this State, and also imposing certain restrictions on free persons of color, as amply and effectually operate upon this subject as any which can be enacted, and moved that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of said subject. Agreed to.

Mr. Forney from the committee on

Internal Improvements, reported favorably to the petition of Joshua Allison, by a bill.

On motion of Mr. Bryan,
Resolved, That the Judiciary Committee be instructed to enquire into the expediency of so modifying the act of 1820, relative to the marriage of infant females, as to permit the marriage, by consent in writing of the mother of a *feme sole*—or by the like consent of the Guardian.

Mr. Wilson presented a bill to establish Harmony Grove Academy in Edgecomb county, and to incorporate the Trustees thereof.

Mr. Hill presented a bill to amend an act passed in 1823, for the relief of Female Debtors, and

Mr. Montgomery a bill concerning the election of constables in Orange county—which were severally read the first time.

The Senate resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Wilson in the chair, on the unfinished business of yesterday, relative to the establishment of a Court of Equity &c. &c. After much debate, the committee rose and the Chairman reported to the House, their disagreement to the bill and resolution—which report was concurred in by the Senate.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY, DEC. 2.

The following bills were presented and read the first time:

By Mr. Matthews, a bill to amend an act passed in 1815, laying duties on sales at auction, of merchandise.

By Mr. Bailey, a bill to empower the commissioners of Elizabeth City, to appoint a Fire Company and for other purposes.

By Mr. Cowan, a bill to incorporate the Mechanic's Benevolent Society of Wilmington.

By Mr. Vail, a bill to authorize Henry Downing, Executor of Stephen Downing, deceased, to collect arrears of taxes for 1821. Referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

By Mr. Watson, a bill to authorize the County Court of Hyde, to issue licenses to retail spirituous liquors.

By Mr. Raiford, a bill to legitimate Narcissa Killingsworth, and for other purposes.

By Mr. Hill, a bill to alter the time of holding the County Courts of New-Hanover.

By Mr. Blount, a bill to incorporate the Agricultural Society of Beaufort county.

By Mr. W. D. Barnard, a bill to appoint commissioners to contract with Jer. Land, for the purchase of a piece of land for the use and benefit of the county of Currituck.

The bill to establish a State Bank, was made the order of the day for Monday next.

A message was received from the Governor, enclosing a communication from the Commissioners of Navigation of Wilmington, relative to the improvement of the Cape-Fear. Referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. S. Miller from the committee of Claims, reported unfavorably to the petition of Wm. L. Hill of Onslow, which was concurred in Yeas 86. Nays 42. Called for by Mr. Nixon.

Mr. Miller reported unfavorably, also, on the claim of John H. Hill of Carteret—Concurred in.

Mr. Stanly from the Judiciary Committee, reported the following Bills, viz. a bill directing the time and place of selling lands and Slaves under execution, in Buncombe county and a bill to amend an act concerning Divorce and Alimony passed in 1814—Read the first time.

FRIDAY, DEC. 3.

Mr. Jones from the committee of Finance, presented a letter from the Treasurer, addressed to him as chairman of that committee explanatory of his annual report so far as relates to the money paid the Civil Engineer—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Edmondson, presented a bill authorizing Wm. Cathey and Asaph Wilson of Haywood to erect Gates at places therein mentioned, which was read the first time.

Several bills received from the Senate, were read for the first time and passed.

Mr. Hill of New-Hanover from the committee of Internal Improvements, to whom was referred the bill authorizing an increase of the capital Stock, of the Clubfoot and Harlow Creek Canal Company, reported that it is expedient to pass the same. The report was concurred in and the bill read the first time.

Mr. Rainey from the committee on Privileges and Elections, to whom was referred the resolution, instructing them to enquire into the expediency of restoring the District mode of electing Electors of President and Vice-President, reported, that it is inexpedient, at this time to make any alteration.—Concurred in, Ayes 70. Nays 54. Called for by Mr. Nixon.

SATURDAY, DEC. 4.

A message was sent to the Senate, proposing to ballot this morning, for officers of Artillery, and informing that Henry W. Ayres as Colonel, James

Townes as Lieut. Colonel and Jesse Birdsall as Major, are in nomination. The following bills were presented and read the first time:

By Mr. McMillan, a bill authorizing James J. McKay of Bladen, to erect and keep up a toll gate.

By Mr. Howell, a bill to repeal an act passed in 1823, to repeal an act passed in 1818, to repeal the first section of the 26th chap. of the act of 1791, so far as relates to the counties of Robeson, Columbus, Ashe, Richmond, Moore, Duplin, Carteret and Johnston, so far as the same relates to the counties of Robeson and Richmond.

By Mr. Love, a bill to prevent persons from falling timber into the Tuckasegee river, and Carry Fork thereof, within Haywood County.

By Mr. Williamson, a bill prescribing the duty of Constables and other officers in certain cases. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

By Mr. S. Miller, a bill to repeal the 6th sec. of an act, for the more uniform and convenient administration of Justice, passed in 1806, and to locate the Judges of the Superior Courts.

On motion of Mr. Helme, the Treasurer was directed to exhibit to this House, the amount of monies received from the several Clerks and Sheriffs, in conformity with the act of 1823, for the promotion of Agriculture, &c. and also the amount due from them.

Mr. Stanly from the Judiciary Committee, to whom was referred the resolution instructing them to enquire into the expediency of passing a bill to compel persons intending to erect any mill or dam, to remove all vegetable matter previous to such erection from the ground, which would probably be overflowed by the water of such dam, reported that it is inexpedient to pass such bill. Concurred in.

J. Braselman,

DENTIST.
RESPECTFULLY informs the citizens of Raleigh, that he has taken a room at Dr. J. Battle's shop, east of the State House, where he may be found between the hours of 9 and 12 A.M. and 3 and 5 P.M. He sets Artificial Teeth, from one to a full set; cleans, files, plugs and extracts in the nicest manner and with little pain.
Dec. 1824.

Notice.

A TEACHER wanted in the neighborhood of Ranson's Bridge, N. C. capable of teaching the English to perfection—he must be a man of good morals and come well recommended. To such a person a liberal salary will be given.—He may apply to Dr. Tucker, to Willis Arrington, Esq. or to the Subscriber, all living contiguous to the above named Bridge. We wish the School to commence the Second Monday in January, 1825.
Dec. 1. FRANCIS INGE.

Taken Up,

ON the 14th of November and committed to Jail in Waynesborough, Wayne county, a negro fellow who calls his name JACK, and says he belongs to John Victory of Georgia near Greensborough. The owner is requested to come forward, prove his property, pay the charges and take him away.
ISAAC HILL, Jailor.
Waynesboro' Dec. 1. 11-3t

State of North-Carolina,

Cumberland County.
In Equity—Full Term, 1824.
Henry Stephenson,
versus
Henry W. Rhodes, Jonathan Stephenson and Mark Christian.
It appearing to the Court, by the return of the Sheriff, that Henry W. Rhodes and Mark Christian of the Defendants in this case are not inhabitants of this State: It is ordered that publication be made for sixty days in the "Raleigh Register," for the said defendants to appear, plead, answer or demur to complainant's bill on or before the first day of the ensuing term of this court to be held on the 6th Monday after the 4th Monday of March next, or the said bill will be taken as pro confesso, as to them respectively, and heard ex-parte. A true copy of & from the minutes.
Test, JOHN HOGG, C.M.E.
Pr. adv. \$2 50

American Cough Drops,

For Colds, obstinate Coughs, Asthma, Catarrh, Hooping Cough and Consumption in their early stages.
WHOLLY disbelieving the common doctrine of *Specifics*, or that any medicine will always, without regard to circumstances, cure any one disease; yet it must, in justice to the medicine now given to the public, be confidently asserted, that it comes nearer to a Specific in the above diseases, than any thing hitherto known.
As yet, where it has had a fair trial, it has seldom failed of curing, or at least materially alleviating; the above distressing and dangerous complaints.
This is a medicine that may be used for any length of time, without in the least injuring the constitution.
It does not, like many others, relieve for a time, or merely while using, but its effects are permanent. It promotes digestion, gives tone and vigor to the stomach, and restores the lungs, which are generally the seat of the above complaints, to the healthy discharge of their functions.
The above medicine is for sale at RAN-DOLPH WEBB'S Apothecary store.
New Map of North-Carolina.
HAVING been informed, that many of the County Maps distributed by Mr. John MacRae of Fayetteville for the purpose of correction, have been returned by the Members of the Legislature.—The subscriber, therefore begs leave to say, that they will be thankfully received by him at his room, N. E. corner of Messrs. Ross & Scott's Store, at any time most convenient to those gentlemen who may have them in their possession.
ROBT. B. BRAZIER.
Raleigh, Nov. 26th, 1824. 4-3t.