



AND NORTH-CAROLINA GAZETTE.

Our care the plane of fair, delightful Peace, Unwarp'd by party rage, to live like Brothers.

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ADDRESS BY MR. MADISON.

Late President of the United States, to the Agricultural Society of Albemarle County, Va., of which he is President.

It having pleased the society to name me for their presiding member, I feel it a duty, on my first appearing among you, to present my acknowledgments, for that honorary distinction; with the assurances of my sincere desire to promote the success of an establishment, which has in view so valuable an object as that of improving the agriculture of our country.

The faculty of cultivating the earth, and of rearing animals, by which food is increased beyond the spontaneous supplies of nature, belongs to man alone. No other terrestrial being has received a higher gift, than an instinct, like that of the beaver or the ant, which merely hoards for future use, the food spontaneously furnished by nature.

As this peculiar faculty gives to man a pre-eminence over irrational animals; so it is the use made of it by some, and the neglect of it by other communities, that distinguish them from each other in the most important features of the human character.

The contrast between the enlightened and refined nations on some parts of the earth, and the rude and wretched tribes on others, has its foundation in this distinction. Civilization is never seen without agriculture; nor has agriculture ever prevailed, where the civilized arts did not make their appearance.

But closely as agriculture and civilization are allied, they do not keep pace with each other. There is probably a much higher state of agriculture in China and Japan, than in many other countries far more advanced in the improvements of civilization. It is so very small a requisite to the latter, that with so great a superiority in science, and in the higher possessions of the arts and letters, they should suffer themselves to be outstripped in the very art by which both are essentially distinguished from the brute creation.

It must not be inferred, however, from the capacities and the motives of man, for an artificial increase of the productions of the earth, that the transition from the hunter, or even the herdsman state, to the agricultural, is a matter of course. The first steps in this transition are attended with difficulty; and what is more, with dissimulation.

With a knowledge of the metals, & the improvements made of them, the process of opening and stirring the soil, is not an easy operation; though one, perhaps, not requiring more effort and contrivance, than produced the instruments used by savages in war and in the chase.

And that there is a disinclination in human nature to exchange the savage for the civilized life, cannot be questioned. We need not look for proofs beyond our own neighborhood. The Indian tribes have ever shewn an aversion to the change. Neither the persuasive examples of plenty and comfort derived from the culture of the earth by their white brethren, nor the lessons and specimens of tillage placed in the midst of them, and seconded by actual sufferings from a deficient and precarious subsistence, have converted them from their strong propensities and habitual pursuits.

In the same spirit, they always display an anxious disposition to return to their primitive life, after being weaned from it by time, and apparently nourished by intellectual and moral instruction, into the habits & tastes of an agricultural people. A still more conclusive evidence of the bias of human nature is seen in the familiar fact, that our own people, nursed and reared in these habits and tastes, easily slide into those of the savage, and are rarely reclaimed to civilized society with their own consent.

Had the Europeans, on their arrival, found this continent destitute of human inhabitants, whose dangerous neighborhood kept them in a compact and agricultural state, and had their communication with the countries they left, been discontinued; they might have spread themselves into the forests where game and fruits would have abounded; and gradually forgetting the art no longer necessary to their immediate wants, have degenerated into savage tribes.

An admired historian, in his enquiry into the origin of the American savages, represents any such degeneracy as impossible. He lays it down as a certain principle, that the necessary arts of life, when once introduced among a people, can never be lost; that the dominion over inferior animals once enjoyed, will never be abandoned; and that America, consequently, must have been peopled from a country as civilized as itself. Yet he derives the American savages, generally, from the Tartars, whose example must have taught them the use of certain animals, for which a substitute might have been found in the bison or buffalo at least (the same animal with the cow) if not in the elk, the moose, or the caraboo; and he regards the Esquimaux, a tribe distinguished in several respects, for their rude condition, as descendants from the Greenlanders (of the same modes of life with themselves) who were a colony from Norway planted in the ninth century;

Dr. Robertson.

an epoch prior to which the Norwegians had made such progress in the arts, as to be capable of formidable maritime expeditions. The Greenland colony therefore must have undergone a degeneracy from the condition of its parent country. Without supposing the possibility of a transition from a better state of human society, to a savage state, how would the learned historian have accounted for the introduction of the savage state at all?

The bent of human nature may be traced on the chart of our own country. The manufacturer readily exchanges the loom for the plough, in opposition often to his own interest, as well as to that of this country. The cultivator, in situations presenting an option, prefers to the labors of the field, the more easy employment of rearing a herd. And as the game of the forest is approached, the hunting life displays the force of its attractions. Where do we behold a march in the opposite direction? the hunter becoming the herdsman; the latter a follower of the plough; and the last repairing to the manufactory of the workshop.

Such, indeed, is the fascination of that personal independence which belongs to the uncivilized state, and such the despatch and contempt of the monotonous labor of tillage, compared with the exciting occupations of the chase, or with the indulgence enjoyed by those who subsist chiefly on the mere bounty of nature, or on their migratory flocks, that a voluntary relinquishment of these latter modes of life, is little to be expected. We certainly perceive nothing in the character of our savage neighbors, from which it could be inferred, that even the germs of agriculture, observed in their spots of maize, and a few other cultivated plants, would ever be developed into the extent implied by an agricultural life. To this little resource combined with the game furnished by the forest and by the lake or the stream, their population and habits are adjusted. There may be said, in fact, to be a plenum of the former; because it is commensurate with their food, and this cannot be increased without a change of habits, which being founded in natural propensities, do not change of themselves.

The first introduction of agriculture among a savage people, appears, accordingly, never to have taken place without some extraordinary impulsion. Where it has not been introduced by colonies transplanted from agricultural countries, as from Phoenicia and Egypt into Greece, and from Greece herself among her savage neighbors, the revolution has proceeded from some individual, whose singular talents and talents, and superior pretensions, had given him an ascendancy for the purpose. All these great reformers, in ancient times, were regarded as more than men, and uniformly distinguished as very remarkable examples, of modern date, is found in the revolution from the savage to the agricultural state, said to have been brought about by Manco Capac, among the Peruvians, to whom he presented himself as the offspring of the sun.

Agriculture once effectually commenced, may proceed of itself, under impulses of its own creation. The mouths fed by it increasing, and the supplies of nature decreasing, necessity becomes a spur to industry; which finds another spur, in the advantages incident to the acquisition of property, in the civilized state. And thus a progressive agriculture, and a progressive population ensue.

But although no determinate limit presents itself to the increase of food, and to a population commensurate with it, other than the limited productiveness of the earth itself, we can scarcely be warranted in supposing that all the productive powers of its surface can be made subservient to the use of man, in exclusion of all the plants and animals not entering into his stock of subsistence; that all the elements and combinations of elements in the earth, the atmosphere, and the water, which now support such various and such numerous descriptions of created beings, animate and inanimate, could be withdrawn from that general destination, and appropriated to the exclusive support and increase of the human part of the creation; so that the whole habitable earth should be as full of people, as the spots most crowded now are or might be made, and as destitute as those spots, of the plants and animals not used by man.

The supposition cannot well be reconciled with that symmetry in the face of nature, which derives new beauty from every insight that can be gained into it. It is forbidden also by the principles and laws which operate in various departments of her economy, falling within the scope of common observation, as well as within that of philosophic researches.

The earth contains not less than thirty or forty thousand kinds of plants; not less than six or seven hundred of birds; nor less than three or four hundred of quadrupeds; to say nothing of the thousand species of fishes. Of reptiles and insects, there are more than can be numbered. To all these must be added, the swarms and varieties of animals, and minute vegetables not visible to the natural eye, but whose existence is probably connected with that of visible animals and plants.

On comparing this vast profusion and multiplicity of beings with the few grains and grasses, the few herbs and roots, and the few fowls and quadrupeds, which make up the short list adapted to the wants of man; it is difficult to believe that it lies with him, so to re-model the work of nature as it would be re-modelled, by a destruction not only of individuals, but of entire species; and not only of a few species, but of every species, with the very few exceptions which he might spare for his own accommodation.

Such a multiplication of the human race, at the expense of the rest of the organized creation, implies that the food of all plants is composed of elements equally indiscriminately nourishing all, and which consequently may be wholly appropriated to the one or few plants best fitted for human use.

Whether the food or constituent matter of vegetables, be furnished from the earth, the air or water; and whether directly, or by either through the medium of the others, is sufficient ground appears for the inference that the food for all is the same.

Different plants require different soils; some flourish in sandy, some in clayey, some in moist, some in dry soils; some in warm, some in cold situations. Many grow only in water—and a few subsist in the atmosphere. The forms, the textures, and the qualities of plants, are still more diversified. That things so various and dissimilar in their organizations, their constitutions, and their characters, should be wholly nourished by, and consist of precisely the same elements, requires more proof than has yet been offered.

A case which has been relied on to prove that different plants are not necessarily for different plants, is that of grafting or inoculating one kind of plant on another kind; the sap obtained by the stock for itself, being found to feed and perfect the graft. But this operation has its limits. It does not extend beyond plants having a certain affinity. The apple tree may be grafted on the pear or quince. It will succeed on the peach or the cherry. If the cases prove that the same food suffices for the apple and the pear; they equally prove that different foods are required for the apple and the peach. It is said even, that the fruit from the peach graft on the almond, is not precisely the same with that from a peach graft on a plum.

It may be offered as another argument to the same effect, that all animal and vegetable decompositions answer indiscriminately as manure. The fact is not precisely so. Certain manures succeed best with certain plants. It is true nevertheless, that animal and vegetable substances in a decomposed state, are, generally, manures for plants. Fish even, an animal from the water, is successfully used as a manure for Indian corn and other crops. But this and similar examples prove only that some ingredients are the same in all animals and plants; not that all the ingredients in each are the same.

The chemist, though as yet a fellow student, as much as a preceptor of the agriculturist, justly claims attention to the result of his processes. From that source we learn that the number of known elements, not yet decomposable, is between forty and fifty; that about seven or eight belong to the organs of plants; that different elements enter into the composition of the same plant; and that they are combined in different numbers and in different proportions, in different plants. Supposing then as must be supposed, that these different elements, in their actual quantities and proportions, are adapted to the quantities and proportions of the existing varieties of plants; it would happen in so great a change as that in question with respect to the number and variety of plants, that the quantities and proportions of the elements, would not be adapted to the particular kinds and numbers of plants retained by man for his own use. Like the types of the alphabet, apportioned to the words composing a particular book, when applied to another book materially different in its contents, there would be, of some a deficiency, of others a useless surplus.

Were it less difficult to admit that all the sources of productiveness could be exclusively appropriated to the food of man, it is certain that an obstacle to his indefinite multiplication would not be encountered in one of the relations between the atmosphere and organized beings?

Animals, including man, and plants, may be regarded as the most important part of the terrestrial creation. They are pre-eminent in their attributes; and all nature trembles with their varieties & their multitudes, visible and invisible. To all of them the atmosphere is the breath of life. Deprived of it, they all equally perish. But it answers this purpose by virtue of its appropriate constitution and character. What are these?

The atmosphere is not a simple but a compound body. In its least compound state, it is understood to contain, besides what is called vital air, others noxious in themselves, yet without a portion of which, the vital air becomes noxious. But the atmosphere in its natural state, and in its ordinary communication with the organized world, comprises various ingredients or modifications of ingredients derived from the use made of it, by the existing

variety of animals and plants. The exhalations and perspirations, the effluvia and transpirations of these, are continually changing the atmosphere with a heterogeneous variety and immense quantity of matter, which together must contribute to the character which fits it for its destined purpose of supporting the life and health of organized beings. Is it unreasonable to suppose, that if instead of the actual composition and character of the animal and vegetable creation, to which the atmosphere is now accommodated, such a composition and character of that creation, were substituted, as would result from a reduction of the whole to man and a few kinds of animals and plants; is the supposition unreasonable, that the change might essentially affect the aptitude of the atmosphere for the functions required of it; and that so great an innovation might be found in this respect, not to accord with the order and economy of nature?

The relation of the animal part and the vegetable part of the creation to each other, through the medium of the atmosphere, comes in aid of the reflection suggested by the general relation between the atmosphere and both. It seems to be now well understood, that the atmosphere when respired by animals, becomes unfitted for their further use, and fitted for the absorption of vegetables; and that when evolved by the latter, it is refitted for the respiration of the former; an interchange being thus kept up, by which this breath of life is received by each, in a wholesome state, in return for it in an unwholesome one.

May it not be concluded from this admirable arrangement and beautiful feature in the economy of nature, that if the whole class of animals were extinguished, the use of the atmosphere by the vegetable class alone would exhaust it of its supporting power; that, in like manner, if the whole class of vegetable were extinguished, the use of it by the animal class, alone, would deprive it of its fitness for their support? And if such would be the effect of an entire destruction of either class, in relation to the other, the inference seems to press itself upon us, that so vast a change in the proportions of each class to the other, and in the species composing the respective classes, as that in question, might not be compatible with the continued existence and health of the remaining species of the two classes.

The immensity of the atmosphere, compared with the mass of animals and vegetables, forms an apparent objection only to this view of the subject. The comparison could at most suggest questions as to the period of time necessary to exhaust the atmosphere if its unrenewed capacity to keep alive animal or vegetable nature, when deprived, either, of the support of the other. And this period contracts itself at once to the imagination, when it is recollected that the immensity of the atmosphere is the effect of its elasticity and rarefaction. We know from the barometer, that condensed to the specific gravity of mercury, its rise above the surface of the earth would be but about thirty inches; and from the well pump, that condensed to the specific gravity only of water, which is nearly the same with that of the human body, its rise would be little more than as many feet; that is, a little more than five times the human stature. It is found that a single human person, employs in respiration not less than sixteen or eighteen times his own weight of common air, in every twenty four hours. In different degrees, some greater, some less, the case is the same with most other animals. Plants make a correspondent use of air for their purposes.

To be continued in our next.

BY AUTHORITY.

An act directing the manner of appointing Indian Agents, and continuing the act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Superintendent of Indian trade, the Agents and Assistant Agents of Indian trading houses, and the several Agents of Indian Affairs, shall be nominated by the President of the United States, and appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That from and after the eighteenth instant, no person shall act in either of the characters aforesaid, who shall not have been thus first nominated and appointed. And every Agent as aforesaid, before he shall enter upon the duties of his office, shall give bond to the United States, with two or more sufficient securities, in the penal sum of ten thousand dollars, conditioned faithfully to perform all the duties which are or may be enjoined on them, as Agents as aforesaid.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the act, entitled "an act for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes," passed on the second day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eleven, and which was continued in force for a limited time, by an act passed the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred &

seventeen, shall be, and the same is hereby further continued in force until the first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, and no longer.

H. CLAY, Speaker of the House of Representatives. JOHN GAILLARD, President of the Senate pro tempore. April 16, 1818.—Approved. JAMES MONROE.

An act to provide for erecting additional buildings for the accommodation of several Executive Departments.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Commissioners of the Public Buildings cause to be erected under the direction of the President of the United States, two buildings, suitable for offices for the Executive Departments, to be placed north of the buildings at present occupied by these Departments, and on a line parallel therewith, each of those new buildings to contain forty rooms of convenient size.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That for the purpose of carrying this act into effect, the sum of one hundred and eighty thousand seven hundred and forty-one dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, to be paid out of any moneys in the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and to be expended under the direction of the President of the United States. April 20, 1818.—Approved. JAMES MONROE.

CAPE FEAR NAVIGATION.

PURSUANT to a Resolution of the President and Directors, the Stockholders of this Company are notified, that a fourth instalment of Ten Dollars on each and every Share of the capital stock, is required to be paid to the Treasurer in Fayetteville, on Monday the 3d day of August next.

J. W. WRIGHT, Treas. June 10 78 A3

GOODS.

THE following goods are just received, and for sale at the Store of MATTHEW SHAW & SON—Viz: superfine blue and black Cloths; best quality blue, lead colored and black Checkers; Long Lanes, Linen Cambrics, Jacones, Cambrics, superfine Mull Muslins; green, pink & white Capotes, silk Shawls, black and white lace Shawls, imitation of Meano Shawls, Linen Draper, Linens, white Jeans, Ladies' bowers, silk and kid Gaiters, Indispensables, fine tapes, Shell side Combs, assorted Ribbons, Pink Gingham, wide Checks, white Mersallies Vestings fine Knives on cards 8 pieces Domestic Cloth, 1 case Guns China in boxes, Leaf Sugar, Chocolate, Y. H. Tea, Japan Blacking, &c. Raleigh, June 17 78 5w

PATENT LEVER WATCHES.

THE Public are respectfully informed that the subscriber who has resided several years in this city, and been employed constantly in the line of his profession, has at length established himself on Fayetteville Street, next door to the Bank of N. where, where he offers for sale an elegant assortment of Ladies and Gentlemen's Gold Patent Lever Watches, also Silver Patent Lever and plain Watches and Clocks, together with a variety of JEWELRY and Silver Ware. As these articles have been carefully selected by the subscriber and from the latest importations to the Northward, he deems it unnecessary to say they will be sold on the most accommodating terms.

He likewise repairs Watches and Clocks, and will warrant the faithfulness of his Work in every instance, and will be thankful for a portion of the public favor.

JNO. Y. SAVAGE. Raleigh, April 13 69t

By the President of the United States.

WHEREAS, by an act of Congress, passed on the 3d of March, 1817, entitled "An act to authorize the appointment of a Surveyor for the lands in the northern part of the Mississippi Territory, and the sale of certain lands therein described," the President of the United States is authorized to select certain lands, for sites for towns, and cause the said lands to be laid off into town lots, and the said lots to be offered for sale.

Therefore, J. JAMES MONROE, President of the United States, do hereby declare and make known, that public sale for the disposal of the lots in the town of Marathon, (heretofore called Milton's Bluff) on the north bank of the river Tennessee, (near the head of the Muscle Shoals) in Alabama Territory, shall be held at Huntsville, in S. C. Territory, on the second Monday in October next.

The sales shall continue open for one week, and longer if necessary, and the lots shall be offered for sale by regular numerical order, beginning with the lowest number.

Given under my hand, at the City of Washington, this 26th day of May, 1818. JAMES MONROE.

By the President. JOHN MEIGS, Commissioner General Land Office.

A MAP of the Huntsville District is engraved, and a PLAN of the Town of Marathon, will be engraved as speedily as practicable, and will be sold at Huntsville; and at the General Land Office, by JOHN GARDNER, Chief Clerk. 7510