



AND NORTH-CAROLINA GAZETTE.

“Ours are the plans of fair, delightful Peace.” “Unwarp’d by party rage, to dwell the Brothers.”

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IRRIGATION.

“Let us cultivate the ground, that the poor, as well as the rich, may be filled; and happiness and peace be established throughout our borders.”

The watering or artificial flooding of land & particularly of grass grounds, is an item in agricultural economy, which particularly deserves the attention of the husbandman. If to a spirit of improvement of the soil, an equal attention was paid to floating, flooding or watering of grass grounds in every part of this State, wherever the situation will admit, perhaps I shall not advance too much, if I say, that few States would exceed ours in the value of our agricultural products.

The subject of irrigation will, perhaps, appear of greater magnitude than people in general are aware of, the more it is examined: for I conceive it may be said to lie at the foundation of most improvements in agriculture; because if manure is accounted the primum mobile in husbandry (and few people will deny the truth of the observation) I apprehend it will be found that this same watering of the ground is, and may be made, the source of more valuable manure than any thing else; and as the capacity of maintaining stock is the basis of the prosperity of a farm (which may be laid down as an axiom in rural science) so this capacity can only be fully acquired by attending to irrigation & the production of grass. But what renders the practice of irrigation still more interesting is, that it draws manure from materials, which, without this process would be entirely lost: because those riches, that are productive of such astonishing effects (by turning water overland) are conveyed, unobserved, down their streams to the sea; and consequently lost in that vast collection of waters. Now, the watering of land, in a proper manner, not only raises an amazing crop of hay, but earlier spring cutage and a more plentiful latter-math. The hay, again, properly consumed, makes a large annual return in dung or manure, which can be employed to great advantage on such parts of the farms as most need it: because the watered meadow requires no other help but repeating the same process as often as necessary, while it repays the expense and labor bestowed upon it in the most grateful manner, by plentiful and certain crops of hay, year after year, and, instead of being exhausted, becomes richer or more productive.

Water is absolutely essential to vegetation; and when land has been covered by it in the winter, or beginning of spring, the moisture that has penetrated deep into the soil, and even to the subsoil, becomes a source of nourishment to the roots of the plants in the summer, and prevents those bad effects that often happen in lands in their natural state, from a long continuance of dry weather.

The advantages of irrigation, though so lately a subject of much attention, were well known to the ancients; and more than two centuries ago the practice was recommended to the farmers of Great Britain by Lord Bacon; according to the statements of this illustrious philosopher, “meadow watering” acts not only by supplying useful moisture to the grass, but likewise the water carries nourishment dissolved in it, and defends the roots from the effects of cold.

I shall proceed to make some further remarks on irrigation, in order to induce the farmers of this State to benefit themselves by this most useful, tho’ I am afraid, hitherto little understood improvement. There are many parts of almost every farm that might have water conveyed over them either on a small or large scale, and to very great advantage: for, every little brook or rivulet is capable of being thrown over the adjoining grounds, more or less in proportion to their descent; the more descent, the more land can be over-looked.

In order to manage this important branch of rural economy with success, it will be requisite first to ascertain whether there is fall or descent enough in the stream to irrigate a sufficiency of the adjoining land, to make the object worth undertaking and whether it will admit of a dam being thrown across it to sustain or increase the fall;

and secondly, whether the water can be carried off with the same facility as it is conducted on the soil. The second consideration is a very important one: for if the water cannot be conveyed off, it will stagnate on the meadow, which would be productive of the worst consequences; as the turf would become rotten, the soil be soaked without being ameliorated, and the land produce only coarse grass, rushes, or other aquatic weeds. The level of the stream should be taken, which may be very well done by means of the rafter level used in horizontal ploughing; a ditch or race is then to be cut on the trace of the level as high up the head land as the fall of the stream will admit, allowing however descent enough to give the water a gentle current; the depth and width of the ditch or race will be regulated by the quantity of water it is to contain and the number of acres to be irrigated, to be continued on the level as far as may be convenient or necessary. & then let into the stream from which it was taken; the interior side of the ditch or race should be of the same height throughout its whole length, in order that it may be the same distance above the water in every part which need not be above three or four inches. Sluices are to be made from the main ditch leading through different parts of the ground, the number of which with their ramifications, their direction and distance from each other will be regulated by the situation of the ground; they should however be so disposed as to bestow an equal distribution of water on every part of the ground. When the main ditch is on a strict level and there is water sufficient to flood the whole at once, a gate at the farther end will answer for this purpose; but if the water is scanty, there should be gates in each sluice from the main ditch: by letting up one of the gates for the space of ten days, at the expiration of which time it is to be let down, and so on with the others alternately, for a similar period, each division will receive a proper share of water in its turn, and derive from it equal benefit.

Some attention should be paid to the time and manner in which the water is applied. In December and January, the chief advantage consists in keeping the land sheltered by water from the severity of the frosty nights. In February, if the water remains for many days, a white scum arises very destructive to the grass; and if the land is exposed without water to severe frosty nights, the greater part of the grass will be killed. The only way to avoid this, is, to take off the water and let it in ever night, or to take off the water early in the morning, and if the day be very dry the best can do no injury; for it is only when the grass is wet that frost has this pernicious tendency. The advantages of irrigation are not confined to grass grounds, but may with equal benefit be extended to horticulture and field culture. Gardens are rendered doubly valuable, if a stream can be conveyed into them to supply that deficiency of man which vegetables so frequently need in dry springs and summers. The best means of supplying this deficiency or the regular demands of vegetative succession particularly to the vine crops through a droughty season are by cotton or woolen syphons: other kinds of garden vegetables may be benefited by overflowing the ground, which is best done late in evenings. The advantages of irrigation have been little experienced in this country in the field culture; yet in Europe they are enjoyed upon an extensive scale; and the improvements and arrangements which they have made in many parts of that country to irrigate their farms, must excite the wonder and praise of every lover of the rural art.

Birkbeck’s account, in his travels, of the manner of irrigation in the Southern part of France, is highly interesting; a short extract from his remarks on this subject shall be given, and perhaps they may awaken considerations in the minds of some of my readers, which may be turned to good account.

“We had an opportunity of witnessing the wonderful effects of irrigation under the fervid sun of this rich climate. The copious and pure streams issuing from the Pyrenees, from their source to their union with the Mediterranean, are most economically and skillfully directed to irrigation. On the mountain sides, the streamlets, as

they trickle from the rocks, are collected into channels above every little portion of arable land, which they render surprisingly fruitful. These rills uniting form larger streams; & these with great labor and ingenuity, are kept up by artificial channels, & only suffered to descend, when perform the office of irrigation. The same attention is paid to the larger streams, united which become a considerable river. This is divided and subdivided, unites and is again divided, so that every portion of the surface seems to enjoy its due share. The manner of applying the water is extremely simple. A dam is made across the upper channel, from which the water flows gently into a furrow made by the plough along the higher side of the field, and in a few hours sinks through the whole soil, and it reaches the lower side, which completes the operation.”

AGRICOLA.

I find many surmises are afloat respecting the American Citizen who has been writing in the Register. Justice and humanity require some remarks on those who are setting him up as a Prophet, or a Conjuror. This reminds me of Sterne’s Sturgeson clause of noses. It is the most absurd possible. I have made no such declaration, nor set upon any such pretensions. It is true I have been exerting myself to prepare the earth for cultivation; and all my other speculations centre in this point; and all the rest is but seeking some great outlines of the attractive principle which will apply to practical purposes; whether it is explained as clearly as the nature of the undertaking would admit of, is to be determined. Some persons would, I believe, deprive me of all the credit I have of doing good. No person has at any time seen me exerting myself to injure personal character or family repose, or throwing out filth even upon my most malicious enemy. I know I am imperfect, and never expect to be entirely delivered from it during the war of life, for we gravitate to ignorance and vice, as a stone to the centre, or as a republic does to anarchy, by ignorance, folly and vice. O. Tinsford O. Hines! Millions of worlds could not buy me to be a Caesar, were it in my power; though we may for further do wrong for nothing, from imperfection and intention. Why this Sturgeson chase! We have prophecy already which will direct us safely to perfection. I have many upon me, men of wealth and honor, who are more taken up with the glitter of things than I could wish them, I apprehend it is a degrading spectacle, and for redress I look to the justice and humanity of my country. I believe the Christiana feeling is true; I long wished to cover myself in cobweb against it, but I find it will not do—it is true, divine, and will prevail.

AGRICOLA.

FOR THE REGISTER.

BY AUTHORITY.

AN Act, in addition to “an act to prohibit the introduction of slaves into any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States, from and after the first day of January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and eight,” and to repeal certain parts of the same.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passing of this act, it shall not be lawful to import or bring, in any manner whatsoever, into the United States or territories thereof, from any foreign kingdom, place, or country, any negro, mulatto, or person of color, with intent to hold, sell, or dispose of any such negro, mulatto, or person of color, as a slave, or to be held to service or labor; and any ship, vessel or other water-craft, employed in any importation as aforesaid, shall be liable to seizure, prosecution, and forfeiture, in any district within which it may be found; one half thereof to the United States, and the other half to the use of him or them who shall prosecute the same to effect.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That no citizen or citizens of the United States, or any other person or persons, shall, after the passing of this act, as aforesaid, for himself, themselves, or any other person or persons whatsoever, either as master, factor, or owner, build, fit, equip, load or otherwise prepare, a ship or vessel, in any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States, or cause any such ship or vessel to sail from any port or place whatever, within the jurisdiction of the same, for the purpose of procuring any negro, mulatto, or person of color, from any foreign kingdom, place or country, to be transported to any port or place whatsoever, to be held, sold, or otherwise disposed of, as slaves, or to be held to service or labor; and if any ship or vessel shall be so built, fitted out, equip, laden, or otherwise prepared, for the purpose aforesaid, every such ship or vessel, her tackle, apparel, furniture, and lading shall be forfeited, one moiety to the use of the United States, and the other to the use of the person or persons who shall sue for said forfeiture, and prosecute the same to effect; and such ship or vessel shall be

liable to be seized, prosecuted, and condemned, in any court of the United States having competent jurisdiction.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That every person or persons so building, fitting out, equipping, loading, or otherwise preparing or sending away, or causing any of the acts aforesaid to be done, with intent to employ such ship or vessel in such trade or business, after the passing of this act, contrary to the true intent and meaning thereof, or who shall, in any wise, be aiding or abetting therein, shall, severally, on conviction thereof, by due course of law, forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars, nor less than one thousand dollars, one moiety to the use of the United States, and the other to the use of the person or persons who shall sue for such forfeiture and prosecute the same to effect, and shall moreover be imprisoned for a term not exceeding seven years, nor less than three years.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That if any citizen or citizens of the United States, or other persons resident within the jurisdiction of the same, shall, from and after the passing of this act, take on board, receive, or transport, from any of the coasts or Kingdom, place, or country, from sea, any negro, mulatto or person of color, not being an inhabitant nor held to service by the laws of either of the States or territories of the United States, in any ship, vessel, boat, or other water-craft, for the purpose of holding, selling, or otherwise disposing of, such person as a slave, or to be held to service or labor, or be aiding or abetting therein, every such person so offending, shall, on conviction, by due course of law, severally forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding five thousand, nor less than one thousand dollars, one moiety to the use of the United States, and the other to the use of the person or persons who shall sue for such forfeiture and prosecute the same to effect, and moreover shall suffer imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years, nor less than three years; and every ship or vessel, boat, or other water-craft, on which such negro, mulatto, or person of color, shall have been taken on board, received, or transported, as aforesaid, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the goods and effects which shall be found on board the same, or shall have been imported therein in the same voyage, shall be forfeited, one moiety to the use of the United States, and the other to the use of the person or persons who shall sue for, and prosecute the same to effect; and every such ship or vessel shall be liable to be seized, prosecuted, and condemned, in any court of the United States having competent jurisdiction.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That neither the importer or importers, nor any persons claiming in or under him or them, shall hold any right, interest or title whatever, in or to any negro, mulatto, or person of color, nor to the service or labor thereof, who may be imported or brought into the United States or the territories thereof, in violation of the provisions of this act, but the same shall remain subject to any regulations, not contravening said provisions, which the legislatures of the several States or territories may at any time hereafter have made, or hereafter may make, for disposing of any such negro, mulatto or person of color.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That if any person or persons whatsoever shall, from and after the passing of this act, bring within the jurisdiction of the United States, in any manner whatsoever, any negro, mulatto, or person of color, from any foreign kingdom, place or country, or from sea, or shall hold, sell, or otherwise dispose of any such negro, mulatto, or person of color, so brought in as a slave, or to be held in service or labor, or be in any wise aiding or abetting therein, every person so offending shall, on conviction thereof by due course of law, forfeit and pay for every such offence, a sum not exceeding ten, nor less than one thousand dollars, one moiety to the use of the United States, & the other to the use of the person or persons who shall sue for such forfeiture, and prosecute the same to effect; and moreover shall suffer imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years, nor less than three years.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That if any person or persons whatsoever, shall hold, purchase, sell, or otherwise dispose of any negro, mulatto or person of color for a slave, or to be held to service or labor, who shall have been imported or brought in any way from any foreign kingdom, place or country, or from the dominions of any foreign State immediately adjoining to the United States, into any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States, from and after the passing of this act, every person so offending, and every person aiding or abetting therein, shall severally forfeit and pay for every such offence, a sum not exceeding ten, nor less than one thousand dollars, one moiety to the use of the United States, & the other to the use of the person or persons who shall sue for such forfeiture, and prosecute the same to effect, and to stand committed until the said forfeiture be paid: Provided, that the aforesaid forfeiture shall not extend to the seller or purchaser of any negro, mulatto, or person of color, who may be sold or disposed of in virtue of any regula-

tions which have heretofore or shall hereafter be lawfully made by any legislature of any State or territory in pursuance of this act, and the constitution of the United States.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, That in all prosecutions under this act, the defendant or defendants shall be held to prove that the negro, mulatto, or person of color, which he or they shall be charged with having brought into the United States, or with purchasing, holding, selling, or otherwise disposing of and which, according to the evidence in such case, the said defendant or defendants shall have brought in aforesaid, or otherwise disposed of, was brought into the United States at least five years previous to the commencement of such prosecution, or was not brought in, holden, purchased, or otherwise disposed of, contrary to the provisions of this act; and in failure thereof, the said defendant or defendants shall be adjudged guilty of the offence of which he or they may stand accused.

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, That any prosecution, information or action, may be sustained for any offence under this act, at any time within five years after such offence shall have been committed, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 10. And be it further enacted, That the first six sections of the act to which this is in addition, shall be and the same are hereby repealed: Provided, that all offences committed under the said sections of the act aforesaid, before the passing of this act, shall be prosecuted & punished, and any forfeitures which have been incurred under the same shall be recovered and distributed as if this act had not been passed.

H. CLAY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
JOHN GALLARD,
President of the Senate pro tempore.
April 20, 1818.—Approved,
JAMES MONROE.

PROPOSALS
FOR PUBLISHING IN THE TOWN OF MILTON, N. C.
A WEEKLY PAPER, ENTITLED
THE MILTON INTELLIGENCER
By John H. Perkins.

THE advantages which must result to the public from the establishment of a Press in this rising place, are too obvious to require illustration. Situated in an eligible and wealthy county, affording to a fertile section of country, a convenient and ready market for the sale of produce, it cannot fail greatly to interest the western part of the State. The Editor, therefore, seems it unnecessary to expatiate on the fitness of the place for the establishment of a press, or his qualifications for the performance of his duty. Of the first he has no doubt; and of the latter, it belongs exclusively to the public to decide. The paper will shortly appear and it must speak for itself. Its political character shall be Republican. Advertisements at the free institutions of the State and general Government having confidence in the men and general measures of the Republican Administration, with a firm belief that they were intended, and have produced the public good, induced the Editor to attach his name to that political party. He, however believes that every difference of opinion, is not a difference of principle. He imputes not to those who may differ with him, either ignorance or corruption; but his feelings are of want and his conduct shall be liberal; and while he duly respects the sentiments of others, his object will be, not to excite the asperity of party feelings, but to promote that harmony which at present so fortunately exists for the welfare of the country.

Sensible, as he is, of the spirit which pervades in the State to promote its improvement, maintain and improve its internal resources, and give tone and character to its own efforts of the laudable disposition of its citizens to encourage literature and science; whilst he attends to the news of the day, and endeavours to give the most correct and early intelligence of the state of the markets both here and below; it will be his great object to stimulate the public feeling, and afford the best information on those subjects which may be connected with the opening of rivers, the improvement of the agriculture, and the promotion of the useful and domestic arts, on which so immediately depends the character and welfare of the State.

CONDITIONS.
The INTELLIGENCER will be neatly printed on a super royal sheet of good quality, and with a fair type, at THREE DOLLARS per annum, payable in advance.
The Papers will be carefully packed up and forwarded to Subscribers, according to their directions.

ABSCONDED
FROM the service of the Subscriber, on February 13, 1816, Timothy Reach, his apprentice to the Printing Business. The said Timothy was advertised in this Paper with a few weeks of the above time; but though he has since appeared in the Neighborhood, he has not returned to the service of the subscriber.
Said Timothy is 19 years of age, about 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high, tolerably well made, light hair and eyes.
This is therefore again to warn the Public against harboring or employing the said Reach, or any person prosecuting.
Any person who shall apprehend or restore the said apprentice to the advertiser shall receive Ten Dollars reward.
J. W. ZACHARIAH REACH.