

Poetry.

FROM THE NEWBURYPORT HERALD.

MELANCHOLY.

THERE is a charm no joys bestow, Nor rank nor wealth impart; 'Tis when the tear is stealing slow, And softly sighs the heart. Oft have I watched the evening sky, When rose the silver bow, My bosom heav'd, I know not why, And tears began to flow: O then I thought that mirth was folly, Thine was the charm sweet Melancholy.

Topographical.

FROM THE STAR.

THE PILOT MOUNTAIN.

Extract of a letter from Dr. Jeremiah Battle, of Edgecombe county, to Gen. Calvin Jones, of Raleigh, dated Surry County, N. C. (at J. Unthank's) August 19th, 1815.

DEAR SIR—After leaving your city we passed through Salem; and being on a tour of health, and willing to beguile a part of our time, we resolved on an excursion through this country, which had been represented to me as a sterile and uninteresting part of the country. But I have found myself, in many respects, agreeably disappointed. On the slightest interview with the inhabitants, I found them in the enjoyment of blessings which no money can purchase, viz; health and contentment. The country is peculiarly calculated to form strong and robust constitutions, with bold and enterprising dispositions. We need not wonder, therefore, at the praises acquired by our mountaineers, in the great and desperate enterprises in which they have been engaged.

When we arrived at the top of the hill from whence we descend to Houser Town, our attention was attracted by a view (at the distance of 17 miles) of the pinnacle of Mount Ararat, which is commonly called the Pilot Mountain. This curiosity of nature had excited in my mind an interest greater than has usually been produced from reading the Moravian account of it. We took the road which led by Mr. Aford's, where we stopped and dined; here we had a most sublime and interesting view of the mountain, which exhibited a blue appearance, resting as head of rock many hundred feet above the tops of the adjacent hills and trees. Its shape at this distance had a striking resemblance to that of your market house, the roof of which representing the base and body of the mountain; the perpendicular octagon, the main pinnacle of rock, and the shingled top of this, the elevation of earth covered with rude heaps of rocks, shrubs and trees on the top of the rock pinnacle. In addition to this is another cliff called the little pinnacle, which I shall describe in another place.

Notwithstanding the pleasure I received from this view of its solitary and magnificent grandeur, I felt an irresistible desire to approach it. Accordingly we proceeded to Mr. Sheppard's, who lived off the road, in a delightful and healthy situation, about three or four miles from the mountain. Next morning, having been entertained with great civility by Mr. S. and his lady, we engaged a Mr. John Fletcher to conduct us thither. About a mile from the mountain we called at a mineral spring, the properties of which render it an object with valetudinarians. We then turned our course, took an obscure path, way which led along a ridge probably 100 feet above the vallies on each side. When we were yet a mile off, we stopped and viewed it again with increased delight; the former blue appearance changing into a rich dark green, of decorating trees and shrubberies, thro' which we could perceive its rocky surface: the pinnacle of granite rock, of white appearance, seemed a magnificent building, ornamented with green briars, vines and shrubs, at suitable distances, growing out of its walls, combining in an eminent degree the sublime and beautiful. The ridge by which we approached it terminated in a valley that seemed to surround the mountains, which we now commenced the task of ascending; but the surface being entirely covered with rocks of all sizes and in all postures, we were soon laid under the necessity of leaving our horses. Whilst we were ascending on foot, and experiencing the fatigue of rising step by step, on an angle of about 45° the weather being hot, I recollected that my neighbor Mr. W. some years ago, having labored under chronic disease and debility, and excited by desires like my own, lost his life by an acute inflammation, induced by precisely the exertion I was now performing. I took the precaution of going in a zigzag direction, which rendered the ascent much easier. But being anxious to explore the grand spectacle still before us, we lost no time until we arrived at the

top of the mountain, which is at the foot of the pinnacle, so called. Immediately the air became so keen that one of the company was near having an ague before he could get on his coat, which he had taken off in consequence of the heat. Whilst we were viewing such objects as presented themselves, it began to rain, first below us, and afterwards where we were, which compelled us to take shelter in the rocky caverns. Our pilot ascended the pinnacle, but we had not the enterprise to follow him up this steep wall of rock 300 feet high. It is perpendicular, or projecting over on every side for 275 feet in height, except one narrow steep pass-way, with slight footsteps; at one part of which, about 30 or 40 feet high, the rock is perpendicular for 4 or 4 1/2 feet from one step to the next—here it takes an expert climber to make his way without assistance; afterwards the ascent is easier. After the rain had ceased, and I had become more familiarized with the activity at first so awful, I resolved to follow my guide and fear no evil; which I did with little difficulty, except at the place mentioned above.

My fatigue had by this time occasioned great thirst, which I soon found the means of allaying by gathering and eating Ground Whortleberries. I now began to walk about and view this upper region, which I found to contain about an acre of ground, covered with rocks, and only enough soil to admit of the growth of shrubby pines, and an undergrowth. I found that it had been much frequented, both by females as well as males, as appeared from names and dates cut on trees, and marked with the pencil on such parts of rocks as were sheltered from the weather. I now turned my attention to such prospects as were presented to my view from this elevated situation—The Blue Ridge for the space of 40 or 50 miles in extent—the intervening country of 30 miles—the plantations—the waves formed by the tops of the trees over a hilly country like the troubled ocean, were captivating beyond description. It began to thunder and lighten; and I heard a roaring, which admonished me to look out for shelter among the rocks, from the approaching storm. It appeared tardy in its approach. I went to the brink, and found that there was a hard shower of rain falling below me whilst I remained perfectly dry without shelter. When I returned from the pinnacle, those at the foot of it gave evidence of the hard rain where they were. I mention this circumstance, not to convince you that it is a common occurrence in nature, but because it was new to me in fact, but old in theory;—while others, accustomed to believe nothing but what they see, reject the idea without examining its principle.

On enquiry I was informed that among those who have visited this mountain, a far greater portion of females than males had acted so much the hero as to ascend the pinnacle. We were also informed of a man who had come a considerable distance, and being too timid to ascend, was carried up by force by his comrades, which alarmed him to such a degree that the faculties of his mind were endangered. I to stop here, your idea of its appearance from every side, except the eastern, would be imperfect. About 100 rods from the main pinnacle, as already described, is the cliff called the Little Pinnacle, which is about 200 feet perpendicular on the east side, and on the west goes off with a gradual descent, so that hunters have pursued Deer to the top from whence they have leaped off the precipice and were killed. Dogs also have been killed by jumping off in pursuit of their game. The part of the mountain between the two pinnacles forms a kind of festoon, which renders its form at a distance singularly beautiful.

You would suppose from the account I have just given you of this rude display of nature, that it is wholly destitute of the means of benefiting either man or animal. But it affords very good grazing. The grass springs up between the rocks in such abundance that it was contemplated by the French Gentleman, on whom it had been imposed as a tract of good land, to form this mountain into a Sheep walk, and he actually placed on it 100 head of Sheep, but he had a bad Shepherd, who suffered them to die, for want of winter feeding, which disgusted the owner, and he gave up his plan. He also intended to establish a house of entertainment at the above mentioned Mineral Spring, and invite valetudinarians to resort thither for the recovery of health. The Spring being at the foot of the Pilot Mountain would tend greatly to attract visitors.

With much esteem,

I am Sir,

Yours,

JER. BATTLE.

Thirty Dollars Reward.

STOLEN from the subscriber, on Sunday morning last, a HORSE, about four feet seven inches high and nearly 6 years old. Said horse may be easily distinguished by a blaze in his forehead extending to his lip, which has the appearance of being twisted to one side by it. He is speckled on his belly very much like a lawn, and has a scar on each shoulder occasioned by gear. He makes a spirited appearance. A reward of 25 dollars will be given for apprehending and securing the thief, and 5 for the recovery of the horse.

WILLIS ROANE.

Bryan's Roads, Northampton county, Sept. 28. 1815.

TWO APPRENTICES

TO THE PRINTING BUSINESS,

ARE wanted immediately at this office. It is necessary that applicants should know how to read and write tolerably well. Sept. 18.

T. W. LORRAIN,

Has the honor of submitting to a liberal and enlightened community, the Prospectus of a new Paper, to be published in Columbia, S. C.

UNDER THE TITLE OF

THE TELESCOPE.

THE growing taste for literature in South-Carolina; the liberal encouragement given to the means for its improvement and diffusion; the importance of Columbia to the State as the seat of its Legislature, of its highest judicial tribunals, and of its great seminary of learning; together with its rising commercial consequence, render palpable the necessity for another press and another periodical vehicle of public information. Mr. Wm. Harper having declined the publication of "THE TELESCOPE," for which proposals have been before the public, it is now tended to carry his design into effect, and as far as possible in exact conformity to his original plan.

Standing alone; with feelings harmonized to the enjoyments of social life; unsupported but by the good wishes of the benevolent and liberal; unconnected with political men; pledged to no particular measures; having nothing to obtain or lose, and no feelings to be gratified or humbled by the dominance or fall of any party or set of men, the Editor feels free in the exercise of his vocation to pursue that course which his heart and his understanding shall instruct him is the correct and proper one. Towards the constituted authorities of the country he will observe the justice and liberality due from a faithful citizen to the government of his choice and affection, neither permitting them to be wantonly attacked, nor veiling their measures altogether from public scrutiny. Such his guide and the public good his object, he will pursue "the even tenor of his way," ambitious of no higher or other honor than that of being useful. For the animated, (if you will) irritating, discussion of party politics, he is totally disqualified, by their discordance to his feelings and repugnance to his principles. If politics are ever seen in the Telescope, it shall be when deemed necessary to explain principles and events; to remove prejudice, calm irritation, enlighten public opinion and add to the permanent stock of general knowledge; but never to gratify the illiberal or malignant passions of any. The Editor writes, and he has great pleasure in the belief, as it is an involuntary homage to our nature and to the principles of our government, that if facts are fairly and impartially stated, and prejudices are not artificially excited, the decisions of the public voice will almost invariably be correct. If, however, essays dictated by intelligence and characterized by a spirit of candor, are offered upon either side of the questions which divide the public sentiment, they shall have place if required by the circumstances of the occasion and do not occupy a space that will preclude objects of more importance to the public and essential to the plan of this journal. Though it is determined that between the two great political parties which divide and agitate society, the scales of justice shall be held with even and impartial hand, yet it is intended political subjects shall always be subordinate to those of higher interest and more agreeable discussion, and be very seldom brought into view unless when necessary to maintain the purity and defend the existence of our free republican institutions.

Having disclaimed the trammels of political party and declared what his paper shall not be, it remains for the Editor to say what it shall be, if practicable to describe the Proteus form of a public journal.

Various. That the mind of desultory man, Studious of change and pleased with novelty, May be indulged.

But though varied in matter and contents it will be steady and uniform in its ultimate purpose—to promote the literature, to raise the character and advance the interests of the State of South Carolina.

The paper shall contain select specimens of the best modern literature in prose and verse; moral and religious apothegms and essays; detailed accounts of the various improvements and discoveries making in agriculture and the useful arts; lists of new publications with some connected sketch of the progress of scientific and literary enquiry; selections of the most interesting foreign and American reviews of recent works; a summary, and when very interesting, a detail, of foreign and domestic news; sketches of the proceedings and debates of the national and South Carolina State Legislatures, and occasionally speeches of unusual interest in each will be given at length; important opinions and decisions of the Constitutional Court and Court of Appeals; prices cur-

rent and rates of exchange in different commercial places, and various miscellaneous particulars not reducible to distinct heads or not meriting the notice of individual mention. For these the Editor expects to be indebted chiefly to gleanings from the newspapers, the magazines, and the reviews of this country and of Europe, but he hopes for much and efficient aid from the many able pens which the liberal and enlightened bounty of the State has enabled her sons to wield in the cause of science, of virtue and of country.

CONDITIONS.

- 1. The Telescope will be printed weekly in the town of Columbia, on a large super-royal sheet with a fair type. 2. It will be delivered to subscribers in town and committed to the mail for distant subscribers, at three dollars per annum paid in advance: the first payment to be made on delivery of the first number. 3. Any Subscriber may discontinue his paper when he pleases, on paying all arrears that may be due. If they are not paid, the paper will be continued at the option of the Editor, or until the account is put in suit. 4. All postage on the paper and on correspondence with the Editor, will be at the expense of the subscriber or correspondent. 5. The paper will be issued whenever a sufficient number of subscribers are obtained to justify it:—to ascertain this, it is requested that subscribers' names may be sent (without postage expense) to the Editor at Columbia, by the first day of October next.

Houses and Lots for Sale.

THE Subscriber offers for sale, the Houses and Lots, No. 23 and 24, late the property of Mr. D. Redmond, and at present occupied by Mr. Goff. The Lots will be sold together or separately, as may suit purchasers. The buildings are well calculated for the accommodation of a private family, and for carrying on Mercantile business.

H. A. DONALDSON, agent.

June 29.

Land for Sale.

THE Subscriber offers for sale, on a liberal credit, that valuable Tract of Land on Tar River, three miles above Tarborough late the property of Mr. Daniel Redmond—containing 490 acres, about 200 of which are cleared and under cultivation.

HENRY A. DONALDSON.

May 5.

WILL sell my plantation containing 500 acres, near Tarborough.

J. R. LEIGH.

August 31

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Museum and Gallery.

The subscriber has already commenced collecting whatever is rare and curious, in the productions of nature with the view of making a permanent establishment in this place on the model of the best institutions of the kind. At present the number of articles is insufficient to attract general notice; but they will be cheerfully shewn to any desirous of inspecting them. It is hoped by the spring of the ensuing year, the amount of the collection may be sufficiently large to justify, in some measure, the opening of the museum; which, as may be gathered from the title, is intended as a depository for such paintings and engravings as the assiduity and pencil of the subscriber, or the liberality of others shall enable him to exhibit. Perhaps the enlightened may think such a gallery, on however small scale or however humble in its beginning, as a kind of school for the study of drawing and painting, an object not unworthy of countenance and support. Every one who has witnessed the rapid strides made within a few years, in behalf of literature in North Carolina, must admit the fact that opportunity is all that is wanting to call forth the genius which abounds in the State. The arts and sciences should go hand in hand, as they do wherever either are found long to flourish. Hence the subscriber hopes, at no distant day, to find that general zeal prevailing here in behalf of the arts which is now exerting itself for the sciences with so much effect. What little he can do he thinks will be more beneficial as it may be rendered accessible to the greatest number of individuals; and while he will be thus doing something for general advantage, he hopes to find in the steady, if moderate, resource for himself. Any assistance or contributions, of good works, will add to the value of this branch and will be very gladly received. In the other department, which almost every person may have an opportunity of contributing something valuable, there may be expected a more rapid increase and the subscriber most respectfully solicits strangers pursuing a visit to this place, or citizens, who may have found in their excursions articles worthy of notice, to favor him by placing them in his hands with such descriptions as they may deem proper. By the last of May, 1816, they will be all carefully arranged for public inspection.

JACOB MARLING.

Raleigh, May 12.