

Miscellaneous.



FOR THE FREE PRESS.

ACROSTIC.

More lovely than the blushing rose,
Are those rich graces you disclose;
Religion mix'd with temper sweet,
'Then all accomplish'd, all complete:
How valu'd still must be thy mind,
Admir'd much, by all mankind.

Hymen once sanctify'd your love,
And happiness fell from above;
Removed to rest, was your helpmate,
Reserv'd you were for other's fate:
In peace and happiness to live,
So to each other comfort give.

Halifax County, April, 1827.

BRANDY SLING.

Sweet is the calm of evening's hour,
Sweet is the first fresh bud of Spring;
Sweet is the shade of a summer's bower,
But sweeter far is Brandy Sling.

I love to see the full moon's ray,
Silver the foam of yon sweet rill;
I love the dawn of a summer's day,
But I love Brandy better still.

And though the dew of beauty's lip,
Will shame the nectar of the sky;
Yet from the taste will fancy sip,
And for the charms of Brandy sigh.

And beauty's soft transparent cheek,
That health's pure vernal tint adorns;
Shames yon bright cloud's carnation streak,
But Brandy such dull colour scorns.

The bard may sing of Houris eyes,
Whose love-fraught glances warm the heart;
But far above his dream I prize,
The warmth that Brandy can impart.

Is love exempt from fear and pain?
Does grief not mingle with its bliss?
Can it break sorrow's galling chain?
Oh! nought but Brandy can do this.

Then farewell rill and summer bower,
Love's moonbeams, beauty's sparkling eye;
O'er my sad heart ye have no power,
With Brandy Sling ye cannot vie.
Timothy Tozer, Esq.

BONE-SET TEA.

Awake, my muse, aloud proclaim,
In lyric verse, the deathless fame
Of Bone-set tea: of every tint
The bitterest, but the healthiest drink,
That ever came from herb or tree,
From hill or valley, lake or sea.

Hail! nature's kind restoring balm!
Which gives to throbbing pulse a calm,
And cheers and cools the burning brain,
And frees the limbs and chest of pain;
Dispels the clouds, restores the sun,
And bids the purple currents run
In veins of health and joy and peace,
Till their revolving course shall cease.

Hail! kind, restoring Bone-set tea!
My ardent praise shall be of thee;
And when the poet's course is run,
This strain shall tell what thou hast done.

Agricultural—We have seldom seen at this season of the year a more encouraging prospect, than that which now presents itself to the eye of the agriculturists in this vicinity. The fruit trees of every description are already bending beneath their own production, and the fields of corn, cotton, wheat, &c. bear testimony to the geniality of the Spring, notwithstanding the apparently unseasonable cold winds, dry weather, and frosts, which prevailed through the month of April, threatening vegetation with total ruin. By the following extracts, it appears that the cheering prospect is not confined to this section:

Accounts from various quarters unite in representing the present spring as remarkable for its mildness; vegetation is much earlier than usual, and appearances indicate that the present will be an uncommonly fruitful season throughout the Union. With us, with regard to the fruit trees, there have been "seven years of dearth;" for during that period, the fruit has been more or less destroyed by

the frost; last year in this neighborhood, the peach tree entirely failed. The present season, however, we are, as in other sections of the Union, promised fruit in abundance; the frost having so far produced no injury, and the trees appear to have been made more prolific by the failures of the previous years. But the husbandman, this year, has more to cheer him than the prospect of abundance of fruit; the beneficence of Providence appears also in his fields, and there, too, is promised a plentiful increase. For the two days past copious and fruitful showers have interrupted the long continued dryness of the season, and the industrious farmer can see nothing in prospect to mar his work; a rich harvest promises to rejoice his heart and call forth his gratitude.—*Hillsborough Rec.*

From present appearances, (says the Warrenton Reporter) we shall be reimbursed this year, with good interest added thereto, for the loss sustained last season in our fields and orchards. Never before have we seen a greater prospect for fruit of every kind, than is now exhibited throughout this region of the State—the trees begin already to shew symptoms of bowing themselves beneath the burden of their own production. The wheat fields are more extensive and numerous than have been heretofore witnessed in this country; and they not only wear a good and prosperous appearance, but many of them are remarkably forward—so much so, that in the course of four or five weeks, many of our farmers will be able to find in them a release from the heavy tax which they have now to encounter, from the high price of Corn. Our season has, thus far, been most propitious for every kind of cultivation that engages the attention of our husbandmen; and should it continue thus favorable, the smile of ease and contentment will in a short time usurp those features of oppression, want & despair, which we daily behold in almost every countenance.

The most delicious strawberries are now brought to market—and yesterday, the first of May, we had sweet cherries. This fruit was scarcely ever earlier—we have indeed all the signs of spring—its fruits and its flowers—but the temperature of the air for a few days has been any thing rather than the genial warmth of the vernal season. Yesterday it blew up very cool, from the north; and in a few moments, large fleeces of snow began to fall with drops of rain. It continued but a short time; and in a few minutes, was renewed. Fires are very agreeable. It is not yet too late for frost to fall and blight the great prospects of the fruit. Never did it promise greater abundance; but there have been instances of immense injury from the frost after the 10th of May...*Richmond Com.*

Washington, April 26.—Prepared as we are, at this season of the year, for changes, from sun to cloud, from stormy to serene, we scarcely expected the sudden and numerous transitions with

which we have been visited during the present month. We have had the frosts of February, the gales of March, the showers of April, the genial atmosphere of May, the feverish heats of June, and the thunder gusts of July. What awaits us during the four or five remaining days of this changeable month, it would puzzle one wiser than Pythagoras to foresee. We are now venting our complaints with fingers cramped with cold, while the howling of the wind round us comes in fits as mournful and melancholy as ever the imagination of Mrs. Radcliffe herself could have desired, to fill up some pause of fearful action. We wish the fruits of the orchard, and the flowers of the garden, a safe deliverance from such a trial.

Domestic Slave Trade.—Some time since, Mr. Lundy, the editor of the "Genius of Universal Emancipation," a weekly paper published in Baltimore, used some very severe terms in relation to a man by the name of *Wolfolk*, a notorious slave dealer, who took it so much in anger, that he violently assaulted the editor; the latter gentleman being a "friend," had recourse to the law for redress. We copy from the *Genius of Universal Emancipation*, the following as a part of the Judge's charge to the Jury:

"Chief Justice Price, in pronouncing sentence, took occasion to observe, that he had never seen a case in which the provocation for a battery was greater than the present, that if abusive language could ever be a justification for a battery, this was that case—that the traverser was engaged in a trade sanctioned by the laws of Maryland, and that Lundy had no right to reproach him in such abusive language for carrying on a lawful trade—that the trade itself was beneficial to the State, as it removed a great many rogues and vagabonds who were a nuisance in the State—that Lundy had received no more than a merited chastisement for his abuse of the traverser, and but for the strict letter of the law, the Court would not fine *Wolfolk* any thing. The Court, however, was obliged to fine him something, and they therefore fined him *one dollar* and costs."

At the Yearly Meeting of *Friends*, late in session in Philadelphia, three thousand dollars were appropriated, towards defraying the expense of transportation from North-Carolina to Liberia, Hayti, &c. of slaves manumitted by their Society in this State.

Planting Machine.—By a notice in the Charleston papers, we perceive, that a Mr. Francis H. Smith has invented a labor-saving machine for planting and cultivating Cotton, Corn, Rice, &c. of which the following description is given: "It is drawn by one horse, and forms the list at one draught, which in the usual way requires three. It turns open the ground, drops the seed at regular distances, covers and rolls it at one operation. The plants being up, it then hoes them within an inch or two on both sides. It then re-

turns the earth or hills them on both sides at once. In each separate operation of listing, planting, hoeing and hilling, it will complete about eight acres per day. Another improvement consists in its being adapted to Corn, which it plants and cultivates with the same advantage as Cotton; it also drills Rice, Turnips, Lucerne, Wheat, or any other small seed. The machine is made heavy, strong, and durable, suited to be used by negroes—the cultivator entirely of cast iron, with wings which can be renewed."

Carriage Wheels.—Mr. John Sitton, an ingenious mechanic of Pendleton, S. C. has obtained a patent for a new and useful improvement in the machinery for making carriage wheels of every description. The machine, to which he has given the name of "Wheelwright's Assistant," is simple in its construction, and will enable the workman to execute his task with the utmost accuracy, and with much greater facility than by the mode in ordinary use. Mr. Sitton states, that "with this machine a good hand can with ease make a wheel complete in 5½ hours, after the nave or hub is turned, the spokes splir out, and the fellows sawed."

Caution.—Travellers should be careful to deliver their luggage to proper persons. A few days ago, a gentleman, on alighting from a stage coach, entrusted his wife with a stranger, and has not heard of her since.

To wash printed Calicoes.—Use as little soap as possible, and not with hot water; put in a little pot-ashes, and gently swill them, taking care not to rub the cloth too much; wring it out in cold spring water, and dry it in the open air. By this means many colors will be improved—all indeed but such as are mere water colors, and of this kind good cloths are seldom printed.

To take out grease spots from woollen cloth.—Dissolve a piece of pearl ash, of the size of a pea, in half a tea cup of warm water; or a piece twice the size in a full tea cup. Pour some of the solution on a grease spot, and continue to rub it hard with a clean brush or woollen cloth until it is nearly dry, and your cloth will be as clean as ever. It has been tried repeatedly and found effectual.

Corn for Planting.—Soak seed corn in a solution of Glauber Salts, and it will come up three or four days sooner than if planted in its natural state, and neither worms, nor fowls, nor birds will molest it. The discovery was made by accident last year, by a farmer in Massachusetts, who supposed the salts used were nitre. Not a hill of two acres planted with seed thus prepared was touched, while at least half of the adjoining field, planted at the same time, was destroyed.

Cultivate such an habitual cheerfulness of mind, and evenness of temper, as not to be ruffled by trivial inconveniences and crosses.