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BY GEORGE HOWARD.

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DOMESTIC.

Progress of Improvement.—Such is the perfection of steamboat machinery, that passengers are now conveyed from Philadelphia to Richmond, Va. in the short space of *thirty-six hours!* This seems expeditious enough in all conscience, yet we learn by a gentleman recently from England, that the distance between Liverpool and Manchester, about 35 miles, is traversed on a railway, in the almost incredible period of *one hour and ten minutes!* Fifty years ago, such miracles were scarcely dreamed of, much less supposed capable of being accomplished. It is as equally probable, a few centuries hence, that our present means of communication will be deemed too tedious and snail-like, and new modes will be resorted to, as half a century since, the existing state of improvement could have been anticipated. Perhaps, in the course of a few hundred years, we shall travel for the most part through the air, when some such notice as the following may appear in the newspapers of the day:—"The late voyage of Professor Wanderhagen to the Moon, took up a space of nearly seven months, but the contemplated expedition will take up much less time. The balloon will be filled with the new gas discovered by our chemist, Dr. Etherly, which is 300 times lighter than the lightest gas known to the first settlers of America. The body of this balloon will not be circular, but a polygon, and at each angle a pair of wings, all of which are worked with the greatest precision and facility, by the most simple but beautiful machinery. These wings at once create a draft, and determine the direction of the air at the will of the aeronaut, whose balloon is easily steered by a newly constructed air-rudder. The boat of the balloon will contain 25 persons, and provisions for a twelvemonth.—*Raleigh Reg.*"

"A Vindication of North Carolina from the aspersions of Mr. Jefferson, as contained in the fourth volume of his works, with other matters connected with the history of North Carolina, from 1771 to 1776," is the title of a work proposed to be issued from the Boston press in next October, by Joseph Seawell Jones, of North Carolina. We wish this work much encouragement for more reasons than one. Apart from the mere fact, that we desire the success of any literary man from our adopted State, we think this portion of her history is little known. Few, very few, know, that North Carolina was the first to give motion to the ball of the Revolution, and still fewer are disposed to admit the fact when established by historical evidence. We hope the work about to be issued will contain a full and complete "vindication." This State has too long permitted herself to be deprived of the honor, which is justly her due. By men who are acquainted with the matter, it is believed that when Mr. Jefferson penned the Declaration of Independence of '76, he had that of North Carolina, of '75, on his table. If we are not much mistaken, the journals of Congress announcing the arrival of the North Carolina declaration have been found, and we have little doubt, that the colonial office of Great Britain contains

documents which will place the question beyond the reach of controversy.—*Raleigh Constitutionalist.*

Gold Mining in North Carolina.—Since the novelty of the gold mining process has somewhat abated, but little has been seen in the newspapers concerning this business. Lest it should hence be inferred, that the golden prospect in our State had become dimmer, we take occasion to remark, that at no time, since the commencement of gold mining, have the results been more favorable or flattering, than at the present; more especially, in what are called the superficial mines of Burke and Rutherford. The number of hands employed, is greater than at any former period, and a majority of them are doing a *good business.* The ease and convenience of getting gold by digging a few feet below the surface, have prevented the Miners from attempting the more permanent business of searching for veins; but as the former business is exhausted, no doubt but the mountains about Brindleton, Brackettown and Whiteside, will be made to disgorge their bright contents. Several experiments have already been made on the mountain sides, one of which, by K. P. Willis, Esq. came under our personal observation, and having some little practical knowledge of mining in veins, we are bold to assert, that no region of the State, promises more ample rewards to the adventurer. The activity, enterprise, and intelligence of the gentlemen now engaged in gold digging, we have no doubt, will "compel success" in this branch of mining; and when we consider the fine effect which such operations have on the country where they are situated, we can but be anxious for their introduction.

We intend hereafter to take more notice of this important branch of the industry of our State. Particularly, of the vein mining operations. It is sufficient for the present, to remark, that in spite of the unfavorable impression that mismanagement and extravagance has produced, as regards the Mecklenburg mines, they who are most deeply interested in these establishments, are more cheered with the present results, and more confident of continued profits than they have ever been before. We have not derived this fact from any boasting of those engaged, but the conclusion is from circumstances that cannot deceive. The mine of Mr. R. King, near Lexington, in Davidson county, we learn, is a perfect El-Dorado; the size, richness and uniformity of the vein, has seldom, if ever, been equalled in this country.—*Salisbury Watchman.*

New Towns.—The rapidity with which new towns spring up in the Indian or gold country of Georgia, is truly astonishing. About the 1st of June last, an individual named Wm. Dean built the first cabin in what is now the village of Auraria, situated on the ridge dividing the waters of the Chestnut and Etowah Rivers, in Lumpkin (formerly Cherokee) county. Another immediately set up a house of entertainment for the accommodation of those disposed to search for gold in the neighborhood. Around this nucleus a population soon gathered, composed of all classes and conditions of the human family, and there is now in Auraria one hundred family dwellings; eighteen or twenty stores; twelve or fifteen law offices, four or five taverns, and a printing office, from which a weekly newspaper is issued, &c. The town population is estimated at 1000, and that of the county at 10,000, and constantly increasing, with a rapidity almost incredible to relate. The mines already opened in the vicinity, (not involved in litigation) are yielding to the proprietors in rich abundance the anticipated fruits of the most sanguine speculator.—*Fay. Obs.*

Outrage.—On Monday last, 15th inst.

the office of the Superior Court Clerk of Buncombe county, which is situate in one of the lower rooms of the Court House, was broken open, by forcing off the lock, by some person or persons unknown. The State, Trial, Execution, and Minute Dockets; file of State papers from No. 1 to 50; all the appearance papers which had been returned since the setting of the Court, to the number of about 25, were purloined. Search was made in the neighborhood, the next morning, and the Minute Docket and some of the appearance papers were found secreted by the side of a log, covered with leaves, about 300 yards N. E. of the Court House. In this dilemma the Judge availed himself of a copy of the docket in the hands of a member of the bar, and, by the industry of the prosecuting officer, new papers were drawn, and the business was not materially impeded. Should the books purloined never be recovered, much inconvenience and loss will be sustained by the citizens of the county.—*Ruth. Spec.*

The Spring Term of the Superior Court for Buncombe county, was held at Asheville during the past week; Judge Seawell presiding. The most important State case reached, was that in which William Carson, an acting Justice of the Peace was defendant, tried and convicted of grand larceny for stealing a gold watch from one of the rooms in Patton's Hotel, in 1831. He was sentenced to stand in the pillory an hour, receive 10 lashes instanter, and be committed to jail until the costs of suit were paid; and if he did not resign his commission as Justice of the Peace forthwith, the whipping to be deferred until the succeeding day. Carson thereupon tendered his resignation to the Judge, and the sentence of the law was carried into effect. Several persons were convicted for assault and battery, and committed to the stocks.—*ib.*

A terrible Hurricane.—The Springfield (Ohio) Pioneer gives an account of a most violent and destructive hurricane, with which the vicinity of that place was visited on the 11th ultimo. It swept across the country a distance of 25 or 30 miles, the base of the column, which gradually arose into the heavens in the form of a pyramid, varying from five to eighty rods. It scattered dismay, desolation and death in its course. Dwelling houses were levelled with the earth, and inhabitants killed or wounded; barns were demolished and the grain scattered abroad; stock raised from the earth, dashed down, crippled and killed; the roads stopped up by large trees; and fences thrown down, and crops laid open to the depredations of stock. At one place a family of seven persons were buried in the ruins of their house; two of whom, when the rubbish was removed, were found dead, and the remaining five dangerously wounded. As another instance of the violence of the wind, it is mentioned that a wagoner, who drove up to the door of a farm house for shelter, was seen, after the shock had passed over, stretched upon the ground, and his team of five horses and a large road wagon in the bushes on the opposite side of the road, where they had been dropped from the suck of the whirlwind.—*Raleigh Star.*

The Tuscaloosa (Alabama) Spirit of the Age of the 6th ult. states, "that the Court House in Cahaba fell during the session of the Court last week; but fortunately the Judge, suspecting from the appearance of the walls and the water being around the house, that it might fall, had adjourned the Court for the purpose of going into a private house, about fifteen minutes before the building, which was of brick, tumbled into ruins."—*ib.*

Mr. Wirt.—It is stated in the Long Island Inquirer, that Mr. Wirt, the late Attorney General of the United States,

has purchased a large tract of land in Florida, for the purpose of cultivating the sugar cane. Instead of employing slaves, as is usual for such labor, he has made an arrangement with several hundred German emigrants, who proceed to his estate under the charge of Lieutenant Goldsborough, his son-in-law.

Liability of Partners.—Judge Hoffman, of New York, has decided, that partnership property cannot be taken for individual debts. The interest may be claimed, but the property cannot be seized. The possession and disposal of the property must remain with the firm.

Singular cause of death.—James Turney, Esq. late Attorney General of Illinois, died on the 5th inst. near Carrollton, in that State. Mr. Turney had recently become impressed with the truths of christianity, and had abandoned the profession of the law for that of the gospel. While recently engaged in performing the act of baptism on a brother who had a wooden leg—the latter while in the water, accidentally set the steel point of his artificial leg on the foot of Mr. Turney, which inflicted a severe wound, and the wound ultimately mortifying, occasioned his death.

The annexed specimen of "western manners," we copy from the Louisville Journal. It is "going the whole hog:"—

A love scene.—Our neighbor of the Advertiser has occasionally something to say about intoxication. He ought to confine his remarks to it. There is no subject, of which he has so much experimental knowledge. A gentleman at our elbow avers, that he once saw him lying in a ditch at midnight, surrounded by a drove of pigs, and ever and anon exclaiming in a tone of affection, when jostled by the prying noses of his four-footed companions—"Pray, quit tucking up, my dear, and come along to bed."

Manual Labor Schools.—Schools have been established in Europe for many years, requiring each pupil to work at some branch of business three hours each day, for which he is allowed a reasonable compensation. Similar institutions have been established at Oneida, N. Y. at Gettysburg, Pa. at Andover, Mass. and other places, and we learn that the labor plan has been introduced at the Western Reserve College, Ohio. The subject of establishing another at or near Harrisburg by the State, was submitted to a committee of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, who, after gathering all the information on the subject, within their power, made report, in which they come to the following conclusions:

1. That the expense of education when connected with manual labor, judiciously directed, may be reduced at least one-half.

2. That the exercise of about three hours manual labor daily, contributes to the health and cheerfulness of the pupil, by strengthening and improving his physical powers, and by engaging his mind in useful pursuits.

3. That so far from manual labor being an impediment in the progress of the pupil, in intellectual studies, it has been found that in proportion as one pupil has excelled the other, in equal ratio, in his intellectual studies.

4. That manual labor institutions tend to break down the distinctions between the rich and poor, which exist in society, inasmuch as they give an almost equal opportunity of education to the poor by labor, as is afforded to the rich by the possession of wealth; and

5. That pupils trained in this way, are much better fitted for active life, and better qualified to act as useful citizens, than when educated in any other mode—that they are better as regards physical energy, and better intellectually or morally.