

The Tri-Weekly Commercial

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WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 16, 1856.

WHOLE NUMBER 1320

MISCELLANY.

IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN BETTER; IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN WORSE.

BY WILLIAM DUNLAP.

The desire to pry into the future is as universal as the longing for immortality. Addison has made his Cato rest his conviction of the soul's immortality upon the reasonings of Plato, and the universal desire that it should be so. The Christian has the assurance of immortal life; but his consciousness of imperfection, and proneness to transgress the laws of his benevolent Creator, make him ever anxious to gain knowledge of that "undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns," and of the situation, the happiness, or misery of its inhabitants. This anxiety was the cause of the events we are about to record.

Two American yeomen, (a more inquiring race than exists among agriculturists of any other region,) had been neighbors from childhood upward. They had been partners in the thoughtless revelries of youth, had partaken of the excitements of political events, had borne arms in defense of their rights and their country's honor, and finally settled down into the quiet of that evening of life when man cannot but look to the approaching change which must make him a traveler to the land above mentioned.

Peter Prince had remained unmarried, that superintendence of the concerns of a farm which falls to a petticoat government being under the management of a sister. John Horner had taken a wife to rule over his butter and cheese, his children, and perhaps himself. Notwithstanding this dissimilitude of condition, the friends continued their ancient attachments, smoked their pipes together, talked of past times and speculated on the future.

Horner was of a more irritable temperament than Prince, and his anxiety to pry into the secrets of the world unknown was proportionally greater. One evening as the subject was under discussion, he thus addressed his friend:

"Peter, though you mock at ghosts, and the notion of the spirits of the deceased returning to visit the friends they have left behind, and the scenes which were dear to them when in the flesh I have never heard from you or any other person an argument which convinced me of the impossibility of such visits, or even of the improbability of the souls of the departed being permitted to hover about places and persons deservingly dear to them, and of appearing and giving a salutary warning, either by sign or words, of approaching death, and the necessity of due preparation."

Peter Prince laughed, and, after knocking the ashes out of his pipe, thus addressed his friend:

"Give me the tobacco, John. I never said it was not so, I only say, I cannot comprehend how it can be. Give me a coal of fire—I cannot reach the tongs!"

"There may, and certainly do exist a great many things beyond our limited comprehension," said John, handing the tongs.

"True, true," rejoined Peter, after a few whiffs. "I may believe much that I cannot comprehend, but I cannot believe in that which contradicts all I know. But we have talked this matter over often enough, and we shall know no more of it until we have passed from this to another state of existence."

"Until one of the other of us has left this world," said John, very solemnly. "Then perhaps, the privilege may be granted."—Horner paused.

"What do you mean?" asked Prince. "I am thinking," said Horner, very deliberately, "that as one of us will probably be removed before the other, and have the knowledge I so thirst after given to him, he might be permitted to return and impart it to his friend."

"Well, well, John Horner," said Peter, laughing, "I promise that if I go first I will come and tell you all about it, if I can; and, John, you must promise the same neighborly office in regard to me, if it is your first turn."

"Here we drop the colloquy, and proceed to the denouement of our story, with as much brevity as possible, being convinced that brevity is the soul of a story as well as of wit.

Peter died in the presence of his friend, if not in his arms; and, with his characteristic hardihood, almost with his last breath, after recommending his sister to Horner's care, reminded him of the engagement he had entered into, concluding—

"It is my turn to know first, and here I solemnly renew my promise."

ner" was repeated! The curtains were drawn aside, and there stood Peter, in flowing robes unlike his former guise, and much changed, even in countenance, but still it was Peter Prince! Horner gazed upon his former friend and tried to ask for the important communication, but he could only say:

"Speak!" He then saw the vision bend toward the floor, and rising, pronounce the mysterious words:

"It might have been better—it might have been worse!"

Horner started up in bed, exclaiming—"Stay! I tell me more!" but the vision was gone, and he saw his wife standing near him with a bowl in her hand.

"As I live I saw him!" exclaimed the sick man.

"Saw who?" asked Mrs. Horner.

"Peter Prince!"

"Nonsense!"

"As I live I saw him!" He stood just where you now are."

"Well, what did he say?" said the dame.

"He called thrice, 'John Horner! John Horner! John Horner!' He bowed low, and rising, said, 'It might have been better—it might have been worse!'"

"Ha! ha! ha!" almost shouted his wife.

"I called you three times before I could make you open your eyes; and, finding that I had knocked over the tea, I stooped for the bowl, and exclaimed, on seeing that it was not broken, 'It might have been better—it might have been worse.'" John Horner was cured.

CONQUERING BY KINDNESS.

Once had a neighbor—a clever man—who came to me one day, and said, 'Esquire White, I want you to come and get your geese away.'

"Why, says I, 'what are my geese doing?'"

"They pick my pigs' ears when they are eating, and drive them away; and I will not have it."

"What can I do?" said I.

"You must yoke them."

"That I have no time to do now," said I.

"I do not see but that they must run."

"If you do not take care of them, I shall," said the shoemaker in anger, 'What do you say, Esquire White?'"

"I cannot take care of them now, but I will pay for all damages."

"Well," said he, you will find that a hard thing, I guess."

So off he went, and I heard a terrible squalling among the geese. The next news was, that three of them were missing. My children went out and found them terribly mangled and dead, and thrown into the bushes. 'Now,' said I, 'all keep still and let me punish him.'

In a few days, the shoemaker's hogs broke into my corn. I saw them, but let them remain a long time. At last, I drove them all out, and picked up the corn which they had torn down, and fed them with it in the road; by this time the shoemaker came up in great haste after them.

"Have you seen anything of my hogs, said he."

"Yes, sir, you will find them yonder eating some corn which they tore down in my field."

"In your field?"

"Yes, sir, 'hogs love corn, you know, they were made to eat it."

"O, no much," said I. "Well off he went to look, and estimated the damage to be equal to a bushel and a half of corn."

"O, no," said I, "it can't be."

"Yes, said the shoemaker, and I will pay you every cent of the damage."

The shoemaker blushed and went home. The next winter, when we came to settle, the shoemaker determined to pay me for my corn.

"No," said I, "I shall take nothing."

After some talk, we parted; but in a few days I met him on the road, and we fell into conversation in the most friendly manner. But when I started on he seemed loth to move, and paused. For a moment, both of us were silent. At last he said:

"I have something laboring on my mind."

"Well, what is it?"

"Those geese. I killed three of your geese, and I shall never rest until you know how I feel; I am very sorry. And the tears came into his eyes."

"O, well," said I, never mind; I suppose my geese were provoking."

I never took anything of him for it; but when my cattle broke into his field after this he seemed glad, because he could show how patient he could be.

"Now," said I to my children, "conquer yourselves, and you can conquer with kindness, where you can conquer in no other way."

SINGULAR PRESENTIMENT.

Mr. J. C. Rogers, a young man engaged on this paper as a compositor, came to the office yesterday morning and told the hands that he was unfit for work. Being asked what ailed him, he said that he saw his mother in her coffin, and the dream was so vivid, and had affected him so deeply, that he could not work. He remained about the office all day much depressed in spirits, until four o'clock in the afternoon, when he received a telegraphic dispatch, announcing to him that his mother was dead. The lady enjoyed perfect health, to within a few hours of her death, and no communication whatever had been received warning him of her illness. We have examined into these facts carefully, and can vouch for them. The communication of the circumstances of the terrible dream was made seven or eight hours before the telegraphic dispatch was sent. Publicity would not be given to this singular occurrence if there existed a shadow of doubt as to the entire truth of the main facts. The death took place on the morning of yesterday at Niagara, C. W., 228 miles from Detroit.—Detroit Cour.

LARGE SALARIES.

Albert and Victoria receive one million of dollars annually. By strict economy, they are able to support life on this small

amount. It is proposed to settle three hundred and fifty thousand dollars on the Princess Royal of England as her annuity after her marriage with the Prussian Prince. Having been trained to frugal habits, it is hoped that the young house-keepers will avoid all unnecessary expense, and thus be enabled to make the two ends of the year meet.—Petersburg Express.

MAN KILLED WHILE COWHIDING ANOTHER.

Jno. S. McDonald was shot and killed by Dr. Devine, Mayor of San Antonio, Texas, on the 29th ult. McDonald was cowhiding his antagonist.

Mr. C. Branch, of Sandal, near Doncaster, England, has now growing on his farm a large breadth of wheat, which has been irrigated with gas water with the most satisfactory result. The farmers in the neighborhood say that the effect is surprisingly good.

THE NORTH CAROLINA MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, RALEIGH, N. C.

THE above Company has received a charter giving advantages to the insured over any other Company. The 5th Section gives the Husband the privilege to insure his wife for the sole use of his wife and children, free from any claim of the representatives of the husband or any of his creditors.

Organized on purely mutual principles, the life members participate in the whole of the profits which are declared annually. Besides, the applicant for life, when the annual premium is over \$30 may pay one half in a Note.

All claims for insurance against the Company will be paid within ninety days after proof of the death of the party is furnished.

Slaves are insured for one or five years, at rates which enable all Slaveholders to secure this class of property against the uncertainty of life.

Slave Insurance presents a new and interesting feature in the history of North Carolina, which will prove very important to the Southern States.

The last four months operation of this Company shows a very large amount of business—more than had been expected to do the first year—having already insured more than 200 Policies.

Dr. Wm. W. HARRIS, Medical Examiner, and Agent, Wilmington, N. C.

All communications in regard to the Company should be addressed to JOHN G. WILLIAMS, Sec'y, Raleigh, June 8, 1856.

WINE AND LIQUORS.

WE invite the attention of our Friends and Patrons to the best selection of Wines and Liquors ever offered in this market, consisting of:

Crescent Brandy, Vintage 1810, Pale and Dark, Otard, Dupuy & Co's Brandy, Cherry Brandy, S. Branson & Co's do, Castillon & Co's do, Duff Gordon, Pale, Sherry, old Madeira and Muscat Wines, Malaga Wine, Old Superior Wine, Holland Gin, Old Tom Gin—extra, Woolf & Schindler Schnapps, Brandy, &c.

Old Peach Brandy, Apple do, Bourbon Whiskey, Rye do, Irish and Scotch Whiskey, Blackberry Brandy, Sic. Madeira Wine, Perfect Love Cordial, Assorted Cordials, in bottles, Various varieties of bottled Wines and Liquors, Selection of various brands at wholesale prices, Maraschino, Curacao, Hosteller's Stomach Bitters, Aromatic do, do, Ginger Wine, &c., &c. low prices for CASH. At the original factory. GEO. MYERS'S, April 17.

CANDY.

50 BOXES Assorted fresh Candy, just received at GEO. MYERS'S, June 3.

JUST RECEIVED BY G. R. FRENCH.

A FRESH supply of PERRY DAVIS' VEGETABLE PAIN KILLER, in entire New Dress. To be sure that you get the genuine Medicine, inquire for the New Dress—with two fine engraved steel labels on each bottle. 15-ct. April 19.

VINEGAR.

20 BLS. Cider Vinegar, just received and for sale by ZENO H. GREENE, 60 Aug. 5.

THE NEW AGE OF GOLD.

OR, The Life and Adventures of Robert Dextor Komanne, written by himself. One vol. 12mo. lately published. Received and for sale at S. W. WHITAKER'S.

BACON.

N. C. BACON—3000 lbs. Extra N. C. Bacon, hog round, for sale to arrive per R. Road. Aug. 7.

OFFICE W. & T. B. R. COMPANY, } WILMINGTON, N. C., Aug. 11, 1856.

TO CONSIGNEES OF WHEAT.

IN consequence of the great quantity of Wheat now coming in from the West, we are compelled to require consignees to remove their Wheat within twenty-four hours after their arrival, otherwise it will be hauled to other storehouses and stored.

The Company's wharf is offered FREE OF CHARGE to all shippers of wheat to land at—Twenty-four hours daily arriving bringing from 4 to 5,000 bushels, which must be taken care of by consignees after 24 hours.

S. L. FREMONT, Eng. & Sup'r, Aug. 12.

FISH ON CONSIGNMENT.

500 BLS. No. 3 Mackerel, 60¢ do. do. A few bbls. No. 1 do. A few bbls. Mulletts, just received, and for sale in lots to suit, by G. W. DAVIS, June 14.

BACON!! BACON!!

10 HDS. Western Sides and Shoulders; 20 Hds. N. F. Hog Round, For sale by ZENO H. GREENE, July 3.

JUST RECEIVED,

20 BLS. Mackerel; 20 bbls. No. 1 large round Herring; 5 bbls. Bacon, low for cash. GEO. MYERS'S, June 3.

NOTICE.

ALL persons having claims against Moore, A. Stanley & Co., will please present them for settlement—and all those indebted to them are requested to come forward and make immediate payment to the subscriber.

JNO. A. STANLEY, Oct. 6.

THE TRI-WEEKLY COMMERCIAL

published every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at \$5 per annum, payable in advance.

BY THOMAS LORING—Editor and Proprietor, Corner Front and Market Streets, WILMINGTON, N. C.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

1 sq. insertion \$5 50 1 sq. 2 months, \$4 00 1 " 3 " 1 00 1 " 6 " 5 00 1 " 1 month, 2 50 1 " 12 " 12 00 Ten lines or less make a square. If an advertisement exceeds ten lines, the price will be in proportion.

All advertisements are payable at the time of their insertion.

Contracts with yearly advertisers, will be made on the most liberal terms.

No transfer of contracts for yearly advertising will be permitted. Should circumstances render a change in business, or an unexpected removal necessary, a charge according to the published terms will be charged at the option of the contractor, for the time he has advertised.

The privilege of Annual Advertisers is strictly limited to their own immediate business; and all advertisements for the benefit of other persons, as well as all advertisements not immediately connected with their own business, and all excess of advertisements in length or otherwise beyond the limits engaged for, will be charged at the usual rates.

No advertisements are included in the contract for the sale or rent of houses or lands in town or country, or for the sale or hire of negroes, whether the property is in the hands of the advertiser, or by other persons. These are excluded by the term "immediate business."

All advertisements inserted in the tri-weekly Commercial, are entitled to one insertion in the Weekly free of charge.

WED, CARD AND FANCY PRINTING, EXECUTED IN SUPERIOR STYLE.

AGENTS FOR THE COMMERCIAL.

New York—Messrs. DOLLAR & PORTER, Boston—CHARLES SMITH, No. 6, Central Wharf. Philadelphia—S. E. CORNELL, Baltimore—Wm. H. FARRER and Wm. THOMSON.

OUR MOTTO IS "TO PLEASE"

AT THE Wilmington Saddle, Harness, and Trunk Manufactory.

THE subscriber respectfully informs the public that he has recently received additions to his stock of Saddle and Harness Mountings, &c., the latest and most improved style, and is constantly manufacturing all kinds of Saddle and Harness, and all other articles usually kept in such establishments, all of which he offers low for CASH, or on short credit to prompt customers.

Saddles, Harness, Trunks, Radical Bags, &c. &c. made to order.

In addition to the above the subscriber keeps on hand and a large supply of all the latest and best materials, and will bring through the season a good assortment of Fly Nets.

All are invited to call and examine my Goods, whether in harness, or not, and to place their orders with me, as I will endeavor to give them every satisfaction.

Harness and Coach Trimmings sold at a fair price to persons buying to manufacture.

Also, Whips at wholesale.

Kindness of Riding Vehicles bought &c. old on commission. JOHN J. CONOLLY, Feb. 7, 1856.

JUST RECEIVED,

PER Sehr, Emily, 5 baskets Champagne Wine, 1 bbl. Pale Ale, (in bottles) For sale by May 15. J. R. KESTON, No. 15 Market-st.

SHORTS AND SHIPSTUFFS.

I HAVE on hand a few hundred bushels of those desirable articles, and which will be sold low to close consignments. July 17. GEO. HOUSTON.

CO-PARTNERSHIP NOTICE.

THE undersigned have purchased the Drug Establishment of Messrs. C. & D. DuPre. They will continue the Drug business in its various branches under the firm of W. MEARES & CO. WALKER MEARES, J. L. MEARES, M. D. 22-ct. May 20.

25 DOLLARS REWARD!

RAN AWAY from the subscriber, his servant JIM SHAW, a young dark mulatto, of a light and rather small figure; generally when about to take to the road, he was dressed in a black frock coat, and black pantaloons. The above reward will be paid to any one who deliver him to me, or secure him in any jail. JAMES F. McREE, 22-ct. May 6.

HAY! HAY!

400 BALS prime Hay, in store and for sale by T. C. & B. G. WORTH, 60 Aug. 5.

JUST RECEIVED.

20 BUSHELS beautiful White Beans. For sale at GEO. MYERS'S, 28 May 20.

100,000 CIGARS, at prices from \$5 00 to \$40 per thousand, for sale by GEO. MYERS'S, 14 April 17.

IN STORE AND JUST RECEIVED!

40 BLS. Stewart's and N. Y. Refined Sugars, Crushed, Loaf, &c. 12 bbls. Molasses, 15 bbls. Rectified Whiskey; 15 bbls. Mees Pork; 25 bbls. Fayetteville Flour; 35 boxes Adamantine and Spermaceti Candles; 12 barrels and 15 boxes Butter, Soda, and Milk Crackers; 5 Hds. Molasses. For sale by W. M. L. TOWNSEND, No. 20 Market Street, 30. May 24.

NOTICE.

I HAVE this day associated with me in the Hardware Business in Wilmington, my Son C. R. ROBINSON. The business will hereafter be conducted under the firm of J. M. ROBINSON & SON. J. M. ROBINSON, 14 April 17.

VALUABLE TO INVALIDS.

WE have just put upon retail, 1 " Madeira, the best article ever offered in this market. At the Original Grocery. GEO. MYERS'S, 14 April 17.

P. S.—We make no pretensions in the way of UNBELLIED—but we offer some beautiful DUTCH HEAD CHEESE just received this day at GEO. MYERS'S, 14 April 17.

NOTICE.

ALL PERSONS indebted to me for Goods purchased previous to 1st July, will please call and settle. On all accounts standing over six months, we will charge interest. GEO. R. FRENCH, 14 July 19.

NAULS! NAULS!

100 KEGS assorted Nails just received and for sale by ZENO H. GREENE, 60 Aug. 5.

CANDY.

25 BOXES assorted strain refined Candy. For sale by ZENO H. GREENE, 60 Aug. 5.

NOTICE.

ALL accounts due the late firm of Freeman & Co. Houston, must be closed without further delay. GEO. HOUSTON, 52 July 17.

ON CONSIGNMENT.

65 BOXES New York city made Pale Soap, a prime article. For sale by G. W. DAVIS, 52 July 3.

FRESH GROCEIRIES.

AS we are to start North in a few days, for the purpose of purchasing a new stock of Groceries, I would thank those who have not paid their Bills to July 1st to do so immediately. GEO. MYERS, 52 July 19.

RECEIVED ON CONSIGNMENT.

10 BLS. Chaffin's celebrated back country Whiskey. Also, in store, a superior article of Draught Ale and Sweet Cider. R. KESTON'S, No. 15, Market street, May 31.

RATES OF PILOTAGE.

JUST printed and for sale at The Commercial Office, the Rates of Pilotage for the Bar and River. 33-ct.

WILMINGTON MARBLE AND STONE YARD.

THE Subscriber having accepted the agency of several large establishments at the North which will furnish him an unlimited supply of finished or unfinished, foreign and domestic MARBLE of all qualities, is prepared to fill all orders for MONUMENTS AND TOMB STONES, executed as well as can be done either North or South.

SCULPTURING, LETTERING OR CARVING. Executed as well as can be done either North or South.

The best reference can be given, if required. JAS. McCLARAN, 11, Jan. 6, 1854.

COAL! COAL! COAL!!!

CONSUMERS OF THE BEST QUALITY RED 500 ASH COAL, daily expected. Constantly on hand, all kinds of wood, Staves, Shingles, &c. All sales cash, J. LEOB. August 2d, 1856. 0-ct

GRAIN CRADLES.

A SUPERIOR article, for sale by J. M. ROBINSON & SON, 34 June 3.

ON CONSIGNMENT.

7 BALS Colgate's Pale Soap No. 1, for sale by GEO. HOUSTON, 52 July 3.

FRESH FRUITS.

JUST RECEIVED, per Sch. DeRosier, a large lot of delicious Oranges, and a full supply of unusually fine Lemons—both in excellent order. For every manner of purchase, and for sale on moderate terms, at the Broadway Variety Store, No. 40, Market St. WM. H. DENEALE, Aug. 5.

CONVENTION!

WINE AND LIQUOR MERCHANTS.—A meeting will be held in this place early in May, of the Wine and Liquor Merchants of New Hanover County, for the purpose of adopting measures for the removal or modification of the extreme heavy tax now imposed upon them.

For further notice will be given of the time and place of holding said Convention. 19. April 29.

SOAP.

50 BOXES Colgate's Pale Soap No. 1, for sale by GEO. HOUSTON, 52 March 6.

TRAVELER'S GUIDE.

LATEST published. Received this morning and for sale at S. W. WHITAKER'S, 14 July 15.

FOR SALE.

A GOOD Milch Cow, apply to GEO. H. KELLEY, 14 July 15.

FLOUR AND CRACKERS.

50 BLS. Fine and Super Flour, 20 bbls. and 25 boxes Sugar and Soda Crackers. Now landing and for sale by ZENO H. GREENE, 60 July 3.

A BOOK FOR EVERY METHODIST.

THE ANNALS OF SOUTHERN METHODISM FOR 1855. Edited by the Rev. Charles F. Deems, D. D. This New Work embraces the statistics and a variety of other interesting information in every department of Southern Methodist operations, under the following general heads:

I. The Episcopacy. II. Plan of Visitation. III. The Conferences. IV. Dedication of Churches. V. Revivals. VI. Missions. VII. Colleges. VIII. Sunday Schools. IX. Tract Society. X. Publishing House and Literary Notices. XI. Instruction of People of Color. XII. Historical Sketches. XIII. Biographical Sketches. XIV. Personal Notices. XV. Bishop Andrew's Letters on California. XVI. Memorials of Bishops. XVII. Miscellaneous. XVIII. Appendix. 360 pages, large 12 mo. Price \$1, for which a copy will be sent prepaid. By the Banks of North Carolina, or by Gold or Dollars, should be sent. A liberal discount to Booksellers and Ministers. Address CHARLES F. DEEMS, Goldsboro, N. C. 127 Jan. 10.

TALLOW CANDLES.