

NORTH-CAROLINA: HER INSTITUTIONS, HER FARMERS, HER MECHANICS, HER MANUFACTURES, AND MARKET TOWNS.

## North Carolina Arator.

RALEIGH, N. C., APRIL, 1856.

### NOTICE.

PERSONS who have not paid for the first Volume of the "Arator" will please remember that the subscription year closed with the March number. And when they recollect that "*times are hard*," and that provisions cannot be obtained, without the *Almighty Dollar*, I have no doubt but that they will send in the *Cash* immediately.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE GRANVILLE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Thomas J. Blackhall, Chairman, Col. William R. White, William M. Blackwell, N. E. Canady, Wiley Perry, John B. Hicks, Edward H. Lyon, John Bullock, Jeff. Garner, William E. Wyche, H. H. Burwell, Jas. Fuller, P. W. Wyche, John M. Bullock, John J. Speed, James B. Daniel, John C. Taylor, Littlebury Stone, Dr. John R. Hicks, S. S. Royster, T. L. Williams, Col. P. E. A. Jones, Hartwell Hargrove, S. S. Cooper, D. P. Paschall, Arch'd. Davis, William A. Harris, John S. Burwell, Dr. James A. Russell, John H. Webb, Dr. B. L. Cole, T. B. Lyon, Carter Waller, Allen C. Cozart, John Mann, Dr. James L. Wortham, William Clements, W. L. Allen, J. H. Daris, James B. Hobgood, A. W. Venable, H. K. Taylor, Thomas Miller, H. T. Watkins, R. P. Hughes, William A. Eaton, T. H. Rainey, A. R. Burwell, J. M. Paschall, Dr. A. C. Harris, and R. W. Gregory.

Five members including the Chairman, constitute a quorum for transacting business.

A. C. HARRIS, *Secretary*.

THE VINE AND THE WINE OF GEORGIA.—The Augusta Constitutionalist publishes a letter from the Hon. Mark A. Cooper, giving an account of a recent visit to the Vineyards of Dr. Anderson and others, of Wilkes. 'These vineyards,' he says, 'were planted from the slip, in the spring of 1853, and now produces grapes of the most admirable quality.'—Each vine has on an average of 45 clusters of the very largest size, the flavor surpasses anything I have known. The vineyard was an experiment of one-fourth of an acre, with a setting of 150 vines per quarter, or 1,000 to the acre. Owing to dry weather only 130 lived and are in bearing.

I am not premature in the conjecture that in ten years more the wines of Georgia will meet those of France and our Atlantic ports, and soon thereafter they will make good the completion by going to European markets; so that what has just been achieved by her flower mills and farmers, will also be effected by her vineyards and wine presses.

Why may not North Carolina rival Georgia?

### HORIZONTAL DITCHING—SOUTHERN LAND MURDER.

EDITORS OF THE AMERICAN FARMER:—In travelling recently from Columbus, Mississippi, to Richmond, Va., through Alabama, Georgia, South and North Carolina, I was struck with the hill-side ditches which I observed on thousands of rolling plantations in Alabama and Georgia, to prevent the washing of their loose soils, and which was in fact, almost the only commendable feature which I observed in the *murderous* agriculture of the planting States. Just think, Messrs Editors, of immense tracts of fertile soil, exhausted and thrown out of cultivation, in many places washed into gullies, and covered with yellow broom sedge, beautifully variegated with the green foliage of upstart pines, before they are cleared of their original growth—the old dead trees standing yet quite thick upon the ground! What possible apology can these vandal land-murderers offer to posterity for the destruction of their rich inheritance, when, by good plowing, with two-mule plows, instead of scratching the surface with a one-mule scarifier; by horizontal ditching, to prevent the washing of undulating lands; by sowing rye and oat pastures for their stock; by always sowing their cornfields broadcast with the Southern Pea, at the last plowing; and by preparing their lands by pea-fallows, for their wheat crops, as recommended by that great farmer, E. Ruffin, in his Agricultural Essay, (which ought to be in the hands of every Southern farmer,) our planters might not only preserve their lands in fertility, but would, from the outset, fill their corn-cribs and smoke-houses, and cotton-pens, to bursting. This system will have to be adopted, sooner or later, or the Southern country—the cotton growing region, I mean—will be exhausted and depopulated.

I have a friend, a young planter in Mississippi, who is determined to preserve the fertility of his land by the means I have indicated, and still keep everything fat about him; raise his own stock and grain, and send to his commission merchant every year, at least five bales of cotton, to the hand. Some of his land is quite steep, and requires ditching to prevent it from washing. He will therefore be very much obliged to you, Messrs. Editors, or to any of your correspondents, who will be kind enough to