COMMON SCHOOLS.

To His Excellency, David S. Reid—

Sir: In my first letter to your Excellency, I gave a sketch of the former condition of Education in North Carolina. What is it now? This is a question difficult to answer, and for the reason that, although Education has been a matter of government concern, there has been no effort made to obtain a diffuse information on this subject. It was difficult to obtain accurate knowledge in regard to the general progress of intelligence; and from ignorance of our position and prospects we were almost ready to despair of a cause which was accomplishing much good in our midst.

What is the condition of the cause of Education in North Carolina at this day?

I am not prepared to answer this question as fully and satisfactorily as I hope to be in a few months; but it is a matter to which I have, for years, given some attention, and in regard to which I can speak with some degree of confidence.

About the time of the establishment of our system of Common Schools, there began a general movement among our people in favor of Colleges and Academies. Institutions of this kind, that were already in existence, but in a rather languishing condition, very soon manifested signs of increasing prosperity. Old attempts to found Academies were revived with more success, and new enterprises of this sort were set on foot in all parts of the country. Each year the Seminaries already in existence would be more crowded with pupils than during the year before, and each year a greater number of new institutions would be inaugurated than during the one preceding. Thus we have advanced; and now, comparing our position with that of a few years past, it is almost incredible what progress we have made. Your Excellency has twice canvassed the State, with open eyes—what have you beheld?

We formerly had *one* male College, to-wit: our excellent University; now we have Wake Forest College, in Wake county, Davidson College, in Mecklenburg county, Normal College in Randolph county, Catawba College, in Catawba county, with the prospect of the establishment of a Masonic College, in Granville county. We have all these rising into vigorous existence; and our good old University, instead of being crippled by this competition is shining with a more resplendent light than ever before, and numbers *twice* as many students as it did in its palmiest days before the establishment of our system of Common Schools, and when it had not a single rival.

There is a yearly increase of numbers at all of these institutions; and, what is more, the older Colleges are making themselves acceptable to the masses, while each new one endeavors to lay its foundations deep in the popular heart. They all recognize the doctrine that the good will of the common people is necessary to their prosperity; and while their position is the result of an increasing interest felt by the masses in the cause of Education, they, in return, react upon the Common Schools and Academies of the country.

And how is it with the Academies—male Academies—in North Carolina? Who knows the number of these? Who can tell how many new ones are born into existence every season? There cannot be less than eighty Classical Schools (male) in this State—they will average one to the county, and in many counties there are more than one—in some as many as three Schools of this sort. Some are of a private character, but at nearly all a good classical education can be obtained. Since my term of office a number of new institutions of this sort have been ingaugurated, and some successful Academies are situated in regions considered by many as remote and ignorant. Between these Academies and the Colleges, there is an intermediate class of Schools which may be termed High Schools, furnishing an education nearly as good as that obtained at the Colleges; and of this class several have recently come into successful existence, and others are on the way.

The progress in female education of the higher kind has been still more remarkable; and instead of the one High School at Salem, we have it and *eight other Colleges*, counting the Episcopal School at Raleigh as one. There are the two Colleges at Murfreesborough, in Hertford county—one in a flourishing condition, the other in a state of rapid progress; the College in Oxford, Granville County, the Episcopal School in Raleigh, the College in Anson county, the one in Robeson county, the one in Greensborough, Guilford county, and the one in Ashville, Buncombe county, while there is still another on the way in Iredell county. Great as is this increase of Colleges, it is still outdone in the growth and multiplication of Female Academies and High Schools; and still the old School at Salem, like the University, has been benefited by the competition, and is fuller than it ever was, while in consequence of new applications for admission its Principal has had to issue a circular notifying the public that the institution is filled to its utmost capacity.

In all the towns, villages, and thickly settled neighborhoods Female Academies have sprung up or are coming into existence; and a singular and most cheering feature of this progress in male and female education of the higher kind, is the fact *that many of the Schools have been founded by the energies, or are under the control of native born and home-educated ladies and gentlemen.* In short, our progress in the multiplication of male and female Colleges and Academies, is without a parallel in the history of any State or country; and it is no exaggeration to say that while our population has increased but little in seventeen years, the number of male pupils attending Classical Schools has *been more than trebled since the year* 1836, *and that the number of girls receiving an education of the higher kind is at least seven times, and perhaps ten times as great as it was at the period designated*, WHILE THE RATIO OF INCREASE BECOMES CONSIDERABLY GREATER EACH YEAR. What is the cause of all this? I answer, without hesitation, our system of Common Schools. Much is due to the influence of religious societies, but in former years religious societies made exertions in the same direction without much success. While a number of these societies have been undoubtedly stimulated by a spirit of progress which seemed simultaneously and almost suddenly to pervade all classes and societies in our State, it was independent of particular men or particular bodies, and yet it was of course not a mere inspiration, but was, under the direction of Providence, born of some previous cause.

In the first place, the mere establishment of our system of Common Schools did much to awaken a new spirit of Education in all classes. It placed the subject on higher and broader ground than it had ever before occupied in North Carolina. It gave to it the dignity of a fundamental political institution among a people where every man is a part of the government and takes an interest in it. The people all viewed it in a new light; and Churches and benevolent societies availing themselves of this new step, and of the feeling awakened by it, began a generous competition to see which could make itself most acceptable by assisting most to help to achieve that condition of things, that universal intelligence which was considered as inevitable, some day, from the action of the State. Nobly did they respond to the call of that government pledged to the sanctity of conscience; and a glorious reward is before them, with the hope of political and religious freedom for ages to come!

Again: Before the era of Common Schools in North Carolina, a large and somewhat influential class of our people maintained their social position by being merely able to read and write. This was an advantage not enjoyed by all; and girls so accomplished, if not boys, could hold a somewhat aristocratic rank. When our system of Common Schools was established, it was supposed that *all* classes would soon be up to this mark; and hence the middle ranks very generally began to move further forward so as still to hold their relative position.

But lastly, the Common Schools have acted in this matter by shedding light on minds that otherwise never could have been awakened, and thus starting on an upward career persons who have struggled through Academies, and then, without resources outside of their own energies, and feeling, from practical experience, the true wants of the country, have made profits for themselves and benefited the country, by bringing down classical education from its aristocratic perch and placing it in the midst of the people. Thus a new kind of Academies has sprung up; and men, beginning to recognise the importance to themselves of Common Schools, and to feel their dependence on the masses, have flung open their doors to poverty and rusticity, and educated and boarded children on their promise to repay, and thus multiplied new teachers, many of whom, as the readiest way to redeem their pledges, have taken temporary employment in the Common Schools.

But I must conclude this interesting subject which, by itself, is worthy of a treatise. Suffice it to say, our Common Schools have been mainly instrumental in giving a prodigious impetus to the cause of education of a higher kind in North Carolina: have multiplied Colleges and Academies, male and female—have created and fostered a spirit that is universal, determined and invincible—a spirit of progress, which, in a very few years, has advanced the Educational flag of North Carolina from its humble and trailing position to a proud elevation over those of her Southern sisters, and which promises even to run it above the topmost streamer of the Union! All hail to that rising flag! all honor to the hands that have run it up! But while we proudly contemplate its triumphant position, let us never forget that the flag-staff is planted on the COMMON SCHOOLS.

And now, Sir, in view of such results, and without considering any other, may I not say that our Common Schools have been anything else than a failure? We have seen, however, but one half of the picture, and it remains to be told what has been accomplished within the walls of the Common Schools themselves.

Upon this subject I have made much enquiry, and it would be tedious, and perhaps unnecessary, to enter upon a detail of the means by which I have obtained information.

I have instituted enquiries in regard to the number of school houses and of schools in different counties before the establishment of our system of Common Schools, and for several years have been trying to inform myself, in various ways, on this obscure subject.

My investigations bring me to this conclusion, viz: that it would be a very liberal estimate to put at twenty thousand the number of children who, before the adoption of our Common School system, attended part of the time during any one year, or in a period of two years, the country or ordinary subscription schools of the State.

Without going into my sources of information, a few general facts will sustain the above view; and in fact I need only make one calculation, and one which all will recognize as liberal.

Put he number of counties at 70—(this is over the mark, at the time alluded to)—and the average number of schools at 10 to a county, and the average number of scholars at 25 to a school; this gives seventeen thousand five hundred scholars. How many persons can count as many as ten country school houses which existed in their counties previous to the establishment of Common Schools? How many counties are there where *five* could not be found? But that I may not be under the mark I will say that twenty thousand children, at some time during a period of two years, attended the country schools of North Carolina; and I will here intimate that I should not be surprised if I am, some day, able to prove that the number was often not greater than ten thousand, and sometimes under.

What is now the number that once in a period of two years attends the country or Common Schools?

It is considered a severe reflection on our historical efforts in North Carolina that the name of our first Governor was suffered to become a problem. What shall we say of the fact that the State has founded a system of Common Schools, and by its funds helped to keep the system in operation for several years, while so little vigilance has been exercised over it that the number of the schools is not known and can only be guessed at? Members of the Literary Board have estimated the number as high as thirty-five hundred; my own estimate is from twenty-five hundred to three thousand. We will suppose the number to be 2500, and the average attendance 25 to the school, and all the schools open once, at least, in every two years; this gives us sixty-two thousand five hundred children at school in the State at some time during each period of two years. The attendance, however, we all know, is greater at the Common Schools than it was at the subscription schools; in fact we might very safely estimate the average at the former at 30, and 20 at the latter, while, however, there was undoubtedly a more regular attendance at the subscription schools.

We may, from the foregoing premises, conclude, and I do affirm, that in every period of two years there are three times as many children going to country schools as formerly, but there are not and could not be three times as many *receiving an education.* If there were, then more than two-thirds were formerly ignorant. In former times many, many boys and girls, attended one, two, or three short schools, and then their education was completed; now the same set will attend, at different times, for many schools. Still it is an inevitable conclusion that a great many more now receive the elements of an education than formerly, and a large majority get better educations, poor as our schools are said to be.

In a number of counties from one to three moderately good subscription schools have been destroyed, and in their stead have been established Common Schools, which are not kept open as long during the year; but a considerable portion of those benefited formerly by the best subscription schools now send to higher, or classical schools, and most of the remainder could raise a fund to lengthen the term of the District Schools by using the same exertion that had to be used to get up a good subscription school.

And then, to overbalance this supposed injury caused by Free Schools, they pervade hundreds of neighborhoods where there were formerly no schools at all, and they afford an elementary education to thousands of children that would have grown up in ignorance, while the office of teacher established in 2500 places, is a ladder by which many scores of young men are enabled to rise to usefulness whose talents otherwise would have been buried.

And finally, I draw this general conclusion, and will maintain it, viz: *that the average of intelligence among the masses of the rising generation is twice as great as it was before the adoption of our system of Common Schools.* These schools have not yet educated a generation; those who were on the stage of action at the time of their adoption are still there, while those whom the Common Schools have been training have not yet assumed their places in the business affairs of life.

When this occurs, and we have passed away, a great change will come over the face of things in North Carolina; there will be more intelligence, more life, and more public spirit, while the new generation will be practically acquainted with Common Schools, will know their wants and remedies, and be ready to supply the necessary means to add to their usefulness and efficiency.

We knew nothing of such things, and we had nobody to tell us; the experiment was a total novelty to us, adopted among a people tenacious of old habits, where many were ignorant and opposed to Education, and where all expected too much and were disposed to do too little, supposing the government had bargained to take all trouble off their hands.

Against ignorance, misconceptions and prejudices the system had to contend, and it had to grow by its own inherent vitality, without a voice to utter its wants, or a tribunal to decide its disputes, or a head to guide its way. It was seed thrown in the water, and left to fight its way with weeds and grass; and though tares and noxious vegetation have grown up in its midst, it has lived, and flourished, and produced a profitable harvest. Under all the circumstances its history is a glorious triumph, affording a subject most interesting for contemplation to every true son of North Carolina, and every friend of humanity; and to all such it opens a most noble field for exertion, and one where the promise is bright and of incalculable importance.

But I have said enough for the present; in future numbers I shall endeavor to point out some of the errors which have prevented our system from being more useful—to suggest some remedies, and to offer, with deference, some opinions as to the duties of all persons in the premises.

With great respect,

C. H. WILEY.

Asheville, N. C., August 29th, 1853.

NOTE.—It would be easy to illustrate the leading positions assumed in this and in my former, letter by facts and anecdotes which would require too much space; and in their stead I rely on the *memories* of those who will read these letters. I wish the public to look back, and to look about them, and compare the past with the present.

For instance, in some places people will remember the style of the old "Articles" or agreements between teachers and parents—often stipulating that payment was to be made "in trade, at trade prices," "in sound corn, at current rates," "in one bushel of wheat, at the market price—two loads of hay at the usual rates—five bushels of potatoes," &c., &c., and "to be delivered at the mill of A. B., or the store of C. D." &c., &c.

The reader will also call to mind the former prejudices against Colleges and Academies, when education was supposed to be the concern of the aristocratic few, and all classical teachers come from abroad, and hunted out the rich, and when the students at such schools were disliked by the people, and in return teacher and pupil made a standing jest of the people, country schools, &c., &c. In contrast with this we look round us and see our own sons and daughters going into the rudest neighborhoods, with their classical wares, as merchants are wont to do with their clothes and groceries; and I have seen, at a College Commencement, at least one thousand people, gathered from all ranks and classes, coming in carriages, buggies, wagons, and carts, making a sort of Fare of the occasion, and all looking on it as a People's festival. And we can remember that this change has come over us in a few years past, and has been wrought since the adoption of our system of Common Schools by the State, stripped education of its courtly plumes, and presented it to the eyes of the people in citizen dress, and associated on the platform, before them, with those old worthies so justly revered, Independence and Liberty.

From Hunt's Merchants' Magazine.

COFFEE—ITS PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION.

Coffee now enters so largely into the general wants of this country, as also of the world, having become a necessary of life, instead of (as prior to this century) a luxury, it may not be amiss at the present time, when the opinion seems to be abroad, that the consumption is greater than the production, to inquire into the growth of the principal producing countries, and their means of increase, to provide for the great annual increase of consumption.

Prior to 1825, Cuba, St. Domingo, British West Indies, and Java, were the chief places of production; subsequently Brazil has taken the lead, and is now the producer of nearly the half of the production. Laguira and Ceylon export largely.

In Cuba sugar was found to pay the best profit to the planters, so that about 1825, they began to neglect coffee. The annual production in Cuba being then about sixty-five millions of pounds. At the present time the cultivation is so neglected, the annual export does not exceed twelve millions of pounds.

The export of St. Domingo has been gradually falling off, so that the average is not over forty millions of pounds per annum. This year it is but thirty-five millions. Since the abolition of slavery in the British West Indies the production of Coffee is gradually declining, and will probably soon become extinct.

The production of Java steadily increased—being stimulated by the Dutch company and by the encouragement given to private planters—till the export in 1848 was about 150 millions of pounds, one-third of which, or 50 millions, was private coffee. The low prices that had ruled for some time previous to 1848, and since, have so discouraged the private planters, that many have abandoned the cultivation altogether, and their annual production at present is only from twelve to fifteen millions of pounds. The Company's production has also rather fallen off, so that the average annual export of Java cannot now be estimated over 800,000 piculs, or about 110 millions of pounds.

Brazil from 1830 to 1850 increased the production of Coffee in a greater degree than ever before known. The climate was found to be most congenial to the trees, the yield per tree being double of the West Indies, and the prices of slaves extremely low—selling on long credits at from $200 to $300 each. During this period, the export increased from sixty-four millions per annum to three hundred millions. The low prices of Coffee subsequent to 1842, and the diminished import of blacks, checked the planting of new estates, and the entire stoppage of the slave trade in 1850, together with the subsequent rise of slaves to $550 and $600 each, renderly it nearly certain, that the production of Coffee in Brazil has about reached its maximum. The fear now is, that without some supply of labor, to make up for the annual mortality of slaves on the estates, estimated on the average at from five per cent to six per cent, the production can hardly be maintained at the present rate. Some may think that slaves will be again imported clandestinely, but the government and people are now so decidedly opposed to the further increase of the slave population, there is not the slightest probablity of this.

A bill was introduced into the national legislature last year for the gradual emancipation of the slaves; it was not passed, but its numerous friends will not cease their exertions, and many years cannot elapse before its final passage and adoption. Foreign immigration has been attempted, but with little chance of success. Cooley labor has been talked of, but, as yet, none has been introduced.

Ceylon, by the encouragement of protective duties in England, increased her production of Coffee rapidly, from 1835 to 1845, and it was predicted that by 1855 the export would be fifty millions of pounds per annum. The decrease of protection and low prics have operated so unfavorably, that a great many estates have been entirely abandoned, and the production, which had reached forty millions, is now reduced to about thirty millions of pounds per annum. Large capitals have been lost, and estates abandoned for a few years cannot be reclaimed; it is therefore not likely that any increase will take place in Ceylon. The same remarks will also apply to the private planting in Java.

The export of Coffee from Laguira, &c., shows rather a falling off the past few years. Certainly no increase of importance can be expected from thence, but rather the reverse.

From the foregoing it will be seen, that there has been, in the aggregate, a falling off in the production of Coffee since 1848, when it was the greatest; and as will appear by the following tables, formed from the average of the best authorities, that the production of 1853, which supplies the consumption of 1853–'4, will be thirty-four millions of pounds less than in 1848.

It is to be observed, that many estimates of the Brazil export for 1853–'4 are considerably less than 1,750,000 bags, also less from Java and Ceylon, equal in all to fifty millions pounds less than the estimate below, which would make the total falling off in production, compared with 1848, about eighty-four millions of pounds.

PRODUCTION OF COFFEE, 1848 AND 1853.

	1848.	1853.	
Brazil*..millions lbs.	270	380	or 1,750,000 bags.
Java..............	150	110	or 800,000 piculs.
St. Dominion.......	40	45	
Cuba & Porto Rico..	40	30	
British West Indies.	10	5	
French & Dutch West Indies....	5	3	
Sumatra...........	10	15	
Mocha &c..........	5	5	
Manilla............	3	2	
Ceylon............	25	30	
Laguira &c........	30	25	
Costa Rica........	5	5	
Total production....	590	556	

This great increase has been mainly brought about by its having ceased to be a profitable crop in most places of production, and short crops in Brazil, Java, and Ceylon. Should prices advance, some may expect a corresponding increase of production, as of sugar or cotton, but when it is considered that it requires ten years at least to get a new coffee estate into full bearing, and that labor, the chief capital employed, is from 150 to 200 per cent higher in Brazil than it has been, it cannot be looked for to any extent, certainly not equal to the average increase of consumption the past twenty-five years.

The consumption of Coffee has rapidly increased the past twenty-five years, from its low price, facilities of transportation, and ability of the masses to purchase what was formerly considered a luxury, so that it has now become a necessary of life. The greatest increase has been in the United States, averaging seven-and-a-half per cent per annum; in Europe it has been two-and-a-half per cent, or for the world four per cent per annum.

The following estimate of consumption is the average of various sources, and is believed to be as near the truth as can be ascertained, for 1852.

United States and British America..millions lbs.	200
German Zolverein..........................	100
Austria, and other German States............	65
Holland and Belgium........................	80
France, Switzerland, and South of Europe....	110
Great Britain..............................	35
Denmark, Sweden, and Norway................	25
Russian Dominions..........................	15
Cape of Good Hope and Australia............	10
Total consumption in 1852..................	640

The difference between production and consumption has been gradually coming round, as the stocks in Europe show a diminution of about twenty-five millions of pounds compared with the past year, which has caused an advance in prices of about fifteen per cent. In this country the stock of Rio in first hands is rather large, but of other sorts very trifling. The stocks in the interior are believed to be smaller than usual, with all the elements of a large and increasing consumption for the future.

Stock of Coffee in Europe, July 1, estimated at ..millions lbs.	125	or 3½ months cons'ption.
Stock in U. States, July 1........	40	or 2½
Total stock of the world,	163	

It may be well to remark that the great increase in the consumption of Coffee has taken place at the same time that tea, from its low price, has increased in a still greater degree. Should the supplies of tea be cut short by the revolution now in progress in China, the consumption of Coffee must be increased, which will render still more apparent the deficiency of production, and by the end of the year show a large decrease of the old stocks. J. G.

*Rio Janerio, Santos, and Bahia.

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

The time has been—and that not very remote—when the Democratic party of the country was held in derision, if not in contempt, by a large portion of the proud and beautiful Whig party. A *Democrat* was rather below par in the scale of social as well as political respectability, in the estimation of men who claimed for *their* party "all the decency and all the intelligence" of the country. There was something low and vulgar in Democracy, which debarred its advocates and devotees of a position of equality among the "decency and intelligence" of the country. The consequence was, (as Col. Biggs aptly remarked in his speech at the Democratic festival in this place,) that some young men who desired to assume a position of respectability in society were deterred from associating themselves with the Democracy because of the odium cast upon them by the lordlings of the Whig party.

Now we can very well understand the reason of all this, for we hold it to be a demonstrable fact, that the principles professed by the Whig party were at war with the essential interests of the masses. That party has ever labored to strengthen the hands of the Federal Government—to concentrate all power to it, and, per consequence, to cripple and weaken the people from whom that power was sought to be transferred to the central Government. It was natural, then, that the advocates of such a policy should have but little sympathy for the "unwashed" masses. Look at all the despotisms of the earth where all power is absolutely vested in the Government, and you will see that the people are oppressed, and made "hewers of wood and drawers of water" for a pampered aristocracy. Is it strange, then, that the Whig party of this country, advocating a strong central Government, should regard the people here in the same light that they are held by the aristocracy of strong Governments elsewhere? We maintain that the policy of the Whig party has been practically a denial of the capacity of the people for self-government, and hence a denial of their equality with the "upper ten." To be a Democrat was not "respectable" in their eyes at least.

Nevertheless, notwithstanding the slurs of these conceited Whigs, the Democracy pursued the even tenor of their way, and continued to increase in numbers and grow in strength. The people did not seem to attach much credit to the interested counsel, nor pay much respect to the disdainful imputations of politicians who thought themselves better than other men. The people were not to be swayed by such prejudices—the young men were not to be cajoled into the advocacy of Whig principles by such silly appeals to their pride of respectability. The Democracy grew—extended—increased.

How stands the case *now?* Where are the men who a few years ago thought it vulgar to be a Democrat, and claimed for the Whig party the possession of "all the decency and all the intelligence" of the country? Where is the great Whig party?—where the "vulgar" Democracy? Can it be possible that the Democracy has survived such attacks, and continued to exist in spite of the frowns and sneers of "all the decency and all the intelligence" of the country? Has not the Whig party, like Aaron's rod, swallowed up everything?

A glance at the present condition of things will furnish a ready and convincing answer to these questions. A survey of the field of politics at this day will result in conclusions very different from Whig predictions. The Federal Government is entirely under the control of the Democracy in all its political ramifications—both branches of the national Congress overwhelmingly Democratic—about twenty-nine Democratic Governors out of thirty-one—the Legislatures of the several States (with very few exceptions) largely Democratic—and the people—the "vulgar" masses—Democratic to the backbone.

Now is not that a poor showing for the "great" Whig party? In what States or in what branch of the Federal Government, are their great talents displayed? Verily, if all the "decency and intelligence" are absorbed in the Whig party, then is our country in a sad condition—for *their* talents and decency have been very much neglected by the people of late, until the party has dwindled down to a sickly and precarious existence, bordering on the confines of nonentity. The people have indignantly put their seal of condemnation on all such twaddle and nonsense.

But there is another feature not less interesting connected with this matter. With all its boasted greatness and intelligence, the curious observer of passing political events will inquire, what single measure of Whig policy now graces our statute-books and gives life and vigor to the permanent (or even temporary) interests of the country? We have a recollection of National Banks, Protective Tariffs, Distribution and Bankrupt Laws—but which of these is now a part of the policy of the Government? Not one! The people have tried them all, found them wanting, and cast them away. We repeat the question—*What single distinctive measure of Whig policy now lives upon the statute-book?* and we repeat the answer—*Not one!* The country has prospered and grown great under Democratic auspices—Democratic measures and Democratic men.

The young men of the country, in deciding upon their course in entering upon active life, will see, by glancing at these facts, which party it is their interest as well as their duty to join. The "respectability" of the Democracy is beyond the reach of Whig detraction; while the soundness of Democratic principles is every day attested by the individual happiness of our people and the glory and renown of our common country. *Democratic Pioneer.*

PROGRESS OF PRESBYTERIANISM. When we take any one of the principal religious denominations in the United States, and compare its statistics at successive periods, the impression is made that *that* denomination is going ahead of all the rest. But the fact is, they are all going ahead, though with different degrees of rapidity, along with the increase of population. The Methodist church has outstripped all the rest in rapidity of growth, though of late its increase has been less rapid than formerly. The following paragraphs show the increase of the Presbyterian Church since 1837.

From the Presbyterian (Old School.)

An important fact to be noted in these figures is, that the Old-school branch of the Presbyterian Church has now become as large as both new and Old-school were at the time of their division, fifteen years ago. The following will show the comparative numbers before the division and the present year:

	1837.	1853.
Presbyteries	135	143
Ministers	2,140	2,139
Churches	2,865	2,879
Communicants	220,557	219,263

From the New York Evangelist (New School.)

Better than these invidious estimates, let us turn to the agregate strength, not of one or the other, but of both branches, as they are reported in the respective minutes. Here is a table in which all Presbyterians might truly rejoice—of the progress of both branches together.

	1837.	1853.	Increase.
Synods	23	51	28
Presbyteries	135	215	116
Ministers	2,140	3,709	1,569
Churhes	2,895	4,206	1,610
Communicants	220,357	359,715	139,358
Foreign Missions	$282,000	$471,281	$189,881

NEW COTTON. Two bales of new cotton, the first in this market, have been received by Messrs. McIlwaine, Son & Co., of this city. It is from the farm of R. Pittman, Esq., of Edgecombe County, North Carolina, and a really beautiful article. The consignees disposed of it on yesterday, to the Ettricks Manufacturing Company at 11¼ cts. per lb. This is an excellent price, but it was an excellent article, and therefore fully worth all that was obtained for it. *Petersburg Express.*

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S DESPATCH RESPECTING THE PROPOSED TRIPARTITE CUBAN CONVENTION. The latest English Journals received in this country, though they mention the production of the Cuban papers in the British Parliament, make no allusion to any remarks upon the subject by the British Secretary for Foreign Affairs. We infer, therefore, that there was mistake or misapprehension in the information heretofore alluded to by us, and derived from a credible source in England, to the effect that such a speech had accompanied the production of the papers. The despatch of Lord John Russell is then to be judged without such official comment as an expression of the views of the British government. In another column will be found an article from the Boston Post, in the general scope and drift of which we concur, respecting those propositions in Lord John Russell's letter to which it refers. There are, however, some points in that despatch, in our judgment, alike important and inadmissible, which the Post appears to have omitted or reserved for a future examination, and to which we deem it proper now to invite the attention of our readers.

Towards the close of the British letter occurs the following very extraordinary paragraph:

"Nor let it be said that such a convention would have prevented the inhabitants of Cuba from asserting their independence. With regard to internal troubles, the proposed convention was altogether silent. But a pretended declaration of independence, with a view of immediately seeking refuge, from revolts on the part of the blacks, under the shelter of the United States, would justly be looked upon as the same in effect as a formal annexation."

It will be percieved that the declaration of independence here spoken of is a "*pretended*" declaration, made "*with the view*" of immediately asking aid from the United States against a consequent insurrection of the blacks in the island. These limitations in the British proposition, in our judgment, practically amount to nothing, because they have no foundation in the nature of the case contemplated. A declaration of independence made without due authority from the people is no declaration at all; but if made by *due authority* on the part of the people, it is not within the competency of any foreign power to regard such a declaration as a mere *pretence.* It is the most solemn act which a people can perform, and, *if duly performed*, involves considerations altogether too momentous to permit it to be regarded as a *sham.* The other limitation is equally unfounded in the nature of the case, because, if the Cubans declare their independence, they *must* do so in full view of a negro insurrection, Spain having been understood repeatedly to threaten to set the negroes at once at liberty in such an event, in order to put down a revolutionary movement in Cuba by the torch and the knife in negro hands. It is easy to see, therefore, that whenever the Cubans declare themselves independent they will do so of necessity, in full view of the horrors of a consequent servile war of extermination, and, of course, with "the view of seeking shelter" from such horrors wherever such shelter may be found. All these conditions we suppose to be involved in the very nature of the case which the above-cited proposition contemplates. They show that the limitations of the British proposition practically amount to nothing.

The proposition, then, is that, assuming a declaration of independence and a revolution in Cuba, and a consequent revolt of the blacks under Spanish authority, and by Spanish instigation, any act of aid or succor to the Cubans by the United States, however urgently invoked by them, is, in the view of the British government, to be regarded and resisted as alike objectionable and unwarranted.

Now, of this British proposition so stated, before touching its bearing upon other cardinal points of American policy, we remark that it sets at defiance every dictate of humanity, and even of civilization. What stronger case can be imagined to invoke and to justify the interposition of the United States than such an appeal from the people of Cuba in a state of revolution, to save them from general massacre, and their beautiful island from barbarization at the hands of savage and infuriated negroes, thus let loose upon them?

It is not our purpose to anticipate the decision either of the American government or of the American people upon the question of such interposition by the United States in the case we have supposed. That question will doubtless be considered and decided when the case arises. Our point is, that if Great Britain can properly *denounce beforehand, as unwarranted and inadmissible*, such interposition by us in such a case, then is there no case whatever involving our relations with the communities on this continent, and our action towards them, in which Great Britain may not, with at least equal right, pretend to interfere and to dictate.

Look at the undisputed facts of the case. Here is an island almost within sight of our coast—commanding the great outlet of our principal staple products—forming naturally a part of the American territorial and commercial system. That island is wretchedly misgoverned by a European power. By the showing of the British government itself, the Spanish rulers there, in addition to what else in their rule is intolerable, have been for years past, in defiance of solemn treaties, the confederates of the African slave-traders. And yet Great Britain assumes to tell the United States, that if the Cubans rise against their oppressors, the United States shall not interpose to protect them from the savage slaughter of a servile war, excited and instigated for their destruction!

The British government will hardly pretend that any question can arise in our relations with the communities of this continent of deeper interest to us in all its aspects then would be the question presented to us in Cuba by the very case which the above extract supposes, and in which England thus openly undertakes to prescribe in advance to us the only line of policy which it will regard as admissable. The British *dictum* is, that when that case arises, whatever we may think of it, *we are to let the whole matter alone*, under peril of English displeasure if we move in it. We do not deem it necessary to waste words upon such a British pretension. We entertain not the slightest doubt that the whole American people will, with one voice, repudiate and repel it. It is hard to believe that the British government has put forward such a pretension seriously and deliberately. It is still more difficult to believe that that government will, upon reflection, adhere to it and maintain it in what appears to be its manifest scope and meaning. But if such shall be the course of the British government, then we see not how to avoid the conclusion, that in matters vital to our national rights, interests and honor, it will be directly in conflict with the fixed policy both of the government and people of the United States in regard to the affairs of this continent. The practical effect of such a collision between the views of the two governments need not now to be anticipated, because we should regard it as in a high degree discreditable to any democratic administration to suppose that, in any event, it would consent to surrender one jot or tittle of that true American policy—the only policy of justice and permanent peace—in the affairs of the American continent which it has so fully and formally proclaimed. *Wash. Union.*

DEEP AND EARNEST THOUGHT. 1. It is a rare attainment to get the power of close and consecutive thinking. No man can do it but with great pains. It is one of the great ends of education and mental discipline to confer this power.

2. The romances and other trash of the teeming presses of our day, are hostile to this habit. The excitement of fiction is pleasurable. Deep thought requires pains-taking and self denial. Thousands had rather sail over the sunny seas of romance, and under its bright skies, even though they reach the port penniless, than to encounter adverse winds and boisterous seas, though a rich cargo should be the recompense.

3. But deep and earnest thought, the power and practice of it, is of vast advantage in many ways. It secures sure and great advances in knowledge. It strengthens and invigorates all the mental powers. it enables the mind to take large and comprehensive views of things, so that it can deliberately gather all the facts and principles pertaining to any particular subject, and to view them in their various relations.

It gives amazing power to all moral subjects. "I thought in my ways, I took heed unto thy testimonies."

Deep and earnest thought is the parent of deep religious emotion. The unthinking can never feel deeply.

Deep thinking exerts great power over conscience. It sharpens its discernment—makes it a better judge and a bolder and wiser reprover.

North-Carolina Six Per Cent State Bonds.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, RALEIGH, N. C.
AUGUST 31, 1853.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVed in the City of New York, until 3 o'clock, P. M., of the 30th of September next, for the purchase of

$500,000

of Bonds issued by the STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA.

These Bonds will bear date the FIRST OF JULY, 1853, and will run THIRTY YEARS—they will have Coupons attached, and the interest, AT SIX PER CENT PER ANNUM, will be payable on the first days of July and January of each year.

Both interest and principal will be payable at THE BANK OF THE REPUBLIC, in the City of New York, unless the purchaser may prefer to have them payable, at the Treasury of North Carolina.

They are issued under the authority of the Legislature of North-Carolina, for the construction of the NORTH-CAROLINA RAIL ROAD, and in addition to the faith of the State, all the Stock held by the State, in the said Road, and the Dividends from said Stock, are expressly pledged for their redemption. They will be issued in sums of $1,000 or $5,000, as the purchaser may prefer.

THESE BONDS ARE BY EXPRESS ENACTMENT EXEMPTED FROM TAXATION.

Parties bidding, will please to address their letters, endorsed "Proposals for North-Carolina State Bonds" to the undersigned in New York, directed to the care of Messrs. BROWN & DEROSSETT, 180 Front Street, N. Y.

THE BIDS WILL BE OPENED in the Bank of the Republic, at 3 o'clock, P. M., ON THE 30TH OF SEPTEMBER NEXT, in the presence of G. B. Lamar, Esq., President of the said Bank, J. P. Brown and David Freeman, Esq's., and others.

Successful Bidders will be required, as soon as informed of the acceptance of their Bids, to deposit in Bank the amount of their Bids with the accrued interest from the first of July last, to the credit of the Treasurer of the State of North-Carolina.

The deposit may be made, either in the BANK OF THE REPUBLIC, NEW YORK, or in the BANK OF THE STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA, or in the BANK OF CAPE FEAR, RALEIGH, NORTH-CAROLINA.

Those who prefer it can address their bids to me, endorsed "proposals," &c., as above, at Raleigh, until 26th September.

Persons wishing documents showing the extent of the resources of the State, the amount of the indebtedness, &c., can have them by application at this office, or to Messrs. BROWN & DEROSSET.

D. W. COURTS,
PUBLIC TREASURER
OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

September 2d, 1853. 83—

HEMSWORTH EAKINS & CO.,
MACHINISTS, BOILER MAKERS AND ENGINEERS,
People's Works,
KENSINGTON, PHILADELPHIA.

WOULD call the attention of the citizens of North Carolina to the Steam Circular Saw Mills recently erected by Messrs. Hogg & Haywood in Wake County, ten miles from Raleigh. These Mills are admitted to be superior in every respect, to any Mills in the United States. The Engine is of the most modern style, and fitted with all the improvements for safety and economy; among which are McClintic's "Patent" Safety Valve; and an improved Water Gauge to prevent explosion. The Mills have many improvements on the ordinary Circular Saw Mills, which recommend them to the public. The advantages being strength, simplicity, and durability, and a rapid feed motion, which enables them to cut from 30 to 50 feet per minute, running measure, and of any width within the capacity of the saw.

We refer to DR. THOS. D. HOGG, GEN. R. W. HAYWOOD, } Raleigh.
HENRY G. BRUCE,
Agent for the Southern States.

Philadelphia, September 7th, 1853. 34—3t.

McCLINTIC' PATENT SAFETY VALVE, for the prevention of Steam Boiler explosions, having been fully and fairly tested by the undersigned, is recommended to all persons using "Steam Boilers" of whatever kind, and to the public generally, as the most prompt and accurate Steam pressure indicator and alarm, now in use. State, county, or individual "rights" to manufacture or use the Valve, for sale on reasonable terms. A working "Model" will be exhibited and explained, on application to

HENRY G. BRUCE, Agent.

Raleigh, September 7th, 1853. 84—3t.

INDIA RUBBER SHOES.—JUST RECEIVED AT THE LADIES' SALOON, NORFOLK, VA., 100 cases India Rubber Shoes, which is a part of our Fall orders. This stock of Rubbers is of the very best quality, and will be warranted not to be affected by any temperature of the weather. It consists of Men's India Rubber Boots, short legs, long legs, and some extra long legs, for Wading and Fishing.

Men's India Rubber Shoes, Clogs, Slippers, Sandals, &c.

Women's India Rubber Boots, Bootees, Buskins, Slippers, Sandals, Clogs, and Over Gaiters.

Ladies' fine India Rubber Shoes, Slippers, Sandals, &c., of the most beautiful and delicate make.

A new style of Gossamer Rubbers for Ladies' have been just received also at the Ladies' Saloon. There has never been any thing like them out before, and as we are the Agents for the Manufacturer no other dealer in Norfolk or in the States of Virginia and North Carolina can sell them unless purchased through our House.

The Merchants of Norfolk, Portsmouth, Petersburg and Richmond as well as those country Merchants from Virginia and North Carolina can be supplied at Manufacturers' prices at the Ladies' Saloon, with the goods from this celebrated Factory. They are superior in point of durability, beauty and style to any others that are now made in this country.

The goods are now open for inspection, and orders are respectfully solicited.

The Ladies' Saloon is at No. 37, Main street, Norfolk, Va., Sign of the Large Plate Glass Windows.

W. H. ADDINGTON & CO.,
Norfolk, Va.

September 9th, 1853. 84—

NORFOLK MILITARY ACADEMY.—THE next session of this Institution will commence on THURSDAY, the 15th of September.

TERMS—Senior Department, $10 and $12 50 per quarter.
Junior and Preparatory Department, 7 50 " "
Modern Languages, 4 50 " "

Payments to be made quarterly in advance.

The building is constructed to accommodate from 250 to 300 pupils. It has a large Lecture Room, with the necessary Chemical and Philosophical Apparatus, which has been recently increased by the latest improvement in Pnuematics, Electricity and Galvanism. The situation is highly eligible, being in a quiet part of the city, and having an enclosed area of about an acre, affording ample space for all needful exercises, military parades, &c.

Catalogues containing full particulars will be mailed on addressing "Norfolk Military Academy."

FACULTY.—John B. Strange, Principal and Prof. of Mathematics and Military Science, (Virginia Military Institute.)
Wm. N. Brooke, A. B., Prof. of Ancient Language, (Brown University.)
Geo. W. Sheffield, A. M., Prof. of English Language and Literature, (Yale College.)
Jean Odend'hal, Prof. of Modern Languages.

September 9th, 1853. 84—2t.

JARRATT'S HOTEL, PETERSBURG, VA.—THE undersigned having purchased the entire interest of the late proprietors, Messrs. FEILD & HAWTHORN, is again at his former post, and prepared to entertain his friends and the public. He hopes, by strict attention to the business, to still maintain the previous reputation which the House has enjoyed, and trusts he will merit and receive a continuance of that patronage which it has heretofore received. It is his intention to conduct the House in a style that will place it upon an equality with the first class Hotels of the Southern country; and he respectfully solicits the patronage of the public, pledging the omission of no duty on his part, to render all comfortable who may favor him with a visit.

JOHN JARRATT.

September 9th, 1853. 84—1m.

A NEW COURT HOUSE TO BE BUILT. The undersigned, having been appointed commissioners by the County Court of Anson, to contract for the building of a new Court House in the Town of Wadesborough, in said County, will receive proposals for building the same until the 1st day of October next. The dimensions of the building and other specifications may be found with the Clerk of the County Court of Anson.

GEORGE W. LITTLE,
N. D. BOGGAN,
EDMUND F. LILLY,
N. BEVERLY,
ALEX. LITTLE,
THOS. S. ASHE. } Commis'ers.

September 9th, 1853. 84—3t.

NEW BOOKS.—BISHOP BLOOMFIELD'S MANUal of Family Prayers, with alterations.

Cloister Life of the Emperor Charles the fifth, by William Sterling.

Poems, by Alexander Smith.

Fern Leaves, from Fanny's Port-Folio.

Revolutionary History of North Carolina, in three Lectures, by Rev. Francis L. Hawks, D. D., L. L. D., Hon. David L. Swain, L. L. D., and Hon. Wm. A. Graham, L. L. D., to which is prefixed a preliminary sketch of the Battle of the Alamance, compiled by Wm. D. Cooke, A. M. Illustrated by Darley and Lossing. 1 vol. 12 mo.—price $1 00. For sale by W. L. POMEROY.

Raleigh, Sept. 5th, 1853. 84—

Hardware Importation, 1853.

MUIR & BRYAN, IMPORTERS AND WHOLEsale Dealers in Foreign and American Hardware, Cutlery, Guns, &c., SYCAMORE STREET, PETERSBURG, VA., Are now receiving their Fall Stock of Foreign and American Hardware, which they present to the consideration of buyers generally, believing that they can offer inducements equal to any other establishment in the country; a large portion of their goods have been imported direct from England, and the American carefully selected from the best sources, all of which are offered for sale on the most reasonable terms. Merchants visiting this City are respectfully invited to call and examine their Stock before purchasing.

MUIR & BRYAN.

Petersburg, Va., Aug. 12th, 1853. 77—2m.

THE ANALYSIS OF SOILS AND MARLS. DR. J. F. TOMPKINS, the editor of "The Farmer's Journal," will, after the 1st of October next, be prepared to make Analysis of Soils and Marls at his Chemical Laboratory, in Raleigh, N. C. All specimens must be sent to me, directed to the care of Col. E. C. Yarbrough, and they will receive prompt attention.

COST OF ANALYSIS:
Single specimen of Soil..................$5 00
Writing out Analysis.................... 5 00
Analysis of Marls....................... 5 00

September 9th, 1853. 84—4t.

FOR SALE.—MY RESIDENCE, SITUATED WEST of the enclosed Square, formerly known as Benehan's Grove. Terms made known by application to the Subscriber. JORDAN WOMBLE, JR.

Raleigh, September 9, 1853. 84—6t.