

STOCKHOLDERS
IN THE
WILMINGTON AND MANCHESTER RAIL ROAD COMPANY.

PLANK ROADS.
We invite public attention to the following communication to the Union of the 17th inst., which the Editor remarks, is entitled to notice, as well for the source whence it emanates, as for the improvement which it describes. The fact that a good road, fully adapted to all our present necessities, may be built from Fayetteville or Goldsborough to the extreme West, with materials, the growth of almost every foot of land in our own State, and at a cost not exceeding a year's interest upon the cost of a proper Rail Road, is well worthy of attention.

Schenectady and Saratoga Plank Road.
A new and novel improvement in constructing roads is rapidly developing the resources of the agricultural districts in our State; bringing into play the enterprise of our farmers, and giving them advantages for travel little short of railroads; and in a manner which can be taken on common roads, and at a comparatively small rate of expense, and at a comparatively small rate of expense.

Plank roads can be made, as a general rule, for about a year's interest of a well-made rail road. About one hundred companies have already formed, or are about being formed, to construct these roads in various parts of the State of New York. The time is coming when most of the roads of the State and Union, where there is any considerable amount of travel, and timber reasonable, will be planked.

Thus far every plank road made in this State has fully equalled, if not exceeded, the expectations of the projectors. The fact that a pair of horses can pass with ease, and with increased speed, carry double the weight on a plank road that they can on the best common roads, without any other consideration, settles their value. When the roads are bad as they usually are in spring and fall, four times the weight can be taken on plank roads than on common roads. The time is coming when the farmer can work his farm at all times when he cannot work his farm on account of weather, or from other causes; and when other roads are impassable, he can trot off with his pair of horses and two tons weight, and return (living) in less than an hour, and with a single team the same day; while with bad roads, taking the same weight, would require several days, besides great wear and tear of horses and wagons and harness—in fact, leaving actually little return after deducting expenses. This is no fanciful calculation; it has been fully proved, and a good investment in planking the value of farms within reach of markets, which have been greatly depressed by the low price of land at the West. The convenience of getting the produce of the farm to market will enable the farmer of the East better to compete with the farmer of the West. Although the cost of land at the West is much less than the expense of distant transportation will serve to confirm the value of farms near the great markets.

The following remarks, it will be seen, are applicable to North Carolina as any one of our new States, until they have more money, should go to work constructing plank roads; they will for a long time answer the purpose of railroads, except on the great and central thoroughfares. Michigan should be wide awake on the subject.

The press cannot be too diligent in calling public attention to these roads. In the South, where timber is cheap, and the common roads execrable, they will be of great value; indeed, in every part of our Union, they can be constructed to great advantage—giving employment to the laboring classes, increasing the value of real estate, and affording a means of communication to stockholders. It is an improvement beneficial to all classes. Some fear has been expressed that the timber of the country would be exhausted by the rage for plank roads; but such will not be the case. These roads will be constructed so as to lead to the timber where the timber is not ready, but of little or no value to any one, or the land on which it grows, on account of the expense of getting it to market.

These plank roads are about to open sources of wealth to the northern part of this State of more value to the public than the mines of California. It is found that very little grading is required; one foot rise in from twelve to sixteen can easily be overcome, with a pair of horses, with two tons. If made perfectly level, advantage would be taken, and teams loaded with four or five tons would pass without any additional cost. Legislation will be necessary for such roads. Legislation will be necessary to regulate the weight of loads, so as to prevent imposition.

Upon the durability of plank roads, the following observations will be found interesting: When these roads were first thought of, it was supposed they would not answer, on account of the perishable nature of the material used; but it is now discovered that these roads wear out by their decay; and that the wearing out, the income is so great, that they will afford 10 per cent. to the stockholder, (the maximum rate allowed by law in the State of New York,) and from 10 to 20 per cent. surplus to keep the road in repair, and relay it when necessary.

It will take about 3,000 tons of plank of three inches in thickness, and carrying 100 tons, to lay a Saratoga and Schenectady road. In about every seven years the worn plank will have to be replaced; the old ones will be valuable to the farmer on the line for many purposes. These roads will also give a good footwalk at all seasons of the year free of cost, and save the income of such houses, as to lay out in neighborhood-visiting and church-going, as well as giving the children easy access to the district schools, the pride of our State.

These roads are also to be a source of additional income to the great central lines of railroads and canals already constructed. Plank roads diverging from each side of them, extending through fertile valleys up to our mountain regions, will bring all the resources of our State into active play, employing every idle hand, and every idle dollar. Tens of thousands of dollars are now locked up in our agricultural districts—one hundred here, five hundred there. Doing nothing for the want of a profitable investment. Plank roads will call forth such means and set it to work for the public good, and at the same time give a fair return in interest.

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THE MECKLENBURG DECLARATION.

The following letter, which we copy from the Raleigh Standard, fully establishes the claims of North Carolina to the honor of being the first State to declare independence of British misrule. The Mecklenburg Resolves here referred to, were published in June, 1775.

My Dear Sir: I hold it of good augury, that your letter of the 18th of June reached me by the Heron, just in time to be answered this morning.

You may be sure that I have spared no pains to discover in the British State Paper Office a copy of the Resolves of the Committee of Mecklenburg; and with you success. A glance at the Map will show you that, in those days, the traffic of that part of North Carolina took a southerly direction, and people in Charleston, and sometimes even in Savannah, knew what was going on in "Charlotte Town," before Governor Martin, the first account of the Mecklenburg Declaration, was sent over to England, by Sir James Wright, then Governor of Georgia, in a letter of the 20th of June, 1775. The newspaper thus transmitted is still preserved, and is the number 493 of the South Carolina Gazette and Courier; and on July 13, 1775, I read the Resolves you may be sure with reverence, and immediately obtained a copy of them; thinking myself the sole discoverer. I do not send you the copy, as it is identically the same with the paper which you enclosed to me; but forward to you a transcript of the original, which you may be sure will reach you before this, and which I have finished his despatch, for the paragraph relating to it is added in his own handwriting, the former part of the letter being written by a Secretary or Clerk.

I have read a great many papers relating to the subject, and your own State ought to have them all, and the expense would be, for the State, insignificant, if it does not send an Agent on purpose. A few hundred dollars would copy all you need from the State Paper Office on all North Carolina topics. The Resolves, as they are now known, and their complaints were well founded, and were so acknowledged, though their oppressors were only nominally punished. They form the connecting link between resistance to the Stamp Act, and the movement of 1775; and they also played a glorious part in taking possession of the Mississippi valley, towards the close of the century, and in the love of independence. It is a mistake, if any have supposed, that the Regulators were cowards in their defeat at the Allencross. Like the mammoth, they shook the bolt from their brow and crossed the mountains. I shall always be glad to hear from you, and to be of any use to your State.

Very truly yours,
GEORGE BANCROFT.
D. L. SWAIN, Esq.,
Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

"AN EDITOR IN THE FIDGETS."
In the following ludicrous manner, the Marion Star, of the 10th inst., informs its readers of its positive determination to publish no communications in the vernacular, that are not composed in the English language:—
To Correspondents.—The Editor of this paper was recently discovered by the Publisher in a condition too melancholy to be described. After a painfully protracted contest of several minutes with a tremendous array of original poetical communications, he lay in a state of insensibility. The Editor, after a long and painful struggle, and after having been for some time in a state of insensibility, was at last restored to consciousness by the application of the cold water cure. The Editor, in his own words, "was in a state of insensibility, and after having been for some time in a state of insensibility, was at last restored to consciousness by the application of the cold water cure."

WONDERFUL, BUT INCREDIBLE.
We translate from the New Orleans Courier of the 3d instant, the article that follows, giving an account of a subterranean canal that has been discovered, connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. We believe little or nothing of the whole story ourselves, but publish it for the information of those who may believe, if any such there be, and for the amusement of those who do not. It has been got up as a hoax probably. Here it is:—
A French physician established at Vera Paz, who besides practicing medicine has the charge of extensive farming estates, upon making some excavations undertaken with a view of forming a canal through some hills, discovered the sea, discovered at the bottom of the bay of Honduras the opening of a monumental canal seventy-five metres wide, (about two hundred and forty feet), and running in a straight line towards the southwest, its sides being constructed of solid masonry, and its bottom paved with stone. The canal, which had been followed to the distance of several leagues.

Having reached the foot of the mountains, where the volcano of Fuego is now in activity, and having cut away huge trees that obstructed the entrance, they passed under a mountain of the same height, (35 feet) and of the same width as the canal. Nothing among the ancient Cyclopean structures in Greece could give an adequate idea of the tremendous masonry of the walls of this vault. The canal was filled with salt water, 20 metres deep. Our intrepid countryman did not hesitate to venture into the canal, and to probe, which he caused to be brought to the spot, and eighteen hours afterwards, (if his story is to be believed,) he entered the great ocean, (the Pacific,) between Guatemala and San Salvador, through an immense natural grotto, called by the fishermen that coast "The Mouth," which he deemed it proper to enter. The whole vaulted part of this superhuman structure was lighted by shafts, cut through to the surface above, and through its whole extent it is navigable for the largest ships.

M. Alexander Humboldt had already mentioned American edifices whose architecture was peculiarly adapted to the climate, and a peculiar civilization; but his learned descriptions give us no idea of the existence of such a monument. What great people, then, has inhabited these regions? Should this news be confirmed, then, a maritime communication is at once established between the American continent, and Europe will have nothing to do but to cut through the Isthmus of Suez.

JERKS AND JOLTS.

By an "EX-CAD" of a "JUV."
Eight o'clock. Ride down.
One fine morning as we were coming down I saw a young woman hurrying along one of the cross streets. Giving her the signal, she answered—as much as to say—
"After getting in the 'Buts' she began fanning herself with her 'wiper,' and says she, 'my, but it's warm!'"

"So it is," she says. "I feel hot, anyways," says she. "Missus and me's had such a fall-out!"
"What's the matter?"
"Well it was just in this way. Mrs. Grundy is very fond in dress; she money Mr. Grundy gives for the house, goes on her back, and she serves the servants and children almost in this manner. This morning there was no heat for breakfast, and Mr. Grundy axed me, how that was, so I just told him the butcher would not trust me for a steak, but told me to give this paper to Missus Mr. Grundy takes the paper, and looks at it, and says he to his wife, 'Is it possible you're a fool?—but I won't say so.' He thought every thing was going for the house was paid for, as I give you money to do so. He gives Mrs. Grundy such a look and then goes right out."

When he was gone, says she to me, "So, you're a nasty, good for nothing deceitful 's'ich a name I never heard of."
"Can't you see a relation to a dog raised me up and may be I didn't have a time out. I give her a bit of my mind, and may be I didn't tell her Mr. Grundy should know about the minister and her carry' on in the parlor almost every day."

If another 'Sophy' I know on, could speak like 'Sophy'—but I won't say nothing.
"Which way is you bound for?"
"I'm going ride to Mr. Grundy's store to get my wages. I wouldn't stay another minute with such a wimin as she is. I have a kinder, and I mean to keep it before I lose it as she's dead heart."

A young woman gets in, which is a teacher in one of the public schools; she's a serious turn of mind, and sometimes talks with the passengers on soles and lookin' up'd.
"This young lady always has a book, which she reads in; but I sometimes think she 'jest reads' it, and she never knows what she's reading, 'case its pretty hard readin' in a 'B's'."

Modes looking teaching gals is very lively; to look at 'em, and hear 'em talk about ministers and churches and nody would suppose butter could melt in their putty lips. That's an egg-sploded notion about young wimin who can't read, having all the virtue and that kind of thing.

These quiet looking wimin is the darndest kind of mischief makers; they upset a fellow's gizzard like I don't know what, unless it's a newboy or an extra. They do every thing in a sinovating way, that katches you rite in the affections. This teacher of young boys, myron was just one of this kind. Every feller that met her in the 'B's' got a sort of feelin' like her, and some of the chaps that was a little more brassy than the common run would give her a wink. 'Do you think she minded it?' 'Not a bit on it!' she like it, and she she bit her lips, and larded behind her book was a caution to old maids in general.

Poor thing, she had a cautious dad, and prudent 'am, and as young gents was forbid the house, she had to do her little bit 'o' courtin' in the 'B's'. We had a regular Eight o'clock customer; he used to get in at Fourth street and Broad, and he would be a nice young man, was well dressed and genteel in his ways. It was not often he talked except with the teacher; sometimes him and her discussed on Sabbath breaking and the commandments.

One day says he to me after the teacher had got on 'Cad it on you know where old maids goes to, when they die?'
"Yes, sir, 's' the preacher says they goes to 'gras'!"
"To gras! unlettered ignoramus!" says he. "No, they are provided for in a new state."
"Then, sir, there will be a devil of a time in Florida, the newest state, and there's such a lot of them!"
"Hopeless step-herper, I did not mean any present state, but a future state!"
"Oh, yes, send 'em all to Texas, as that will be the next state, to a dead certainty!"
"Well, drop the subject," says he.
"That's precisely what the hangman said to the poor fellow at the toms, when he pulled the bolt out, and swung him off!"
As this young Gent. got out at Park Place, and went to Mrs. Columbia College, I suppose he was studyin' some of them outlandish furin tongues, which makes some 'I've seen most for their own. When they talk with a feller like me, they like to show off their learnin', and shove in crack-jaw, log Latin or Cherokee, that nobody understands except their own kidney.

EDUCATION OF THE YOUNG FOR AGRICULTURAL PURSUITS.

Where an ardent thirst is begotten in the minds of youth, to become thoroughly prepared for an honorable and useful discharge of the active duties which make up the sum of a happy life, the great first step is taken towards the accomplishment of so glorious an end.—We turn our attention to parents, the natural guardians of the young, possessing power to mould and fashion the tender mind, and lead and direct right the early inclinations as they are first developed. To parents we appeal, assured their influence will be exerted to lead the children under their care to contract an attachment to the employment in which they are engaged. Let the son be thoroughly instructed in every branch of labor to be performed upon a farm, and its management in general, and no doubt, with proper opportunities for instruction from suitable books and well-regulated schools, he will fall in love with the science, and delight in the practice of agriculture. In the successful prosecution of this highly honored and praiseworthy pursuit, the efforts and influence are indispensable to lead to auspicious results. I am aware that some persons of near-sighted and contracted views, have expressed the opinion that the female mind ought to be occupied altogether in the contemplation of unreal things, of ideas that float in a feverish or excited imagination, and of outward accomplishments, and be content to dwell upon the surface of the subjects, without an attempt to dig deep in the mine of knowledge. No one honored with the title of mother, can for a moment listen to any such suggestions; but will, I am sure, put forth their utmost exertions for the fullest expansion and enlargement of the intellectual faculties of their children, and their daughters, as well as their sons.—Mr. Jove's Address before the Jefferson Co. (N. Y.) Agricultural Society.

SARSAPARILLA.
Townsend's, Sands, (in quart bottles), Sands, (small), Webster's, Grafenberg's, Carpenter's, and Sands Iodide of Sarsaparilla, are the best hand.
W. H. LIPPITT,
Druggist and Chemist.

LAFAYETTE HOUSE.
The subscriber takes this method of returning thanks to a generous public for the hitherto liberal patronage he has received, and at the same time respectfully informs his old customers and the public at large, that the LAFAYETTE HOUSE, next door above the Hanover House, and nearly opposite the Cape Fear Bank, on Front Street, (his old stand,) is still open for the reception of his old and new customers, and will at all times be happy to wait upon those who shall favor him with their custom, and he will spare no pains to render them comfortable while they are with him. His table is furnished with the best market affordings.

His BAR Room, of the old well known Rock Service, will be found at all times handsomely filled up with the best of Liquors and Refreshments.
DAVID THALLY,
Sept 1, 1848—[51-1]

FRUIT TREES, &c.
The subscriber has removed his Nursery Establishment from Randolph county to Guilford county, near Greensboro, and solicits orders for Apple, Peach, Pear, Nectarine, and Apricot Trees, which he will furnish from 50 to 100 per cent. cheaper than they can be obtained from Northern Nurseries. His intention is to make a regular business of it, and he also intends having an extensive assortment of Shrubs and Flowers for sale, and he asks for his efforts such patronage as he is supported by the friends of his country, and the people of North Carolina give him.

His agent in Wilmington is Mr. J. WILKINS, who has some of his Trees for sale, and who will receive orders. Orders may also be directed to the subscriber at Greensboro'.
THOS. H. FENTRESS,
December 22, 1848—[15-1]

LANDS FOR SALE.
The subscriber being determined to remove to the West, offers for sale his plantation, on which he now resides, containing 1150 acres of choice Farm and Turpentine Land on the South side of Colerico River, adjoining the Lands of G. S. Bronson, Haywood Boykin, and James H. Lamb. The dwelling is quite a commodious two story wooden building, on a high and beautiful bank of the River, about a half mile from Lisbon; all necessary out houses, and in good repair. There is enough of this plantation under fine cultivation to produce from 5 to 6000 bushels of corn annually. There are from 2500 to 3000 Turpentine boxes on hand, it enough to make from 5 to 6000 barrels of Turpentine, if well tended every year. There is also, a Toll Bridge belonging to this place, that yields an annual net income of about a hundred dollars. This place is more highly recommended on account of its healthfulness, which cannot be surpassed in any place in the Eastern part of the State. For further particulars, see the subscriber on the premises, or at Lisbon.
J. P. TREADWELL,
Sampson County, Dec. 29th 1848—[16-1]

TAKEN UP AND COMMITTED.
To the Jail of Sampson county, on the 7th inst., a mulatto boy, who calls himself James Moore, and says he was bound to John W. Wells of Brunswick county. James Moore is about 5 feet 3 or 4 inches high, spare built, and supposed to be seven or eight years of age. The owner is requested to come forward, prove property, charges and take him away, or he will be dealt with as the law directs.

ANCIENTS OF DUELLING.
In 1806, a duel was fought in England between a Mr. Richardson and Baron Hornpesch. The former was killed. It arose from the Baron's accidentally running against a lady in the street.
In 1804, Lord Camelford and Capt. Best, of the Royal Navy, fought about a female in the gallery of the opera house. Lord Camelford was killed.
What simptoms 1809 and 1810 were seen in England. In January, 1809, a young man, named Mead and Woodward, fought in England. The latter slipped and fell. "Take your life," exclaimed Dr. Mead. "Any thing but your physic," replied the prostrate Woodward.
In 1722, a meeting took place in Scotland, between two noblemen. One of them was killed, in consequence of which his mother and wife became insane, and a sister died in convulsions three days after.—Philadelphia City Item.

STATES OF NORTH-CAROLINA.
NEW-HANOVER COUNTY.

WILKINSON, N. C., Nov. 23d, 1848.
TAKEN UP and committed to the Jail of the aforesaid County, a Mulatto boy, spare built, intelligent look, long curly hair; he says his name is BONAVENTURE EVANS, was born in East Tennessee, in Jefferson county, and raised by the RICHTERS in Jefferson county, near Jefferson Court-house, in Jefferson county; he says his mother was an Indian Squaw named Liza, and his father a Mulatto Negro. The owner of said negro is requested to come forward, prove property, and take him away, or he will be dealt with as the law directs.
OWEN FENNELL,
Sheriff of New-Hanover County.
Nov 27, 1848—[12-4]

CREW LIST.
A large supply of CREW Lists on hand, and at low price, at the JOBBER OFFICE.

NOTICE.
THE subscriber respectfully informs his friends and the public, that he has taken the Store formerly occupied by Holmes and Hawes, where he offers for sale the one half of the divided stock of Holmes and Hawes, at greatly reduced prices. Among which may be found a good assortment of domestic and fancy Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, and Cutlery.

For the purpose of changing his business, he will sell his entire stock of Goods, at New York cost, for cash. Among which may be found a great variety of black and colored, figured and plain Silks, silk, merrano, and cashmere Shawls, fancy silk handkerchiefs and cravats, and a large stock of thread Laces, muslin and cambric Edgings, and Insertings, Bonnets and Ribbon, Kid and silk Gloves, bordered and embroidered linen cambric Handkerchiefs, French and Scotch embroidered Laces, and muslin Caps and Colors, of the latest and most fashionable style; white and black silk Hose, Cashmeres, Bombazines, Alpaca, and Delaines. Together with a large stock of French, English, German, and American Cloths, and Casimeres; and a great variety of other articles, too numerous to mention. The entire stock of Fancy Goods will be sold at New York market prices.
JOHN R. HAWES,
Dec. 1, 1848—[12-1]

FRESH RAISINS.
50 Packages of Raisins, 5 boxes preserved Ginger, 5 do. Citron, 2 barrels Currants, Almonds, Filberts, Brazil Nuts, English Walnuts, bell Barks and Shelled Almonds, for sale by
[Dec 1] HOWARD & PEDEN.

AGENCY
FOR THE SALE OF
TIMBER, LUMBER, AND NAVAL STORES.
THE subscriber respectfully announces to his friends and the public in general, that he will receive orders for the sale of TIMBER, LUMBER, and NAVAL STORES, and solicits a share of the public patronage.

He will at all times endeavor to give the quickest possible dispatch to all business entrusted to his care. He will also have a large Timber pen and a good wharf at his command, where persons sending any of the above articles to market can secure the same till sold, at a moderate expense.
OCTOBER ON HALL'S—[14-1] MILES COSTIN.
Dec. 15, 1848—[14-1]

LINSEED OIL.
Just received by the subscriber, a fine lot of Linseed Oil, and always on hand.
W. H. LIPPITT,
Druggist and Chemist.
[Dec 29]

MULLETS.
50 Bbl's Mulletts, fresh packed, and for sale low at
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THE subscriber respectfully informs his friends and the public, that he has taken the Store formerly occupied by Holmes and Hawes, where he offers for sale the one half of the divided stock of Holmes and Hawes, at greatly reduced prices. Among which may be found a good assortment of domestic and fancy Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, and Cutlery.

For the purpose of changing his business, he will sell his entire stock of Goods, at New York cost, for cash. Among which may be found a great variety of black and colored, figured and plain Silks, silk, merrano, and cashmere Shawls, fancy silk handkerchiefs and cravats, and a large stock of thread Laces, muslin and cambric Edgings, and Insertings, Bonnets and Ribbon, Kid and silk Gloves, bordered and embroidered linen cambric Handkerchiefs, French and Scotch embroidered Laces, and muslin Caps and Colors, of the latest and most fashionable style; white and black silk Hose, Cashmeres, Bombazines, Alpaca, and Delaines. Together with a large stock of French, English, German, and American Cloths, and Casimeres; and a great variety of other articles, too numerous to mention. The entire stock of Fancy Goods will be sold at New York market prices.
JOHN R. HAWES,
Dec. 1, 1848—[12-1]

FRESH RAISINS.
50 Packages of Raisins, 5 boxes preserved Ginger, 5 do. Citron, 2 barrels Currants, Almonds, Filberts, Brazil Nuts, English Walnuts, bell Barks and Shelled Almonds, for sale by
[Dec 1] HOWARD & PEDEN.

AGENCY
FOR THE SALE OF
TIMBER, LUMBER, AND NAVAL STORES.
THE subscriber respectfully announces to his friends and the public in general, that he will receive orders for the sale of TIMBER, LUMBER, and NAVAL STORES, and solicits a share of the public patronage.

He will at all times endeavor to give the quickest possible dispatch to all business entrusted to his care. He will also have a large Timber pen and a good wharf at his command, where persons sending any of the above articles to market can secure the same till sold, at a moderate expense.
OCTOBER ON HALL'S—[14-1] MILES COSTIN.
Dec. 15, 1848—[14-1]

LINSEED OIL.
Just received by the subscriber, a fine lot of Linseed Oil, and always on hand.
W. H. LIPPITT,
Druggist and Chemist.
[Dec 29]

MULLETS.
50 Bbl's Mulletts, fresh packed, and for sale low at
[Dec 1] HOWARD & PEDEN'S.