THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., MONDAY, OCT. 1, 1855.

The Town of Wilmington.—Election of Commissioners.—A Registration Law.

In looking over the "Private Laws of the State of North Carolina, passed by the General Assembly at its session of 1854-55.: Raleigh; Holden & Wilson, Printers to the State, 1855," we find the following, being Section 11 of "An act to empower the Commissioners of the Town of Wilmington to establish streets in said town, and for other purposes." Ratified the 16th of January, 1855.

SEC. 11. *Be it further enacted*, That whereas it is greatly desirable that the elective franchise should be preserved from abuse, and exercised in its purity only by those who are legally entitled, and whereas it is right and just that those who enjoy the protection, immunities and privileges secured by the municipal laws and police regulations of a town, should contribute to the expenditures necessary for the due administration of such law, to secure which ends the commissioners of said town shall cause to be prepared a suitable book to be opened and kept open at the office of said commissioners, in which each and every inhabitant of said town who is qualified to vote for members of the House of Commons of the General Assembly of the State, shall register or cause to be registered his name and place of residence at least one month before the day of election for commissioners of said town, but it shall not be necessary so to register their names more than once; and such book shall be closed, and remain closed during each and every month next preceding any election for commissioners of said town, and no person whatever shall be permitted to vote at any such election, unless his name shall be so registered in said book; and said book or a copy thereof with the names thereupon arranged in alphabetical order, shall be furnished by the commissioners of said town to the person or persons holding or managing any such election: and it shall be the duty of the clerk of said town, and the sheriff of the county of New Hanover, or such person as may be required by law to collect the taxes assessed and imposed by said commissioners previous to every election of commissioners of said town, to cause to be prepared in a proper book to be kept for that purpose, a list of all such persons whose names are registered as hereinbefore required, who shall not have paid the taxes due by them to said town for the next preceding year, and no person whose name appears in such list shall be permitted to vote at any such election, unless he shall, at the time he tenders his vote, exhibit a receipt from the proper officer of the payment of the taxes due by him to said town for the year preceding; and the person or persons holding or managing any such election, are hereby authorized and empowered, if they shall see fit, to administer an oath to any person offering to vote at any such election, and to make all necessary inquiries for the purpose of ascertaining whether such person is qualified so to vote; and any person or persons convicted of having wilfully sworn falsely before the managers of any such election shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and on prosecution and conviction in the superior court of law for the county of New Hanover, shall be liable to all the pains, penalties and punishments which are by law inflicted on those who are convicted of that offence.

We take occasion to publish this regulation at this time, and to call especial attention to it, because we don't think that of the general public there is one man in ten who has thought of it, or knew of its passage, nor of the further provision contained in the 14th Section of the same law, changing the time of holding elections to the third Thursday in December, which section reads as follows:

SEC. 14. *Be it further enacted*, That the election of commissioners of said town, shall hereafter be held on the third Thursday in December next, and on the third Thursday in December in every year thereafter, in the same manner as is now prescribed by law, and the commissioners then elected shall enter upon the duties of their office on the first Monday in January next ensuing after any such election.

Without wishing to be captious, we must say that we fear a great deal of forgetfulness of the constitutional requirement, in regard to private laws, is creeping in. We cannot see that any notice was given of any desire to apply for these changes. We do not say that they may not be right, but, for aught the people of Wilmington could have known of them before their passage, they might have been of the most dangerous tendency. The Constitutional restriction also is positive: "The General Assembly *shall not* pass any private law unless it shall be made to appear that thirty days notice of application to pass such law shall have been given, in such manner as shall be provided by law." The terms of the law are equally positive. If these requirements have been satisfied, we don't know it. The constitution and the law, and the general principles of publicity required by both, are necessary—nay, essential to safety. They ought not to be departed from.

A Loss of Thirty Thousand Lives.

The announcement is coolly made that Sebastopol has fallen, "with a loss of thirty thousand lives;" and the glory of the achievement, if it be really accomplished, will be rather enhanced than lessened by the carnage, for, strangely enough, we all of us take a great interest in such things, and have a sort of troubled pleasure in learning of vast destruction of life. Thirty thousand men torn and rent and mangled—thirty thousand souls sent to their long account. Thirty thousand human beings "scortched with the death-thirst and writhing in pain." Thirty thousand fathers, brothers, sons or husbands, falling by the hands of other fathers, brothers, sons or husbands. There are contained in that short sentence all we know or dream or fear of agony, of widowhood, of orphanage, and all this goes to make up "a glorious victory." Take one conscript from the sunny fields or vine-clad hills of France, the hope, perhaps, of a widowed mother—the support of aged and helpless parents, the betrothed of some village maiden—follow him through the scenes of a soldier's life—his poor little dreams of glory succeeding the first passionate outbreak of sorrow at his departure from all the humble objects of his love—his hard toil in the trenches beguiled by recollections of home and its lowly joys, the dance on the village green, the stroll with the village girls, even the toil sweetened by dear companionship, until the rushing tide of memory causes the tear-drop to start to his eye. In dreams he revisits those scenes again. But his dream is rudely broken by the call which summons him to kill and to be killed. The battle is fought and won—"Sebastopol has fallen with a loss of thirty thousand lives." "A glorious victory!" Torn, mutilated, distorted beyond the hope of recognition, even by the mother who bore him or the woman who loved him, lies that conscript, one of thirty thousand lives lost that Sebastopol might be taken. In many a home

* * * There is a voice of wail
And woman's eye is wet, man's cheek is pale.

In the homes of Russia, of England, Ireland, Scotland, France and Italy, there is sorrow and desolation not to be soothed by illuminations—tears not to be wiped away by a grand bulletin or the smooth lies of a Royal speech.

And this is war and glory.

From Europe—Arrival of the America—Reported Capture of Sebastopol.

Telegraphic despatches from New York, dated the 27th inst., (yesterday,) announce the arrival of the steamship America at Halifax, with one week later from Europe. The most important item of her news is the reported fall of Sebastopol, with a loss of thirty thousand lives. There is, no doubt, some foundation for the report. *It may be* all true, but we do not think that it is. After the reported fall of Sweaborg, *all but the ortifications*, we must take first rumors with many grains of allowance. These advices are only a week later than those already in our possession, and according to them, although the allies had certainly made progress, yet the main defences of the city were still intact, and its strength greater than at any former period. That such a series of fortifications, the work of years, whose mere outworks had kept two nations at bay for a year, should all fall in one brief week, seems incredible, unless there be some exhaustion of resources of which we have been ignorant. The only indication of caving in demonstrated by the garrison, has been the construction of a bridge across the harbor to the north side, with the view of having facilities for retreating in that direction if necessary.

We must await fuller details; but when these do arrive—and that will hardly be for some time—we venture to say that they will show some important advances, but no such complete and signal success as reported. One thing is always confirmed—the sufferings and deaths of the soldiers.—*Daily Jour., 28th.*

Secretary Dobbin and the Navy.

The man who would meddle with ancient abuses—who would reform evils which have crept in so gradually as to acquire the show of legality and prescriptive right, must do so with the full certainty of encountering abuse and misrepresentation from the interested, and misconception from the comparatively indifferent. He must also be aware that no thorough reform can possibly be effected without working some private inconvenience or giving rise to much personal vindictiveness and heart-burnings. Nay, from the imperfections of human reason, and the complexity of human interests and feelings, it is next to impossible that injustice to individuals can in all cases be avoided.

At the sacrifice of his own health, and with the full knowledge of the herculean and ungrateful labor before him, Secretary Dobbin set himself to the task of endeavoring to reform and increase the efficiency of the Navy. That our Navy is too small to keep pace with the expanding commerce of the country, while, at the same time, it is unduly expensive, somewhat old-Fogeyish, dreadfully aristocratic, and encumbered with ineffectives, has been generally admitted—nay, complained of. The difficulty of the work of reform has deterred former secretaries, and the thing has gone on. The most meritorious officers, out-ranked by those notoriously most inefficient or insubordinate, have lingered in the lowest positions of the profession, while the rolls of the Navy bore the names of officers never at sea, and seldom on any duty. It is but by the operation of the late law, dropping some and retiring others, on full or on half-pay, that Mr. Wilkes, the able commander of the great U. S. Exploring Expedition, whose labors reflected so much honor on the country, has obtained his grade as Commander. He had lingered until beyond middle life in the subordinate position of a Lieutenant. This is but one instance of several. A reform and re organization was imperatively demanded. Those old and worthy officers whose deeds have thrown a halo of glory around the Naval service of the country—the heroes of the war of 1812, have nearly all arrived at that period of life when the shades of honorable retirement will be most suited to their physical strength, and in accordance with the feelings of age. For these a retired list upon full pay is proper and right, and gratitude and justice alike demand that thus a life of labor should be crowned with an age of ease. But the ineffectives—the lazies can have no such claims. The scale is graduated.

That some mistakes may have been made is probable. That all could have been avoided, would have been clearly impossible. But that the complaints of the disappointed or the dropped should be viewed with great suspicion, is what all must admit. Those lacking in deeds will always be found most profuse in complaints and protestations, and the aid of political rancor will be invoked to bolster up personal imbecility or impugn the motives of the most conscientious tribunal. Time must elapse before a just judgment can be formed by the public, and results must vindicate the prudence of the measures now upon trial. Certain it is, that of all the public men in the country, James C. Dobbin is about the last to sacrifice tangible, practical good to visionary schemes or doubtful experiments. The prevailing characteristic of his mind is prudence, accompanied by a sense of duty. We feel assured that in taking the responsibility which he has, in entering upon the work of reforming and rendering more efficient the naval service of the country, he took no step without counting the cost and calculating the result. To a less resolute and determined officer, feeble health would have afforded a convenient excuse for pursuing the beaten track of routine, and avoiding the arduous labors of the reformer, with the obloquy and detraction inseparable from the position. We can only trust that the close attention to business, which has already brought on severe illness, may not work irreparable injury to a physical system too feeble for the active mind of which it is the instrument. A full and fair trial rather than hasty censure or captious fault-finding is due to Mr. Dobbin's self-sacrificing discharge of onerous and unpleasant duties.

The Foreign News.

The telegraphic report of the taking of Sebastopol is measurably confirmed by the mails. The south side including the city, is in the hands of the allies, "a blood-stained ruin." The defence was obstinate to the last, and the final success was won by sheer valor, at an immense sacrifice, though even this was preferable to the alternative of spending a winter in the trenches.

The question now is.—What next? Have the Allies obtained any solid advantage, and if so, are they in a condition to improve it? After the terrible casualties of the assault, can they move immediately? Can they take the Russians in the rear and bring them to a decisive engagement? If the Russians have, as has been reported, such an overwhelming preponderance in cavalry, they can protect their retreat and retire at their leisure. But again, if they be really suffering for supplies, is it possible that they can have as many as twenty-five thousand horses. Cut off from supplies by the capture of the Sea of Azoff—it seems impossible that they could maintain those forces.

The allies have been strengthening their cavalry force during the last summer. Louis Napoleon has bought and sent out a flotilla of river boats from the Rhone, capable of throwing forty thousand men upon any point. It may be that in rapidity of movement the allies may have the advantage, if so, the news may turn out to be very important. Time will show. The north side of Sebastopol is still untouched.

☞ The recent cold change in the weather so, sensibly felt, has been still more sensibly felt in Norfolk and Portsmouth, and with the happiest effects in arresting the progress of the Fever. It is to be hoped that the improvement may not again prove merely a temporary abatement. The advanced season gives strong ground for believing that the worst must be over. The weather there is represented as very cold and clear, and no new cases worth mentioning. On Tuesday the clothing store of Mr. R. Porter had to be opened to supply the demand for ready-made winter clothing. Many of the physicians and nurses from other cities are returning home, and they think of being able to close the hospitals at an early day.

In New Orleans, the physicians report the yellow fever no longer an epidemic there. It is prevailing to a great extent at Alexandria, La., and along the Red, Ouichita and Achafalgo Rivers, in that State.

PEN VS. SWORD.—"In the hands of men entirely rich, the pen is mighter than the sword," which we believe is Bulwer slightly modified to suit the times.

We have a slight illustration of this next door where the vaults for the Bank of Wilmington are in course of construction. We dont know much about the resources of the burglar's art, but it strikes us that some effort would be required to get at the funds. The sword would have pretty hard work to get through thick walls laid in cement, thick boiler iron and burglar proof safes. But the pen, wielded by the right sort of men would bring the cash as easy as nothing. A little slip of paper with good names to it, and the business is done, and the money is shelled out. Decidedly, the pen *is* mightier than the sword.

Seven Days Later from Europe.

The mail this morning confirms the report published yesterday, received by telegraph. The America arrived at Halifax on the morning of the 27th, with Liverpool dates to the 15th inst. The Washington arrived at New York the same day from Southampton. The news by these arrivals is important. Below we give such telegraphic news as we find in the Washington City papers:

FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.—THE FALL OF SEBASTOPOL.—On the 8th instant, after a bombardment of three days, and six repulses of the French with terrific slaughter before the Redan and the Malakoff, and one repulse of the English, with a loss of 15,000, French and English, SEBASTOPOL WAS TAKEN.

The enemy lost the same number, making a total of about 30,000. The Russians evacuated the town, after blowing up the defences, sinking all the ships, and firing the town, leaving nothing but smouldering ruins.

Five French Generals were killed, including General Bosquet. A large allied force were marching to intercept the retreat of the Russians inland. The allies captured immense quantities of materials of war.

It is reported that the allied generals have orders to demand of Russia the surrender unconditionally of all troops, stores, and defences, including the city of Odessa.

Another attempt has been made to assassinate Napoleon.

The general accounts about the fall of Sebastopol are much confused. The place unquestionably has been taken. The slaughter of French troops at their repeated repulses was awful, and the glory of the victory is wholly attributed to their desperate valor.

The French lost seven generals and two hundred officers. The English lost a large number of officers.

The Russians lost five generals.

The blowing up of the town caused a dreadful destruction of life.

The Russians have retreated, and it is believed would give battle on the other side; but the allies demanded their unconditional surrender. [The "other side," here alluded to, is probably the north side of Sebastopol.]

Great rejoicings throughout England and France in consequence of the victory.

Consols have advanced.

Since the fall of Sebastopol, Austria and Prussia seem more decided in their friendship for France and England. [Quite likely.]

A dispatch from Varna says that the Malakoff and Redan batteries were carried by storm—perceiving which Gen. Desales made two attacks on the Central Bastion, but was repulsed.

Gen. Gortschakoff, telegraphing to the Russian Government, on the 9th inst., says, that "Sebastopol, after sustaining an infernal fire, repulsed six assaults, but could not drive the enemy from the Malakoff. Our brave troops resisted to the last extremity, but the enemy found nothing in the Southern part but blood stained ruins."

The intelligence of the fall of Sebastopol was received in London with extravagant demonstrations. The fact was announced at the theatres, &c.

The place was attacked in four directions. The British attempted to storm the Redan, and the French attacked the Malakoff. The English, French and Sardinians united and attacked the Central Bastion, all simultaneously, and with great spirit and energy, but the most eminently successful assault was that made by Generals Bosquet and McMahon.

A dispatch from the Sea of Azov states that the Allies were doing immense damage to Russian merchandize, and that the loss already suffered by Russia amounted to several millions of francs.

Bellemore, who attempted to assassinate Louis Napoleon is undoubtedly mad, and will not be tried but sent to a Lunatic Asylum.

Austria is reported to have offered her mediation to Denmark in relation to her difficulty with the United States on account of the Sound Dues.

The latest advices from London, dated Saturday, the 15th instant, state that it was reported in Paris that 25,000 troops had embarked at Balaklava for the North side of Sebastopol. Other Russian accounts state that the Russians were in possession of the forts on the North side, and that the allied fleets could not enter the Bay until Fort Constantine was reduced.

The Chicago *Tribune* has the following account of a game played by one of the President's former law clients, which is about the coolest specimen of impudence extant. It says:

"Some years ago, a fellow by the name of Brown, was arrested for forgery in New Hampshire, and retained 'Frank Pierce' to defend him. After a full investigation of the affair, it was ascertained pretty definitely that it would go hard with Brown, and that with all the ability of his advocate, a trial would pretty surely end in a conviction. In this dilemma, he emigrated to the west, leaving his bail to foot the bonds, and his lawyer to whistle for his pay. A while ago, a man by the name of Walker, being about to visit Washington in connection with some railroad project in Minnesota, Brown, on the strength of claiming an acquaintance with the President, volunteered a letter of introduction, to the bottom of which he added, as a P. S., 'Give me a fat office and I will pay up the old score.' The letter was handed to the President, who, after reading it, and remarking upon the peculiar coolness of the request for an office, explained to Walker his acquaintance with Brown."

A THRILLING SCENE.—Extract from a Norfolk letter:

"Hardened as I thought I was by two weeks' residence among the dying and dead, I could not resist a thrill of horror that overwhelmed me on one occasion, when attending a dying man, who was a raving maniac, and threatened my life because I would not let him get up; and to raise an alarm would every now and then cry fire with a most unearthly yell.—And to add to all this, just as he was breathing his last a tremendous thunder-cloud came up, accompanied by the loudest clap of thunder I ever heard. I assure you that my feelings were anything but pleasant at that time, during which his poor mother, 85 years of age, was wringing her hands and walking the floor in the greatest agony. It would have required a man with a heart of stone to have resisted shedding a few tears of sympathy with this poor woman, whose heart seemed to be broken."

THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND AT THE TOMB OF NAPOLEON.—The Queen visited the tomb of the Emperor. No one of her visits produced a deeper impression. As the review had lasted very late, her Majesty was no longer expected at the Hotel des Invalides; nevertheless, she determined on going there, notwithstanding the lateness of the hour. The Queen arrived, at nightfall, followed by a numerous staff, surrounded by the veterans of our old wars, who had hastened to meet her, whilst she advanced with noble composure toward the last resting-place of him who was England's most constant adversary. What a spectacle! How many remembrances, with all the contrasts, they brought up to the mind! But when by the light of torches, the glitter of uniform, amid the strains of organ playing "God save the Queen," her Majesty was led by the Emperor to the chapel where the remains of Napoleon lie, the effect was overpowering and immense, the emotion profound, for every one was reflecting that this was no ordinary homage offered at the tomb of a great man, but a solemn act, attesting that the rivalries of the past were forgotten, and that now the union between the two peoples had received its most signal consecration.—*Moniteur.*

THE MASSES.—The Memphis *Bulletin* thus speaks: —The great mass of both parties—ninety-nine out of a hundred—are equally patriotic and honest in their convictions. Let the hour of trial come—let it be clearly seen that the country *is* in danger—and who sober and seriously doubts the fidelity and loyalty of American citizens to come to the rescue? Native and naturalized—Protestant and Catholic—Jew and Gentile—would then be found as they have ever been found, rallying around the same standard, in defense of the same cause, the holy and sacred cause of *home and family hearth*. The boom of the first cannon-shot fired by the foes, no matter whether he be a civil or ecclesiastical potentate, will hush into the silence of the tomb all minor dissensions. To suppose otherwise is to suppose human nature changed in all its instincts; or to make a new estimate of the character and influences of our free institutions, and ignore the whole past history of our people.

* * * * * *

Pending an election, orators and editors make a show of getting up a whirlwind of "feverish excitement;" but with the close of the day's voting, the country settles back into the work of developing its mighty destiny, by all the means and appliances of an unfettered, progressive civilization.

From the Washington Star.

Violation of the Neutrality Laws.

THE CAT JUMPS OUT OF THE BAG.—In the trial of the United States vs. Hertz, before the District Court of the United States, at Philadelphia, for the violation of the neutrality laws of the United States in enlisting men in Philadelphia for the British foreign legion, the testimony of Max F. O. Strobel, who was one of the principal active agents of the British government employed in the business at that city, explains in detail the particulars of the complicity of each and every British official person of note who participated in it—Mr. Hertz, Mr. Howe, Sir Gaspar Le Marchant, Mr. Barclay, Sir Edmond Tate, and last, though by no means least important, Mr. Crampton himself. That gentleman knew, of course, the law of this government which he was violating. To believe him ignorant of its existence, is to credit him with having heard nothing whatever of the previous prosecution of various persons under it for complicity with fillibustering against Cuba. To believe him ignorant of its provisions, one and all, is to credit him with hardly a hundredth part of his shrewdness; for he could hardly have failed to have carefully studied the American law on the subject before undertaking to raise recruits in the United States, with the memory of the Cuban fillibuster trials upon his mind.—With such knowledge upon the subject, as all who know anything of such matters are aware he must have had, and residing among us under the pledge of a diplomatist according to the witness named above, Mr. Crampton was the prime mover in the United States of the scheme of raising recruits in our cities for the British forces in the Crimea; as may be clearly gathered from the evidence of Strobol, (who is well known here as having been an engineer in the employment of the Coast Survey office, and also upon the Government's surveys, under Fremont and Stevens for a Pacific railroad,) as follows:

"When I came back to Washington I was engaged in the Pacific railroad office, at that time established at Washington, and was at work there until the first of February. In the end of January I saw Mr Crampton, and received from Mr. Crampton the reply.

Q. State the whole conversation which took place between you and Crampton.

A. I received from Crampton the reply that he could not tell me at that moment what could be done. I said to Crampton that I believed in this very time, as it was in the winter time.

Q. Last winter?

A. Yes, sir, that many people were out of work in New York and other places, and it would be very easy to raise men for this "foreign legion" that the English Parliament had agreed to establish. Crampton told me that he believed so himself, but at that very moment he had no orders from the home government to do anything in the matter, and that he would let me know as soon as he received any communication from home. A few days afterwards, I suppose on the 28th of February, I received a letter from Mr. Crampton.

Q. Is this the letter?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And this the envelope in which it was enclosed?

A. Yes, sir.

The letter was here read in evidence as follows:

"WASHINGTON, Feb. 4, 1855.

Sir: With reference to our late conversation, I am able now to give you more precise information in regard to the subject to which it related. I remain, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN F. CRAMPTON."

Mr. Max Strobel.

After receiving this letter I went to see Mr. Crampton the next morning; Mr. Crampton told me that he had received letters from home, and that he was willing now to raise men here in the jurisdiction of the United States for a British Foreign Legion which should be established either in Nova Scotia or in Canada.

Q. Did he use the words "within the jurisdiction of the United States?"

A. Yes, within the jurisdiction of the United States.

Q. He used those words, did he?

A. Yes, sir, but he was not sure at the time whether the main depot should be at Halifax or in Canada, and he was obliged to make arrangements with the Governor General of Canada At the very same time he gave me a letter of introduction to the British Consul in New York, Mr. Barclay, in which he states that I am already acquainted with this matter, and that Mr. Barclay might receive me and talk with me about this very subject, and that I should make preparations in New York for getting men. He told me at the very same time he would send a messenger to the Governor General of Canada. I went to New York and delivered my letter to Mr. Barclay.

Q. What was this messenger sent for?

A. To arrange matters about a depot or place where we could send these men whom we got here in the States. I was waiting in New York for the return of this messenger for several weeks. The messenger returned, and was sent again, and no understanding could be made between Sir Edmond Tate and Crampton. Tate is Governor General of Canada; because, during that time, the Governor of Nova Scotia had received orders from England to commence a new depot in Halifax, to try and get men in the United States for this service.

Q. The arrangement was not made by the messenger sent to Canada with Sir Edmond Tate, because he had received a letter from the Governor of Nova Scotia stating that he had received orders from England to make Halifax the depot?

A. Yes, sir. The reason for sending all the men to Halifax was the order that the Governor of Nova Scotia received from England. During that time I went back to Philadelphia. It was on the 10th or 11th of March, 1855, when I came back to Philadelphia. I learned from a friend of mine, a certain Dr. Beale, who is now regimental surgeon in this foreign legion, that Mr. Hertz had received letters—one from England, another one, I suppose, from Mr. Crampton, though I do not know, I am not certain where it was from, and that he had spoken to this Dr. Beale, and told him that he was able to procure him a commission in this foreign legion.

Thus, this matter turns out to be a grave affair, so far as Mr. Crampton is concerned. So grave as that our Government, it appears to us, can hardly avoid taking official, and, at the same time, effective notice of it. As, if gentlemen occupying the high official position of minister Plenipotentiary can be permitted to set such an example with impunity, there must be an end of all hope of the integrity of the administration of our neutrality laws.

We have simply to add, that during the administration of George Washington, and while Thomas Jefferson was Secretary of State, under circumstances precisely parallel with those in which Mr. Crampton has involved himself, with his eyes open, "Citizen Genet," then the Minister Plenipotentiary from France, was sent out of this country by the government of the United States.

Gibraltar.

A correspondent of the Journal of Commerce, writing from on board the United States frigate Congress gives a brief but interesting sketch of this wonderful town and fortress:

The approach of Gibraltar through these Straits is of the most imposing character. These Straits themselves are in the narrowest portion twelve miles wide, and extend from Cape Spartel to Gibraltar, about thirty-six miles. A strong current never ceases to flow from the Atlantic into the Mediterranean, and though the Black Sea and the rivers of Africa and Asia and Europe pour their constant tributes into this same great basin, yet the depth of its waters remains the same from age to age. The most reasonable explanation of this phenomenon which I have seen is—that an *under current* discharges the water into the Atlantic as fast as they are raised. In proof of this, it is stated that some years since a vessel which was sunk in the Straits was afterwards found some twelve miles to the westward, whither it could have drifted only by the force of the under current. The upper current is perfectly magnificent, rolling on like the rapids of Niagara in fearful billows, and bringing you near the bold shores of Apes Hill and Ceuta and Gibraltar. The last two named are the ancient "Pillars of Hercules"—and it is perhaps the associations connected with them and with every point in the vicinity of the Straits, that impart such sublime and overpowering emotions, as our good ship ploughs her way between them. Here, three thousand years ago, came the vessels of the merchant princes of Tyre on their way to Britain and the extreme West for tin and amber. Here we begin to think of Hannibal and Carthage, and the Scipios and Rome. Here the Moor and the Christian waged their deadly war for many hundred years, and here finally was the battle of Trafalgar, where the immortal Nelson offered up his life amid the shouts of victory, over the combined fleets of France and Spain. How sublime, too, is the primitive conception here felt for the first time in its perfection, as I looked upon the Ceuta and Gibraltar, that here Hercules ended his useful labors by cleaving the rock asunder and rolling the waters of the Mediterranean through the new channel into the Atlantic. These Pillars stand here as an emulating monument of his power and benificence. It was just in the ancients thus to enthrone a personal deity, on every distinct exhibition of power and wisdom and goodness. It was infinitely above the disgusting Pantheism of the German theologians of the present day, and their self-complaisant imitations of Parker notoriety in Boston and vicinity. But how much grander and more beautiful is the revealed idea of one glorious Father hanging the world upon nothing, girding the mountains with his strength, and gathering the water into seas, when he "set up bars and doors, and said, Hitherto shalt thou come and no further, and here shall thy proud waves be stayed."

It has been said that the Rock of Gibraltar looks like a lion reposing in majesty before the gate of the Mediterranean, and assure you it does not require much effort of the imagination to see the resemblance; his head lies resting on his outstretched paws, while his giant proportions repose in conscious strength before you, fit symbol of that mighty power which has been so long, and in my judgment so benificently exhibited in behalf of the great interests of humanity and religion. This rock is 1,400 feet in height, three miles in length, and seven miles in circumference. It is connected by a low isthmus of sand with Spain, and it is in fact the termination of the Sierra Nevada, the great Southern range of mountains which run parallel with the Southern coast. The Western front of the rock is a gradual slope, interspersed with precipices, while the Eastern side, washed by the Mediterranean, is a perpendicular wall, and totally inaccessible. The town lies on this Western slope, its narrow streets extending along the water more than a mile, and stretching up the hill a considerable distance. As seen from the deck of our Frigate, the stone dwellings rising rapidly one above another, the Moorish Castle built more than a thousand years ago, and now crowning with its venerable walls the North-western summit of the town,—the Alameda with its rich foligage of palms and fig trees and aloes, and sprinkled here and there with snug English cottages embowered in vines,—a gem of rural beauty in the midst of barren rocks,—the solid wall sweeping entirely around the town, and guarding with its countless batteries every point of access, and the "gallerics" tunneled out of the solid stone and extending in range above range entirely round the entire North-western summit of the rock, bristling in every embrasure with engines of death, and finally the signal-tower, overlooking all, where floats the British banner in defiance of the world,—make up a picture of unique and picturesque beauty, which once seen can never be forgotten.

Under the impression of such a vision, you may well imagine the eagerness with which we hurried on shore, and the pleasure which was in reserve for us after a month's confinement aboard ship. As we landed on the mole from our boat and passed along the principal street, we found ourselves in a crowd of people representing all the nations bordering on the Mediterranean—Spanish, French, Italians, Moors, Jews and Greeks, mingled with the English, Scotch, Irish and Americans, all in their various costumes and speaking their different tongues. It really seemed for the moment as if it were a gala day gotten up for our special amusement. It was like a grand World's Fair for the exhibition of the costumes, customs and manners, of all strange lands. The extremely narrow streets, the little donkeys with burdens larger than themselves strapped to their sides, the bearded and filthy Jew, in his red cap and long coarse robe, and haggard, sullen look, the stately Moor with his white turban and bare legs and yellow slippers and well chiseled features, the Spanish senorita with her olive complexion and sparkling eye and light head dress streaming in graceful folds down her neck and shoulders, the English soldier on guard at every corner and presenting arms as we passed him, were some of the prominent objects that arrested my attention.—The whole town is one grand fortification. The soldiers of different regiments meet you at every turn, and their barracks are scattered everywhere among the markets, the stores, the churches and the private residences of the citizens. The streets are laid out in the most singular manner, and most of them are too narrow for ordinary carriages to pass each other. They are, however, remarkably clean. The houses are solid plain structures, two and three stories high, and the public edifices, including the Custom House, the hotels, the post-office and the churches, are without any pretentions to beauty of architecture. The idea at every point is military strength, and the stranger feels at every turn that he is in a mighty garrison, and encompassed with batteries and guns, and all the engines of war.

A few of us determined to make the most of our time. so we found a guide and ascended to the "Galleries" or excavations on the summit.

Through the polite attention of our Consul, Mr. Sprague, an order had been issued from head-quarters to give American officers free access. As we approached the works, our uniform was our passport, and a polite Sergeant was immediately detailed to conduct us through the most wonderful parts of the fortress. The strong gates yielded to his key, and for one hour we followed him from battery to battery, now climbing up the heights by stone steps cut out of solid rock, and now winding our way through deep gloomy tunnels where our only light was that which came struggling through the port holes over the muzzle of the guns, now passing down a spiral stair case, leading to hidden chambers of destruction which few eyes are ever permitted to see, and finally terminating our long walk in a capacious hall filled with ordnance of the largest size, and pointing through embrasures which looked out on the coast of Spain and the Mediterranean. This large apartment, as the Sergeant told us, is sometimes splendidly illumined by the officers of the garrison, and the beauty and chivalry of England and Spain are here gathered to relieve the tedium of the exile and the sameness of their duty by music and the dance.

It was no small addition to the interest of this excursion to step out occasionally upon the very edge of these stupendous heights, and look down upon the quiet bay filled with vessels from every quarter of the globe, the adjoining coast of Spain, adorned with cultivated fields and gardens—the city of Algesiras, the scenes of so many conflicts in the days of the Moors—the comparatively modern town of St. Roque, where Spanish customs and modes of life, even to the "bull-fights," may be seen to day just as they appeared three hundred years ago,—the "neutral ground," on the opposite side of which the British and Spanish forts frown upon each other—the distant and desolate fields of Morocco veiled in mist, and more beautiful than all, the blue waters of the Mediterranean sparkling in the soft light of one of the most brilliant days of summer.

The Cork Reporter gives the following account of a ship on a new principle:—"A large ship, with an auxiliary screw propeller, now lies in harbor, built on a new and curious principle, on which, we believe, she is the first constructed. She is wholly of wrought iron, being framed and put together in the same manner as the Britannia Tubular Bridge, without knees or timber work of any kind in her hull. A plank deck is laid over the iron, and on this are a couple of large deck houses. Instead of stowing ballast in the usual way, she is provided with water-tight compartments in her hull, into which water can be pumped, for ballast, to any extent required. Her heavy tackle is worked by steam machinery, superseding the necessity for a large amount of manual labor. Owing to the absence of timbers, beams, &c., she has storage for 900 tons of cargo, though measuring little over 400 tons—no inconsiderable advantage in itself. The name of the vessel is the Labuan, and she is bound for Singapore, being intended, we understand, for trade in the Chinese Seas. Externally, her appearance is very singular, from the convexity of her sides; in nautical phrase, she "tumbles home" aloft in a most unusual manner.

Gov. Shannon arrived at Shawnee, Kansas, on the 3d inst. He was welcomed by the Hon O. H. Browne in a florid speech, and replied in a temperate tone. He made no allusion to the slavery question. but expressed the hope that while the citizens of the Territory might differ on questions of public polity, they should respect the opinions and even prejudices of each other.

MARRIED.

In Duplin county, on the 27th Sept., by the Rev. James M. Sprunt, TEACHY McMILLAN, to Miss CAROLINE A. SLOAN, all of Duplin.

"United in love's holy ties,
May joy their steps attend,
Till called away beyond the skies,
Where pleasures never end."

On the 19th inst., by A. H. Perry, Esq., Mr. WILLIAM BUIE to Miss MARY J. PERRY, daughter of John Perry, all of Bladen.

DIED.

In Kenansville, on Friday evening, 21st inst., CHAUNCEY, son of Dr. C. W. and M. K. Graham, age 12 months.

NEW YORK, Sept. 26—(3 previous days.)—Naval Stores—Remain very quiet; the high rates of Freight that are now current, with but little prospect of any abatement soon, continues to exert a depressing influence, and the transactions are mostly for home use, or of a speculative nature. Turpentine is still in small supply and firm. Holders of Spirits Turpentine are confident in present or higher rates, and buyers purchase sparingly, anticipating a decline; the stock accumulates, and is estimated at 15@16000 bbls. There being but little inquiry for Rosin, the stock steadily increases and reaches now about 24@28,000 bbls.; the price of Common ranges lower than for some years; some holders however, do not offer at the rates now current. Tar and Pitch are without change. The transactions are 1000 bbls. North County Turpentine at $3 37½ ℔ 280 lb.; 1000@1100 bbls. Spirits Turpentine, 47 cents; and some in a small way, 48; and 3@400 bbls. Rosin, at $1 75 for strained Common, and 1 70@$1 75 for low No. 2, cash. Potatoes Turnips, &c.—There is but a limited supply of common Potatoes, and we note a still further advance of 25@62½ cents ℔ bbl., on previous quotations, the current prices being 1 50@$2 ℔ bbl. for Jersey, and 1 25@$1 50 for Northern; Long Island, which are more plenty, are held at $1. Sweet are plenty, and are sold freely at from 2 to $2 50 ℔ bbl., which is lower. Turnips are more plenty, and sell at 31¼@37½ cts. per bushel. Onions, $1 25 ℔ bbl. for Red, and $1 75 for White. Rice—The new crop is coming forward pretty freely and is in fair request. Old is neglected—stock is much reduced. Sales of 400 tierces old and new at 4 50@$5 62½, cash.

LIVERPOOL.—Cotton—The market is dull, in consequence of the bank having advanced its rates to 4½ per cent., and a further advance is expected to 5 per cent. Sales of the week 46,000 bales—to speculators 6,000. Manchester advices are less favorable, and breadstuffs generally are dull, but prices are unchanged. Wheat has advanced 1d. The weather has been favorable, and the crop accounts are good. Provisions are dull and unchanged. Lard is in active speculative demand at 58@60s. Sugars have advanced 2d. The money market is more stringent.

Marine Intelligence.

PORT OF WILMINGTON, N. C.—Sept., 1855.

ARRIVED.

Sept. 27—Brig Caribbee, Cushing, 8 days from Bath, Me., to J. C. Smith & Co.

Schr. Wm. L. Springs, Milford, from Philadelphia, to T. C. Worth; with mdze.

Brig Wanderer, Hunt, from New York, to J. H. Chadbourn & Co.

Steamer Fanny Lutterloh, Stedman, from Fayetteville, to Lutterloh & Elliott.

28—Steamer Spray, Price, from Smithville, to A. H. Van Bokkelen.

Schr. Caroline Virginia, Davis, from Oak Island, to Master; with fish.

Sept. 28—Steamer Magnolia, Barber, from Fayetteville, to Lutterloh & Elliott.

29—Schr. Oleona, Chase, from Boston, to Peirce & Dudley; with mdze.

CLEARED.

Sept. 27—Schr. Exchange, Martin, for Baltimore, by Russell & Bro. with naval stores.

Steamer Spray, Price, for Smithville, by A. H. Vanbokkelen

28—Steamer Fanny Lutterloh, Stedman, for Fayetteville, by Lutterloh & Elliott.

Schr. Carthagena, Huxford, for New Bedford, Mass., by Keith & Flanner; with lumber and naval stores.

Brig. Niagara, Bibber, for Boston, by Russell & Bro.; with lumber.

Schr. G. R. Dixon, Gaskill, for New York, by Moore, Stanley & Co.; with naval stores.

Schr. L. P. Smith, West, for New York, by DeRossett & Brown; with naval stores, &c.

Sept. 29—Schr. Mary Staples, Staples, for Boston, by J. R. Blossom; with naval stores.

Dutch Galliot, Marie Adriana, VanDuien, for Rotterdam, by Russell & Bro.; with naval stores.

Steamer James R. Grist, Deming, for Fayetteville, by A. D. Cazaux.

Steamer Magnolia, Barber, for Fayetteville, by Lutterloh & Elliott.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF FINANCE

Of New Hanover County, State of North Carolina, to the Worshipful, the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, September Term, 1855.

The Committee of Finance have examined the Accounts of E. D. Hall, County Trustee and Sheriff, and find he has collected from Real Estate for County purposes,

collected from Real Estate for County purposes,	$3,992 01	
" " Jail and Bridges.	2,046 42	
		$6,038 43
Poll for County purposes,	$3,997 70	
" Jail and Bridge,	1,707 30	
		$5,705 00
Retail Licenses,		256 62
Tax and Duty from County Court Clerk,		298 24
" " " Superior " "		39 48
Fines from Sup'r and County " "		1,620 56
Balance on hand, Sept. 1854,		376 80
Errors in vouchers,		53 35
Total receipts,		$14,388 48
Am't Paid Jurors,	1,427 28	
Claims allowed by Com. of Finance,	1,651 07	
Patrols,	172 20	
Bridges,	356 72	
Magistrates,	241 70	
Contables,	198 50	
Extra allowance by Court,	1,841 99	
Orders of Court,	990 00	
Bridge Committee by order of Court,	1,518 81	
Sheriff's half fees County Court Clerk,	100 38	
Sheriff's commissions for collecting taxes	479 38	
Sheriff's " County disbursements,	203 29	
County Bond No. 22,	1,062 78	
County Bond No. 1,	1,044 50	
County Bond No. 2,	1,044 50	
Interest on outstanding Bonds,	313 82	
Sheriff's commission on Bond acct,	327 90	
Bill for advertising,	20 00	
		$12,994 82
Balance due County,		$1,373 66

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN A. TAYLOR, Clerk.

The above Report is returned to Court. Received and ordered to be published in the Wilmington *Journal* and *Herald* one time.

SAM'L R. BUNTING, Clerk.

Sept. 24, 1855.—[16-1t

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY.

IN EXECUTION of the trusts declared in a certain deed made by James M. Stevenson and Thomas C. Hooper, dated June 1st, 1855, by which the partnership property and effects of Stevenson & Hooper are conveyed to the undersigned, I will, on Monday, the 22d October, offer for sale by public auction, on the premises, the tract of land, containing 50 acres, lying on East side of the Cape Fear river, about four miles below Wilmington, and adjoining on the South the tract known as Mount Tyrza, and the same on which is situate the STEAM SAW MILL in use by said Stevenson & Hooper.

The STEAM SAW MILL is furnished with an Engine rated at 45 *horse power*, having a 14-inch cylinder, 2½ feet stroke, making 70 revolutions to the minute, and running two of Page's first class Mills, with 50 feet carriages to each, and having *three* saws, two of which are 52 inches in diameter, and one 48 inches. It has two cylinder boilers, each 40 feet long and 42 inches in diameter.

The MILL HOUSE is two stories high, with engine and countershaft below; is 90 feet long by 45 feet wide, with a tin roof and smoke stack 24 inches in diameter by 45 feet in length. There are also on the tract of land, *two dwelling houses, a blacksmith shop*, and other necessary out-buildings, with a substantial and commodious wharf, which will hold 100,000 feet of lumber, and has 10 feet of water at low tide.

The SAW MILL is now in good running order, and this, with all the other improvements on the land, are comparatively new, having been constructed during the past two years.

JOHN A. SANDERS, Trustee.

IN PURSUANCE OF A DEED OF TRUST, TO ME directed, dated June 1st, 1855, by James M. Stevenson, I shall expose at Public Sale, at same time and place, as above, all the lands of said James M. Stevenson, containing about 3,500 acres, lying on the east side of Cape Fear River, commencing about 3 miles from the town of Wilmington. The land lies immediately on the River, and is mostly Turpentine land. It will be sold either together or in lots to suit purchasers. Also, at the same time and place, will be sold SIX NEGROES, viz: 4 men, 1 woman, and 1 child. Also, 5 mules, 2 wagons, about 20 head of cattle, 1 cart, 2 horses, 1 buggy, 1 barouche; an original interest of $200 in a Turpentine Distillery; one-half of a flat; household and kitchen furniture.

Also, will hire out, for the balance of the year, SIX NEGRO MEN; the usual bond required.

Terms of sale—on personal—3 and 6 months; interest from date. Real Estate—6 and 12 months; interest from date. Sale positive.

JOHN A. SANDERS, Trustee.

Sept. 28th.—[20-1t—5-ts.

NOTICE.

ALL persons are hereby forewarned from cutting or otherwise pillaging, or hunting with dogs and gun, or otherwise, either by fire-light or in the day-time, or trespassing in any manner whatever on any of my lands lying on Muddy Creek and the waters of said creek, in the county of Duplin, as the law will be rigidly enforced against all offenders.

BENJAMIN LANIER.

Duplin Co., N. C., Sept. 28th, 1855.—[4-3m*.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS FOR WILSON COUNTY.

SEALED PROPOSALS for building a Court House and Jail for Wilson county, will be received until Oct. 23d, 1855. The drawings may be seen at the Clerk's Office in Wilson. For specifications, address the undersigned.

JAMES D. BARNES,
J. D. ROUNTREE,
WRIGHT EDMONDSON,
ROBERT BYNUM,
GEO. HOWARD, JR.,
} Commis'ers.

Sept. 28th.—[4-tOct23.

HEAD QUARTERS 31st REGIMENT, N. C. M.

KENANSVILLE, DUPLIN COUNTY, Sept. 28th, 1855.

THE OFFICERS COMMANDING THE SEVERAL Companies of the above Regiment, are hereby ordered to muster their respective Companies, armed and equipped as the law directs, for review and inspection by the Colonel, on Saturday, the 27th of October, 1855, at the parade ground at Kenansville.

The Commissioned Officers of the regiment will meet at Kenansville on Friday, Oct. 26th.

JAMES W. BONEY,
Col. Com. 31st Reg't. N. C. Militia.

Sept. 28th, 1855 4-3w*

ORDER No. 2.

HEAD QUARTERS MILITIA OF SAMPSON Co.,
September 18th, 1855.

BY order of Col. F. I. Faison, you are hereby commanded to attend at Clinton, Oct. 10th, for Drill Muster,—Upper Battalion at Harrison's, Oct. 11; Lower Battalion at Clinton, Oct 12; and Court-martial at Clinton, Oct 13.

EVERETT PETERSON, Adj't.

Sept. 28, 1855.—[4-2t

TALLOW WANTED.—The highest market prices will be paid for Tallow, by WESSEL & EILERS.

Sept. 1st, 52-tf