For the Journal.

THE HILLS OF WILMINGTON.

Ex nihilo nihil fit.

BY MONONIA.

To the North Carolinian, as it is with every son of any and every nationality, the departure from his low-land home, or from his native hills, must be accompanied with sighing regret equal to the prospective attainment of wealth and fame under another clime. He cannot, when distant and absent for years, but revert to

"—— friends regretted, scenes forever dear,"

and dream away an evening in endeavoring

"To trace the hours which never can return."

We often relieve the mind from its busy train of business thoughts in sending it backward to pick up from the bosom of the past each glittering drop of dewy joy; and no drop is brighter, none sweeter to the pleasure of imagination and memory than that which reflects our baby-home, throned on a clear, slow flowing river, a jewel in the midst of fertile plains, interspersed with frowning mountains and beautiful valleys, splendid rivulets and placid, ambient lakes.

In all ages it has been the custom of people to build on high places, and the site for churches ever received the highest. It was on the mount of Sinai, in Arabia, near the head of the Red Sea, Moses received the law amid terrific peals of thunder, and other natural convulsions made by nature's God. It was on a mount that the Tempter showed to the Saviour of mankind the treasure and glory of the world, and offered him all if he would but fall down and worship. Jerusalem was built on hills. Mount Sion was the "City of David," and Mount Acra was called "the daughter of Sion."—Wherever we search for instances in sacred or profane history we will find that hills and mountains are notorious for some of the most striking points in the annals of the world, from the resting of the Ark on Mount Ararat down to the present time.

Rome, more than two thousand six hundred and twenty years ago, was enthroned on seven hills. Such a lapse of ages has rendered them almost undiscoverable, so much have the plains and valleys been filled with vast quantities of dirt and *debris*. The hills are on both sides of the yellow Tiber. Those of Wilmington are on the east side of the Cape Fear. You must not conclude we intend a comparison. Though if Wilmington was as hoary with years as the Eternal City, and like it had received the patronage of the princes and the great persons of Christendom and Paganism, it would have arisen from the low lands with which it is surrounded, as did the other from its foggy and malarious marshes. The Capitoline is said to have been inhabited by Greeks long before Romulus traced with two white cattle a furrow round the Palatine, and slew his brother for disobeying the command in laughingly jumping the ditch. The Pincian mount, the Quirinal, the Aventine, the Cœlian hills, and Janiculum, have all their histories, which would fully pay one's time to pick them out from the general mass. Many other mounts, as the Vatican, &c., are mentioned, all very interesting, and the Campus martius, or the old Caprea, whence some silly folks thought Romulus was raised in a cloud and translated to banquet with the gods, but who was destroyed by the hands of a malcontent.

The old world has its beauty spots of nature, but the new has received nature's last and richest touch. The Fishkill mountains, or the more euphonious aboriginal name of *Matteawa*, are studded with smiling hamlets and homesteads, and are unsurpassed by any of whatever notoriety.—The majestic grandeur of the heath-covered hills of Scotland impressed the minds of their children about to emigrate to seek their counterpart in a foreign land. They viewed them with pride, and they had reason. When the sun chased the thick clouds of the morning's mist it shone in glittering splendor on the crag-built minarets, and the modest shrines that peered from out the mountain gorges. With such a vision before them, the Highlanders received a lasting lesson. It took them to the rolling country of the upper Cape Fear region, where Cross Creek crosses and makes music in its onward flow to the river through the town of Fayetteville. The people who founded Wilmington in 1739, were predominantly English, and loving the rosy soil of mother country, which lies south of Chevoit Hills, fixed upon the wave of highlands here to incorporate what was destined to be a flourishing commercial town, full of pleasant and wholesome cheer, and fanning "A spark of that immortal fire" which Allah gave to men, and which angels shared. Hills were then in reality. They have left their names behind in tradition, and tradition is a traveler, and keeps pace with all time. It teaches that "which books can never teach, nor pedants show." Sometimes it gives strange names to stranger things, and blends fiction and truth in one common whole. A little of both is read with passing pleasure, and affords the critic dust for a dusty quill.

Constitution Hill is supposed to be situated now in what may be justly considered a very unconstitutional place. A little corner there with an immense brick structure contains big posters, which teach the young negro how to shoot the "new idea," and proposes to organize the Sunny Land of Dixie on the irrefragible, "irrepressible" platform of the "Reconstruction Bill." Near this mighty mansion, around which the "clouds" are forever bobbing, showing their shining ivories, and their glittering ebony faces intermixed with streaks of a hickory color, is found that romantic mound, on which the sun is said to set, throwing over it his sheen, and inviting young men and maidens to congregate there, and enjoy the sweet, innocent sports of pastime. Passing one evening, just as old Sol was about dipping his adieu in the waters of the Cape Fear, we noticed many whose age was of that delightful turn that makes Cupid all smiles and his quiver all full, frolicking on the green-capped heads of the various knolls. We envied them their general glee, for it recalled in brightest vision the memory of the past, when down the side of a pleasant daisy-bespangled vale we used to roll with sister then, and youthful friends; when the future we thought not of, knew not, saw not, for the present was cloudless, all sunshine, the merry, bright days of childhood. We rode by wishing them a life of universal sun, with not a hill upon it to cast forth a shade of sorrow. We are not aware if vinegar is manufactured here, and we hardly know why a city land-mark should bear so sour an appellation. Is it because the people are morose along there and wear long faces, hidden away within advancing sun-bonnets? No, we think not. But as it runs along Orange street, we presume that that fruit was not as free from tart as it ought to have been. On the whole, Vinegar Hill is as free from the inspissated juice of the beech or pine as any of the others, and the residents thereof are what may be without any tint of exaggeration, termed fit for "kingly chambers or imperial halls."

Piety is a dear word, and we have no doubt that Piety Hill is a dear Hill, and to make it so, years have been consumed. Three Churches make a triangle—St. James', St. Thomas', and the Presbyterian. Three roads on the same journey, beacons to the narrow path. Three different propounders of the Gospel of salvation, throwing a halo of learning and religion about that Goodly Hill and all proclaim in pious homilies that the great end of man is to know the great truth

"Virtue alone is happiness below,"

and that when a good man dies—

"His soul is gone, before his dust, to Heaven."

We all love good society, and know it, and feel its presence, and its absence. We do not mean that which is thrown up when "the nation boils;" not that which men form working for a common cause, and thus make them, for the time being, companions; not that which makes one prefer a "shoddy," simply because he is rich, and he has endeared himself to us for his unbounded liberality, his unlimited bursts of patriotism, and has gained the title of Captain, Colonel, or perhaps General. No, none of these. We mean Society Hill. A pretty place it must be. It is somewhere up Market Street. It is presumed that, like in the Coffee-houses of London, during the golden age of England, the literati met there and discussed the latest publication, the last written drama; lawyers met there to argue some State matter of importance, and coolly drink their toddy. Sewing Societies, Soiree Societies, Sound parties, and similar *omnium gatherum*. Do not think us facetious. What a blessed boon it is to have a happy home circle. Around the family hearth none can tell the joy there concentrated until he has tasted and lost it forever. The society of the fireside ought to be always elevating; ought always be throwing out good example. Such should be Society Hill. Quality Hill reminds one of a tale called the "New Comes," wherein good nature is "stuck up," and *bonhommie* is under the protectorship of a *bas bleu*. Genius is born there, and the lamp is ever lit, not wasted in fitful glares. The locality is an agreeable one, and splendid buildings are towering high there, surrounded with magnificent trees and shrubbery. If you are incredulous, just take a ramble along Front from Chesnut, and make a circuit of a few squares. You will not proceed very far before you will be probably confronted with the odor of spices and smelling gums. You are approaching the little hill called Sugar Plumb. We all love plumbs and sugar, especially, when cherry lips lisp the words "lugar pums." You would perhaps feel as much like kissing the one as you would like eating the other. This would be considered—charming. The Irish or Scotch would pronounce you a very "gallows" fellow. This is an awful hill to climb—the gallows hill. Everybody knows were it is, or used to be. It is too gloomy a spectacle to dwell upon, so to it we say farewell, *sic transit gloria mundi*. Farewell, then, ye Constitution; ye sunset and ye vinegar; ye piety and society; ye quality and sugar plumb; and ye "*gallows*" hills.

Paradise Grove once stood on a round declivity overlooking the river. It has now lost all the fine shades and is a bleak spot—it is paradise lost—not Milton's. Hither in the halcyon days of their youth the Wilmingtonians sought the cool breeze wafted along the river from the sea. They danced away bright happy hours, eat the philopena and "eyes look'd love to eyes that spoke again."

Passing from this picture, we cross over to the city of the dead, and while we do so let us lay all dissipation behind, and begin in atonement for our past levity the *de profundis*. We have seen Greenwood of Brooklyn, and the celebrated Cemetery of Baltimore, and the exquisite one near St. Louis, Mo., but we have seen none that surpasses in monumental grandeur, and simplicity and beauty of arrangement the "Oakdale" of Wilmington. It is a "*monumentum ære perennius*" to the good taste and love for the sacred dead of the inhabitants.

The ancients selected recesses in the wooded heights to hide from sight the beloved departed. In a garden near the base of Calvary, Joseph of Arimathea prepared to rest the Messiah. The Catacombs of Thebes were in the gorges of wooded hills, planted with trees and flowers. We need but take an evening walk along the planks to Oakdale to behold a sight which pages from antiquity could be brought to glorify. Clumps of native trees and shrubs seclude those passed away, and the wavering, pure white cape jasmines stoop and rise, and rustle a requiem over their graves.

For the Journal.

ADDRESS

OF

Dr. W. W. LANE, Delivered November 7, 1867, before the New Hanover Agricultural Society, and Published by Request of the Executive Committee.

Gentlemen of the New Hanover Agricultural Society:

At the request of the Executive Committee, I offer some remarks here to-day on the use of lime and marl as fertilizers.

I have been induced to accept this invitation, gentlemen, through no vain belief that I can offer any original matter, but in the hope that this humble effort may stimulate inquiry on this very important subject among other members more competent than myself.

My earnest desire is the development of the agricultural resources of the country generally, and of this county particularly. And entertaining this desire, it is not only with willingness, but it affords me the greatest pleasure, to contribute my mite towards organizing and establishing on a permanent basis our County Society, which I know every member ardently wishes to see prove a success.

And why should we not succeed? We possess good lands, or facilities for making them so, and we possess an average degree of intelligence, I hope, as a class, to observe and experiment in an intelligent manner.

All, then, that we lack is the energy to make the effort, and success will be sure to follow.

Before entering on my subject, I would suggest to the Society the importance of having annual exhibitions—*fairs*—of every thing pertaining to agricultural matters, so that a stimulus may be given to improvement in the breed of different kinds of stock, as well as in the varied products of the soil; and also to the various articles entering into the domestic economy of our households. In this way our ladies may become interested, and on these occasions will not only give us encouragement by their presence, but will, no doubt, exhibit many evidences of their handiwork. These County Fairs, before the war, were becoming quite popular in the State, and were invariably attended with success.

A friendly spirit of competition was thus engendered among the people which was highly promotive to agricultural improvement.

In the above remarks I have merely desired to draw the attention of the members of the Society to the importance of these annual exhibitions, which are nothing more than the evidences or practical proofs of our progress.

I have only time just now to allude to the matter in the hope that other gentlemen present will discuss its merits more fully.

In the outset of my remarks upon the use of marl and lime as fertilizers, it may be proper to state that my knowledge of the application of these substances and their effect upon vegetation, is not solely derived from my own experience, but mainly from reading and the experience of others.

Lime is the most valuable and most extensively used of all mineral substances known in agriculture. It has always been considered as lying at the basis of all good farming.

As we find it in nature lime is always combined with some other chemical substance. The form generally used in practical agriculture is that of the carbonate. When the carbonate of lime is subjected to a high degree of temperature as ordinarily attained in our lime-kilns, the carbonic acid which it contains is driven off and we have left what is called burnt lime or quick lime. When water is added to this quick lime it assumes a milder, and a new chemical form, which chemists term the hydrate of lime.

In this latter form, by long exposure to the open air, it gradually and slowly absorbs carbonic acid from the atmosphere, and has a tendency to assume its original condition before it was burnt, that of the carbonate. This latter form, however, is not so commonly used as a fertilizer.

Lime is met with on the earth's surface in numerous forms, in some of which it can be applied to the land both profitably and economically in the natural state. One of these forms, and the one in most common use, is that of marl.

In this form it is found abundantly in Europe and this country, and is more extensively and universally used, perhaps as an improver of the soil, than any other form of lime.

The application of lime as a fertilizer, is a most important matter. We must consider its effects upon the soil, both chemical and physical—it being indispensable to the fertility of the soil. The state of combination in which it exists, quantity to be supplied, whether more beneficial in large doses at long intervals, or smaller ones more frequently, form in which applied, or the comparative economy of lime and marl, at what time the application should be made—the compost form, the effect of an over dose, the length of time in which it acts, comparative benefit of burnt and unburnt lime, &c., &c., are all topics which claim our closest attention, in order that they may be applied judiciously, so that the greatest amount of profit may be derived therefrom. Dr. Thaer, the great German Agriculturist, has remarked, that the most perfect agriculture is evidently that which produces, by the application of abor, the largest and most permanent profit in comparison with the means employed.

The physical effect of lime upon soils is to alter their texture, but this effect varies somewhat according to the form we use; for instance, clay marls will improve sandy lands by rendering them stiffer and thereby better, enabling them to retain moisture, while shell marls, which contain more or less sand and gravel, will open and loosen stiff clays, making them easier to cultivate, and both forms have a tendency to sweeten and promote healthy vegetation in low, wet, and sour soils. In some instances it is difficult to decide whether the effect produced by lime or marl is owing to its chemical or physical action. Sometimes its application to one character of soil is attended with marked benefit, whilst in others it is highly injurious. In most cases, no doubt its action is partly chemical and partly physical.

The effect that we generally observe from the application of lime is, that it alters the nature and character of the grasses, eradicating those that are useless, and promoting the growth of those that are nutritious and beneficial to stock.

It increases the quantity and quality of all kinds of grain, and its action is manifested for many years, and is more energetic in its effects if combined with other manures; and lastly, it exhausts the soil if no animal or vegetable matter is returned.

It is said to be the result of universal experience that lime is indispensable to the fertility of the soil. It is necessary to the successful growth of all crops. Its existence in some form, and in a greater or less proportion should be present in all soils.

Sandy soils are comparatively barren in the absence of lime, so the character of clay, in which no lime is present, is radically changed by the application of this substance. The quantity to be applied is varied by so many circumstances that it is almost impossible to lay down any rule on the subject.

In the first place, it seems to me, that before we can go to work intelligently, it is highly important to know in what proportion lime already exists in the soil we wish to experiment on, and then the amount put on should vary according to the depth of the soil; and a larger quantity may be applied to clay lands than to those of a sandy character.

On wet and marshy soils, or where the land is covered abundantly with vegetable matter, still larger applications may be beneficially applied. If the farmer should find he has overdosed his land, the remedy is in deeper ploughing and applying vegetable or animal manures.

Some difference of opinion, I find, exists among practical men, as to whether lime should be applied in large quantities at long intervals, or in smaller ones more frequently repeated.

In regard to this point, it is well known that every year a certain amount of lime is removed from the soil by the crops, or from other causes. This state of things goes on from year to year, till the original amount applied is exhausted; therefore it would seem best to keep up the natural waste by using smaller quantities more frequently applied.

The comparative economy in the use of lime and marl depends very much upon the percentage of lime contained in the marl—the advantage the quick lime possesses is, that it is in a more minute state of division, and consequently can be more readily incorporated into the soil.

Therefore, in the application of marl to our land, we can use it in much larger quantities than lime. According to Prof. Johnston, allowing that the marl contains twenty per cent. of lime, the amount proper to use would be about five of marl to one of lime.

Lime is most advantageously applied to land in the compost form, when used alone it frequently runs together, forming a hard conglomerate mass, having no good effect on the land, and in the form of marl, if not well powdered up, it lays in hard lumps on the surface for years, imparting little of its virtues to the soil.

In the compost form it can be more equally spread and more minutely mixed with the soil, and those chemical changes are promoted which render its action more immediate. In considering the proper time to apply lime to land, we should recollect that we do not receive its good effects as soon as applied, consequently we should lay it on as long before the crop is put in as possible.

A very good time is in the fall when it may be spread directly upon the fallow and turned in with the plow along with whatever vegetable matter there may be on the surface.

Quicklime should not be applied together with fermenting or decomposed manure, as it expels the ammonia and thereby neutralizes the fertilizing principle; when necessary to apply both it should be done at distant intervals.

This effect, though, is not produced when the lime is added to fresh animal or vegetable manure, neither is there any loss in mixing marl along with manures in any state, it being a milder form of lime, but on the contrary great advantage may be obtained thereby.

In regard to the length of time in which lime continues to impart its good effects to the soil, there depends much upon the character of the soil itself, the quantity originally applied, the kind of cropping the land has been subjected to, &c. According to the best authority twenty years is the longest period before lime ceases to lose its good influence upon the soil.

One of the peculiarities of lime is its tendency to sink into the land, until after a time it entirely disappears below the surface soil.

This may be accounted for by the extreme minuteness into which the particles of quick lime are divided. We know if we take a quantity of slaked lime, to which water is added, a portion will be dissolved, but quite a large proportion is precipitated. So a somewhat similar action takes place when applied to the soil. A part is taken up or dissolved in the surface soil, while quite a large amount by the continuous action of the rains, is precipitated or washed downwards into the subsoil below.

This is particularly the case in light and open soils, the natural pores of the land affording the lime an opportunity of descending. With some other manures this same result often takes place, and consequently the great benefit to be derived from deep ploughing and subsoiling; or, in other words, by bringing back to the surface soil those fertilizing principles which have sunk beneath the reach of ordinary shallow ploughing. This reminds me of the views I have heard expressed by some that no land could be injured by excessive rains if well drained, and that the good effect of manure, was not lost if the land was well ditched. In my opinion, if not entirely lost, they are so filtered through the natural pores of the soil that their good influence on the growing crop is very seriously injured.

The inquiry may now be made, is there any advantage in using burnt lime in preference to the carbonate or unburnt lime?

In answer to this inquiry I will repeat what I have before stated: that by burning the lime is reduced to a finer powder than in the carbonate or moral condition, and is thereby more readily diffused through the soil, rendering its effects more immediate by neutralizing those acids that exist in the soil, and hastening the decomposition of vegetable matter.

Professor Emmons, in his report on the Agriculture of the Eastern Counties, says: "Much disagreement exists among planters of experience about the method of applying marl, and the quantity to be used." He says "the amount generally applied is from 150 to 200 bushels per acre, though this depends on many circumstances, such as the percentage of lime in the marl, character of soil, &c.

Our best marl in this county contains, I should think, at least from 70 to 85 per cent of the carbonate of lime. If this is the case, then about 75 bushels would probably be the proper amount to apply to our lighter lands, which is ordinarily our best lands for the ground pea. On our heavier and stiffer lands more might be used with benefit.

I applied it this year at the rate of 50 bushels, along with double that quantity of well decomposed stable manure, and some other vegetable matter, on a piece of land very much worn, with decided improvement to my yam potato crop.

I have frequently heard my father say, in speaking of his experiments with marl, that in some instances the application of it caused the crop to "French" or burn. He generally remedied this injury by ploughing deeper, thereby mixing the marl with a larger quantity of soil, and applying vegetable or animal manure—by this means the fertility of the soil was restored. Emmons says this burning is caused by a substance in the marl unfriendly to vegetation, this is the sulphate of iron, *copperas*. He tells us this injurious effect may be counteracted in three ways: by the addition of quick lime, which decomposes this salt; by allowing the marl to stand in heaps in the open air, when the copperas is freed from it by solution in rain water, and by the method before mentioned of deeper ploughing, &c.

This same eminent authority informs us that of all fertilizers wood ashes are the best, and possess more general application than any other; being adapted to any crop. They are the best because they contain all the elements the plants need; and hence the nearer a marl is in composition to wood ashes the better it is.

Hence the efficacy of marl is due to its potash, soda, lime, iron, magnesia, phosphoric acid, sulphuric acid, and chlorine, and not any one of its elements exclusive of the others.

In conclusion, gentlemen, a question closely connected with this subject naturally presents itself, viz: Whether it would be more profitable and economical to use foreign manures, such as the various guanos offered in the market, or such fertilizers as we can produce ourselves, particularly where we are abundantly supplied with marl and swamp mud or other vegetable matter. This question I put myself sometime ago to one of the most experienced and successful planters in this county. He answered unhesitatingly, that it was his opinion that where these substances were present abundantly on the premises, as is the case in many localities in this section, it would be more economical, profitable and better still, and the effect upon the land more lasting to make our own fertilizers.

This opinion was the more gratifying to me, as it coincided so clearly with my own views on the subject. And I think if our farmers, where they are so situated, will adopt this plan, their lands may become more permanently benefited than by the application of the various manipulated guanos and phosphates, which have a tendency only to stimulate the growing crop, and when successively applied, gradually to impoverish the soil.

In confirmation of this opinion it would be well perhaps to cite the authority of a distinguished agriculturist. He says husbandry in none of its branches can be conducted successfully without the use of fertilizers, and that while it is better to purchase manures than to proceed in the cultivation of crops without them, yet when the expenditure has to be made in cash, it is better to make composts of the excrement of animals under cover, all kinds of offal, leaves, &c., when their volatile matters can be absorbed, than to expend ready money for those manures which in the end are no better than those made at home.

In closing, gentlemen, I cannot forbear urging individually every member of this society to use all his energy in establishing this organization on a firm basis. Let us so improve our present opportunities, that those who are to succeed us may proudly point to our action here to-day, as the starting point of any success to which they may subsequently attain.

RETURNED.—Bishop Atkinson and the Rev. Richard Hines, who have been in attendance upon the Pan-Anglican Council, returned from Europe on the 30th ult. We have been pleased to see Mr. Hines in this city.

Bishop Atkinson is at present sojourning in New York, and will shortly return to the Diocese. He is represented to be in excellent health.

The steamer upon which they returned, the City of Paris, of the Inmann line, made the trip across the Atlantic in the unprecedentedly quick time of eight days and four hours.—*Raleigh Sentinel.*

MURDER OF COLONEL JOHN H. NETHERCUTT.—We briefly alluded to the murder of Col. Nethercutt yesterday. We copy from the New Berne *Republican* the following particulars:

Report reached the city yesterday morning that Col. J. H. Nethercutt had been murdered at his residence in Jones county, two miles from Trenton. The most conflicting rumors were soon afloat; as far as we can learn the facts in the case are about as follows:

On Sunday night, while Col. Nethercutt and his family were seated around the fire in the sitting room, some persons entered the house, and before Mr. Nethercutt, who was facing the fire place, could turn, some one discharged a musket, almost instantly killing Mr. N., the ball passing through his chest.

The murderers, who are reported to be five colored men, then attacked Mrs. Nethercutt by striking her upon the head with a chair. Report says that Mrs. Nethercutt's skull was broken by the blow and that she cannot survive. The murderers then proceeded to lock the children of the family in the smoke house next to the dwelling, and ransacked and robbed the house. During the night the children made their escape from the smoke house and gave the alarm to the neighbors.

Word was at once sent to Trenton and New Berne, and parties were started to ferret out the murderers or pursue them.—Major Van Horn, the commandant of this post, at once sent a detachment of troops under command of Lt. Fletcher, to the scene of the outrage.

Sheriff Colgrove, of Jones county, is also in pursuit.

This horrible murder has caused great excitement and gloom throughout the counties bordering on the scene of the tragedy, and the opinion is universal that the most energetic steps should be taken to punish the fiendish murderers. No steps, labors or money ought to be spared in the effort to bring these out-laws to justice, and it is to be hoped that rewards will be offered to aid in bringing them to light.

The number of arrests of civilians made by military authority, for the same time, was 336 white, 320 black—total 656.

The total number of citizens tried by military tribunals during the same period, was 280, instead of 959—the latter number being the whole number of trials or investigations made by the military into the conduct of both civilians and soldiers.

Raleigh *Sentinel.*

LATEST NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH

Republican Defeat in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 11—Noon.

The Pittsburg Labor Reform and People's candidates for Mayor, Treasurer, Comptroller and City Attorney were elected over the regular Republican nominees. Average majority, 3,000.—This unprecedented result causes great excitement.

Democratic Victory in New Hampshire.

MANCHESTER, N. H., Dec. 11—Noon.

Jas. W. Weston, Democrat, was chosen Mayor over Clark, present Republican incumbent, by 300 majority.

From Washington—Congressional, &c.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11—P. M.

SENATE.—A petition was presented from an immense number of naturalized citizens, complaining of grievances and asking that their rights be defined by law. Referred to the committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr Anthony introduced a bill declaring null all confiscation and forfeiture acts passed by rebel legislatures. Referred to Judiciary committee.

A bill was introduced authorizing the sale of the Harper's Ferry property.

Mr. Sherman introduced a bill providing that all balances from captured or abandoned property be conveyed into the Treasury, and not drawn thence without authority of law.

Mr. Sherman stated that the amount reached several million dollars.

Some discussion then ensued, during which Mr. McCulloch was charged with illegally disposing of several hundred thousands, and the bill was postponed.

The adjournment resolution of the House, from the 20th inst. to the 6th prox., came up, but Mr. Sumner objected to it and it lies over.

Mr. Sumner presented a memorial from General Brisben, and thirty thousand Kentucky negroes, containing allegations, which Mr. Davis pronounced a foul and mendacious libel on Kentucky. The memorial was referred.

Mr. Merrill's bill, to raise legal tenders to par, came up. Mr. Morrill delivered an elaborate speech. After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—Several members rose to personal explanations, explaining their votes in favor of impeachment, in which the President was soundly abused.

The Judiciary committee reported back a bill in relation to the government of the rebel States, and it was referred to the Reconstruction committee.

The committee on Military affairs reported adversely to paying the army weekly.

The committee on Claims reported adversely on the petition of the citizens of Chambersburg for compensation for damages done by McCausland's raiders.

The House then went into committee of the whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. Washburn opposed Mr. Seward's territorial purchases, when a general debate ensued, and the House adjourned.

The Southern Railroad Committee's testimony is voluminous; among other things it showed that the roads were freely used by the Confederates without protest or objection on the part of the Presidents and Directors. The service was freely rendered.

A letter from Gen. Grant to the Chairman, states the total appraised value of property sold was seven million four hundred and fifty-six thousand dollars.

Total payments to November 1st, three million four hundred and fifty-nine thousand dollars, as follows:—Cash, two million one hundred and sixty-nine thousand dollars; Government transportation, seven hundred and nine thousand dollars; mail service, five hundred and eighty-one thousand dollars; balance including interest due 1st November, four million eight hundred and eighty-four thousand dollars.

An analysis of the Virginia Convention shows Hanover county, the birth place of Clay and Henry, Orange county, the birth place of Madison and Zach Taylor, Albemarle county, the birth place of Jefferson, Charles City county, the birth place of Harrison and Tyler, all represented by negroes.

Gideon Hollister was nominated minister to Hayti at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

Secretary Welles received a dispatch from Thos. Savage, acting consul General at Havana, dated December 10th, in which he says: "From our consul at Jamaica we have further news of the earthquakes at St. Thomas, Tortola and St. Croix. The earthquake began on the 18th of November and continued until Monday, the 26th. The destruction of lives and property was immense. The steamer DeSoto was washed ashore into the harbor bottom upwards. Her officers and crew were saved. The steamer Monongahela was thrown into the town of Middleton, St. Croix, and broken to pieces. Nothing is said about her officers and crew.

From Raleigh—United States Circuit Court, &c.

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 11—P. M.

The United States Circuit Court still continues in session and much business has been done. The suits brought against the Stockholders of Banks by the holders of notes have not been determined. Judgments for half a million dollars are said to have been obtained against the defendants during the Court.

Judge Barnes opened the special term of the Superior Court of Wake county to-day.

It is understood that General Canby has been appealed to to appoint a new municipal board for the city, nominated by the negro Radical meeting. Three negroes have been nominated for commissioners. The ticket should be nineteen-twentieths of the property holders. Two respectable negroes refuse to serve. The citizens prefer the continuance of the present board.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11—Noon.

Stocks strong. Money 7 per cent. premium.—Gold 135¼. Five-twenties of '62, coupons, 107¼; do. '64, 104¾; do. '65, 105¾; new issue, 107¼; Ten-forties, 101¼; Seven-thirties 105; Tennessee Sixes, new, 63½.

Flour dull and drooping. Wheat quiet and heavy. Corn dull and heavy. Rye steady. Oats ½@1 cent better. Mess Pork $29 75. Lard dull at 12½@13¼ cents. Cotton lower at 15¾@16 cents. Freights quiet. Spirits Turpentine favors buyers at 52½ cents. Rosin easier—Strained Common $2 25.

Wilmington Wholesale Prices Current.

BEESWAX, ℔ lb	33 @ 35
BEEF CATTLE, ℔ 100 lbs.	7 00 @10 00
BRICKS, ℔ M.	10 00 @15 00
BARRELS, Sp'ts T., each, 2nd hand	2 25 @ 3 25
New	3 25 @ 3 75
CANDLES, ℔ lb., Tallow	18 @ 20
Adamantine	20 @ 22
Sperm	50 @ 55
COFFEE, ℔ lb., Java	38 @ 40
Laguayra	28 @ 30
Rio	21 @ 25
St. Domingo	21 @ 23
COTTON, ℔ lb., Ord. to Mid'g	12 @ 13
Strict Mid'g	00 @ 14
COTTON BAGGING, Gunny, ℔ yd	24 @ 25
Dundee	26 @ 28
Rope, ℔ lb	10 @ 14
CORN MEAL, ℔ bushel	1 65 @ 1 70
DOMESTICS, Sheeting, ℔ yard	12½@ 15
Yarn, ℔ 5 lbs	1 50 @ 1 60
FEATHERS, ℔ lb	70 @ 80
FISH, ℔ bbl., Mackerel, No. 1	20 00 @21 00
No. 2	19 00 @20 00
No. 3	15 00 @16 00
Mullets	9 50 @ 10 00
Herring, East	5 00 @ 7 00
N.C. roe	00 00 @ 9 00
do cut	0 00 @ 0 00
do gross	6 50 @ 7 00
Dry Cod, ℔ lb	9 @ 10
FLOUR, ℔ bbl., Northern Family	12 50 @17 00
Superfine	10 00 @11 00
Fine	9 50 @10 00
NORTH CAROLINA, Family	12 50 @14 00
Superfine	11 50 @12 50
GLUE, ℔ lb	20 @ 25
GUNNY BAGS	30 @ 32
GUANO, Peruvian, Per ton	90 00 @ 92 50
GRAIN, ℔ bushel, Corn	1 30 @ 1 45
Oats	35 @ 1 00
Peas, Cow	1 25 @ 1 30
Rice, rough	0 00 @ 0 00
Carolina	10½@ 11½
East India	00 @ 00
HIDES, ℔ lb., Green	7½@ 9
Dry	13 @ 14
HAY, ℔ 100 lbs., Eastern	0 00 @ 1 20
Northern	85 @ 95
IRON, ℔ lb., English, ass'd	8 @ 10
American, ref.	0 @ 10
American, sheer	9 @ 10
Swede	10 @ 12
HOOP, ℔ lb	10 @ 12
LIME, ℔ bbl.	0 00 @ 0 00
From store	0 00 @ 1 30
MOLASSES, ℔ gallon, Cuba, hhds	37½@ 52½
do bbls	00 @ 55
Sugar house	45 @ 47½
do bbls	17½@ 30
Syrup, bbls	60 @ 1 00
NAVAL STORES, Turpentine ℔ 280 lbs., Virgin	0 00 @ 2 75
Yellow dip	0 00 @ 2 75
Hard	0 00 @ 1 60
Tar, ℔ bbl	0 00 @ 2 00
Tar, in cask	2 30 @ 2 40
Pitch, City	3 50 @ 3 75
Rosin, pale	3 00 @ 3 25
do No. 1	2 00 @ 2 25
do No. 2	0 00 @ 1 80
do No. 3	1 75 @ 1 80
Spirits Turpentine, ℔ gal	00@ 46½
NAILS, ℔ lb., Cut	6 00 @ 7 00
OILS, ℔ gallon, Sperm	0 00 @ 3 00
Linseed	1 75 @ 1 90
Machinery	2 00 @ 2 50
Kerosene	55 @ 60
PEA NUTS, ℔ bushel	2 00 @ 2 60
POTATOES, Sweet, bush	80 @ 1 00
Irish, ℔ bbl	3 50 @ 4 00
PROVISIONS, ℔ lb., N. C. Bacon Hams	18 @ 20
Middlings	16 @ 17
Shoulders	15 @ 16
Hog round	16 @ 17
Western Bacon. Hams	20 @ 22½
Middlings	15 @ 16
Shoulders	13 @ 13½
Lard, N. C.	00 @ 16
do North'rn	13½@ 16
Butter, N. C.	25 @ 30
do North'rn	40 @ 48
Cheese	15 @ 20
PORK, Northern, ℔ bbl. City Mess	23 50 @24 00
Thin "	22 50 @23 00
Prime	00 00 @21 00
Rump	00 00 @00 00
SALT, Alum, bush.	0 60 @ 62½
Liverpool, sack, ground. cargo	0 00 @ 0 00
from store	2 20 @ 2 30
American	2 00 @ 2 10
SUGAR, ℔ lb., Cuba	12½@ 13
Porto Rico	14 @ 15
C	15½@ 16
B	16½@ 17
A	00 @ 17½
Crushed	00 @ 18½
SOAP, ℔ lb., Northern	9 @ 13
Wilmington, Ext. Family	10½@ 11
Family	10 @ 10
Chemical	9½@ 10
Pale	7½@ 8
SHINGLES, ℔ M., Contract	3 50 @ 4 50
Common	2 50 @ 3 50
STAVES, ℔ M., W. O. bbl	20 00 @30 00
R. O. hhd	30 00 @40 00
TIMBER, ℔ M., Shipping	12 25 @12 50
Mill, prime	10 00 @10 50
Mill Fair	8 50 @ 9 50
Mill, inferior to ord.	5 50 @ 8 00
TALLOW, lb.	10 @ 11

REVIEW

OF THE

WILMINGTON MARKETS

FOR THE

WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, December 12, 1867.

TURPENTINE—Since the close of our last review the market for this article has been in an unsettled condition, and prices have had a declining tendency throughout the week, the market closing on Wednesday at $2 75 for soft and $3 60 for hard—being 50@55 cents lower than quoted in our last. There is a better demand from buyers, and the market is quite firm at above figures. The receipts for the week foot up 2,762 bbls., which sold as follows:

	bbls.	soft.	hard.
Friday	650	$3 25	$2 15
Saturday	550	3 20	2 15
Monday	845	3 05@3 10	2 00@2 10
Tuesday	140	3 00	
Wednesday	532	2 75@2 80	1 60@1 80
Thursday	45	2 75	1 60

SPIRITS TURPENTINE.—The market opened on Friday last at a decline of one cent and sales were made at 48 cents, at which figure it ruled on Saturday. On Monday the unfavorable tenor of the advices from the Northern markets had the effect to keep buyers out of market, and there were no transactions reported. On Tuesday a further decline took place of 1½ cent, with sales at 46½ cents, at which figure there has since been a steady demand, but sellers generally are unwilling to accept this figure, and are holding higher. The week's transactions foot up only 984 bbls., as follows:

Friday	109 bbls. at	48	cents ℔ gal.
Saturday	208 " "	48	" " "
Tuesday	121 " "	46½	" " "
Wednesday	546 " "	46½	" " "

ROSIN—The market for all grades has continued throughout the week just ended to be characterized by an extreme dullness, and the few sales effected have been at a further decline in prices. The unfavorable advices both from home and foreign markets, have almost checked operations, and there is little or no enquiry even at the figures given—and the market for all qualities closes inactive. The sales are only 1,515 bbls., as follows: Saturday, 580 bbls. at $1 90 for Common, and $2 for mixed lots of strained, to $2 and low No. 1; Monday, 112 do at $2 20@$2 25 for No. 1; Tuesday, 140 do. at $1 90 for strained and No. 2; Wednesday, 683 do. at $1 75@$1 80 for strained, $1 80 for No. 2, and $2 for No. 1, ℔ bbl. of 280 lbs.

TAR—Has ruled rather dull during the week, and the market closed at a decline of 25 cents on former quotations. The arrivals are 797 bbls., which sold as follows: 330 bbls. at $2 25; 216 do. at $2 15; and 221 do. at $2 ℔ bbl.—last sale being at lowest figure.

BARRELS.—The demand for empty spirit barrels continues meagre, and we note a fair stock on market. The sales for the week have been confined to small parcels at the following quotations: Second hand, $2 25@$2 40 for lots as they run, and $2 75@$3 for selected;—new, $3@$3 20, for country, $3 25@$3 75 for city, and $3 50@$3 75 for New York make, as in quality.

BEESWAX.—Only