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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

THE PLOUGH, THE LOOM, AND THE ANVIL .- If the title of this journal is somewhat unique, its denumber abounds in illustrative arguments to show resources, is in truth a question which particularly interests the Farmer and Planter, even above all other classes.

It is impossible to read any of the articles sketched with a view to that object without seeing that the able and veteran Editor has entered on this important service with great earnestness, and that a journal commencing under such auspices, and every day rapidly increasing in popularity and circulation. is destined to exercise a powerful influence in leading the cultivators of the soil to study the action of Government upon their condition as a duty too much neglected, yet one of primary importance.

The opinion is more prevalent than true, that the entiment of hostility to the Tariff of 1842 is almost general among the cotton planters of the South. Than such an impression nothing can be further from the truth. In a casual interview a few days since with the Editor of the Plough, the Loom, and the Anvil, he remarked that one of the clearest, closest, and most emphatic arguments in favor of that measure he had ever seen, came to him a few days since for publication in his journal from an eminent planter of Mississippi, in the shape of a manifesto against the repeal of the Tariff of 1842, signed by seventy-nine planters of cotton, in a

single county in that State. o give at once a just conception of the useful and determined purpose of a journal which commends itself on every account to every friend of home interests and home industry, and to give wider currency to what, by all such, will be considered sound and salutary doctrine, we give place to the following, in advance of its appearance in the October number, placed in our hands by the senior editor, on seeing him lately, and in explanation of his design to encourage the closest association be-tween "the Plough, the Loom, and the Anvil," and all other useful employments:

WOOL AND WOOLLENS.

The following extract from a letter that has been com cated to us will have interest for our wool-growing readers :

"In consequence of the great commercial crisis in Europe the last year, with the political troubles of the present, this country has been filled with foreign woollen fabrics, on which great sacrifices are being made; a large portion of these goods belong to bankrupt estates, and they must be sold whether they return 25, 50, or 75 cents on the dollar of their value

"Very large sales of American woollen goods are being made at auction in New York, at prices far below their cost, the country than can be consumed in the present year, and the manufacturers have wisely adopted the policy of stopping a portion of their works. A hard contest has commenced between the foreign and home manufacturers, which is as sure to result in favor of the latter as that the sun will pursue his wonted course. Although the money pressure has lasted more than ten months in this country, there have been no failures among manufacturers, while in Europe the failures have been for millions in the same time. These facts induce me to believe that the statement made by Mr. Lawrence, of Lowell, to Mr. Randall, (see 1st No. of The Plough, Loom, and the Anvil,) was not too strong, viz: 'The business of manufacturing wool in this country is on a better basis than ever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital encever before, inasmuch as the character of the complex of the capital encever before in the complex of the capital encever before in the capital encever b gaged in it are such that foreign competition is defied.' This is strong language to be used in a country just starting into life in the cultivation of the useful arts."

From the foregoing it is palpable that the wool-grower must take his share in this contest. The low price of goods, and suspension of a large amount of machinery, must reduce the value of wool below the cost of production. This is a temporary state of things, and we entreat the wool-growers not to do as they have formerly done in times of depression, break their flocks and go into something else.

" Never give up," should be the motto of every American when engaged in a good cause.

Let them, on the contrary, set their shoulders to the wheel, determined to take for themselves the protection that is needed to enable them to compel the woollen machinery and the men who drive it to come and take their place by the side of their ploughs, and thus enable them to pay for their clotn in the their daughters, their horses and oxen, their carts and wagons-and in potatoes, and turnips, and hay, of which the earth yields by tons—obtaining back from the consumer not only the cloth, but the refuse of the products of the earth, by

of all the labors of the farmer, there is none that would yield so largely as the cultivation of sheep, but there is none in which it is more necessary to have the consumer to take his place by the side of the producer. A steady market for fresh meat would double the value of his flocks, but mutton is a meat that cannot be preserved. Beef and pork may be salted, but veal and mutton must be eaten where 'they are killed.

but veal and mutton must be eaten where 'they are killed.

board, swam under her bows, caught by the hanging rigging, and, by climbing and shinning, got up to the head. The loose sticks—the risk of being struck by which was imminent—and remember that we all looked momentarily for the falling and shinning, got up to the head. The loose sticks—the risk of being struck by which was imminent—and remember that we all looked momentarily for the falling areasy of the head, bowsprit, passengers and all—and you may conceive the noble spirit, the only one out of the hundreds around, that dared venture his life for the salvation of his fellow-creatures. I weep at the recollection. Let the wool-grower, then, offer premium to the mutton eater. of England to come with their machinery and sit down by him, and he will in a few years make this country, as it should be, the great wool-growing and the great wool-manufacturing country of the world, and then the necessity for protection will be at an end. Seeing what has been done, who can doubt that if the tariff of 1842 had been made the great national measure of the planters and farmers, the production and consump-tion of wool would be, even at this moment, almost double

corn-grower in the country that would not pay towards having oad made to enable him to get to market in less time and a road made to enable him to get to market in less time and at less cost. Every man wants to get the consumer as near him, in point of time and expense, as possible; and yet the present policy of the country, advocated by both farmers and planters, is that of driving our present consumers to the West, there to become themselves producers, and replacing them by

might for a time have to pay to the weaver in his neighbor is paper for a year is Turre hood, forgetting that when the consumer is on the land the

The loom and the anvil are the best aids to the labor of the land, it is covered with a dense forest from base to summit,

DR. HARE ON CHEMICAL EXPLOSIONS.

American Journal of Science and Arts (Sillimen's.)sign is no less so; as it is the first periodical esta- The September number of this standard scientific periodical blished for the express purpose of discussing and contains sixteen principal essays and the usual variety of mi-explaining the political economy, along with the nor papers systematically arranged, under the several heads practice, of agriculture; and hence, so far, every of miscellaneous and scientific intelligence. Among the latter is an outline of a communication from Dr. HARR to the that fair, steady, national encouragement to all the Franklin Institute on the long-mooted question of the explo-great branches of industry essential to our national sion which took place at the great fire in New York in 1845. independence, and for which we have the natural His theory appears to be that, under ordinary circumstances nitre when ignited produces only that species of combustio which is called deflagration, without being capable of the more violent and instantaneous reaction designated by the word explosion. This is the general law; but he demonstrates by actual experiment that nitre will explode under some contingencies. We quote from the report :

"The explosibility of incandescent nitre with water was illustrated in the small way by heating a portion in a platinum capsule by the flame of a hydro-oxygen blowoipe and sudden immersion in the liquid. So active was the explosion that a portion of the resulting hydrate flew out upon the operator. explosion ensued; nevertheless, when a capsule, containing nitre heated to the point of volatilization, was struck with the face of a hammer, coated with sugar melted upon it and made to adhere by moisture, a detonation took place. A still more powerful detonation was produced as follows: Upon an anvil a disk of paper three inches in diameter was laid, covered with pulverized sugar; over the sugar was placed another similar disk, covered with pulverized nitre. A bar of iron, rather wider than the disks, at a welding heat, was then held over them, and subjected to a blow from a sledge. An explosion with a report like that of a cannon ensued.

"Instructed by the facts and considerations above stated, it is inferred that the explosions, which contributed to extend the conflagration in New York, arose from the reaction of the nitre with the combustible merchandise with which it was surrounded. It is presumed that as soon as the fire reached whole pile, by means of the interstices necessarily existing be-tween them, the nitre with which they were embued causing them to deflagrate. Much of the salt being thus brought to the temperature of fusion, it must have run about the floor, reached the combustibles, and soon found its way to the next story through the scuttles which were open. All the floors must have been rapidly destroyed by the consequent deflagra-tion, far exceeding in activity any ordinary combustion. Meanwhile, the nitre being all liquified and collected in the cellar in a state of incandescence, and the mercha glomerated by the fusion of sugar and shellac, aided by the molasses, the weight, the liquidity, and temperature must have produced all the conditions requisite to intense detonations. The floors having been consumed, the store must have been The floors having been consumed, the store must have been equivalent to an enormous crucible of twenty feet by ninety, at the bottom of which were nearly three hundred thousand pounds of nitre, superficially heated far above the temperature producible by any surface, so as to convert the re-agents into nascent aeriform matter, under a pressure of half a million of pounds. The intense reaction, however, would not permit of durable contact. At each impact the whole mass must have been thrown up explosively, and hence the successive detona-tions. But the chemical reaction, the heat and the height of the fall, growing with their growth and strengthening with their strength, the last elevation was succeeded by the thundering report and stupendous explosion of which it has been an ob-ject to afford a satisfactory explanation."

A REAL HERO.

hero, who is an honor to his country and to human nature :

"We then hauled off, leaving about twenty on the wrockpersons who were so frightened that, except for wild and almost gibbering gestures to us, they might have passed for sta-tues; their faces were of a greenish pale color and their eyes looked large and hollow. They clung to the wreck, and refused (by utter non-compliance) every endeavor to induce them to jump for the boats. At this time—will it be believsaw this ship first, the captain said, all who were aboard must either have perished or been taken off, and, therefore, he did not wish to bear down; we came, and have saved at least ten. I say let us stay by her, no matter how long it may be, so there is a living thing sboard her. Look at that little child clinging to the boom—will you leave it? A groan and a 'Never!' was answered from all save two or three. The captain appeared vexed. He turned our boat, ran astern, picked up his boats, and ordered the helmsman to 'run us close alongside.' He had refused to do this three or four hours before, when there was little or no danger; now it was ex-pected that the whole head of the burning ship would fall, and the experiment be really dangerous. Some who had advocated it before now demurred; but the more bold declared they would run the risk, and the voice of fear was stifled. I give our captain credit here—it was a trying time—my heart fluttered, for I was afraid; but still I could not look at that child which for hours we had seen hanging with the mute determination of

despair, without resolving every risk rather than no rescue.
"And there, close into the head, was an old gray-haire spare, and now wasted, labor of themselves, their sons, and | man with an infant in his arms! He sat there with perfect ease, apparently unconscious of the particulars of the scene about him. We backed down within about ten yards, and aid of which their poor lands may be made rich, while the rich ones are made richer by aid of careful cultivation and drainage.

The stripped passing a hauling line around his body, and was pulled in a boat close in to the wreck, and then jumped overpulled in a boat close in to the wilder, by the hanging rigging, board, swam under her bows, caught by the hanging rigging,

> "After attaining his position, one by one he fixed a line around them, took a turn with it and lowered them away: they were then hauled by the other end of the line close to the sea, large and strong, broke over it two or three times at least.
>
> Jerome was compelled by main strength to tear it away and lower it swiftly to prevent it seizing another hold. It was saved after having clung to its one position for at least three hours. The old man who had the little infant was the last— the infant had been sent before—he refused to let go, and it required a great deal of threatening and some slight

planters, is that of driving our present consumers to the West, there to become themselves producers, and replacing them by other consumers who are so distant that the cost of transport and exchange eats up the chief part of the product of labor.

Every man would pay for making a road by which to get his produce to market, there to lose the manure, exhausting his land; but when they are advised to bring the market to their sides, that they may save the manure and enrich the land, each man calculates how much his shirt would cost him

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who will order where may be found nearly every variety of American trees, from the willow and the elm, to the oak and the Canada fir ; and it is the parent of at least a hundred streams. Not a rood of its rocky and yet fertile surface has ever been cultivated, and its chief inhabitants are the panther, the bear, and the deer. Almost its only human denizen is one Frederick Burnet, a "mighty hunter," who is now upwards of forty years of age, and is said to have slain between five hundred and six hundred bears upon this mountain alone. To obtain an adequate idea of its height and granduer, it should be viewed from at least a dozen points of the compass, and with regard to the circular and apparently boundless panorama which it commands, it can be far better imagined than described. On uestioning one of the wild natives of the region as to the haracter of this prospect, he replied: "Good God! sir, it looks down upon every seaport in the United States, and cross the whole of Mexico." On learning this truly remarkable circumstance, my curiosity was of course excited, and I uestioned my informant as to the facilities of looking off from the peak. "Directly on the highest point," said he "stands single fir tree which you have to climb, and thus look down on all creation." "And how do you reach the summit !" ontinued. "O! it's a very easy matter, strapger; you only have to walk about six miles, and right straight up the roughest country you ever did see."

pon concluded that I should waste none of my strength merely for the privilege of "climbing a tree," even though it were the most elevated in the land. One of my Ashville friends, however, to whom I had brought letters of introduction, spoke to me of the Black Mountain in the most enthusiastic terms; said that I ought to visit it, and added that he had gotten up a party of one dozen gentlemen, including himself, who were resolved upon visiting the foot of the mountain in my company. They were described as lovers of scenery, anglers, and nunters, and it was proposed that we should go on horseback, though accompanied by a kind of tender, consisting of a small wagon load of provisions, fishing rods, and guns, which was to be under the especial charge of an old negro named Sain Drymond. I was of course delighted with this arrangement. and, as the expedition was accomplished to the satisfaction of all concerned, I will give an account of its principal incidents. Our calvacade started at the break of day, and, as Miss Fortune would have it, in what we imagined a morning shower. It so happened, however, that it rained almost without cessing until we reached our place of destination, which was a log shantee not far from the base of the Black Mountain. and about six miles from its summit. Our course lay up the valley of the Swannanoah, which, in spite of the rain, I could Black Mountain, is a charming 'ributary of the French Broad, from five to twenty yards in width, cold and clear, very rapid, and throughout its entire length is overshaded by a most luxuriant growth of graceful and sweet-scented trees and vines. The plantations on this stream are highly cultivated, the surround ing scenery is mountainous, graceful, and picturesque, and among the small but numerous waterfalls which make the first half of its course exceedingly romantic, may be enjoyed the finest of trout fishing.

To describe the appearance of our party as we ascended the Swannanoah, through the mud and rain, were quite impossible, without employing a military phrase. We looked more like a party of "used up" cavaliers, returning from an unfortunate siege, than one in pursuit of pleasure; and in spite was a passenger in the packet ship "New World," gives a ed to an uncommon degree. Some of our company were dethrilling description of the burning of the Ocean Monarch, in | cided characters, and a variety of professions were represented the course of which he thus chronicles the conduct of a real Our captain was a banker, highly intelligent, and rode a superb horse; our second captain was a Lambert-like gentleman, with seatlet Mexican cloak; we had an editor with us, whose principal appendage was a long pipe; there was also a young physician, wrapped up in a blue blanket; also a young graduate, enveloped in a Spanish cloak, and riding a beautiful pony; also a young artist, and then a farmer or two; also a merchant; and last of all came the deponent, with an immense plaid blanket wrapped round his body, and a huge pair of boots hanging from his legs, whose romantic appearance was somewhat enhanced by the fact that his horse was the ugliest in the country. Long before reaching our place of destination, a freshet came pouring down the bed of the Swannanoah, and, as we had to ford it at least twenty times, we me with a variety of mishaps, which were particularly amusing We arrived at a vacant cabin on the mountain, which was our place of destination, about noon, when the weather became clear, and our drooping spirits were revived. The cabin tood on the margin of the Swannanoah, and was completely hemmed in by immense forest trees. Our first movement was to fasten and feed the horses; and, having satisfied our own appetites with a cold lunch, a portion of the company went a fishing, while the remainder secured the services of the hunter Burnet, and some balf dozen of his hounds, and endeavored to kill a deer. At the sunset hour the anglers returned with a lot of two or three hundred trout, and the hunters with a handsome doe. With this abundant supply of forest delicacies, and a few "nic-nacs" that we had brought with us, we managed to get up a supper of the first water, but each man was his own cook, and our fingers and hands were emplayed in the place of knives and plates. While this interestng business was going on we dispatched Burnet after a fiddler, who occupied a cabin near his own, and when the musical entleman made his appearance we were ready for the "even We devoted two hours to a series of fantastic dances, and

when we became tired of this portion of the frolic, we spent an hour or so in singing songs, and wound up the evening by elling stories. Of the hundred and one that were related only a few were at all connected with the Black Mountain but as these were Indian legends, and gathered from different ources, by the gentlemen present, I will preserve them in this letter for the edification of those interested in such matters. On the north side of Black Mountain there was once a cave, where all the animals in the world were closely confined; and before that time they had never been known to roum over the mountains as they do now. All these animals were in the keeping of an old Cherokee chief. This man, who had a mischievous son, often came home with a fine bear or deer, but would never tell his son or any other person where he found so much valuable game. The son did not like this, and on one occasion when his father went out after lood he hid himself among the trees, and watched his movements. He saw the old man go to the cave, already mentioned, and, as he pushed away a big stone, out ran a fine beck, which he killed with an arrow, and then rolled back the stone. When the old man was gone home with his deer the boy went to the cave, and thought that he would try his luck in killing game. He rolled away the stone, when out numped a wolf, which so frightened him that he forgot to reace the stone, and, before he knew what he was about, all he animals made their escape, and were fleeing down the nountain in every possible direction. They made a dreadful roise for a while, but finally came together in pairs, and so have continued to multiply down to the present time. When he father found out what the foolishness of his son had accomplished, he became very unhappy, and in less than a week he disappeared, and was never heard of again. The boy also became very unhappy, and spent many days in try- insect wings.

had gone. The boy fired an arrow towards the north, but it

as he reached the summit of the first hill he heard the shout of a mountain, however, is twenty-five hundred feet high, and spend two hours on the highest peak, and be home again terrapir, and as he supposed it to be his entagonist, he was greatly perplexed, but continued on his course. On reaching the top of the second hill, he heard another shout of defi- ed at the extreme upper end of the North Cove. It is the ance, and was more astonished than ever, but onward still residence of the best guide in the country, and the most condid le continue. Just before reaching the summit of the third hill, the deer heard what he supposed to be the same Bill and Table Mountains, already mentioned, as well as the short, and he gave up the race in despair. On returning to Lindfille Pinnacle, the Catawba Cave, the Cake Mountain, the starting place, he found his antagonist in a calm and the Lindville Falls, and the Roan Mountain. edlected mood, and, when he demanded an explanation, the The Lindville Pinnacle is a mountain peak, surmounted tin beyond the reach of the swiftest legs.

sept upon the floor, and that our saddles were our only pil- of, which is a perpendicular precipice several thousand feet with trout, we all started on our return to Ashville, and entastic in their formation-now shooting forward, as if to reached the village just as the sun was sinking behind the look down into the valleys, and now looming to the sky, as

NORTH COVE, McDowell COUNTY, (N. C.) June 3, 1848.

I now write from a log cabin situated on the Catawba ri- umphal march. ver, and in one of the most beautiful of valleys. My ride The Catawba Cave, situated on the Catawba river, is en from Ashville to Burnsville, a distance of over forty miles, tered by a fissure near the base of a mountain, and is reputed was unattended by a single interesting incident, and afforded to be one mile in length. It has a great variety of chambers, only one mountain prospect that caused me to rein in my which vary in height from six to twenty feet; its walls are of a log cabin, which are associated with a singular being of the cave which has never been explored, and an admirable ago , his native land, the story of his birth, and his early is- of nature. tory, were alike unknown. Soon after his arrival among mountains he fell desperately in love with the daughter d farmer, but his suit was rejected by the maiden, and stre ment the lover suddenly disappeared, and was subsequenty found residing on Bald Mountain in the cave already me tioned. Here he lived the life of a literary recluse, andis other which purported to be a treatise on human governmen in the latter production he proclaimed himself the sole peprietor of Bald Mountain, and made it known to the word that all who should ever become his neighbors must submit to the laws he had himself enacted. The prominent actions of his life were " few and far between," but particularly in ous. The first that brought him into notice was a follows I few years after it was ascertained that he had taken po sion of this mountain the authorities of the county sent ssenger to Greer, and demanded a poll-tax of seventy-five ents. The hermit said he would attend to it on the next court-day, and his word was accepted. On the day in quee on Greer punctually made his appearance, but, instead se with stones, and drove the judges, lawyers, and client all out of the village, and then, with rifle in hand, returned to his mountain dwelling. For some months after this event pened to discover on what he called his domain, and it is said was in the habit of trying the power of his rifle by shooting down upon the plantations of his neighbors. The crowning event of David Greer's life, however, consisted in his shooting to the ground in cold blood, and in the broad daylight, a man named Higgins. The only excuse that he offered for committing this murder was that the deceased had been found hunting for deer on that portion of land which he claimed as his own. For this offence Greer was brought to trial, and acquitted on the ground of insanity. When this decision was made known, the criminal was greatly energed, and, when released, started for his cabin, muttering loud and deep when released, started for his cabin, muttering loud and deep was in the habit, which was frequently the case, he invariably treat-him a visit, which was frequently the case, he invariably treat-him a visit, which was frequently the case, he invariably treat-him a visit, which was frequently the case, he invariably treat-him a visit, which was frequently the case, he invariably treat-him a visit, which was frequently the case, he invariably treat-him a visit, which was frequently the case, he invariably treat-him a visit, which was frequently the case, he invariably treat-him a visit, which was frequently the case, he invariably treat-him a visit, which was frequently the case, he invariably treat-him a visit, which was frequently the case, he invariably treat-him and them politicly, but would never speak to them; he even went so far in expressing his dislike as to consume for fire-wood, after the ladies were gone, the topmost rail of his yard-fence, over which they had been compelled to pass, on their way into his cabin. That old Watson "fared sumptuously every day" could not be denied, but whence came the money that you had been found hunting for deer on that portion of land which he claimed had been found hunting for deer on that portion of land which he claimed had been found hunting for deer on that portion o night by a ball passing through the door of his cabin. After passed away from among the living he was spoken of as living upon the mountain for a period of twenty years, he Culgee Watson, and is so remembered to this day. finally concluded to abandon his solitary life, and took up his abode in one of the settlements on the Tennessee side of Bald situated on the Lindville river, a tributary of the beautiful

imposing. The first was a northern view of Black Moun-least one hundred feet, and find a resting place in an in ping his food; while the immediate foreground of the picture spicuous position a short distance below the Falls, and it were consisted of a marvellously beautiful stream, which glided an easy matter to imagine it a monument erected by Nature swiftly by, over a bed of golden and scarlet pebbles. The to celebrate her own creative power. only sounds that fell upon my ear, as I gazed upon this scene, were the murmurings of a distant water-fall, and the hum of trees in every imaginable place; but, with a view of even sur-

terrapin solved the mystery, and then begged the deer to re-member that mind could sometimes accomplish what was of-member that mind could sometimes accomplish what was ofseenes. On one side is a precipice which seems to descend With regard to the manner in which our party spent the to the very bowels of the earth; in another direction you night at the foot of Black Mountain, I can only say that we have a full view of Short-off Mountain, only about a mile laws. The morning of the next day we devoted to an uneccessful hunt after a bear, and a portion of us having ains; in another direction still the eye falls upon a brotherhrown the fly a sufficient length of time to load old Drymond good of mountain peaks which are particularly ragged and if to pierce it with their pointed summits; and in another direction you look across what seems to be a valley from eighty to a hundred miles wide, which is bounded by a range of mountains that seem to sweep across the world as with tri

horse. But the prospect alluded to embraced the entire out chiefly composed of a porous limestone, through which the waline of Bald Mountain, which, being one of the loftiest it ter is continually dripping; and along the entire length flows this section of country, and particularly barren, presented a cold and clear stream, which varies from five to fifteen inches magnificent appearance. On the extreme summit of the in depth. This cave is indeed a curious affair, though the entain is a very large and an intensely cold spring of we trouble and fatigue attending a thorough exploration for outter, and in its immediate vicinity a small cave and the roles weigh the satisfaction which it affords. But there is one arm named David Greer, who once made this upper worldhis home. He first appeared in this country about fifty years themselves famous by revealing some of the hidden wonders

The Ginger Cake Mountain derives its very poetical name from a singular pile of rocks occupying its extreme summit. The pile is composed of two masses of rock of different maably small base. The lower section is composed of a rough slate stone, and its form is that of an inverted pyramid; but the upper section of the pile consists of an oblong slab of sosaid to have written a singular work upon religion, and atal position, presenting the appearance of a work of art. The lower section is thirty feet in altitude, while the upper one is thirty-two feet in length, eighteen in breadth, and nearly two feet in thickness. The appearance of this rocky won der is exceedingly tottleish, and though we may be assured that it has stood upon that eminence perhaps for a thousand years, yet it is impossible to tarry within its shadow without a feeling of insecurity. The individual who gave the Ginger Cake Mountain its outlandish name was a hermit named Wat son, who resided at the foot of the mountain about fifty years ago, but who died in 1816. He lived in a small cabin, and entirely alone. His history was a mystery to every one but himself, and, though remarkably eccentric, he was noted for aying over the money, he pelted the windows of the cours his amiability. He had given up the world, like his brother hermit of the Bald Mountain, on account of a disappointment in love, and the utter contempt which he ever after wards manifested for the gentler sex, was one of his most sinhe amused himself by mutilating all the cattle which he hap-pened to discover on what he called his domain, and it is said him a visit, which was frequently the case, he invariably treatwhen released, started for his cabin, muttering loud and deep gantly trimmed off with the feathers of his favorite bird. The curses against the injustice of the laws. In process of feathers suit in which he kept himself constantly arrayed he time a number of attempts were made to take his life, and it was a common occurrence with him to be awakened at midneyer be ascertained; and long after the deluded being had

Mountain. Here, for a year or two, he worked regularly in Catawba. They are literally embosomed among mountaine an iron forge, but having had a dispute with a fellow-work- and long before seeing them do you hear their musical roar. man, swore that he would shoot him within five hours, and The scenery about them is as wild as it was a hundred years started after his rifle. The offending party was named Tompkins, and after consulting with his friends as to what course ourist into the stupendous gorge where they reign supreme he ought to pursue, in view of the uttered threat, he was advised to take the law in his own hands. He took this advice, and fifty feet broad, and though its waters have come down and, as David Greer was discovered walking along the road heir parent mountains at a most furious speed, they here with rifle in hand, Tompkins shot him through the heart, and nake a more desperate plunge than they ever dared to attempt the burial-place of the hermit is now unknown. Public opinion was on the side of Tompkins, and he was never summoned to account for the defensive murder he had committed.

In coming from Burnsville to this place, I enjoyed two mountain landscapes, which were supremely beautiful and mountain landscapes, which were supremely beautiful and tain from the margin of the South Toe river, and all its cliffs, pool, which one might easily imagine to be bottomless. And defiles, ravines, and peaks seemed as light, dream-like, and then, as if attracted by the astonishing feats performed by the airy as the clear blue world in which they floated. The stu- waters, a number of lofty and exceedingly fantastic cliffs have pendous pile appeared to have risen from the earth with all gathered themselves together in the immediate neighborhood its glories in their prime, as if to join the newly-risen sun in and are ever peering over each other's shoulders into the depths his passage across the heavens. The middle distance of the below. But as the eye wanders from the surrounding cliffs, landscape was composed of two wood-crowned hills which it falls upon an isolated column several hundred feet high, stood before me like a pair of loving brothers, and then came around which are clustered in the greatest profusion the most a luxuriant meadow, where a noble horse was quietly crop-beautiful of vines and flowers. This column occupies a con-

> With a liberal hand, indeed, has she planted her forest passing herself, she has filled the gorge with a variety of ca. Office, Virginia.

THE WEEKLY NAT VAL INTELLIGENCER | at five cents a yard, and compare it with the six cents that he | LETTERS FROM THE ALLEGHANY MOUNTAINS. | ing to find his father, but it was all in vain. As a last re-| The other prospect that I witnessed was from the summit verns, which astonish the beholder, and almost cause him to sort he tried an old Indian experiment which consisted in the Blue Ridge, looking in the direction of the Catawba. It dread an attack from a brotherhood of spirits. But how shooting arrows, to find out in which direction the old man a wilderness of mountains, whose foundations could not futile is my effort to give an adequate idea of the Lindville athomed by the eye, while in the distance, towering above Falls and their surrounding attractions! When I attempted

shooting arrows, to find out in which direction the old man had gone. The boffred an arrow towards the north, but if athomed by the eye, while in the distance, towering above returned and fell at his feet, and be knew that his father had do not travelled in that direction. He also fired one towards the cast and the south and the west, but they all came back in the same menner. He then thought that he would fire on directly above his head, and it so happened that this arrow never returned, and so the boy knew that his father had gone to the spirit land. The Great Spirit was angry with the Cherokee nation, and to punish it for the offence of the foolish boy he tore away the cave from the side of the Black Mountain, and left only a large cliff in its place, which is move a conspicuous feature, and he then deciared that the time twould some when another race of men should possess, which is mountains where the Cherokees had flourished for many generations.

Another legend was as follows: Once, in the olden times, when the animals of the earth had the power of speech, a red deer raid and a terrajin met on the Black Mountain. The deer ridicated the terrajin, boasted of his own fleetness, the hader of the certification of the third princes of the content of the third princes and the sound from the Black Mountain. The deer ridicated the terrajin boasted of his own fleetness, when the animals espected to the proposition. The race was to extend from the Black Mountain. The celerations to the summit of the third prince in the power of speech, a miner that would have put to the blash people of far greater proposed that the twain should run a race. The creeping animal assessed to the proposition. The race was to extend from the Black Mountain. The race was to extend the two the proposed that the twain should run a race. The creeping animal assessmed to the proposition. The race was to extend the twain the power of speech, a redefining to the castiward. The day was then fixed, and the animal assessmed to the proposition. The bling itself appearance, and having given them particular mountain cated the Hawk's Bill, on account of its resundirections, stationed them upon the several peaks over which blance to the besk of a mammoth bird, the length of the all there I observed no less than three thunder starms performing the race was to take place. The appointed day arrived, and being about fifteen hundred feet. It is visible from nearly their uproarious feats in three several valleys, while the remainthe deer, is well as the first mentioned terrapin, were faithevery part of the villey, and to my fancy is a more pictuing portions of the lower world were enjoying a deep blue fully on ue ground. All things being ready, the word was resque object than the Table Mountain, which is too regular atmosphere. In visiting Roan Mountain you have to travel given, and away started the deer at a break-neck speed. Just at the sides and top to satisfy the eye. The table part of this, on horseback, and, by starting at the break of day, you may the same evening about the sunset hour.

In accounting for the baldness which characterizes the Roan Mountain the Catawha Indians relate the following tradition: There was once a time when all the nations of the earth were at war with the Catawbas, and had proclaimed their determination to conquer and possess their country. On hearing this intelligence the Catawbas became greatly enraged, and sent a challenge to all their enemies, and dared them to a fight on the summit of the Roan. The challenge was accepted, and no less than three famous battles were fought-the streams of the entire land were red with blood, a number of tribes became extinct, and the Catawbas carried the day. Whereupon it was that the Great Spirit caused the forests to wither from the three peaks of the Roan Mountain where the battles were fought; and wherefore it is that the flowers which grow upon this mountain are chiefly of a crimson hue, for they are nourished by the blood of the slain.

THE PROVINCIAL PRESS OF FRANCE.

THANSLATED FOR THIS PAPER.

Paris, April 10, 1848. Duan Sin : I transmit to you, according to promise, with he specimens of the principal newspapers published in all the Departments of France, a list of these papers, stating their title, the name of the town and of the Department where they are published, and the days of their publication. These principal papers number two hundred and ninety-nine, of which two hundred and sixty-seven are favorable to the principles, differently shaded, upon which was founded the Constitut Government established in 1830, and thirty-two represent the doctrines favorable to the Government which was overturned

There are also published a great many other papers in the Departments, but these are papers of no importance, even local; not entering into politics, and generally containing nothing but advertisements of no interest out of their vicinity. Their size is generally very small.

The number of subscribers to each of the principal papers of which I send you specimens varies from two hundred to, eighteen hundred. The newspapers of Rouen, Havre, Marseilles, Lyons, Lille, Strasbourg, Nantes, and Bordeaux have that this local press has most influence. In these cities the newspapers are published generally six times a week, leaving out Sundays. The price of subscription ranges from twenty to seventy francs per annum, or according to their period of

The newspapers of the Departments, to whatever political opinion they may be attached, are generally made up in the ollowing manner : First, the political and general news taken from the newspapers of the capital, and derived from correspondence sent by post; then the papers contain the news of the day and the reports of the two Chambers up to a late hour: second, the local news, and the reflections which are lerived from them : third, the commercial advertisements

In some cities of the first class there are also published papers entirely literary, and monthly reviews: their number is

Such are the principal data that I can furnish you relative o the provincial press, which had, since 1830, been much extended, had augmented the papers in their number, size, and importance, but which has been arrested in this progress, and remains for a time stationary, owing to the diminution of the price of the newspapers of Paris, the increase of their size, and the immense changes in their editorships.

With regard to the press of Paris-so great, so strong, so utelligent, and so powerful, a striking reflex of French civilization, and which, notwithstanding its defects and imperfections, takes so large a share in directing the policy of Europe and of human intelligence-I cannot here give you its numerous nomenclature, or a detailed view of it. You will find a statement and list of its names in the estalogue prepared by the Stamp Office, and of which you can readily procure a copy. Its political and literary characters are so extensively

known that it would be superfluous to mention them here. I hope, my dear sir, that this hasty sketch may meet your wishes, and aid you in giving to the United States of America a summary idea of the situation in Peance of this great intellectual power of modern times—the periodical press.

Believe me, my dear sir, your devoted servant, LEON VIDAL, Chef de Bureau

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sophy.

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Communications addressed to Mrs. Mancan, Belmont Psot and S-opti