

THE TELESCOPE.

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COLUMBIA, (S. C.) TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1816.

[No. 5.]

PUBLISHED WEEKLY
BY THOMAS W. LORRAIN,

CORNER OF RICHARDSON AND LADY STREETS, DIRECTLY OPPOSITE WILLIAMSON'S TAVERN.

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COLUMBIA HOTEL.



THE Subscriber has removed to the house lately occupied by Mrs. Calvert, where he will be happy to meet his old Customers, and others who may be pleased to call on him. The STAGE OFFICE for the several Stages that leave Columbia is kept at the "Columbia Hotel."

Columbia, Jan. 9, 1816.

SAMUEL GREEN.

ENTERTAINMENT.

THE Subscriber returns his thanks to his friends and the public generally for the liberal encouragement he has received, and informs them he has opened a House of Entertainment on the corner of Richardson and Lady Streets, in the house well known as Dr. S. Green's Tavern; where he will always be happy to accommodate his old customers and friends, together with such others as will favor him with their company. He pledges himself that their accommodations shall be inferior to none in this place.

C. E. WILLIAMSON.
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Columbia, Jan. 9, 1816.

FRESH DRUGS AND MEDICINES.

THE subscriber has just received at his Wholesale and Retail DRUGGIST STORE, half way between the State-House and Market, Columbia, South-Carolina, a large & general assortment of DRUGS & MEDICINES, selected by his agent in Philadelphia and New-York, out of the latest importations from Europe, which will be sold on the most reasonable terms for cash or approved credit. The following are a part of his latest importations, every article of which will be warranted genuine:

100 wt. Aqua Fortis, (double) 200 wt. Alum, 40 wt. Asafoetida, 50 wt. Antimony, 50 wt. Aloe, Alkane Root, Alcohol, Aniseed, Annatto, Arsenic, (white and yellow) Arrow Root, Balsam Capivi, Balsam Peru, Balsam Tolu, Barbadoes Tar, Borax Refined, Burgundy Pitch, 200 wt. Brimstone, Calomel, Cantharides, Camphor, Chamomile Flowers, Canella Alba, Caraway Seed, 150 wt. Cream Tartar, Cascarella, Castile Soap, Cloves, Columbo Root, Cochineal, Conserve Roses, Crude Tartar, Corrosive Sublimate, Digitalis, Epsom Salts, Extract Jalap, Extract Gentian, Extract Hemlock, Extract Bark, Essence of Lemons, Essence of Bergamot, Essence of Lavender, Emery, (coarse and fine) Fenugreek Seed, Flowers of Zinc, Flowers of Benzoin, Flowers of Sulphur, Gamboge, Galls, Gentian, Ginger in Root, 1500 wt. Glauber Salts, Gum Arabic, Gum Guaiacum, Gum Tragacanth, Gum Ammoniac, Gum Kino, Gum Copal, Lac Shell, Lac Benzoin, Lac Elemi, Lac Myrrh, Helichore, Hiera Picra, Isinglass, 40 lb. Hippop in powder, Jalap, 100 lb. Juniper Berries, Liqueur Ball, Liqueur Refined, Liqueur Root, Lunar Caustic, 100 lb. Manna Flake, 150 lb. Manna in sorts, 50 lb. Magnesia calcined, do. Glasses in Boxes, 100 lb. Madder, Mortars, Composition, do. Glass, Mace, Mezerion, Nutmegs, Nutgalls, Nitric Acid, Oil of Anise, Oil of Cloves, Oil of Caraway, Oil of Lavender, Oil of Pennyroyal, Oil of Peppermint, Oil of Rosemary, Oil of Savin, Oil of Juniper, Oil of Sassafras, Oil of Vitriol, 35 lb. Opium, Orris Root, Oxymel of Squills, 250 lb. Peruvian Bark in powder, Pearl Ash, Pearl Bark, Patent Lint, Red Precipitate, White Precipitate, Quassia Wood, Rheubarb in Powder, do. in Root, Rochell Salts, Rose Water, Rotton Stone, Sal. Ammoniac, Sal. Polychrest, Salt of Tartar, Salt of Hartshorn, Sarsaparilla, Sponge, Scammony, Saffron, Sena, Sago in Grain, Seneka, Soda, 150 lb. Salt Petre, (double refined) Spemacetti, Squills, Sugar Lead, 150 lb. Sweet Spirits Nitre, 75 lb. Spirits Hartshorn, Tasteless Salts, Tamarinds, Turmeric, Uva Ursi, Valerian Root.

PATENT AND FAMILY MEDICINES.

In Phials, suitable for country merchants, to be had by the grocer or dozen.

Lee's New-England Bilious Pills, Anderson's Pills, Hooper's Pills, Issue Plaster, Balsam Honey, British Oil, Bateman's Drops, Dally's Elixir, Dally's Carmine, Essence of Peppermint, Essence of Mustard, Godfrey's Cordial, Steer's Opodeldoe, Stoughton's Bitters, Harlow Oil, Cephalic Snuff, Salt of Lemon, Citric Acid, Court Plaster, Milk of Roses, Gowland's Lotion, Squire's Grand Elixir, Improved Charcoal Dentifrice, Antimonial Wine, Elixir Paregoric, Laudanum, Spirits Hartshorn, Sweet Spirits Nitre, Cordial Tincture of Rhubarb, Tartar Emetic, Calomel, Jalap, Rheubarb.

SUNDRIES.

Crown Lancets, Common Lancets, Apothecary Scales and Weights, Spatulas, Camel Hair Pencils, Paint Brushes, Gold-Beater's Skin, Ink Powder, Red Ink, Sealing Wax, Pill Boxes, Wafers, Bottles and Phial Corks, Tapers, Liquid Blacking, Best London Mustard, T. accers, Trusses, Wash Balls, Windsor Soap, Variegated Soap, Transparent Soap, Pomatum, Tooth Brushes, Lip Salve, Smelling Bottles, Rieve's Water Colours in boxes, Nipple Shells and Tubes, India Rubber, Phials assorted, Tooth Drawers, Surgeon's Needles, Scalpells, Cork Screws.

Paints, Colours, and Hatter's Materials.
Dry White Lead, Red Lead, Yellow Ochre, Spanish Brown, Whiting, English Chalk, Rosin, Lamp Black, Venetian Red, Prussian Blue, Rice Pink, Vermilion, Patent Yellow, Ivory Black, Pumice Stone, Silver Leaf, Flake White, King's Yellow, Black Lead, Verdigris, Hatter's Bow Springs, Aqua Fortis, Oil Vitriol, Copperas Logwood, Dropake, Lysarge.

FAMILY MEDICINE CHESTS.

Of various sizes, put up agreeable to order, and on the shortest notice, with a book of approved directions, containing a description of most diseases.

Will receive in a few days, a fresh supply of Doctor Robertson's and Dyott's celebrated Patent and Family Medicines.

Also, a large supply of cold drawn CASTOR OIL of a very superior quality.

All Orders from the country will be executed with punctuality and dispatch.

S. PERCIVAL.

Columbia, December 7, 1815.

NOTICE.

A PARTNERSHIP is entered into between Col. A. BLANDINO and Wm. F. DEBARRETT, who will practise in the Courts of Law for the District of Richland; and in the Court of Equity held at Columbia for the Districts of Lexington, Richland and Fairfield; under the firm of BLANDINO & DEBARRETT.

6t 3 January 1, 1816.

CASH will be given for CLEAN LINEN AND COTTON RAGS, on application at this Office.
Dec. 20, 1815.

DOMESTIC.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT.

[A committee of the Virginia Legislature lately made a report on Roads and Inland Navigation, remarkable for its clear, just and comprehensive views. It merits, I think, equal commendation with that delivered some weeks before to the Legislature of North-Carolina. As it contains a good deal of information, will produce thinking, and may excite investigations that will eventually result important and useful to the State of South-Carolina, the readers of the Telescope are here presented with as much of the report as presents views and information adapted to all situations and circumstances.]

Extract from a Report to the Virginia House of Delegates, Dec. 28, 1815.

Whatever difference of opinion may have, at any time, subsisted, as to the expediency of controlling the voluntary direction of the wealth and labor of individuals by the application of legal constraint, there never has existed a doubt but that it is the duty, as well as the interest of every good government to facilitate the necessary communication between its citizens.

Next to the enjoyment of civil liberty itself, it may be questioned whether the best organized government can assure to those, for whose happiness all governments are instituted, a greater blessing than an open, free and easy intercourse with one another, by good roads, navigable rivers and canals. Their tendency, by extending the commerce, to promote the agriculture and manufactures of a nation, and thereby to augment its wealth and population, is too obvious to require much illustration.

The planter and farmer realize their share of this benefit, in the augmented value of their lands; the manufacturer and merchant, in the increased and diversified demand for their industry and capital.

Nor are the higher interests of society less indebted for their advancement to the multiplication and improvement of these channels of useful intercourse. They afford the means of exploring the natural resources of a country, & invite the genius of speculation to fit them for the uses of man. Lands too remote from market to tempt cultivation; forests, hitherto regarded as inaccessible; beds of minerals and fossils unknown or neglected, are brought within the reach of ordinary enterprise, and rendered subservient to the convenience and comfort of the citizen, or to the defence and safety of the state.

They confer on an extended empire the promptitude and energy of action which are considered peculiarly characteristic of one of narrow dimensions; since, without contracting the limits of its territory, they reduce the distance, and expedite the communication between the seat of its government and its remotest extremities.

Whether the public force is to be spread out for defence, or combined for attack, they alike contribute to the rapidity and to the vigor of its operations.

In a republic, especially where public opinion exerts a controlling influence, and public virtue should be the spring of all public action, they may be considered an important auxiliary, if not a necessary ingredient of political liberty. They tend to diffuse more equally the knowledge which experience acquires, and the leisure which wealth alone can purchase; they strengthen the cords of social union, and quicken that generous feeling of patriotism, which is ever ready to exclaim at the contemplation of an extended scene of public improvement, "I love my country, because she is worthy of my affection."

While many other States have been advancing in wealth and numbers, with a rapidity which has astonished themselves, the ancient dominion and elder sister of the Union has remained stationary.

A very large proportion of her western territory is yet unimproved, while a considerable part of her eastern has receded from its former opulence. How many sad spectacles do her low lands present, of wasted and deserted fields! of dwellings abandoned by their proprietors! of churches in ruins! The genius of her ancient hospitality, benumbed by the cold touch of penury, spreads his scanty board in naked halls, or seeks a coarser, but more plenteous repast in the lonely cabins of the west. The fathers of the land are gone, where another outlet to the ocean turns their thoughts from the place of their nativity & their affections from the haunts of their youth. Beyond the Allegany, an unexpected revolution threatens the Atlantic states in general, the accomplishment of which will create new interests and views in that flourishing and important section of America, and bar, forever, the hope of reuniting it by commercial ties to the markets of the east.

Your committee are far from intimating that the General Assembly of Virginia has been totally unmindful of those natural advantages, or wholly regardless of their improvement.

The commonwealth required time to recover from the pecuniary losses she sustained during the war of the revolution. It found her citizens laboring under very heavy private debts, and left her government encumbered with a debt of much greater magnitude.

Yet, under circumstances so inauspicious, the statesmen of that day, and especially the illustrious man to whom, under Heaven, this nation was indebted for the establishment of its freedom, did not disdain to enquire into the humblest means of giving to that freedom, value.—From his zealous exertions, sprung the Potomac and James River Canal Companies. To the first of these, the commonwealth is indebted for a water communication of three hundred and thirty-eight miles; and upon it, and the contemplated works on the Shenandoah, she relies

for the farther improvement of a navigation of three hundred and ninety miles. She has shared with a sister state, the benefits of the labor already performed on this river; in that which remains to be accomplished on the South Branch of the Potomac, the Cacapehon, and the Shenandoah, she has an exclusive interest.

The James River Company, have opened a navigation of three hundred miles.

The Appomattox and the Dismal Swamp Canals naturally followed into existence, those which were indebted for their origin, to the patriotism of General Washington. The former opened a navigation of one hundred miles.—The latter was designed merely to connect waters already navigable; but, in its present use, and remote consequences, is not inferior in importance, to any public work within the commonwealth.

The expence of the first of the preceding works, does not exceed fifteen hundred dollars per mile upon the navigation already opened; that of the second, is about twelve hundred; an average expence which will be annually diminished in the progress of future improvements on the branches of these rivers, as the principal obstructions to their navigation, were removed before their waters could be brought into partial use.

The actual cost of those public works, does not exceed one third of the expence usually attendant upon the structure of turnpike roads; which, in the absence of navigation, are the only substitute for them. It is due to the latter however, to remark, that the addition recently made to them of parallel iron rails, immovably set in the earth, at proper intervals, for the wheels of waggons, has more than equalized the advantages of such roads, with the best ascending navigation which the rivers of Virginia afford above their principal falls; and that the additional cost, which this improvement occasions to the structure of the Turnpike, though great in itself, is inconsiderable, when compared with its effect in reducing the expence of land carriage.

The turnpike roads of the commonwealth, except a few short passes of particular mountains, and a road recently begun from Fredericksburg, towards the Blue Ridge, are confined principally to the county of Loudon, the adjacent counties of Fairfax, Fauquier and Frederick, and to the vicinity of the seat of government.

There is but one, to which the funds of the commonwealth have contributed any aid:

All these public works are alike in one respect: they purpose to defray the expence of their first cost, and of their subsequent repairs, out of the tolls collected upon them; and these are equitably levied upon those who use them, in sums proportioned to the benefit which they respectively derived from such use. Where it is absolutely certain that such works can subsist upon this basis alone, the revenue of the commonwealth, although it may expedite their progress, is not indispensably necessary to their creation.

Private wealth will, of itself, take the direction which personal interest prompts. But there are many such works essential to the prosperity of the commonwealth; the persons immediately interested in which, have not capitals sufficient to commence their foundation, and there are many others of like utility, which, if completed, would require the lapse of many years to make them profitable to the individual subscribers to their stock. The population and commerce which infallibly follow their direction, spread out upon their borders, and swell their tolls, cannot be expected to precede their existence.

Although almost all the turnpike roads within the commonwealth, have been made without any other legislative aid; than their respective acts of incorporation; yet, it is probable, that neither Potomac nor James river could have been rendered navigable above tide water, with such assistance alone. Maryland and Virginia subscribed more than one half of the capital stock of the former, and Virginia alone, more than one third of the latter. The tolls hitherto collected on the one, would not have justified a subscription to its stock, with a view to mere profit; and although those of the latter have, for some time, realized the most sanguine expectations of its friends, and its stock is eighty per cent. above par, yet the revenue of the company, apart from the appreciation of its stock, would not net to its members six per cent. per annum upon the sums which they have actually expended on that river, from the commencement of their labors to the present period. Yet, your committee confidently believe, that there is not an individual within the commonwealth, alive to a sense of her true interests, who would have desired, for the sake of a higher profit to the treasury upon the stock of the public in either of those works, to withdraw the funds which were required for their completion, and permit those noble rivers to return to a state of nature.—Those who reside near to their banks, have directly participated in the benefits thus afforded them, of a cheaper mode of transporting the productions of their labor to market; and those even, who antecedently possessed the superior advantages of tide water, or who were compelled by their distance from both, to resort to the common highways, in order to reach the same market, have greatly profited by those improvements of navigation, which augmenting the extent and value of that market, could not fail, proportionably, to enhance the price of their produce. So true, it is, that whatever contributes to increase the population and wealth of the towns, must contribute to the growth and improvement of the country. And this effect is wrought not solely on the vicinity of those towns—it is seen not merely in the wealth which glitters in their suburbs; but discovered

in the augmentation of their means of consumption, and the enlargement of their mutual capitals: In this necessary and reciprocal relation of commerce and agriculture, the country below tide water in Virginia, has an immediate and even local interest in the progress and perfection of all those public works, exclusive of its general interest in whatever advances to the growth and prosperity of the commonwealth.

The inhabitants of the low lands will, therefore, partake of the benefit of every application of the public revenue to the improvement of the connexion between their market towns and the country above them. It should be peculiarly their policy to turn the commerce of the west from its northern direction into the bosom of their own territory. In the efforts which are contemplated to improve the roads passing immediately through their own country, they have an interest more sensible to the eye, but less to the understanding.

Should the general assembly determine to patronize by the application of the public revenue all such works as are likely to be of great public utility, it becomes important to decide whether an improvement may not be made in the mode heretofore pursued, of extending to them that patronage.

Your committee are fully satisfied that much loss has hitherto been sustained by all the canal companies which have been incorporated, for want of skill in their conduct. Their directors have served, it is true, without compensation. They have generally been public-spirited private gentlemen; but neither professional engineers, nor capable, from experience and observation, of guarding against the errors and frauds of agents who pretended to be so.

No single company could afford to purchase or could fully employ, in a country where few public works were begun, the services of a distinguished engineer; and yet, without the previous surveys, plans and estimates of such an officer, no very arduous public work could be confidently begun or successfully conducted.—To supply the defect of such an officer, would be the obvious interest of the commonwealth, who, if not sufficiently compensated by the general utility of his labors, might demand of each company, such an interest in its stock, as should be equivalent to the value of the services rendered to the company by such officer.

Whatever fund the legislature may be inclined to appropriate to internal improvement, a difficulty must occur in settling the relative importance of its proper objects; and, if the appropriation were also required to designate some particular object, it would be often impracticable, from the variety of opinions always existing in an assembly representing many local interests, to procure an union in the choice of any one. The first of these difficulties may be obviated by organizing a proper body to collect and prepare for the general assembly, the facts and information necessary to cast upon every application for a portion of the fund light enough to guide the sound discretion of the legislature in the selection of subjects: And these facts will be entitled to the higher confidence, if reported under the sanction of official responsibility.

To allay such local jealousies as might obstruct an agreement in favor of any single object of internal improvement, the fund may be previously consecrated and set apart for the accomplishment of all, by one appropriation. If the terms of its future application to any, be at the time prescribed, a like participation in the benefit of the fund, will be assured to every interest which it is calculated to promote; and the speedy enjoyment of that benefit will be secured to each by proportioning the magnitude of the fund, so set apart, to the number and importance of the objects, for which it is designed to provide.

It may be sound policy for the commonwealth in order to accomplish some great commercial or political purpose, to throw open to general use, without the charge of tolls, a particular canal or road; but it can never be its interest, for many reasons, to become the sole proprietor of all the public works within its territory.—Experience testifies that they will be more economically made, and better repaired, if their management be left to the individuals who subscribe to their stock with a view to private gain, than if confided to public officers or agents.—The commonwealth should subscribe so much to their stock, and on such terms, as will suffice to elicit individual wealth for public improvement, and the control which she retains over the conduct of the individual subscriber, should extend no farther, than to prevent or correct such abuses upon the community at large, as might be apprehended from the too eager incentive of gain.

By yielding to the individual subscribers the profit of the state on its shares of the stock of any company, where required to secure such individuals against temporary loss, a much smaller subscription of public money will suffice to draw forth private enterprise. The commonwealth can never be a loser, if a public work judiciously begun, be finally perfected—and the public security against such loss, will be found in the discretion which the Legislature retains over the choice of the objects, for which its patronage is sought. As the market rate of interest decreases in every commercial country, with the growth of its capital, the maximum profit of the stock of each company may be reduced, after the lapse of a limited period of time. The least profit allowed by law should be great enough to create the hope of private advantage in those whose enterprise can have no other object; and that minimum, which the community have so much interest in reducing, may be safely fixed at a lower amount, in proportion as the magnitude & conditions of the public subscriptions afford to private adventurers an indemnity against any ultimate loss.