

CHERAW GAZETTE

AND
PEE DEE FARMER.

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M. MacLean, Editor and Proprietor.

TERMS.

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From the New England Farmer.

LUCERNE GRASS.

Mr. Feasenden—I recur once more, in spite of the ill success of my efforts, to the subject of this invaluable grass. I feel a full conviction that it will, sooner or later, be the favorite grass of the New England States, for whose soil and climate, it is peculiarly adapted. It will finally take the place of the Dutch clover throughout New England. It is better adapted to our soil. It bears our severe drouth much better than any grass we have hitherto cultivated.

I begin by stating my own experience. It is of fifteen years duration. That is no trifling trial. I go on regularly in the extension of its culture, and upon dry, sandy, and gravelly lands, it will for ever be for me, the favorite grass. It may be asked, What are the peculiar advantages which you have experienced from this grass? I answer, first, double crops in weight at least from the same extent of ground. The Lucerne will give in this state two good crops, the first season in which it is sown. Is there any other grass, which will do this? It will endure in good heart for five years? Will clover do this? It will endure the severest drouths when all other grasses fail.

—What grass will do this? It is the favorite grass of the horse and the cow. It will fatten them faster than other grass.—It will do as much for a horse as an ample supply of grass, and four quarts of grain a day in keeping him in flesh and strength.

But many persons have failed in attempts to raise it. And what then? Does it follow that it is not worthy of culture? By no means. If one man uniformly succeeds for fifteen years, there must be some good reasons why others do not succeed. Let us try to seek out the causes of their ill success. It is not climate, because it stands our severest winters unhurt, when clover fails. It stands our severe drouths, when clover dies.

It has been intimated, that my success is owing to peculiar care, and culture. This is not so. It is treated exactly like the red clover, and I give to it, purposely, my worst lands. Not that it does not do honor to the best. It will reward the cultivator in the best soils.

What then have been the causes of its failure with many cultivators? I will endeavor to state my opinion on that subject. The Lucerne will not grow in most meadow lands at all. It cannot bear low lands. It will die, if water rests upon it in winter. On uplands it has failed from an insufficiency of seed. It requires 20 pounds to the acre, and the price of the seed has been so high that our farmers would not buy it or they buy it in too small quantities, but it can be afforded from Europe at 14 cts. per pound, though our seedsmen cannot afford to sell it at that price on account of the limited demand. It is like every thing else, if the demand is small, the supply will be small and high. My object is, to recommend its culture, and when it becomes general, the seed will be abundant and cheap, but no man must expect a crop without 20 pounds to the acre of seed, but as it endures five years at least, and pays for its cost the first season, it is a miserable and wretched economy, which, withholding the seed, decries the plant as unproductive.

It is with me the richest treasure. My farm is small, it is true, but it is a grazing farm, and my produce is 20 tons of hay. Surely the experience of such a farmer for 15 years, is worth something.

JOHN LOWELL.

Aug. 6, 1835.

I have already cut two crops from Lucerne, sown in April last; and two crops from Lucerne two years old, and two crops of hay from Lucerne three years old, at the rate of three tons per acre. I expect two crops more from each.—These are facts, notorious to them, who pass by my grounds.

What have we like it? Lucerne must be, and will be the grass of the south shore of this state, and other light lands of New England.

Let farmers, who pass this way visit my lands, let them see the grass, and the hay produced from it, and inquire of those who feed my stock, and they will be satisfied, that the Lucerne is yet to be a blessing to their farms.

The Lucerne has been tried in some parts of this state. Can any of our readers inform us with what success?—Ed. Gaz.

From the Orleans Bee.

FLOATING PLANT.

Doctor Samuel A. Carthwright, of Natchez, read a lecture before the Mississippi Lyceum, on the 7th inst. on the health preserving properties of the *Grandiflora*,

Jassiena, or floating plant. Part of the lecture is published in the Natchez Free Trader of the 7th inst. and is to be concluded in a subsequent number. The doctor asserts to that plant virtues of the most salutary kind, and if he establish them to the extent in which he says they exist, the floating plant will become a very important material for promoting and restoring health. It is found on the stagnant waters of Lower Louisiana a great quantity, floating on the surface, and where it appears, the water of the bayou or pool on which it floats, is more or less clear in proportion to the greater or lesser quantity of the plant. According to Doctor Carthwright, the pores of this plant, constitute the alembic through which the impurities of the water pass off. The plant is entirely aquatic, bears a flower grows three or four feet above the surface of the water; the root is several feet in length, his horizontally on the water about two inches below the surface. The roots and leaves, says the doctor, form such dense covering to the water as to constitute a bridge sufficiently strong to enable snakes and the smaller animals to pass over the pools in which it grows. The mass is in some places so thick as to offer considerable resistance to a canoe, and they form the stratum of the *prairie tremblante* or shaking prairie.

The doctor supposes that the growth of this plant is conducive to the health of the region in which it appears; and, to support his theory, he adduces the following facts:

1. That it purifies all stagnant water in which it grows.

2. That though he visited the region in which the plant is indigenous, in the hottest season of the year, he found the stagnant waters of the lakes and bayous, inhabited by this plant, as pure to the sight, smell and taste, as if it had just fallen from the clouds. He gives as an example the waters of the Bayou Black, which have a darkish appearance, owing to a chemical affinity between some ferruginous matter in the soil and the oak trees and leaves which fall into it; yet the water was free from all disagreeable taste and smell. It contained no green scum, and was as good and palatable as cistern water, except near the Gulf of Mexico, where it was impregnated with salt, and the inhabitants drink no other kind of water.

—The doctor alleges, that south of the region where the *Jassiena Grandiflora* grows, in the same kind of alluvial soil, stagnant water of pools and bayous becomes very impure. He infers, therefore, that this aquatic plant consumes or feeds upon those substances which, in other situations, corrupt and vitiate stagnant water in warm climates.

3. The doctor asserts a fact, which, if well founded, establishes his theory beyond all controversy; the region in which this plant abounds, contains more stagnant water and swamps, than any inhabited district of the same extent in the United States; and yet the inhabitants enjoy a remarkable degree of health and longevity, are exempt from malarious & miasmatic diseases. The growth of this plant is bounded by the 30th degree of north latitude, and the soil and face of the country on both sides of it are similar, being alluvial, and containing lakes, swamps and stagnant water, and covered with nearly the same vegetable productions. The country on the north side is unhealthy, its stagnant waters impure, its inhabitants sickly, and human life of short duration. On the south side, on the contrary, there is a wholesome atmosphere, pure water, healthy and long lived inhabitants. The doctor adduces the country on bayou Lafourche to sustain his theory respecting the healthiness produced by this growth of the floating plant and he says that in the year 1831 a great number of the original settlers were living, who migrated from Nova Scotia before the revolution. The negro population, he says was very numerous and remarkably healthy and long lived and the number of persons among the negroes over a hundred years old, was greater than in all New England, including its whole population white and black.

The inhabitants attribute their peculiar healthfulness to the salubrious influence of sea-breezes. But the same effect is not produced by sea-breezes on soils of the same kind beyond the region of the *Jassiena Grandiflora*. Therefore he says, it is a fair inference that this plant, by consuming the impurities of the stagnant waters, prevents the generation of miasmata, and thus acts as a prophylactic against bilious fevers and other miasmatic diseases.

Doctor Carthwright is a man of science and learning, of high character as a physician and of amiable disposition. We are not sufficient acquainted with the phenomena of natural history to decide upon the merits of his theory. If it be correct, and the facts which he advances, seem to leave no doubt on the subject, he has made a discovery of the utmost importance to science—and one which will be extremely useful to the inhabitants of the southern parishes of Louisiana.

LETTER FROM MR. ADAMS.

From the Baltimore Chronicle.

We have been kindly permitted to take a copy of a letter addressed by Mr. Adams to the officers of a Literary Society in Baltimore. It will be read with great interest, and is certainly a very admirable paper of its kind.

WASHINGTON, JUNE 22, 1838.

GENTLEMEN: I have no words to express my gratitude for the kind feelings and

more than friendly estimate of my character contained in your letter of the 9th instant, and am not less at a loss for language to utter the humiliation of a deep conviction how little your panegyric has been deserved.

Where it even so far deserved that I could feel myself qualified to give you the advice which you desire, it would afford me the most heart felt pleasure to give it, but, situated in life as you represent yourselves to be, I could scarcely name any list of books, or of authors, which I could recommend as equally worthy of attention to you all. The first, and almost the only book, deserving such universal recommendation, is the bible—and, in recommending that, I fear that some of you will think I am performing a superfluous, and others a very unnecessary, office—yet such is my deliberate opinion. The Bible is the book, of all others, to be read at all ages, and in all conditions of human life; not to be read once or twice or thrice, through, and then to be laid aside, but to be read in small portions of one or two chapters, every day, and never to be intermitted, unless by some overruling necessity.

This attentive and repeated reading of the Bible, in small portions every day, leads the mind to habitual meditation upon subjects of the highest interest to the welfare of the individual in this world, as well as to prepare him for that hereafter to which we are all destined. It furnishes rules of conduct for our conduct towards others in our social relations. In the commandments delivered from Sinai, in the inimitable sublimity of the Psalms and of the Prophets, in the profound and concentrated observations upon human life and manners embodied in the Proverbs of Solomon, in the philosophical allegory so beautifully set forth in the narrative of facts, whether real or imaginary, of the Book of Job, an active mind cannot peruse a single chapter and lay the book aside to think, and take it up again to-morrow, without finding in it advice for our own conduct, which we may turn to useful account in the progress of our daily pilgrimage upon earth; and when we pass from the Old Testament to the New, we meet at once a system of universal morality founded upon one precept of universal application, pointing us to peace and good will towards the whole race of man for this life, and to peace with God, and an ever-blessed existence hereafter.

My friends, if all or any of you have spiritual pastors to guide you in the paths of salvation, do not imagine that I am encroaching upon the field of their appropriate services. I speak as a man of the world, to men of the world, and I say to you *search the Scriptures!* If ever you tire of them in seeking for a rule of faith and a standard of morals, search them as records of *history!* General and compendious history is one of the fountains of human knowledge to which you should all resort with steady and preserving pursuit. The Bible contains the only authentic introduction to the history of the world; and in storing your minds with the facts of the history, you will immediately perceive the need of assistance from geography and chronology. These you may find in many of the Bibles published with commentaries, and you can have no difficulty in procuring them. Acquaint yourselves with the chronology and geography of the Bible; that will lead you to a general knowledge of chronology and of geography, ancient and modern, and these will open to you an inexhaustible fountain of knowledge respecting the globe which you inhabit, and respecting the race of man (its inhabitant), to which you yourselves belong. You may pursue these inquiries just so far as your time and inclination will permit. Give one hour of mental application, (for you must not read without thinking, or you will read to little purpose,) give an hour of joint reading and thought to the chronology, one to the geography of the Bible, and, if it introduces you to too hard a study, stop there. Even for those two hours you will ever after read the Bible, and any other history, with more fruit—more intelligence—more satisfaction. But, if those two hours excite your curiosity, and tempt you to devote part of an hour every day for a year or years, to study thoroughly the chronology and geography of the Bible, it will not only lead you far deeper than you will otherwise ever penetrate into the knowledge of the book, but it will spread floods of light upon every step you shall ever afterwards take in acquiring the knowledge of profane history, and upon the local habitation of every tribe of man, and upon the name of every nation into which the children of Adam have been divided.

There are many other subsidiary studies to which you may devote more or less of time, for the express purpose of making your bible reading more intelligible to yourselves. It is a book which neither the most ignorant and weakest nor the most learned and intelligent mind can read without improvement.

There are other books of great worth and of easy acquisition, which I suppose will be accessible to you all. The *Lectures of Useful and Entertaining Knowledge*, the *Family Library*, the *Monthly and Quarterly Magazines*, which are in a continual succession of publication in this country as well as in England, will furnish you a constant supply of profitable reading; for the selection of which, time inclination, and opportunity will be your wisest counsellors. As citizens of a free country, taking an interest in its public concerns, I am sure I need not remind you how strong your impulse should be to seek an intimate knowledge of the history of America, from the

voyage of Columbia, and even of his supposed predecessors, Prince Madoc of Wales, and the Northmen, down to the Olympiads of Andrew Jackson and Martin Van Buren. The *American Hemisphere—the Continent of North America—the United States of America*, before and since the acquisition of Louisiana, and every separate State of this Union, is a series of his torical problems of which you should systematically seek the solution. Read the *Constitution of the United States—the Commentary of the Federalist—the Constitution and History of your own State—Biographies*, beginning with Langhorne's *Plutarch*, and thence proceeding to the *History of John Smith*; to the *American Biographies of Belknap and Sparks*; to *Washington Irving's Life of Columbus*; and to the *Articles of Penn. and Calvert*, and *Locke, Oglethorpe*, which will lead you on to others in the *Encyclopedia Americana or Conversations Lexicon*. Then the *fashionable Novels and Poetry of the present times*: *Scott, Byron, Moore, Rogers, Coleridge, Southey, Wordsworth, two Montgomeries, Cooper, Paulding, Willis, Mrs. Hemans and Lady Blessington, Mrs. Sigourney and Miss Gould*, and worth them all, *Miss Edgeworth*—and lastly, the *Reports of your Countrymen travellers in foreign lands—D. Dwight, Dr. Sprague, Mr. Bigelow, Lieutenant Sidell, and Dr. Fisk*, with many others whose names do not at this moment occur to me. But I have given you more than enough, and after all, hardly know whether the catalogue will meet your inquiries, or satisfy your expectations. After all, I must conclude with the advice of the serving man to the young Student of ———, in Shakespeare—"Study what you most affect."

And I remain your friend and fellow-student for life.

J. Q. ADAMS,

Messrs. Lewis Audouin, H. D. McCulloch, and C. L. Leary, a committee of the Franklin Association of Baltimore.

THE NUMBER 7.

In six days creation was perfected, and the 7th was consecrated to rest. On the 7th of the 7th month a holy observance was ordained to the Children of Israel, who fasted 7 days, and remained 7 days in tents; the 7th year was directed to be a Sabbath of rest for all things; and at the end of 7 times 7 years commenced was the grand Jubilee: every 7th year the land lay fallow: every 7th year there was a general release from all debts, and all bondsmen were set free. From this law may have originated the custom of binding young men to 7 years apprenticeship, and of punishing incorrigible offenders by transportation for 7, twice 7, or three times 7 years: every 7th year the law was directed to be read to the people: Jacob served 7 years for the possession of Rachel, and also another 7 years: Noah had 7 days warning of the flood, and was commanded to take the fowls of the air into the ark by sevens, and the clean beasts by sevens. The ark touched the ground on the 7th month; and in 7 days a dove was sent; and again in 7 days after. The 7 years of plenty, and the 7 years of famine, were foretold in Pharaoh's dreams, by the 7 fat and the 7 lean beasts; and the 7 ears of full corn, and the 7 ears of blasted corn. The young animals were to remain with the dam 7 days, and at the close of the 7th to be taken away. By the old law, man was commanded to forgive his offending brother 7 times; but the meekness of the last revealed religion extended his humility and forbearance to 70 times 7 times. "If Cain shall be revenged 7 fold, truly Lam-mech 70 times 7." In the destruction of Jericho 7 priests bore 7 trumpets 7 days. On the 7th they surrounded the walls 7 times, and after the 7th time the wall fell. Balaam prepared 7 bullocks and 7 rams for a sacrifice. 7 of Saul's sons were hanged to stay a famine. Laban pursued Jacob 7 days journey. Job's friends sat with him 7 days and 7 nights, and offered 7 bullocks and 7 rams as an atonement for their wickedness. David in bringing up the ark, offered 7 bullocks and 7 rams. Elijah sent his servant 7 times to look for the cloud.—Hezekiah in cleansing the temple offered 7 bullocks and 7 rams and 7 he-goats for a sin-offering. The children of Israel, when Hezekiah took away the strange altars kept the feast of unleavened bread 7 days, and again other 7 days. King Ahasuerus had 7 chamberlains, a 7 days feast, sent for the Queen on the seventh day; and in the seventh year of his reign she was taken to him. Queen Esther had 7 maids to attend her; Solomon was 7 years building the temple, at the dedication of which he fasted 7 days. In the tabernacle was 7 lamps; 7 days were appointed for an atonement upon the altar, and the Priest's son was ordained to wear his father's garment 7 days. The children of Israel ate unleavened bread 7 days. Abraham gave 7 ewe lambs to Abimelech as a memorial for a well; Joseph mourned 7 days for Jacob. The Rabbins say, God employed the power of answering this number to perfect the greatness of Samuel, his name answering the value of the letters in the Hebrew word which signify 7—whence Hannah, his mother, in her thanks says, "that the barren had brought forth 7." In scripture are enumerated 7 resurrections, the widows son by Elias, the Shunamite's son by Elisha, the soldier who touched the bones of the prophet, the daughter of the ruler of the synagogue, the widow's son of Nain, Lazarus, and our blessed Lord. Out of Mary Magdalene was cast 7 devils. The Apostles chose 7 deacons. Enoch, who was trans-

lated, was the 7th after Adam and Jesus Christ the 77th in a direct line. Our Saviour spoke 7 times from the cross, on which he remained 7 hours; he appeared 7 times; after 7 times 7 days sent the Holy Ghost. In the Lord's Prayer are 7 petitions, expressed in 7 times 7 words, omitting those of mere grammatical connexion. Within this number are contained all the mysteries of the Apocalypse, revealed to the 7 churches of Asia; there appeared 7 gold n candlesticks, 7 stars in the hand of him that was in the midst: 7 lamps being the 7 spirits of God. The book with 7 seals, the lamb with 7 horns and 7 eyes, 7 angels with 7 seals; 7 kings, 7 thunders, 7 thousand men slain. The Dragon with 7 heads; 7 angels bearing 7 vials of wrath. The vision of Daniel was 70 weeks. The fiery furnace was made 7 times hotter for Sadrack, Meshack and Abednego; Nebuchadnezzar ate the grass of the field 7 years.—The elders of Israel were seventy. There are also numbered 7 heavens, 7 planets, 7 stars, 7 wise men, 7 champions of Christendom, 7 notes in music, 7 primary colors, 7 deadly sins, 7 sacraments in the Roman Catholic Church: the 7th son was considered as endowed with pre-eminent wisdom. The seventh son of a seventh son is still thought by some to possess the power of healing disease spontaneously. Perfection is likened to gold 7 times purified in the fire; and we yet say, "you frighten me out of my seven senses." Anciently a child was not named before 7 days, not being accounted fully to have life before that periodical day. The teeth spring out in the 7th month and are shed and renewed in the 7th year, when infancy is changed into childhood. At three 7 years the faculties are developed, manhood commences, and we become legally competent to all civil acts: at four times 7 man is in the full possession of his strength: at five times 7 he is fit for the business of the world: at six times 7 he becomes grave and wise or never: at seven times 7 he is in his apogee, and from that time decays. At eight times 7 he is in his first climacteric: at nine times 7, or 63, he is in his grand climacteric, or year of danger: and ten times 7, or three score years and ten, has by the Royal Prophet been pronounced the natural period of human life. There were 7 chiefs before Thebes. The blood was to be sprinkled 7 times before the altar: Naaman was to be dipped 7 times in Jordan: Apuleia speaks of dipping the head 7 times in the sea for purification. In all solemn rites of purification, dedication, and consecration, the oil or water was 7 times sprinkled. The house of wisdom in Proverbs, had 7 pillars. [Old Colony Memorial.

EDWARD B. DUDLEY TOOK THE OATH OF OFFICE, IN PRESENCE OF THE LEGISLATURE, ON SATURDAY LAST, UPON RE-ENTERING THE OFFICE OF GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO WHICH HE HAS BEEN LATELY RE-ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE; ON WHICH OCCASION HE DELIVERED A BRIEF ADDRESS. WE INVITE THE ATTENTION OF OUR READERS TO THE MANLY SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED IN THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS, WHICH FORMED A PART OF THAT ADDRESS.

"But, gentlemen, I am far from looking to my election as a mere personal triumph. It stands on much higher ground; for it is, in my estimation, the triumph of law and order over doctrines of the most pernicious and disorganizing tendency. A spirit of bold disorder, of daring and licentious riot, is abroad in our country, and threatens the stability of our institutions. Its watchwords are: 'the People against the Banks'—'the People against the Aristocracy'—'the Poor against the Rich' &c. This wretched jargon is of European origin, and has been introduced by foreigners into our happier country. Here the base and the designing have appropriated them to the accomplishment of their unhallowed purposes, and an effort has been made to introduce into our State these loathsome heresies.

"But, thanks to the public soundness and intelligence, never was mischief more fully or more signally rebuked. Our people are not yet steeped so deeply in moral or political profligacy as to enact laws and grant privileges but to abrogate them. We are yet to learn that it is right or just to concede, at one moment, charters, investing rights and property, and, at the next, to render them valueless by denunciation, or to destroy them by violence.

"As to our aristocracy, gentlemen, I need not tell you that our institutions neither legalize nor renounce its existence: that it lives but in the diseased fancy of the worthless and envious leveller, who, despairing to elevate himself, seeks to pull down others to his own poor standard. We have no aristocracy but that which superior industry, intelligence, and moral worth confers, and of that what Government would not be justly proud!

"But, gentlemen, there is danger in this wanton madness; and it is our duty, as patriots, a faithful representatives of the people, to warn and to admonish them of the brooding mischief. Error and vice should not be made the synonyms of truth and virtue. The moral sense of the community cannot be trifled with with impunity; it may become blunted and corrupted; for constant attrition will affect the soundest substance. Then, let us teach the mere partisan and the unprincipled demagogue that the end cannot justify the means; that, by destroying the landmarks between right and wrong, he is sapping the very foundation of our Government, and can receive

no countenance from us, who have sworn this day, faithfully to execute the law. The man who could direct public odium and public violence, by whatever indirection, against one of the legalized institutions of the land, betrays that desecration of principle which fits him for crime and outrage of every character; and he who could heal a fire-brand against a chartered company, would, be assured, to accomplish an end, deprecate the very chamber in which you sit."

FREEDOM OF SUFFRAGE.
The following is a copy of the bill introduced into the Senate by Mr. Crittenden, of Kentucky, and now depending in that body:

A BILL TO PREVENT THE INTERFERENCE OF CERTAIN FEDERAL OFFICERS IN ELECTIONS.
To the end that the great powers given to the officers of the Federal Government, and other persons employed in its service, may not be used for the influencing of elections, which ought to be free and incorrupt:

Be it enacted, &c. That from and after the first day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine, no marshal, or deputy marshal, no postmaster or deputy postmaster, no receiver or register of a land office, or any of their deputies or clerks, no surveyor general of the public lands, or an of his deputies or assistants, no collector, surveyor, naval officer, weigher, gauger, appraiser, or other officer or person whatsoever concerned or employed in the charging, collecting levying, or managing the customs, or any branch or part thereof, no engineer, officer, or agent employed or concerned in the execution or superintendence of any of the public works, shall, by word, message, or writing, or in any other way whatsoever, endeavor to persuade any elector to give, or dissuade any elector from giving, his vote for the choice of any person to be elected to their office of President and Vice President of these United States, or for the choice of any person to be a Senator or Representative in the Congress of the said United States, or for the choice of any person to be Governor or Lieutenant Governor, or of any State, or of any person to be a representative or member in the legislative department of any State of this Union, or for the choice of any person to serve in any public office established by the law of any of said States; nor shall any such officer or person intermeddle in any of the elections above mentioned, or use any means with intent to influence or control the same, otherwise than by giving his own vote; and every person offending therein shall forfeit the sum of five hundred dollars, one moiety thereof to the informer, and the other moiety thereof to the United States aforesaid, to be recovered, with costs of suit, by any person that shall sue for the same, by action of debt, bill or complaint in any of the district or circuit courts of the United States; and every person convicted, on any such suit, of the said offence shall thereby become disabled and incapable of ever bearing or executing any office or place of trust, whatsoever under the said United States.

From the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser.
A PRISON SCENE.
BENJAMIN RATHBUN.

As one of our citizens was recently journeying homeward from the commercial metropolis, he stopped for an hour or two, at Auburn. Impelled by motives of curiosity, he repaired to the State Prison, and went the usual rounds, with the view of contemplating, in his "low estate," one whom he had known and moved with in palmy days of proud and golden prosperity, but who was now in his gloomy walks a convict felon, condemned to years of silent toil, side by side with villains of every hue of crime. In a secluded part of the immense building he found the object of his search; attired in the coarse particolored convict dress, soiled and dirty, his hair cropped closely to his head, and his small, yet dignified form bent painfully over his task.—His countenance was deadly pale, save where, upon each cheek, a small, deep hectic spot told the troubled workings of his unquiet mind, while his unshaven chin, with a beard of a week's growth, contrasted strangely with his high marble-like forehead, and altered features, imparting a wildness to his appearance which befitted the gloomy scene around. It was Benjamin Rathbun, the Forger. He was occupied in shaping the beechen blocks of which joiners' planes are made, and steadily wrought at his new employment his delicate hands, unused to manual labor, plying busily and dexterously the tools of his workbench. As the visitor gazed upon the sad spectacle, through the narrow openings of the dark passage from which the convicts are watched by the guards of the prison, unseen by the prisoners, another visitor stood by, similarly occupied, who had been employed by the man they were contemplating as one of the superintendents of his two thousand laborers when engaged in carrying on his gigantic operations. The latter stood silently intent on the scene, until he burst into tears, and turned away. The irrepressible sympathies, and often lavished upon unworthy objects, whom some redeeming traits have endeared to us, overpowered his feelings, and he left the prisoner to the "peopled solitude" of that populous dungeon.