

THE SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL.

FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 26, 1852.

THO. J. WARREN, Editor.

Our Market.

The Cotton Market has been inactive since our last, and a decline has taken place, extremes ranging from 5 1/2 to 7 3/4. All articles in the provision line are scarce and high.

New Goods for Spring.

Our neighbors, the Messrs. KENNEDY, are now opening their New Spring Goods, embracing a choice and well selected stock suitable for the market and season. In the Gentlemen's department, they have Cashmerets, Drap d'Eta, Summer Cloths, Fancy Linen, Drills, Vestings, and some of the handsomest Ready Made Summer Coats we have ever seen. In the Hat line, they have the usual variety, with now and then an *ala "Kossuth."*

Our other mercantile friends are in town also, with new Goods, of which due notice will of course be given by the parties interested.

Our market is one of the best in the State for the purchase of Cotton and other produce, and for the selling of Goods on reasonable terms, deny it who may.

Facts for the People.

Read the communication in another column—likely you may find some new thought upon an old subject. For our part we are perfectly satisfied that a Plank Road must be made, or we are gone as sure as fate.

Hon. W. F. Colcock.

We beg to return our thanks to Hon. W. F. Colcock, for his recent kind attention in Congressional favors.

The Next President.

Nominations from various quarters are being made, and it is more than likely that in due course of time, upwards of several Candidates will be fairly out. We see it stated that the Democratic Convention of Kentucky, has appointed Delegates to the Baltimore Convention, instructed to support the nomination of Gen. CASS.

The Democratic State Convention of Louisiana, have also elected Delegates for the same purpose.

On the Whig side Mr. FILLMORE is decidedly most prominent. The whole Kentucky Whig press, with a single exception, and that the Louisville Courier, it is stated, urge the nomination of Mr. FILLMORE for the next Presidency, and the nomination of Mr. F. in the Whig State Convention was unanimous.

Another Richmond of the Democratic stock is mentioned.

The Democratic State Convention of Indiana, lately held at Indianapolis, expressed its preference for Gen. JOSEPH LANE as the Democratic candidate for the next Presidency.

Our Neighbors.

Are at work, and it is but reasonable to conclude that, at no distant day, a connection with Union and the upper Districts of the State, will be formed by our enterprising neighbors, the Columbians. They are in good earnest, and will no doubt succeed in the enterprise under consideration. The Carolinian, in speaking of the probable cost of construction per mile for the Union Road, puts the estimate at the highest point \$2000. We are satisfied that ours would not cost more than three-fourths (if so much) as the Union Road. The Carolinian says:

"We have only to add, for the benefit of our readers, that similar enterprises elsewhere have paid well as investments, besides conferring great benefits on the locations through which they pass, as well as on the towns at their termini."

Kossuth Again!

Several little girls in Cincinnati recently presented Kossuth with \$100 which they had collected by going from door to door. He lately exhibited at Louisville and charged one dollar for a ticket of admission. He has now got the babies to beg for him. What next?

The Ladies' Book.

This interesting parlor companion has been received for April, containing as usual a variety of reading for the Ladies.

Influence.

Every one, be his situation what it may, has an interest, though he may not perceive it, in the moral improvement of society. Could we remove the curtain that separates time from eternity, and look into the realities of that world "from whence no traveller returns," and could we be permitted to see what shall be hereafter, then might we know the full effects of our words and actions,—comprehend the result of the smallest exertions in the cause of virtue, and realize the awful consequences of even a word or look that would deter from the path of rectitude.

Our conduct affects first ourselves and those immediately around us, then, through them, others more remote, and still onward like the circle in the water, until the influence is lost to our view in the distance; all our words and actions should be governed by a regard to this momentous truth. What a sad retrospect to look on a life spent without usefulness, and what is far worse, the influence we exercised over our fellows, used to promote no good cause, to incite to no beneficial purpose, perchance employed to encourage others in vice, or in turning them from the path of virtue.—This is a sad thought, of some it may be true; let each one who reads, consider for himself, and see that of him it may never be said, that he turned any from the path of rectitude. *

Alteration in Mail Route.

By the following notification addressed by the Assistant Postmaster General to the President of the Wilmington Railroad, it will be seen that the Sunday morning trip from Wilmington, N. C., and Sunday afternoon from Weldon, on the Mail route No. 2,825, will be for the present discontinued.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

Contract Office, March 17th, 1852.

SIR: You are hereby authorized to omit the Sunday morning (8 A. M.) trip from Wilmington, N. C., and Sunday afternoon (1 1/2 P. M.) trip from Weldon, on Mail route No. 2,825, until further orders. Respectfully your ob't serv't.

E. L. CHILDS, for 2d Ass't. P. M. Gen'l.

Gen. ALEX. MACRAE, Wilmington, N. C.

A writer in the Philadelphia Sun thinks that as mechanics and laborers are liable to a penalty for working on the Sabbath, bar-keepers and their employers do not merit exemption from like penalties.

OHIO.—Notice has been given in the Legislature of Ohio of a bill to prevent any further settlement of colored people in that State.

A SMALL LOT OF SUNDRIES.

Jenny Lind is still very much annoyed, it appears, by all sorts of applications for money. They say that one man, of whom she had never heard before, an entire stranger addressed a letter informing her, that unless she sends him ten thousand dollars immediately he shall be under the necessity of going into insolvency!

Chicago is the most rapidly-growing city in the Western country. It has now a population of 40,000, (although but 28,000 in 1850,) and real estate is selling at higher prices than can be obtained any where else.

A lady died recently in England, who had been married 68 years to the husband that survives her. She was a hundred years old, and her husband is ninety-three.

The whole number of Germans in the United States is estimated at 5,000,000, being over one-fifth and nearly one-fourth of the whole population of the country, which is estimated at 23,000,000.

RETURN DAY.—Our Sheriff with a sorrowing look and downcast countenance has informed us that he has had but five writs left in his office for service, and that they were in four different remote parts of the District. What is to become of the unfortunate lawyers resident in Georgetown under such circumstances is a question not easily answered. The Clerk of the Court is in favor of selling out if a purchaser offers who will not ask too much to take the office.—*Georgetown (S. C.) Observer.*

A new Territory is proposed comprising that portion of Wisconsin lying north of the 45th degree of north latitude, and that portion of Michigan lying west of Lake Michigan.

CENTRAL OHIO RAILROAD.—The business of the thirty-six miles of railroad between Zanesville and Newark is said to be already very extensive.

A new Post-Office has been established at Donaldsville, Abbeville District, in this State, and Samuel Donald appointed Postmaster.

Only \$130,000 have been collected, in sixteen years, in the United States, for the Washington National Monument.

Prof. Park says there is annually preached in the United States, an amount which, if published, would make 120,000,000 octavo pages.

The Harpers pay Dickens \$2,000 for a copy of a new novel which he is about publishing in England.

MOSEY MISCARRIED.—All who have lost money in transmitting it by mail had better apply to the Post Office Department, as ten thousand dollars have been found in the dead letter office during the present quarter.

WHALES.—A gentleman attached to the steamer Gordon, says the Charleston Standard of Wednesday, which arrived here yesterday from Savannah, informs us that he saw several whales between Stono Breakers and the Bar. They appeared to be tame, and it is thought might be easily captured.

MANUFACTURERS, NORTH AND SOUTH.—Some of the wool and cotton manufacturers at the North complain of dull trade and declining business. The cotton manufacturers at the South, however, are prospering amazingly, and increasing all the time.

For the Camden Journal.

The roads of a country are tests of civilization, the veins and arteries through which nutrition is received. Without them the richest productions of nature would be valueless, and society relapse into barbarism. Frequent intercourse and constant interchange of commodities, constitute as essential elements of prosperity to communities, as the circulation of life's purple current to the body. Hence, these veins and arteries are essential to a prosperous country, and they always co-exist as cause and effect, perpetually acting. Roads are furnished according to the demand for them, to every producing section of country. The struggle always is between trading communities or market towns, to open new avenues and more favorable duets, to drain the producing reservoir of its rich contents. To superior enterprise the palm is awarded always. "Palmarum qui meruit ferat." To that town or market place rendered most accessible, the producer will ever direct his team. Therefore every town has an immediate and tangible interest, in the improvement of the roads connecting it with the region of country with which it trades.

But there are other considerations rendering good roads important objects to the entire community. Suppose a road ascends 100 feet in 2000, one twentieth part of every load carried up that ascent is lifted up 2000 feet. On such a slope a horse can draw only half what he could on a level; hence, if the road is leveled one half the cost of carriage is dispensed with; but on a hard surface a horse can draw three times as much as on an ordinary level road. Hence by laying down a hard surface, two thirds of the horses necessary at first to transport a given quantity of produce, would be saved. If such an improvement can be made for a sum of money, the interest of which will be less than the total amount of the annual saving in labor, the community ought to make the improvement. Plank roads are the best ever yet discovered; they are farmers' Railroads. Their locomotives and cars are ever at hand, under their own management and control, easy, safe and expeditious. A horse can draw on a Plank Road two or three times as much as on a McAdamized road. Two horses can draw six tons, or from four to five tons 30 miles per diem continuously, and fatten on it. The friction is two and three-fourths to one in favor of Plank over McAdamized roads. How much more over sands beds and clay hills, imagination cannot compass. Plank Roads are in good order at all seasons of the year. Lands are enhanced in value to an extravagant degree, because, those who are contiguous to it, can go to a more distant market, can sell cheaper and gain more. The consumer of all marketable produce, lumber, fire-wood &c., gets a better supply and at a lower price, and store keepers carry on an active trade, all the while. In the language of another, "a Plank Road is one of those few business arrangements by which all parts gain, and which, in the words of Clinton, 'augment the public wealth.'" A few items upon the cost, mode of construction and value of Plank Roads are subjoined, taken from a work of high authority, to which particular reference shall be made hereafter. There should be a ditch on each side, deep enough to drain the road bed. The width should be 20 feet between the ditches. The whole of this space is graded; but one side is planked, the other is used as a turn out. One foot in sixteen and a half is the greatest rise in an important road in New York which penetrates

Federal Extravagance.

The debate which occurred in the Senate on Monday, with reference to the extension of the Capitol, is worthy of a passing comment. The discussion was begun by Mr. Borland, who objected to the half million appropriation, not only because the work was badly done, but on general principles. In a word, he was opposed to the growing extravagance of Congress, and thought this one of the questions where that lavish expenditure should be met. Mr. Mangum followed in a somewhat similar strain. He recollected, he said, when one administration was turned out for spending thirteen millions a year, whereas now the expenditure had risen to fifty-two millions, with every prospect of its still going higher. The extravagance on which these honorable Senators commented is indeed an alarming fact. No republic can continue pure, while squanders money as ours has been doing lately; and when republics become corrupt, they soon cease to be free except in name. We are glad, therefore, to see two Senators of opposite parties unite to deplore this departure from the original economy of the government. Mr. Borland, indeed, wishes to throw the blame on the Whigs; and Mr. Mangum, not to be outdone, labors to shift it on the Democrats. But the truth is that both parties are equally to blame, and that, partly in the endeavor to sustain what appear meritorious objects, and partly from sheer ostentation, the extravagance of the federal government has grown beyond endurance.

In fact, a period has arrived not unlike, in many respects, that which was cotemporary with John Quincy Adams' election to the Presidency. The federal treasury is regarded as an inexhaustible fountain; to which everybody may resort, who has tact in making money, or who is too indolent to work. Does an impoverished inventor wish to be repaid for labors originally undertaken out of love of science?—he goes to Washington, and bores in Congress till he obtains a grant which makes him a man of fortune. Does a princely merchant plan a line of steamers, by which to make him a millionaire?—he petitions Congress for an appropriation, under the plea of carrying the mails, and gains his end at once. Does a covetous and grasping city become ambitious of being the Paris or London of America? it sends committee on committee to Washington, to ask that a sister city may be robbed of a great national institution. In a word, from the private citizen up to the wealthy municipality, everybody and everything seeks to live on the federal treasury, and grow wealthy and great without the trouble of work. In this grand scheme of plunder, A helps B, and C assists both, on the pledge of being supported in turn. It is only honest men and good republicans—those who scorn to pilfer, and those who think extravagance unconstitutional—that get nothing in this scramble.

Had Senators Mangum and Borland, instead of assailing each other's political principles, invehived against the prevailing corruption, and called on Congress to refuse any and every private appropriation, we should have thought better of both of them. We trust that when the subject comes up again they will take this manly and patriotic ground. Neither of them can have forgotten that Patrick Henry and John Randolph, with a host of early statesmen, foresaw this "evil day." Both must remember that the objections which the first had originally to the federal constitution were principally from these fears. It is certain that the most extravagant monarchies of Europe fall behind the United States government in squandering money on private jobs; and yet it was a chief effort with the framers of the government to tie up Congress so that economy would be inevitable.

Let us return before it is too late to the original principles of the republic. We want more patriotism both in and out of Congress. But we want also a return to the far-reaching and statesman-like views of the early fathers of the Constitution, those noble men who abhorred class legislation, and who detected and exposed it, no matter how lovely the disguise it assumed.

Philadelphia Bulletin.

Money—North and South.

The present relative condition of the money market South and North is anomalous. Money is easily attainable in Northern cities at reasonable rates of interest. In the Southern cities it is comparatively scarce. There are no causes to produce its scarcity in the latter that should not operate in the former. In fact, there are circumstances to enhance the value of money at the North which must have more limited influence at the South. Schemes of railroad and manufacturing improvement, as well as commercial adventure, absorb large amounts of capital in the Northern States, which are constantly pressing on their resources. In the South we have much fewer calls for money in any of the departments of enterprise, public and private. The South possesses the largest means of payment. This section contributes two-thirds in value of the national exports. Its staples are equal to the precious metals as means of remittance.

What then should contract the accommodation that facilitates business, that is necessary to prevent the stagnation of enterprise? Are we in the South so extravagant in our habits that we constantly anticipate our annual revenues?—Or do we contract debts for property—for land and slaves—disproportioned to the market value of the products of which they are the instruments of production? Some part of the pecuniary pressure which has been experienced recently in the South may be traced to this last circumstance. The price of negroes has been far beyond their value, as compared with the value of the article which principally regulates that price. There is no due proportion between slaves at \$800, and cotton at 8 cents per pound. This want of proportionate value between our chief staple of agriculture and the value of labor purchased to produce it, has no doubt caused serious embarrassment. Payments from the country have consequently been slack. The resources of our banks

permeated at the present season, and extends beyond the period to which all looked for relief. We at the South, with the possession of a product which is the great medium of purchasing power abroad for the whole Union, should not experience any but the most temporary pecuniary

embarrassment. While money bears a high price at the North, the North will require prompt liquidation of their Southern balances. But money is now becoming redundant all over the world. In England it is worth but two per cent. per annum. Large sums are crossing the Atlantic for investment in our securities. The same causes which cheapen money abroad, should tend, at least, to render it easier at the South. If our Southern cities were totally cut off from those means by which the facilities, through moneyed negotiations, are obtained—if we were walled in by a Chinese policy—we could scarcely exhibit a greater anomaly than a difficult money market, whilst all the world besides are suffering under a plethora.—*Charleston News.*

REMARKABLE INSTANCE OF LONGEVITY.—On Sunday, the 21st of December, the Rev. John Sawyer, of Garland, who is more than three months in his ninety-seventh year, preached two sermons in the Baptist and Congregationalist meeting house in Exeter. The forenoon discourse occupied about forty-five minutes—the afternoon, about thirty-five. They were delivered in a voice audible to every ear. The building, indeed was not large; but the aged speaker would have sufficiently filled a much larger house. After reading a hymn twice in the forenoon service, and none presented themselves to sing, the preacher struck up an appropriate air, singing a verse each time alone.

Mr. Sawyer graduated at Dartmouth College in the year 1785, having received the full course of four years. Among his fellow members in College was the virtuous and rigidly correct Caleb Bringham, whose dialogues ridiculed folly and condemned vicious principles—the author of a set of school books, among which were those popular readers, the American Preceptor, and Columbian Orator, so suited and amusing to the childhood and youth of by-gone days. Anti-thesis presents to view another character on this occasion, who was not only in College a part of mate with Mr. Sawyer—the ingloriously notorious Stephen Burroughs.

Mr. Sawyer can relate many things of Stephen, as he was wont to call him, which the autobiographer did not see fit to give to the world.

Mr. Sawyer's class in College included twenty members, and he was the eldest except one.—All of them have passed away but himself. He reads readily by the help of glasses, and to be heard by him a person of feeble voice is not required to make a great effort. But his physical abilities are not so well preserved as his mental and they have rendered less so by a fall from his carriage a few years since. By aid of a staff he walks without difficulty, on a level surface; but to take a seat and rise from it, requires of him usual exertions. He ascends short steps of himself, and even gets in and out of his carriage alone.

Such a remarkable instance of longevity, where the scenes and faculties of the mind are preserved so, as to make life desirable receives a blessing from a benevolent heart, especially when that has been incessantly devoted to the cause of education, virtue and religion.—*Maine Farmer.*

LAND WARRANTS MADE ASSIGNABLE.—The bill for this purpose, finally passed both Houses of Congress on Thursday and will, no doubt, receive the approval of the President. It must give increased value to the warrants, as it will facilitate the location of them on the public land. The bill provides that the assignment may be made by deed or instrument of writing, according to such form, and pursuant to such regulations as may be prescribed by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, so as to vest the assignee with all the rights of the original owners of the warrant or location.

The benefits of the original act, with the supplement are extended to the officers and soldiers of any militia, volunteers or troops, who were called into military service, and whose services have been paid by the United States subsequent to the eighteenth of June, eighteen hundred and twelve.

The following are the provisions of the bill for locating the warrants:

Any person entitled to pre-emption right to any land shall be entitled to use any such land warrants, in payment of the same, at \$1.25 per acre, for the quantity of land therein specified: Provided, That the warrants which have been or may hereafter be issued in pursuance of said laws, or of this act, may be located, according to the legal subdivisions of the public lands, in one body, upon any lands of the U. States, subject to private entry at the time of such location, at the minimum price: Provided further, That when said warrants shall be located on lands which are subject to entry at a greater minimum than \$1.25 per acre, the locator of said warrants shall pay to the United States in cash, the difference between the value of such warrants at \$1.25 per acre, and the tract of land located on it.

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC LANDS.—The Committee on Public Lands in the California Legislature have presented a report, reiterating opinions in regard to the propriety of donations of and by Congress to settlers in this State, and submitting a resolution very similar in character to that originally proposed by Mr. Wood. The committee say, in their report that the area of the State of California embraces 93,922,400 acres. Of this quantity 52,000,000 acres are mineral land and other lands unfit for cultivation; 2,622,000 acres are tule or swamp lands; and 19,000,000 acres are lands which cannot be irrigated, and are therefore unfit for cultivation, being valuable only for grazing purposes. There remains, then, only 20,000,000 acres susceptible of irrigation and cultivation. But a portion of this 20,000,000 acres is covered by private claims, Spanish grants. The committee are therefore of opinion that the quantity of agricultural land in this State, belonging to the United States, does not exceed 15,000,000 acres. If, then, 320 acres were donated to each settler, a homestead would only be secured to 46,874 persons; while if 160 acres were the amount donated to each settler, it would give a homestead to 93,748 persons. The committee, therefore, introduce a resolution directing the California Senator, &c., in Congress, to endeavor to procure the passage of a law donating 160 acres to each settler.—*South Carolinian.*

Snow in the woods, above Moorehead lake in Maine is still five feet deep.

a primeval forest. The earthen road or turn-out should be from twelve to eighteen feet wide. Formerly the plank roads were wider, say from nine to twelve feet, but then one-third was lost. Over a single track in N. Y. 161000 wagons passed in one year or 220 per diem; and it was found sufficient. The turn-out is sloped to the ditch and should be kept in good order. This is not difficult, because it seldom occurs that two wagons turn out in the same track, hence no ruts are made. The sleepers upon which the planks are laid should be six inches square to wide roads. To eight feet roads two sleepers four inches square are amply sufficient, but twelve by three are recommended.

A road in Canada three miles long does well without sleepers. They are used of different lengths, 13, 16 or 20 feet. The road should not be wider than necessary for the track of the wheels. The width differs in different sections of the country. The planks should be 3 or 4 inches thick, but it is better to take from the plank and add to the sleepers—3 inches thick enough. Thicker will do, provided the travel is sufficient to wear it out above, before it rots below. It is a disadvantage to spike down. It should be covered one inch thick with gravel or sand—saw-dust and tan-bark are used also. The timber, with the work, are the chief items of cost. The following are estimates realized from experience. If timber can be had at 70 cents, it will make it still lower. These are quite high enough to cover any probable outlay, even at the minimum charge. The charge for gate houses is altogether too high, even at the lowest figures:

ESTIMATE PER MILE.

Plank 8x3x 5280	126,620ft.
Sleepers 2x1x3x 5280	31,680ft.
Say 160 M. ft. lumber at \$8 to 10	1280 to 1600
Grading and Laying from	100 " 300
Gate Houses,	50 " 150
Engineering and Superintendance	100 " 100
Contingencies	100 " 200
	\$1630 \$2350

The Syracuse and Central Plank Road cost	\$1487
Rome and Oswego	1300
Detroit	1500

The first named road was built by days work and cost less than the bids of contractors.

The road should be built in sections of a quarter of a mile each, and the timber contracted for to be delivered at each section along the line. An intelligent Engineer is necessary, and hands should be hired and placed under his superintendance.

The wear of a pine road travelled by 50,000 two horse teams per annum, in two years, was 1-4 inch, and this was attributed to the want of sanding the first year. It was estimated that the wear on that road would not destroy it in 10 years. The greatest wear is at first. After being used, the sand is ground into the fibres of the wood, and becomes very hard and wears but little. A road worn out by travel, will have paid from 100 to 200 per cent. on its first cost. No plank road has ever yet been worn out.

The above items have been culled from a most interesting and able work of Professor GILLESPIE, of N. Y., on the subject of roads generally. The data upon which he bases his calculations, are of the most satisfactory character, and if the writer of this shall have been the means of calling the attention of intelligent and patriotic citizens of Camden, to the Professor's unanswerable arguments and inducements to improve our avenues of trade, he will be amply repaid for whatever labor he may have incurred. For no such person can investigate the subject, as treated of in the work referred to, without lending his aid to arrest the ruin of our beloved Town, now impending, in the only way left to us. The profits of every plank road heretofore constructed, have surpassed all expectation. Even in the first enterprises of this character, the stock has paid handsome dividends, and there is no plank road, now in operation, which pays a less dividend than 10 per cent. per annum. But recently a paper came accidentally into the hands of your correspondent, stating that there were four or five plank roads running from Chicago; the longest not over 30 miles, and the shortest not more than 5, and perhaps not one of them finished, yet they paid last year from 10 to 40 per cent. The prospect of remuneration is as great as can be afforded in any investment. In the adjoining State of North Carolina, a road not yet completed, running from Fayetteville, paid 14 per cent. last year. Where are our capitalists? Real Estate in Camden has diminished more in 12 months past, than the amount which would be required to be raised here, to secure the Plank Road to Concord. This was foreseen and predicted! but without effect. Hear another prediction! If confidence is not restored in some way, before the first day of September, 1853, Camden will have lost one-half her mercantile capital. It is time to talk plainly. There may be some who, having no local affinities, or imagining themselves independent of the fortunes of our town, feel but little interest in the subject, but not to

A NATIVE.

MACREADY'S OPINION OF THE STATE AS A SCHOOL OF MORALS.—Mr. Macready, the tragedian, now resides at Sherborne, in the bosom of a most interesting family of twelve children.—Among many excellent rules for the government of his family, is one, from which, it is said, he has never deviated. It is, that no one of his children should ever, on any pretence, enter a Theatre, or have any visiting connection whatever, with actors or actresses.

FROM SINGAPORE.—The Salem Register gives some extracts from late Singapore papers, received at that office, from which we quote the following:—

We are sorry to learn that fearful ravages are being made in the rural and planting districts by the numerous tigers infesting the jungle. Two coroner's inquests were held last week on view of the remains of persons killed by these ferocious animals.

In most instances no portion of the body is recovered! to enable us to determine the exact number of persons carried off, but a considerable number of natives employed in planting operations are missing. The present rewards and other aids being manifestly inadequate to arrest the mischief, it behooves the Executive to take immediate and active measures to rid the jungle of these savage beasts, or planting operations will cease in parts beyond the immediate vicinity of the town. On the 15th, a Malay man was carried off at Passier Rice, near Changi.