



STAUNTON SPECTATOR AND GENERAL ADVERTISER.

Staunton Spectator.  
STAUNTON, VA.  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1857.

Persons who have read Dr. Kane's account of his explorations in the Arctic regions may have some conception of what the people hereabouts have experienced since the month of 1850.

From the National Intelligencer.  
January 28, 1857.  
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It is a little remarkable that manufactures are so dependent to the growth and prosperity of such towns as Staunton, Charlottesville, Lexington and Harrisonburg. Yet whenever the subject is alluded to it is associated with extensive establishments, costly machinery and vast aggregations of capital. Our people seem to have no idea of manufacturing except on a large scale. We suppose that we had fallen into the common error, and that a conversation with an intelligent gentleman a few weeks ago gave us some new views of the subject. We are satisfied now that what we need is household manufactures, requiring very little capital, and such as any family may carry on successfully within its own doors. The gentleman to whom we have referred, informed us that he had lately visited a town in New York, called Gloverville, the whole population of which was engaged in the manufacture of buckskin gloves. There was no common building in which the people labored, but each family to itself, and each member, young and old, male and female, was profitably employed in this branch of industry. The only machinery used are simple implements for cutting out the gloves, and the common sewing machines for doing the stitching. The gloves are sent to New York city, and other centers of trade, where they are readily exchanged for money or the various necessities of life. Thus a flourishing town, of five thousand inhabitants, has sprung out of the woods within a few years past, and the entire people comfortably maintained upon a single branch of manufacture.

This is but one illustration of what has been done in other States, and what may be done just as well in Virginia. It is only necessary that a start shall be made, and we can see no reason why similar enterprises should not succeed here. There are various other kinds of manufactures which might be carried on in the same manner. Every merchant in Virginia, for instance, imports from the North large quantities of brooms, buckets, and wooden ware generally, which might and ought to be made at home. We furnish the raw material—broom corn, timber, and iron—which is transported hundreds of miles, converted by enterprising Yankee into various implements of household use, and returned to us, we paying unnecessarily at least the cost of freight going and coming. Why cannot these things be made at home? Is there anything to prevent? The cost of living here is less than in any of the Northern States, very little capital is required to begin operations, and everything seems to promise complete success to persons who will embark in the enterprise. If no other plan can be adopted, a few Northern people skilled in the kinds of manufactures alluded to, might be induced to come to Virginia and make a beginning. The advantage of having such manufactures amongst us are too obvious to be enumerated, but one of the most important is, that useful and profitable employment would be afforded to hundreds of persons of both sexes who can now barely obtain the means of living. So important is the matter to the whole State that the Legislature ought to encourage these home manufactures, by exempting from taxation, or some other constitutional enactments.

Every traveler to the Northern States is struck with the flourishing condition and neat appearance of the towns and villages. It is due almost entirely to the handicraft arts. One town makes gloves, another brooms, another buckets, another shoes—every individual finds employment, and the place is furnished with public halls, lyceums, libraries, churches, &c. In the North nearly all of the lesser villages answer to one description. If it be the County seat, there is a shabby Court-house, occupying a central position; next a tumble-down tavern, kept by a widow, whose prodigal son drinks up all the profits of the concern; then we see a few groceries occupied by lawyers and doctors; or comes there are several stores; and a shoe-maker's shop, where Northern boots and shoes are cobbled; and a blacksmith's shop, where horses are shod and Northern work mended, make up the sum total of manufacturing establishments.

Important Intelligence.—From the "Patriot"—a publication of two citizens of Staunton.  
On Sunday last Mr. H. Christian, of Rockingham, arrived in this place with the first intelligence from the late train of cars on the Central Railroad, having worked his way through with great difficulty. The train left Richmond on Sunday morning, the 16th (the day of the storm), and met the down train at Frederick Hall. It reached Louisa Court House, where it was brought to a stand. The passengers, from fifty to seventy in number, including your friends Imboden and McCone, of this place, took possession of the Hotel, and made themselves as comfortable as possible. By Tuesday, however, the stock in the market was exhausted, liquor was scarce, and the sickle was empty. The train then made a desperate effort to proceed, but the engine ran off the track, and the cars became quite topsy-turvy. Mr. Christian, determined to wait no longer, he walked to Charlottesville in three days and procuring horses at that place arrived here on Sunday. When he passed Gordonsville nothing had been heard of the Alexandria cars. The track was open from Staunton to Cobham.

When Mr. C. left Louisa Court House the sufferings of the travellers had reached a crisis, and the whole party had turned out to hunt! The first thing encountered in the way of game, was a little five-year-old snipe-bill, and an animal was shot as soon as it was seen. A shot gun, well dressed, wounded the animal, and the last sight Mr. C. had of the party was, armed with a musket, was dodging round to get a blow at the snipe-bill, or his friend Imboden was after him with a long knife, while Mac had him by the tail, and was endeavoring to eat his ham-sausage with a pork knife. This vigorously executed, the snipe-bill was killed, and we indulged the pleasing thought that the whole party were speedily repaid on fowls' head, which, we learn from Dr. Kane's book, is most excellent food, and wholesome.

No Gun Yet!  
We again go to press before the arrival of the gun. It is now (Tuesday) ten days since we called on our friends Imboden, Washington, or Imboden, and we have not yet seen a thing of the Central Railroad gun, and we are not at all inclined to believe that the smallest possible chance of success is now before the gun. We are, however, not at all inclined to believe that the smallest possible chance of success is now before the gun.

At a meeting of Stockholders on Saturday last, N. K. Trout was appointed Commissioner to settle the affairs of this institution. It was ordered that all books, papers, notes and claims of every kind be delivered to him; and he was instructed to grant no further indulgence to debtors, but to make collections in the speediest manner possible.

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