UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

CHAPEL HILL, September 27, 1853.

Sir,

The secluded situation of this place is not without disadvantages, but they are believed to be more than counterbalanced by the safeguards which the Legislature and the Trustees have been thereby enabled to throw around us. Extensive enquiry, long experience, and personal examination, have left no doubt on the mind of any one of us, that our location was, on the whole, happily chosen.

To maintain a tippling-house within two miles of the University, or to sell within that distance, wine, ardent spirits, or malt liquors, to be used by a Student, without the consent of the Faculty, is an indictable offence. Gaming, horse-racing, and other kindred practices, within four miles, are prohibited in like manner. To give full sanction and efficiency to the provisions of the criminal law, the Trustees have ordained, that any Student who may be seen publicly intoxicated, or in whose room ardent spirits may be found, shall be forthwith suspended or dismissed, as the circumstances of the case may seem to require. This ordinance has been and will be faithfully carried into execution in every instance of its violation.

Extravagant habits ordinarily tend to the hindrance of all improvement, intellectual and moral; and the deleterious effect is by no means confined to the individual who is the subject of them. It is impossible to preserve young men in all cases from indiscretions of this character. So carefully have these evils been guarded against, however, that no parent can suffer from them, who is faithful to the college, the community, his son, or himself. The Rev. Elisha Mitchell, D. D., is Bursar of the Institution. It is his duty to receive all sums of money that young men bring with them, to “disburse the same in paying their board, tuition fees, college dues, and other necessary expenses”—“to keep an account of the money thus received and disbursed and at the close of each session to transmit a copy of such account to the parent or guardian of each Student.”

The Revised Statutes “concerning the University,” (chap. 116,) make it “unlawful for any “merchant, shopkeeper, or other person at Chapel Hill, or within two miles thereof, to sell to any “Student of the University, goods, wares, or merchandise, without the consent of the Faculty, or some “member thereof, in writing.” Any contract for the sale of such article is “null and void, and no “recovery can be had thereon.” The parent is consequently absolved from all obligation to pay an account thus created, and it is very clear that a guardian cannot discharge such a claim, without rendering himself liable to the estate of his ward for the amount.

To ensure the due observance of these regulations, I have to request that you will immediately advise the Bursar whether you are willing that any account shall be opened here in your name, and if so, the amount of indebtedness you are willing to authorize.