msa_sc2901_scm1621-0329 copyright Maryland State Archives

The Kent News.

A Family Newspaper: Devoted to Literature, Agriculture, Politics, General News, and Advertising.

VOL. 23.—No. 8. CHESTERTOWN, SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1862. WHOLE No. 1152.

The Kent News:

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, AT
CHESTERTOWN, KENT COUNTY, MD.
Office, Masonic Hall, Court House Green.

Jas. H. Plummer & Wm. B. Usilton,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS per annum, *payable in advance.* If not paid within six months from the time of subscribing Two DOLLARS will be *invariably charged.* No subscriptions received for less than six months.

RATES OF ADVERTISING:

Advertisements not exceeding ten lines will be published three times for One Dollar, and twenty-five cents for each subsequent insertion. Longer ones in the same proportion.

☞ Advertisements published quarterly, semi-annually, or yearly, at moderate rates.

CARDS not exceeding five lines will be published three months for $2.50; six months $4; one year $7. Six to ten lines—three months $3; six months $6; one year $10.

Job Printing.—Having added to our Office an extensive assortment of New and Beautiful JOB TYPE, we are prepared to execute every description of Job Printing, at short notice, and on very reasonable terms.

Select Poetry.

"LIST OF THE KILLED."

Mothers who sit in dumb terror and dread,
Holding that terrible list,
Fearing to look lest you see mid the dead
The name of the boy you have kissed.

I pity you, sitting with faces so white,
Striving to parry the blow;
I know how that name will torture the sight,
Can fathom the depth of your woe.

By the pang that rent my desolate heart,
By the crushing weight of despair,
I know how you too will shudder and start,
Reading that dear loved name there.

I know you'll hush that passionate cry,
Thinking of him as he lies,
With beautiful face upturned to the sky,
Death veiling the glorious eyes.

"Fighting he fell?" Does a feeling of pride
Lighten your grief as you think
How brave was the boy who went from your side
How he would not falter or shrink?

The mother's love triumphs. Men call women weak—
Ah, well, perhaps it is so!
I know there are tears e'en now on my cheek
For the boy that's laying so low.

I know that I start at each step on the stair,
With wistful glance turn toward the door,
Thinking, perchance, that my darling is there—
Peace, heart; he can come nevermore.

But still there's a thought that softens my woe:
Above there's a glorious list;
And one day I'll hear with rapturous glow
The name of the boy I have kissed.

The Comforts of a Plain Wife.

She is not very fair, and yet
I love her quiet face;
She wears not beauty's coronet,
But there's a tender grace
Upon her brow, and in her eyes
A light, which could not be,
If her thoughts were not sweet, harmonious;
She's beautiful to me.

Not beautiful, save when the flush
Of feeling dyes her cheek;
When her lips are mute beneath the gush;
And leave her eyes to speak!
Not beautiful, save when some thought
Of goodness sends its glow
Across the face by art untaught,—
And yet I love her so!

For she is beautiful, though small
The Gifts that overlie,
The soul so beautiful in all—
In all that cannot die.
Goodness is beauty, this is why
The tides of friendship roll
Up from my heart and light my eye—
I love her for the soul.

The heart! the heart! give me the heart,
I care not for the face,
However fair each separate part
If it lacks the spirit's grace;
Give me the heart—I care not how
The form may moulded be,
If perfect love light up the brow,
'Tis beautiful to me.

THE AGE OF THE WORLD.—An English engineer, named Leonard Horner, has sunk ninety-five shafts in the valley of the Nile, with the view of ascertaining the age of Egypt by counting the layers deposited annually. The layers were everywhere found regular, and the sediment seems to have been deposited at the rate of three and-a-half inches in a century. According to this, 13,700 years ago man was far enough advanced in Egypt to manufacture pottery, as thirty feet four inches below the surface, fragments of pottery, which exhibited considerable skill, were found in a good state of preservation.—This tallies very well with the estimates of Lepsius and other Egyptian scholars, and shows the earth to be much older than is popularly supposed. At the depth above mentioned, gravel was found; and how long it was before the land and water were separated—how long this gravel was forming before the Nile overflowed it, or before the waters were impregnated with vegetable matter—God only knows, or ever can know.

WELL PUT.—The Boston Journal hits the nail on the head, when it says:

"Not a tenth part of all the local news which transpires in any county town finds its way into the city newspapers, and he who takes the latter to the exclusion of his own town or county paper, does not fulfil his duty as a citizen. *Such a person is unworthy to fill a local office,* for he most certainly lacks local pride."

True, every word of it!

LETTER FROM NORFOLK, VA.

Correspondence of the Kent News.

FIRST DELAWARE REG'T VOLUNTEERS,
NORFOLK, VA., June 13, 1862.

Messrs. Editors:—Will you allow a member of this Regiment to insert a few items in your valuable paper for the great cause of the Government, which we are vindicating and determined to maintain if it cost the last drop of American blood. We have left the joys and comforts of the family fire-side, and everything endeared to the heart of man, and have gone into the camp and the field. But he that has the valor and the patriotism to sacrifice all these glorious privileges upon the altar of his country, honor and prosperity must crown his success. When we left our happy homes it was with the determination to strike heavy blows in defence of our country's flag.

I think the day is not far distant when the flag of our once happy country will again wave over the length and breadth of this land. This day, when we can see more than a million of armed men in hostile array against each other, drenching the land in blood, and destroying cities, farms and towns in wasting war, we are forced to the conclusion that the lessons of wisdom taught by the Father of our Country have been forgotten or set at naught. This is, to some extent, attributable to a sectional disposition to ignore some of the fundamental principles of the Constitution on the one hand, and the wanton and unprincipled acts of ambitious men on the other. Now we can see citizens armed against each other, brother against brother, father against son and son against father; and now we can fully appreciate Washington's advice, and the blessings of Union and internal peace which he sought to make perpetual. We have felt and believed that the Constitution of this Union was laid in wisdom and justice, and that to the Union we owed our progress and our great prosperity as a nation. We love the flag almost to idolatry, as the emblem of the liberties and privileges of a free people. We have no kings or lords to worship, and have given our hearts and pledged our lives and honors and fortunes to support the Constitution and the Union. But it is not so with some in the North who had taught themselves and wish to teach others, to abhor the Constitution and proclaim a covenant with hell; and others in the South, who denounced its actions as unjust and oppressive, and sought to make others think the same. These bad men want to rule and have their own way with this whole country, and now we see the result.

I have always thought that it was far easier to restore the Union than to agree upon terms of separation and a line of division. The time is not far distant when the nest-egg of secession will be broken, the States return to their allegiance, and we shall soon have a stronger and happier nation than ever. We have seen the fruits of secession in our marches. Let us for a moment take a glance at the poor, unfortunate State of Virginia, which was dragged out of the Union by a few of King Davis' agents, and see how she suffers from its effects. You see masses upon masses of ruins, and the soil drenched with the blood of her best sons. But as the old hero (Jackson) said, when he swore by the Eternal, "the Union must and shall be preserved!" If we had had such a man as he at the head of the government when this wicked rebellion commenced, he would have placed his foot upon its head and crushed the reptile to death.

See now the comparatively happy condition of Maryland, resulting from her loyalty and refusal to engage in rebellion. She is blessed with peace and prosperity, love and harmony dwell within her borders, and her great waters and her ports are open to trade and commerce. She is on the safe side, and will remain unalterably fixed in the wise choice which she has made. May God speed the day when all animosities shall be buried in oblivion, and all the States be once more brought to friendship, unity and happiness.

J. S. A.

COLONEL ASHBY.—This renowned rebel cavalry leader, who was killed in the late engagement near Harrisonburg, Va., has been one of the most formidable opponents with whom our men have been called upon to contend. Formidable not only from the strength and daring of his command, which numbered, according to rebel authority, twenty-eight full companies, but also on account of his great personal courage and consequent popularity among the citizens of the Valley of Virginia. Always the first in the advance, he was ever in the rear upon a retreat, and even our own troops bore willing testimony to his gallantry. Ashby was a young and wealthy resident of Fauquier county, and entered the rebel service as commander of a single company. His exploits soon gained him notoriety, and the young men of the Valley flocking to his standard, he soon found himself in command of a regiment.

CLASSIC SPOTS OF THE SOUTH.—Hanover, the birth-place of Henry Clay, and Ashland, near which he was buried; Mount Vernon, the abode and tomb of George Washington; and the Hermittage, the lovely residence and final resting place of lion-hearted Andrew Jackson, are now all within the lines of the Union army and guarded by the Federal flag, to whose glory their honored and useful lives were given. The dust of every dead President of the United States is enclosed by the national lines.

For the Kent News.

The Peninsula Fruit Growers' Association.

The annual meeting of this association was held at Middletown, Del., June 13th, 1862, commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M. The meeting was called to order by the President, D. J. Cummins, Esq.

The proceedings of the previous meeting were read and adopted.

The association then went into an election for officers for the ensuing year, resulting as follows: D. J. Cummins, President; Richard Semans, Isaac Parsons and Nathaniel Wolfe, Vice Presidents; Col. Edward Wilkins, corresponding Secretary, and Thos. J. Shallcross, recording Secretary; Thomas Murphy, Treasurer. Anthony Reybold, R. H. Cummins, W. J. Griffith, H. N. Willitts and John Husfelt, Curators. The various committees appointed then reported valuable and interesting statistics in reference to the number of Peach trees in bearing and non-bearing planted on the Peninsula, the aggregate of which reached many thousands, showing a much larger number of non-bearing than bearing trees. From the statistics submitted it is evident that the culture of this most healthful fruit, the Peach, is rapidly on the increase.

R. H. Cummins then offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, as the sense of this meeting, that each peach grower shipping peaches to Philadelphia market be required to instruct his agent or salesman to charge twenty-five (25) cents each for every basket containing peaches sold, and that on return of the baskets the said sum of twenty-five cents be refunded; and that no agent or salesman be employed for the sale of peaches who will not procure the return of baskets or the value thereof."

Pending the adoption of this resolution a warm and spirited discussion arose, which was participated in generally by the members present, most of the larger peach growers regarding the adoption of the resolution as imperative, stating the loss of baskets in consequence of their not being returned by the purchasers had become too serious to be longer endured.—One shipper alone stated that he had lost during one season as high as fifteen hundred dollars' worth of baskets, while others suffered loss from one to five hundred dollars. All the members, with one or two exceptions, were strongly in favor of the adoption of the resolution, and evinced a determination in future to make the purchasers return the baskets or pay for the same.

Anthony Reybold then moved that the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Kent News, Cecil Whig, Delaware Gazette, Republican, Smyrna Times, and Delawarian.

On motion of Barney Reybold the association adjourned to meet at Middletown, Del., on the 22nd day of July, at 10 o'clock, A. M., when all peach growers on the Peninsula are earnestly invited to attend, at which time a full report of the condition and probable quantity of peaches to be marketed will be made.

The association was well represented from different sections of the peninsula, the members evincing much interest in the meeting as well as prosperity of the association.

D. J. CUMMINS, Pres't.
THOS. J. SHALLCROSS, Rec. Sec'y.

The Law of Newspapers.

1. A failure to notify a discontinuance at the end of a term will be regarded as a new engagement.

2. If a subscriber orders a discontinuance of his newspaper, the publishers may continue to send it until all arrearages are paid.

3. If a subscriber neglects or refuses to take his newspaper from the office to which it is sent, he is held responsible until he settles his bill and orders it discontinued.

4. If a subscriber removes to another place without informing the publisher, and his paper is sent to the former direction, he is held responsible.

5. The Courts have decided, that refusing to take a periodical from the office, or removing and leaving it uncalled for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud

6. The Courts have also repeatedly decided that Postmasters who neglect to perform the duty of giving reasonable notice as is required by the regulations of the Post Office Department, of the neglect of a person to take from the office newspapers addressed to him, renders the Postmaster liable to the publisher for the subscription.

SCARECROWS.—A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman*, after speaking of the different ways of making "scarecrows," such as clattering wind-mills, suspended scraps of bright tin, straw images, etc., all of which, he says, are "fit neither to frighten, to injure, nor to entrap," recommends stretching small twine in a zig-zag course across the field, at a distance between the stakes of not more than four rods. This has borne the test of experience and time, and is perhaps as easy and safe a method as can be used.

FOR FOUL BREATH.—Scores of people have foul breath, yet take no care to prevent the annoyance. Small doses of charcoal are almost a certain remedy for this. By washing the mouth and cleaning the teeth with water well whitened with *eau de cologne*, the breath will keep sweet for a long time.

Camp of Instruction at Annapolis.

The great camp of instruction which it is proposed to establish near Annapolis, Md., is an old idea, now for the first time carried into practice in this country. Of the present movement the New York Journal of Commerce says:

The advantages of a camp of instruction for new troops are as obvious as ever. In fact, such a camp is an indispensable means of military education, if it should be proposed at any time to take an army from this camp and put it into an enemy's country suddenly and call upon it to fight.—Next to the schooling of the battle-field a camp of instruction is the best means of teaching the art and mystery of war. The fifty thousand volunteers who can soon be collected at Annapolis, will be educated not only in the "whole school of the soldier," as it is taught in the regular army, but in the most complicated field movements by regiments and divisions. They will form a great army corps, with the usual proportions of cavalry, artillery and infantry, accustomed to act together, knowing each other and trusting each other.—An army of such pupils, thoroughly drilled and disciplined, and knit together by the ties of friendship formed in camp, would be almost invincible.

The details of the scheme, so far as developed, are admirable. No better site for the camp than Annapolis could have been chosen. It is pleasantly situated on the Chesapeake bay, and very healthy; it is connected by rail with Washington and Baltimore and within two hours from either place; its harbor will accommodate transports enough to carry the whole camp to any point on the coast where the sudden landing of a trained army of 50,000 men might be desirable. The facility with which this reserve can be moved by rail or by steamboat will be as readily appreciated by the enemy as by our own people. But the purpose to which this army is to be put, if that is yet determined upon, is, and will continue to be, a carefully kept secret of the War Department. Equally well chosen is the commander of the new camp, Major General John E. Wool. There is probably no more perfect master of the whole science of military instruction than this veteran soldier. The choice of chief of cavalry (Brig. Gen. L. P. Graham,) and chief of artillery, (Brevet Brig. Gen. Harvey Brown,) is also most judicious. A chief of the infantry arm, yet to be chosen, will not be hard to select from the number of eminent officers in that branch of the service. With a proper staff of subordinate officers, and that encouragement and assistance which he will be sure to receive from the War Department, Gen. Wool will not be long in demonstrating the great advantage of a camp of instruction.

NEGRO SPIES.—A letter from an intelligent officer of the army says there are two sides to the negro spy question. We have suffered more than we have gained from them. Many of the most intelligent of them have been in the habit of visiting both armies, and have carried, oftentimes, information to the rebels which has been of great injury to us. Some of them have been for a long time most successfully used by the rebel Generals as spies, and from this source they have derived much of their valuable information, which it has been supposed was communicated by traitors at Washington and elsewhere. There are only a very small portion of the contrabands, however, who are to be relied upon, as a general thing, by either side, and of course the rebels are able to pick the best so far as intelligence and reliability are concerned.—*Boston Traveller.*

THE "MERRIMAC" PATENTED FORTY-EIGHT YEARS AGO.—The *Scientific American* says: In the course of our investigations at the Patent Office we have come across a patent granted to Thomas Gregg, on the 19th of March, 1814, forty-eight years ago—for an invention of a Ball proof vessel to be propelled by steam," which, on examination, proves to be an almost exact model of the *Merrimac.* The sides were plated with iron, inclined at an angle of 18°, and the drawings show a sharp, iron prow, evidently to be used as a ram. This prototype of the latest triumph in naval architecture, it will be observed, was patented only seven years after the introduction of steam navigation.

MRS. PARTINGTON, on reading an account of a schooner having her jib-boom carried away one night on Long Island Sound, wondered "why people would leave such things out o' doors, nights, to be stolen, when there was so many buglers about filtering everything they could lay their hands to."

WORKING A CHARACTER.—A blacksmith having been slandered, was advised to apply to the courts for redress. He replied with true wisdom: "I can go into my shop and work out a better character in six months than I can get in a court house in a whole year."

HOW KIND!—The following notice was posted, in 1860, on the estate of a noble Marquis of Kent: "Notice is hereby given that the Marquis of Camden (on account of the backwardness of the season) will not shoot himself nor any of his tenants till after the sixteenth of September."

New Plan of Negro Colonization.

A new and somewhat singular proposition has been made to our Government by the Danish Charge d'Affaires for the colonization of the negroes from this country on the Island of St. Croix, which is a dependency of Denmark in the West Indies. The proposition relates not only to persons of African extraction who have been resident in this country, but to those captured by our cruisers on vessels engaged in the slave trade; and free transportation is offered to such of the former as will engage to labor on the sugar plantations for a term of three years, together with the same rate of compensation as is given to the native population. The re-captured Africans, however, being semi-savages, must undergo a period of apprenticeship.

Col. Raasloff, the Danish Minister, invites the United States to enter into a convention by which the migration of the negroes may be placed under the protection and guarantee of the two Governments, and states that the Governor of the Danish West Indies has appointed a special agent who has arrived in this country, and is empowered to make the necessary arrangements.

Mr. Secretary Seward has replied to these overtures, that he is not at this time authorized to accept the proposition for a convention, as the disposition of recaptured Africans is prescribed by law. He thinks, however, that Congress may be willing so to modify the existing laws as to meet the wishes of the Danish Government, and has submitted copies of the correspondence to the Judiciary Committee of each House of Congress.

In response the Danish Minister engages that the plan proposed shall be entirely satisfactory in a humane and christian point of view.

The proposition of the Danish Government originates in the great want of laborers which exists in the island of Saint Croix, and by which its development and progress have been materially checked. Should the Convention be agreed upon it may have the effect to supply this deficiency, greatly to the benefit of the Danish West India Islands, but can scarcely be expected to operate as any very great relief to this country so far as the settlement of the problem of the future of the negro is concerned. The island in question is very small, being only twenty miles long from east to west, by about five miles broad, or an area of 110 miles square—and if populated to excess by negroes drawn from the United States, they would scarcely have a perceptible influence upon the numbers of the colored race in this country. Its principal products are sugar and rum; but cotton, indigo, and coffee are also raised. Its present population is about 30,000, and with the islands of St. Thomas and St. John it forms the Danish Colonies of the West Indies. Except, then, as a manifestation of our friendliness for Denmark, the proposed Convention can scarcely be productive of any but the most trifling effect upon the large class in this country to whom it relates, and will be even still less operative to relieve us from the embarrassment of their increasing numbers.—*Newark Daily Advertiser.*

A Drunken Philosopher.

The late William J. Snelling, a writer for the Boston press, who died there several years ago in the House of Correction, was on one occasion found dead drunk in the street and taken to the watch-house, where he was kept over night. On being brought before the police magistrate, next morning, he had become partially sober, when the following dialogue took place:—

Magistrate—Well, Snelling, what do you do for a living?

Snelling—I am a public writer.

Magistrate—And pray what do you find to write about?

Snelling—A little to commend, much to censure, and very much to laugh at.

Magistrate—Umph, and what do you commend?

Snelling—A handsome woman that will stay at home; an eloquent preacher that will preach a short sermon; and a fool who has sense enough to hold his tongue.

Magistrate—What do you censure?

Snelling—A man who marries a girl for her fine dancing; a workingman who believes in the sympathies of professional gentlemen; a youth who studies law or medicine while he has the use of his hands; and people who elect a drunkard or blockhead to an office.

A YOUNG man from the country, going to call on some musical young ladies the other evening, he was told that he must ask them to sing, and should they refuse he ought to press them. Accordingly he commenced by requesting Miss Mary to favor him with a song. She gently declined, said she had a cold, &c. "Well, them, Miss," said our hero, "thuppose I thqueeze you, don't you think you might sing?" The girl fainted immediately.

A COCKNEY sportsman gave a high figure for a well-bred pointer, but the poor cockney did not know what pointing was. So when the creature made a point, lifting a leg as usual and standing motionless, our cockney friend declared he had the cramp, and took him up in his arms and carried him home.

WITH many women, going to church is little better than looking into a bonnet shop.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

A great deal, to be sure. A man's name has more to to do with his prosperity and happiness than most people imagine. The simple incidentof an ill-sounding cognomen has kept many a clever fellow in the background all his days. An unlucky nickname, originating in caprice or malice, has marred the fortunes of many a man who deserved a better fate. "Don't *Nicodemus* a boy into nothing!" said the shrewed and sensible Charles Lamb—a caution to parents to beware of christening their children with cacophonious names. To this let us add: Don't *Julius Cæsar* a boy into insignificance and contempt.—Great names are crushing to small people, and it is a brave boy indeed that can survive the damaging comparisons of "George Washington," or "Napoleon Bonaparte." Above all don't name the lad after a living celebrity. Heroes are unsafe examplers till they are dead. Think of the poor mothers who called their babies "Benedict Arnold," and lived to know that the gallant general was a villian and a traitor. If you must give the lad a middle name, let the first one be short and pleasant to the ear; lest in after life, the poor fellow be seduced into ostentation of the middle name, while he cuts the first down to the initial. "P. Adolphus Brown," may be a sensible man in spite of his signature, but the presumption is against him, and *prima facie* evidence is generally taken as conclusive where there is no urgent motive tothorough investigation. Reader!—if you are young, (as we hope you are,) and married (as you ought to be) and should have sons and daughters (as we pray you may have half a dozen of each,) remember that much depends on naming them properly. Beware of top heavy names taken from the "heroic role of history," and of sentimental names borrowed from novels and romances. Better call the whole lot "John" and "Mary" and number them for further distinction. Give them good plain euphonius, spelling-book titles, and then if any man nicknames your children prosecute him for slander.

☞ "And so, 'Squire, you don't take a country paper?"

"No, Major, I get a city paper on much better terms, so I take a couple of them."

"But, 'Squire, the country papers often prove a great convenience to us. We want to know what is going on in the county as well as in the city. The more we encourage them the better the editors can afford to make them."

"Why, I don't know any convenience they are to me."

"The farm you sold last Fall was advertised in one of them, and thereby you obtained a customer. Did you not?"

"Very true, Major; but I paid three dollars for it."

"And you made more than three hundred dollars by it. Now, if your neighbors had not maintained the press and kept it ready for use, you would have been without the means to advertise your property. But I think I saw your daughter's marriage in those papers—did that cost you anything?"

"No, but—"

"And your brother's death, with a long obituary notice. And the destruction of your neighbor Rigg's house by fire. You know these things are exaggerated till the authentic accounts of the newspapers set them right"

"O, true, but—"

"And when your cousin, Splash, was up for the Legislature, you appeared much gratified at his defence—which cost him nothing."

"Yes, yes; but these things are news to the readers. They cause the people to take the paper."

"No, 'Squire Grudge, not if all were like you. Now, I tell you, the day will surely come when somebody will write a long eulogy on your life and character, and the printer will put it in type with a heavy black line over it, and with all your riches, this will be done for you as a grave for a pauper. Your wealth, liberality and all such things will be spoken of; but the printer's boy, as he spells the words in arranging the type to these sayings, will remark of you—'Poor, mean devil, he is even sponging an obituary!' Good morning, 'Squire!"

"One day," says Dr. Brown, of Edinburgh, "a laboring man came to me with indigestion. He had a sour and sore stomach, and heart-burn, and the water-brash, and wind and wonderful misery of body and mind. I found he was eating bad food, and too much of it; and then, when its indigestion gave him pain, he took a glass of raw whiskey. I made him promise to give up his bad food and worse whiskey, and live on broth and sweet milk, and I wrote him a prescription for some medicine, and said, "take that, and come back in a fortnight, and you will be well." He did come back, hearty and hale; no cholic, but a clean tongue, a clear eye, and a happy face. I was very proud of the wonders my prescription had done, and having forgotten what it was, I said, "Let me see what I gave you."

'Oh,' says he, 'I took it.'

'Yes,' said I, 'but the prescription?'

"I took it, as you bade me; I swallowed it?"

'He had actually eaten the paper. It did him as much good as the medicine would have done, and he had followed the rules of the doctor as to his eating and drinking. He was cured.'