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The Kent News:

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, AT
CHESTERTOWN, KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND.
Office in the Masonic Hall.

JAS. M. PLUMMER. WM. B. USILTON.
PLUMMER & USILTON,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

Terms of Subscription:
Two DOLLARS per annum, payable in advance. If not paid within six months from the time of subscribing, Two Dollars and Fifty Cents may be charged.

☞ Local and other correspondence solicited from all parts of the county.
☞ Anonymous communications will not be noticed.

LAW CARDS.

C. T. WESTCOTT,
Attorney and Counselor at Law
CHESTERTOWN, MD.
☞ Special attention given to the collection of claims in the counties of Kent, Cecil, Queen Anne's and Caroline. ag12-y.

D. J. BLACKISTON,
Attorney at Law
CHESTERTOWN, MD.
Will give prompt attention to any business entrusted to his care. Collections promptly made and real estate bought and sold. ally.

MARION deK. SMITH,
Attorney at Law
CHESTERTOWN, MD.
Special attention given to the collection of claims in Kent and adjoining counties. all-6

MEDICAL CARDS.

Medical Notice.

DR. GEO. T. PERKINS,
A Graduate of the University of Maryland,
Has opened an office on Water Street, Chestertown, near the Bridge. Office hours from 9 A. M. to 12, M., and from 2 to 6, P. M., where he may be found except when professionally engaged After 6, P. M., will be found at his father's residence. apl1-tf.

Medical Notice.

THE undersigned most respectfully inform their friends and the public that from the firsth day of April, 1874, they will associate themselves in a co-partnership for the better prosecution of their profession, and for the better accommodation of the public, under the name of "T. H. WHALAND & SON," pledging themselves to the discharge of their duties to the best of their abilities.
They may be found at all times (if not professionally engaged,) at their residence near Chestertown.
THOMAS H. WHALAND, M. D.,
CHAS. W. WHALAND, M. D.
March 28, 1874—tf.

BANKERS.

CHAS. CAMBLOS & Co.

Bankers and Brokers,
No. 38 SOUTH THIRD ST.,
PHILADELPHIA.

Dealers in Government Securities, Gold, Silver, &c.
Stocks and Bonds bought and sold on commission. Particular attention given to investments. d27y.

LUMBER.

BURNS & SLOAN

Lumber Dealers,
OFFICE:
132 LIGHT STREET WHARF
BALTIMORE,
YARDS { 104 and 132 Light St. Wharf. 132 S. Charles Street. Cor. York and Johnson Sts.,
OFFER ALL VARIETIES OF
BUILDING
LUMBER,
SHINGLES, FENCING, DOORS, SASH, BRICKS, OAK, ASH, WALNUT,
At the Lowest Rates, in lots to Suit
June 28, 1873.

Lumber! Lumber!

NEW STOCK.
JOHN T. DODD & SON,
Have removed their LUMBER YARD from the old stand of Wm. Vannort to the Yard in the rear of their Carpenter Shop, uptown, and have just received a full supply o
Lumber, Sash, Doors, Shutters, &c.
OF ALL KINDS.
No. 1 HEART CYPRESS SHINGLES
No. 1 SAP do. do.
No. 1 WHITE PINE PALES,
No. 1 HEMLOCK PALES,
WHITE PINE FENCING,
HEMLOCK FENCING,
PLASTERING LATHS,
White Pine CULLINGS and SELECTS,
SCANTLING, JOIST & BILLSTUFF.
Thanking our customers for their past patronage, we respectfully solicit a continuance of the same. UNDERTAKING will receive our special attention as heretofore.
apr20. JOHN T. DODD & SON.

Kent News.

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER: Devoted to General and Local Intelligence, Literature, Agricultural and Mechanical Interests, Politics and Advertising

Vol. 35. CHESTERTOWN, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1874. No. 19.

Rates of Advertising:
Advertisements occupying the space of eight lines brevier type, will be inserted three times for One Dollar, and twenty-five cents for each subsequent insertion. A liberal deduction will be made to those who advertise by the year, half-year or quarter.
Obituaries will be inserted at one-half advertising rates.

JOB-PRINTING,
SUCH AS,
HANDBILLS,
CARDS,
CIRCULARS,
BLANKS,
&c., &c.,
Executed with neatness and dispatch, and at reasonable prices.

☞ CALL AND SEE
☞ BEFORE BUYING
☞ ANY OTHER KIND.

THE
FARMER'S FAVORITE,
OR
BICKFORD & HUFFMAN
GRAIN DRILL.

HINES & BURCHINAL
Agents for Kent and Queen Anne's Co.'s
FOR THE ABOVE DRILL, HAVE ON EXHIBITION at their Ware House, next to the Kent National Bank, one of
The Improved Drills for 1874.
This Drill has stood the test for several years as CHAMPION OF GRAIN DRILLS THE ONLY GRAIN DRILL which throws out of gear by the Automatic action of the TUBE LIFTER, and covers all the seed distributed TUBE SHIFTER, to enable the farmer to change the Tubes from a straight to a zig-zag, without raising the Tubes or stopping team.

THE IMPROVED
Fertilizer or Guano ATTACHMENT
For 1874.
SURPASSES ANYTHING IN THE MARKET.
Sows Guano, Super Phosphate, Bone Dust, Lime, Ashes, Salt, Plaster, or any Fertilizer, DRY OR DAMP in desired quantities per acre. Never fails to perform.
The complaint about Drills not sowing Damp Fertilizers ceases with this Drill, as it has been obviated by the above Guano Attachment.
HINES & BURCHINAL sold Two Car loads last Fall of the New Style, and they gave perfect satisfaction, as the following Certificates will show:
NEAR CHESTERTOWN, KENT CO. MD., July 8th, 1873.
To Messrs. Hines & Burchinal, General Agents for the sale of Agricultural Implements, Chestertown:—Gentlemen: I have the highest appreciation of the merits of Bickford & Huffman's Eight Tooth Wheat and Guano Drill. The arrangement, for simplicity and good execution, I have never seen equalled in the workmanship of any similar Agricultural Implement. The Guano Attachment of this Drill is a *very gem* of excellence, and must soon establish its utility and superiority beyond cavil. In short, this is the best "Combination" Drill with which I am acquainted, and therefore, in recommending it to the consideration of Farmers generally affords me not a little pleasure.
JOSHUA COPPER, Farmer.

CHESTERTOWN, Kent Co., Md., July 9th, 1873.
MESSRS. HINES & BURCHINAL—*Dear Sirs:* The Latest Improved Bickford & Huffman Drill I purchased of you last Fall gives me perfect satisfaction, in both seeding of Wheat and Fertilizers, sowing them both regular, and it is my impression it far surpasses any Drill I ever saw, and I would cheerfully recommend it to the Farmers of Kent co. The late improvement beats anything I ever saw for seeding Fertilizers.
ISAAC PERKINS.

STILL POND, Kent Co., Md., May 8th, 1874.
THIS IS TO CERTIFY that I bought of HINES & BURCHINAL last Fall, one of the Bickford & Huffman Improved Wheat and Fertilizer Drills, which I pronounce the best I have ever seen. My son bought a Delaware Drill at the same time, and says he likes mine better.
I think, and in fact know, that the Bickford & Huffman is the best Drill. It sows the Guano *perfectly even*, and it is the only Drill I ever saw that did.
JAMES A. ROSEBERRY.

They also refer to:
GEO. W. T. PERKINS, WM. H. STEWART,
DR. SAMUEL BECK, JOHN BRICE,
SAMUEL TAYLOR, WILLIAM FORD,
AND OTHERS,
Who will give the highest testimony in favor of these Drills
Persons in want of a good Drill, should call and see the NEW STYLE for 1874
Those in want of a 9-tube with shaft, will give their orders as soon as possible, as the Company make all 8-tube with tongue, unless otherwise ordered.
HINES & BURCHINAL,
Chestertown, Md.

FERTILIZERS.
We also offer to Farmers the following well known brands of Phosphate:
Maryland Fertilizing Company's.
Whitelock & Co.'s Vegetator.
J. J. Turner & Co.'s Excelsior, and Ammoniated Super Phosphate.
Rasin & Co.'s Sea Island Guano, and Ground Meat and Bone.
Rhodes & Company's.
Watson & Clark's.
And Pacific Guano.
☞ We offer the above Phosphate on time and reasonable terms, delivered either on Sassafras or Chester River and their tributaries. Call before buying.
HINES & BURCHINAL,
Aug. 15—3m. Chestertown.

DOWN-TOWN
Clothing and Variety Store
JOHN K. WILLIS,
IS prepared to accommodate the public at Bacchus' old stand, corner High and Queen Streets, with
CLOTHING AT CITY PRICES!
Coats from $1 up; Under shirts and Drawers from 50 cts. up; Neck Ties 3c, 5c, 10 and 15c. Straw Hats 18 to 20 cts., and other goods in proportion.
Flour, Meal and Feed of all kinds.
BACON, DRIED BEEF, SAUSAGE, FISH, all at the very lowest prices.
Groceries, such as Sugar, Coffee, Tea, Syrups, &c., &c., a full supply, which require only to be seen to secure sales.
Notions.—A large variety of goods in this line, to which special attention is paid.
☞ Give me a call.
JOHN K. WILLIS.

For Rent, 5 GOOD DWELLING HOUSES on Queen Street, Chestertown, and several smaller ones in other sections of the town.
jy18-tf. JOHN K. WILLIS

TWELVE SMALL HOUSES FOR SALE.
Rented for the present year at $50 each. For terms, &c., apply to THOS. S. BORDLEY, Attorney for JOHN BORDLEY, Chestertown.
April 4, 1874—tf.

15,000 BRANDYWINE Raspberry Plants
for sale, genuine, from the Nursery of Thos. J. Vickers, in Broad Neck.
Apply to JAMES DAVIS,
aug29-3t* near Rock Hall.

PUBLIC SALE OF VALUABLE
Real Estate.
BY VIRTUE of the power in the mortgage contained, from William I. Rasin and Mary A. Rasin, his wife, to Simon Parkhurst, which bears date on or about the first day of June, 1872, and stands recorded among the land records for Kent county, in Liber J. K. H., No. 11, Folio 270, &c., I, the said Mortgagee, will offer at Public Sale, at the Voshell House, in Chestertown, Kent county, Maryland, on
WEDNESDAY,
The Twenty-third day of Sept., 1874,
AT THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.,
all that valuable and desirable Real Estate, which is much the greater part of the farm heretofore known as
"KENNARD'S POINT,"
This part of Kennard's Point
CONTAINS 310 ACRES
MORE OR LESS,
and is most eligibly located in Kent county, at the Head of Still Pond Harbor, on the Chesapeake Bay, and is nearly surrounded by the waters of Still Pond and Churn Creeks. It is convenient to Churches, Schools, Mills, &c., and has a cheap and frequent communication by vessels from the harbor and creeks with the cities of Baltimore and Philadelphia, and the situation is elevated, salubrious and beautiful.
This part of the farm is under good fences, and is laid off into convenient tillages, which include about 260 acres of arable land; the residue is in Wood and
Valuable Timber,
such as Cedar and Chestnut. The soil is fertile and productive, and has been highly improved, and is naturally well adapted to cereals, fruits and vegetables. It has large deposits of shell, which may be converted into lime at a small cost, by using the drift wood from along its shores.
The Improvements
ARE A CAPACIOUS
BRICK DWELLING,

nearly new, constructed and finished on the most approved modern plan and style, than which there is not one handsomer or more complete in the county, and it has no rival in the beauties of its location; there are also a LARGE BARN and GRANARY, and the other usual outbuildings, all of which are in fair order; a
Peach Orchard of 6000 or 7000 Trees,
and valuable APPLE and PEAR ORCHARDS. All these Orchards are in their prime, and the fruit is of the most choice and approved varities, and a good selection of CHERRIES and GRAPES.
TERMS OF SALE.
The terms of sale will be as follows: $6,000 cash on the day of sale; the balance in six and twelve months therefrom, with interest and security.
SIMON PARKHURST, MORTGAGEE
RICHARD HYNSON, Attorney.
Chestertown, Aug. 29, 1874—ts.

Trustee's Sale.
BY virtue of a Decree of the Circuit Court for Kent county, in Equity, the undersigned as Trustee will offer at public sale on
THURSDAY,
The Twenty-fourth of Sept., 1874,
AT THREE O'CLOCK P. M.,
At the Voshell House, in Chestertown,
ALL THAT FARM,
KNOWN AS THE
"JAMES KENNARD" or "STEVENSON CONSTABLE FARM,"
situated in Worton, Kent county, Maryland, on the public road from Chestertown to Hanesville, adjoining the lands of Isaac Parsons and others, containing
About 130 ACRES.
About 100 acres are arable, conveniently divided, and is under good fencing. About 15 acres in MEADOW; the residue is in Wood, which supplies ample fuel for use on the farm, and has a fine growth of Young Chestnut.
The soil is naturally good, and has been improved by the use of lime, plaster and clover,—the portion under cultivation having been limed twice.
The situation is desirable, being convenient to Churches, Schools, Mills, &c. Is only two miles from the Steamboat Landing at Buck Neck, and within a few miles of a Station on the Kent County Railroad. The neighborhood is healthy and distinguished for its enterprise and thrift.
The Improvements
ARE A
FRAME DWELLING,

With a KITCHEN attached, and the usual OUT-BUILDINGS,
the latter recently built and in good order.
There is also a good TENANT HOUSE and a nearly new
Two-Story Frame Dwelling,
16 by 28 feet, on the farm. The WATER is excellent.
An Apple Orchard of 100 Trees,
of carefully selected varieties, and a PEACH ORCHARD of Two hundred Trees, are also on the farm.
TERMS OF SALE.
These terms have been substituted for the terms of sale prescribed by the decree: One-fifth of the whole purchase money to be paid on the day of sale, or on the final ratification thereof, at the option of the Trustee; the balance in equal instalments of six, twelve and eighteen months, with interest, therefrom.—The credit payments to be secured by bond or notes of the purchaser, with sureties approved by the undersigned.
RICHARD HYNSON, TRUSTEE.
Chestertown, Aug. 29, 1874—ts.

Farmers, Look to Your Interest!
EXAMINE YOUR
Wheat and Phosphate Drills,
And have them put in order.
We intend to do all REPAIRING in that line, as well as all other kinds that go in with WHEELWRIGHTING AND BLACKSMITHING. Send your Drills early, so we can have them ready for you.
☞ Our personal attention is always given to our work.
TILGHMAN SHAFER,
aug8. Kennedyville.

CIGARS—by the 100 or 1000 at city prices at SPARKS'.

TOBACCO—from 65c to $1.75 per lb. SPARKS.

TRUSTEES' SALE
—OF—
TOWN PROPERTY,
In Chestertown, Maryland.
BY virtue of a Decree of the Circuit Court for Kent County, as a Court of Equity, the undersigned, as Trustees, will offer at Public Sale to the highest bidder, at the Voshell House in Chestertown, on
WEDNESDAY,
The SEVENTH of OCTOBER, 1874,
At half past Eleven o'clock, A. M.,
THE DWELLING HOUSE
And PREMISES
OF THE LATE CHARLES STANLEY, on the corner of High and Queen Streets, in Chestertown. This Lot fronts on High Street 62 feet, 5 inches, and has a depth of 126 feet on Queen Street. There is a
Large Frame Dwelling

on the lot, with a SUBSTANTIAL AND CONVENIENT BRICK BACK BUILDING fronting upon Queen Street, with ample room for a large family, besides several rooms which are rented as stores.
There is also a FRAME SHOP and a LARGE SHED for storage of materials, fronting on Queen Street, and now used by C. A. A. Stanley, Esq., in his business as an Undertaker.
The location is very desirable, either as a residence or for a business stand, and the parcel is sufficient for four Building Lots of convenient size, if it should be desired.
This lot is part of town lot Number 26, and the same which was conveyed to Chas. Stanley, dec'd, by J. N. Gordon and wife, by deed dated March 21st, 1849, and duly recorded among the Land Records for Kent county, saving therefrom all that parcel of said lot fronting on Queen Street 32 feet, with a depth of 62 feet, 5 inches, now occupied by C. A. A. Stanley, Esq., and conveyed to him by said Chas. Stanley and wife, by deed dated February 19, 1866, and duly recorded as aforesaid.
THE TERMS OF SALE
As prescribed by the Decree, are as follows:—One-fourth of the purchase money to be paid in cash on the day of sale or in thirty days thereafter at the option of the Trustees, and the balance in three equal instalments in six, twelve and eighteen months from the day of sale; the credit payments to be secured by the Bond of the purchaser with approved security, and to bear interest from the day of sale.
Deed at the cost of the purchasers.
RICHARD HYNSON,
JAMES A. PEARCE,
TRUSTEES.
The Creditors of Chas. Stanley, late of Kent County, deceased, are hereby notified to file their claims, with the vouchers thereof in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Kent County within four months from the day of sale.
RICHARD HYNSON, JAMES A. PEARCE, } TRUSTEES.
Chestertown, Sept. 12, 1874—ts.

TRUSTEES' SALE
—OF—
Town Property.
THE undersigned, Trustees, by virtue of a Decree of the Circuit Court for Kent County, as a Court of Equity, passed in a cause wherein John T. Dodd is complainant, and George W. Greenwood and others are defendants, will offer at public sale at the Voshell House, in Chestertown, on
WEDNESDAY,
The SEVENTH of OCTOBER, 1874,
AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK, A. M.,
THE DWELLING HOUSE
AND PREMISES,
OF THE LATE JOHN GREENWOOD, on Queen Street, in Chestertown.
THE HOUSE

IS A TWO-STORY FRAME DWELLING, with two large rooms and a hall in the main building down stairs, and with three good chambers up stairs in the main building.—There is also a convenient Back Building, with several rooms up stairs and down—good kitchen and pantry, ample Cellar and good Meat House. There is also a good Yard surrounding the house, and a good Garden in the rear. The house was built several years since specially for a residence for the late John Greenwood, is well finished in every respect, and a convenient, comfortable Dwelling.
THE TERMS OF SALE
As prescribed by the Decree, are as follows: Six hundred dollars to be paid in cash on the day of sale, or in thirty days thereafter, and the balance in three equal instalments in six, twelve, and eighteen months from the day of sale. The credit payments to be secured by the Bond of the purchaser, with security to be approved by the Trustees, and to bear interest from the day of sale.
Possession given January 1st, 1875. Deed at the cost of the purchaser.
RICHARD HYNSON,
JAMES A. PEARCE,
TRUSTEES.
☞ The Creditors of John Greenwood, late of Kent county, deceased, are hereby notified to file their claims, with the vouchers thereof, in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Kent county, within four months from the day of sale.
RICHARD HYNSON, JAMES A. PEARCE, } TRUSTEES.
Chestertown, Sept. 12, 1874—ts.

TRUSTEE'S SALE.
THE undersigned as Trustee, will expose to sale on
WEDNESDAY, the 30th Sept., 1874,
at Mr. H. C. Pennington's hotel at Crumpton (on Kent side), at 12 o'clock, M., a FARM of the late James Urie, formerly the
ANTHONY or PRIMROSE FARM,
about two and a half miles from Crumpton, in Queen Anne's county, containing
207 Acres, 2 Roods and 7 Perches,
more or less. Several hundred cords of Wood may be cut. The land has been limed; soil good for grain. DWELLING and Out-Buildings in good condition. Mr. J. Sapp is the tenant.
THE TERMS OF SALE are: One-fourth on the day of sale or in 60 days thereafter—balance in four equal instalments in 6, 12, 18 and 24 months from the day of sale; interest from 1st Jan. next; purchase money to be secured by the bond of the purchaser with security.
GEORGE VICKERS, Trustee.
Chestertown, Sept. 12, 1874—ts.

Can Wax, Corks, Green Ginger,
DRY Race Ginger, Bleached Jamaica Ginger, Strictly Pure Ground Race Ginger, and Strictly Pure Ground Jamaica Ginger, Cloves, Mace, Cinnamon, Nutmegs, Allspice, Strictly Pure English Mustard, White & Black Mustard Seed, Celery Seed, Thurmeric, and all kinds of Spices for sale at City Prices by
Sept. 5. C. F. STAM & BRO.

THE FOUNDRY SHOP, in Chestertown, is a fine stand for business, and is not yet rented, as reported.
Aug. 29—3t. C. H. BAKER, Att'y.

OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Messrs. Editors:—As Examiner of the Public Schools of Kent county, I determined, during the vacation, to make an effort to awake an interest on the part of the several boards of district trustees. In pursuance thereof, I invited the trustees of the several schools in each election district to meet me at some central point, with such others as might feel an interest in public instruction. My first effort was at Kennedyville in the second district.—There were but eight present, six of whom were trustees, and owing to some misunderstanding the school house was locked up and the key missing. The meeting, though small, was not without good results. The second meeting was held at Massey's, and although a very stormy afternoon was well attended by the trustees of the district, The third meeting was held at Worton Heights in the club room, and was well attended. The fourth meeting, at the Edesville school room, was largely attended, nearly all the trustees of the district being present; the most of whom, on motion of Howard Meeks, Esq., gave their names to the secretary as members of the proposed institute for the fifth district. The meeting here was regularly organized by appointing Vachel Burgess, Esq., chairman, and Mr. A. J. Rees sec'y.

The fifth and last meeting was held in Chestertown. The schools having opened, some of the teachers were in attendance and the teachers' association of the fourth district was at once organized, the trustees present becoming members. [A report of this meeting appears elsewhere.] Having been requested by the meetings at Hanesville and Edesville to furnish my remarks for publication I herewith submit them.

Very respectfully, yours,
E. F. PERKINS.

Gentlemen of the several Boards of District Trustees:—I am of the number of those who believe the present system of public instruction in our State a long step in advance of that which prevailed previous to the Constitution of 1864; and you will permit me to say that such was my opinion long before I was installed into my present office. The system of public education which grew out of the enactments in obedience to the Constitution of 1864, was, owing to a variety of reasons, not inherent in the system itself, or now necessary to discuss, exceedingly distasteful to a large portion of the most influential classes of our county. That system amended from time to time into the existing system of public instruction, still labors, in a measure, under the disadvantages then engendered. You all well know that in these American States no system or law can be successfully carried out against popular opinion. So great was the opposition to the system under the Van Bokkelin dynasty, that I am strongly impressed with the idea that only the general inherent virtues of the system itself preserved it to the youth of 1874. I am persuaded that a fair, honest, energetic test of its merits, will so establish it in the favor of our people, that no burden will be so cheerfully borne as the school taxes imposed by your county commissioners. We must at least give the school law a fair, thorough trial, before it can be consistently turned down. That the law has not, in our county, had a fair and energetic trial will, I think, be admitted by all. Whether this has been owing to a want of energy on the part of the county board, the examiner, the district boards, or the parents of the pupils, or to a lack of the proper effort on the part of each and all, we will not now inquire. The system is most admirably devised, and with all its parts working harmoniously will, I believe, give as accurate results as your locomotive-engine or chronometer. As the most splendid piece of mechanism is valueless without one of its important parts, so our school system is crippled by a deficiency in any of its principal features. And now, gentlemen, whatever lack of interest may have been shown by our county board, however wanting in energy may have been our examiner, I consider it no special disparagement to say that our boards of district trustees have been *generally* almost entirely negligent of *their* part of the general system. Our school system is strictly American and republican in its character, and your State government is just as dependent, and no more, on the effective co-operation of the counties, than your school system is on the energetic co-operation of the district boards of trustees. The State Board of Education represents the State, which so munificently fosters the system; the county board represents your county, which so generously seconds the State; your examiner is their executive officer; the district boards, in my opinion the *bulwarks* of the fabric, represent the people, with the teachers as their executive officers. Can you conceive of a system more beautiful, more consistent with our American ideas of checks and guards? But, as I have said before, no law however necessary, no system however perfect, can succeed here unless the great popular heart beats responsive.

It is to enlist the hearty, active co-operation of the board of district trustees, to arouse the popular sympathy, that self-invited I am here this afternoon. How to solve this problem, what arguments to make use of, I am at a loss, and yet I propose to make an effort. According to the last State report, Kent county expended for the year ending September 30, 1873, nearly $28,000 (the expenditures for the present fiscal year will be quite as much) for her public schools. This, gentlemen, is a considerable sum. Are you satisfied with the results? Since my attention has been specially called to school interests I do not feel satisfied that we are getting all we may receive for so large an outlay I feel that you, gentlemen, the guardians of our school houses, the supervisors of our schools, the employees of our teachers, you, parents of our pupils, have not felt a watchful interest in the expenditure of your money; that you trustees have not visited frequently, if at all, your laborers in the vineyards.

The necessity for and value of public instruction to society and the State, I do not propose to discuss. I assume them granted. The necessity for and value of thorough primary instruction has, I think, been generally overlooked. A learned educator says "the weakest point in the whole system of American education is its deficiency in thoroughness in all the elementary courses." More than half of all the children who attend public instruction do not remain in school long enough to pass beyond the primary classes. How essential then that they should be well grounded in the first principles of knowledge. The idea too generally prevails that most any ordinarily intelligent man or woman will do to teach little ones—Mr. Bateman, the State Superintendent of public instruction, Illinois, says: "At no point in the whole course of study are the results of incompetent teaching so disastrous as at the commencement. If utter inexperience or desperate mediocrity must sit at the teacher's desk, let it be anywhere, everywhere, save in the primary school: for anywhere and everywhere else will its ability to do irreparable mischief be less. At the subsequent stages of education, the mind emerging from the state of implicit trust in the mere dicta of the master, begins to assert itself, to sift what it receives, and find corrections when they are needed—but at the beginning the mind takes the impress of the instruction given, with unquestioning faith, exact as the print of the seal upon the wax. The very best teachers should be assigned to *that* post of duty. It requires the clearest insight into the laws of mental life and action and the springs of feeling, the broadest views of the philosophy of education considered both as a science and an art, and the rarest combination of personal qualities, intellectual, moral and social that can well be conceived. The common notion, that it matters little who teaches the little ones, or who is the assistant, provided an able man is obtained for advanced scholars, is exceedingly pernicious. With the exception, perhaps, of the principal of a union or graded school, the teacher of the primary departments should be the best qualified and the best paid." A moment's reflection will convince any one of the truth of these propositions. To whom does the intelligent horseman entrust the early education of his colt? To the inexperienced or the most competent?

The high order of intelligence claimed, and justly claimed, for our primary schools arouses us to their importance—awakes us to the necessity of their supervision. It has been asserted by high authority in our State that truly good teachers are not more abundant than good painters or poets. If this be true, and I believe it will be generally conceded, a fair approximation to the true standard can only be attained by constant attention and punctual industry. It has been said that a "live" teacher will make his school, and create an interest on the part of every one connected therewith, trustees, pupils and parents. This is true, but as the "live" teacher is so rare, we cannot, do not expect to have the live teacher in every school district. The most we can do, the best we can expect, is to have them just as lively as possible. The teacher of your country school, I care not how intelligent, how competent, labors under disadvantages not encountered by other professionals, unless he be one of those rare geniuses who will create as he goes. Day after day, week after week, month after month, year in and year out, he must plod on building up the mind that is inferior in strength to his own, and all this without one single ray of approval outside of his own conscience and his class. The district Trustee seldom darkens his school room door, except it be to attend his farmers' club, which meets at the school room on Saturdays; the patrons of his school know as little about what is going on in his room as they do of the processes in the great workshops of nature. Imagine Paul Morphey, the great chess player, continually employed from day to day, instructing beginners in the science of the game, with not even the stimulant of a passing observer of his skill, and how long would it be before he turned in disgust from the greatest of all games. Is it any wonder, gentlemen, that our teachers are not all lively; is it not wonderful rather that some of them are alive at all? Isolated, buried almost from his intellectual peers and the world, the country school teacher, more than any other worker, requires a kindly sympathy and encouragement, and this must seek *him*. The character of his occupation is such, always excepting him or her who is a teacher by nature, and of whom we have but few, as to enervate and almost to stagnate if left entirely alone. Perhaps you are saying the Examiner is the officer whose peculiar duty it is to look after all these matters.

The law requires the Examiner in this county to visit each school twice during the year. My limited experience convinces me that to do even this with any approach to practical effect will consume about every other school day in the whole year. But we will assume the visits made. So far as they go, I believe they are a great aid and encouragement to both the teacher and pupil, but they are not frequent enough, and they cannot be. Besides, the Examiner is in many cases looked upon and rather regarded as an *examiner*. There is not always that kind of pleasure in his visits, as in the visits of the trustees or patrons of the school. The trustees are his employers, the patrons are the parents of his pupils; it is before those who are directly interested in his field of labor that he wishes to display his manufactures, for the acquirements of his pupils are to all intents and purposes his manufacture.

I have frequently heard the complaint that the trustees have nothing to do. One quite intelligent member of a district board, with his two brethren, came to the school board office not long since to secure the use of their school house for Sunday School and farmers' club purposes. This was one of *his* complaints. I think his particular grievance was that the trustees had no right to say what purposes the school houses should be used for, and he came to the conclusion that they were of no use. I asked him this question: Do you think the judges of our court any use? Yes, of course he thought they were. Well, I told him they had no legal control over the court house; the county commissioners are the custodians. Yes, but says he the commissioners listen to any reasonable suggestion from the court And in that very instance the county board listened to the trustees, and granted their request; and it was done in opposition to the opinion of the Examiner. But, gentlemen, I have not told you all about the visits of the trustees of that school. They told me, upon inquiry, that they frequently visited their school house to attend the farmers' meeting, not either of them could say that they had visited the school during the present year; and the best excuse was given by the one who confessed to being an old bachelor, and that his visits might give rise to the rumor that he was intrested in the teacher, who is an estimable lady. The trustees here were complaining of nothing to do, when the truth was that they felt so little of the right kind of interest that they had not even organized until the day before, and I don't know that they would have done so then but they wanted to appear officially before the county board. Gentlemen, the law expects more of the district school trustee than of any other department of the system. They have the care of the houses and lands connected therewith; of the furniture, apparatus and other school property; they attend to all necessary repairs; they employ the teachers; they are expected to exercise a general supervision of their respective schools, and visit them *frequently*, and cause instruction to be given ten months, if possible. Here, it seems to me, is a broad field for action. The Examiner only examines, the Trustees employ; the Examiner visits twice, the Trustees frequently. The trustee certifies to the county board whether the teacher has been regular and efficient; in fact, the trustees are, as I said at the outset, the bulwarks of the fabric, when performing their legitimate function.

Gentlemen, I feel a great desire to see more life, more energy, more interest infused into educational matters in Kent Co. I shall make an effort to do my part of the work; I invoke your assistance. Unaided I shall accomplish but little. With your earnest, active, hearty sympathy and co-operation, I feel convinced that much can be and will be done. The Principal of the State Normal School, who largely controls educational matters in our State, is unfriendly to the whole system of district trustees. In his opinion they are useless. How far has your lack of interest justified his opinion? I believe in the theory of trustees, and what is true theoretically must be so practically—that is, can be made so practically. I believe an interest can be awakened among the trustees and patrons of the schools, and when once aroused it will sustain itself.

The present law requires organization on the part of the trustees. By all means organize; notify the county board of your organization; keep regular proceedings of your meetings; attend any examination held by your teacher; encourage the parents of pupils to drop into the school room; don't interrupt your teacher, just listen, you will be surprised to find how interesting the exercises may be made by an earnest teacher. In my visits to one of the schools, one of the trustees who lived near at hand came to invite me home to supper with him. He spent the afternoon. At the tea table he admitted that, although a trustee for years, and the teacher living with him, it was the first time he had ever visited the school, and he did not know it was such an interesting place. He promised to do better. Above all, visit your school at the end of the term, and examine the teachers' daily register before you certify to his report. I venture the opinion that some of you do not know what a daily register is. Gentlemen, your school house and premises should be attractive places to your children. You can do everything in this respect, by exercising a strict care over them and encouraging the children, teacher and patrons to take such an interest that they will voluntarily beautify the house and surroundings.

Within the past quarter of a century how much interest centres around those sacred spots where rest the remains of the dear departed. Every village and most country churches have a burial place not only sacred to memory, but giving evidence of the affection which lingers round the spot. It is adorned with costly monuments, it is fragrant with the votive offerings of loving hearts. Weekly in the country, daily near the village, hourly near the city, some thoughtful pilgrim may be seen with bowed head among these resting places of the dead. Does any one doubt the beneficial effect thus, occasionally, to turn from the toil, the strife and weariness of active life, to communion with the past and the future? While we would not abate but rather add to these visits to the dead, shall we not take equal thought for that bursting, budding and blooming youth which is to take their and our places? The school, the country school especially, is the one place above all others where may be moulded the intelligent, useful, and I will add pious man and woman. You consider it no hardship, no burden, rather a pleasure to give your time, attention and money to the church. The enlightened minister of to-day will everywhere tell you that the Christian Church is looking with more hope for results from children than grown up men and women. I think it does not require much logic to sustain the position. I believe the day is not far distant when the school—the day school—will be reckoned as an efficient instrument of christianization as the church. I do not mean for the advancement of any peculiar or special religious tenets, but for the advancement of the broad doctrines of christian morality. The schools then, gentlemen, are the workshops where are fashioned men and women—christian men and women. Shall we, the living men and women of to-day, feel more interest, spend more time, give more attention to the dead, decaying, mouldering bones of our fathers, than to those immortal beings who are preparing to take our places in the great drama of life? Gentlemen, I say without fear of successful contradiction that whoever aids in the mental and moral development of the youthful mind, engages in as glorious and noble a work as lies within the power of man.

Whatever tends to interest the pupil in his school or his school house and premises, aids more than you may at first imagine, the efforts of his teacher. With a competent teacher, when the child has been brought to love his school, the battle is half won. Perhaps you are saying a competent teacher will always succeed in causing his pupils to love their school. I say by no means; under some circumstances. It is not every boy or girl—there are few boys or girls—who love study for the single purpose of acquiring knowledge; and to enable the teacher to build up a love for his school and books, he must have the assistance of all necessary school appliances. The school room must be made comfortable and attractive; the school grounds should be adorned and beautified, and the pupils should be encouraged to do the work. The trustees, the recognized heads of the schools, must *show*, not simply *feel*, an interest; the parents must manifest their sympathy with all that is going on in the school room, and occasionally give their presence; and when the proper interest is felt, all these things will happen spontaneously, freely and frequently. Do not the grown up farmers of our county, their wives and daughters, require all the ingenious contrivances and appliances to make an agricultural fair successful? One would suppose that the farming interest would burst like a flood and deluge the county fair grounds with their presence and the results of their husbandry. Behold our agricultural trots! Gentlemen of the board of trustees, parents and guardians, I beseech you give a few hours of your leisure time, and if you have no leisure take the time for a few hours each month for your district school.

The law expects in each county, and in each election district of the county, the formation of teachers' associations. So soon as the session opens I propose to encourage all I can the formation, in each district, of such an association. I shall propose that the trustees of the schools become members of these district associations. This will give a membership of from thirty to fifty, sufficiently large to make the meetings interesting. Their value and advantage to the schools and school interests will soon be developed. The great point will be to induce you to enter upon the work. The teachers are ready, and only need organization. If you will join them, we have entered upon a work which will soon make our county the banner county of the State in school, as she has long been in agricultural progress.

And now, gentlemen, I hope that I have said enough to have provoked something additional by way of reply.

JAMES LICK, OF CALIFORNIA.—In the California *Mail Bag* for August is a sketch of the career of James Lick, whose extraordinary disposition of his immense property in founding an asylum, an observatory, an art school, free baths, &c., is well known to our readers. It appears that he was born August 25, 1796, at Fredericksburg, Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, being of German descent through his paternal grandfather. His first occupation was in an organ factory at Hanover, in his native State; afterwards he obtained employment with a piano manufacturer in Baltimore. Shortly after the independence of the South American republics was declared he embarked for Buenos Ayres, and for a number of years in that country, in Chili, and in Peru, he carried on the manufacture and sale of pianos chiefly, acquiring a tolerable capital.—With this, in 1847, he landed in California, where his real estate investments in San Francisco soon made him wealthy, and ended in making him a millionaire. Mr. Lick's conveyance is printed in full in the *Mail Bag*, together with photographic likenesses of himself and his seven trustees, (including the present mayor of the city and two ex-mayors,) and of Leland Stanford, president of the Central Pacific railroad. Besides the useful institutions which Mr. Lick proposes to found, it will be remembered that he also appropriates $150,000 for the erection of a monument in San Francisco to Francis S. Key, of Maryland, author of the Star Spangled Banner, than which nothing could more clearly denote the indellible character of Mr. Lick's early patriotic impressions, imbibed, it is to be presumed, when as a youth he was a resident of Baltimore, humbly applying his mechanical skill and ingenuity to piano construction, an art and industry which has since grown to be among the most important in our city. To