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THE KENT NEWS
A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,
DEVOTED TO
AGRICULTURE, POLITICS AND GENERAL NEW
Is Published every Saturday.
EDWARD MANSFIELD,
PROPRIETOR.

Terms:

$2 00 payable in advance or $2 50 at the expiration of the first six months. No subscription received for a shorter period than six months, and no aper will be discontinued until all arrears are paid. Single copies 6 1-4 cents.

Advertisements, not exceeding 12 lines will be inserted three times for $1, and 25 cents for each insertion thereafter. Larger one in proportion.—A liberal deduction will be made to yearly advertisers. Advertisement must have the number of times marked, or they will published till forbid and charged accordingly.

All communications must be postpaid.



Poetry.

AMERICA.

Written for the Messenger and Gleaner, by
WM. W. WINCHESTER.

Happy the land where the proud eagle soars
Over a people enlighted and free,
Where mighty rivers and cataracts roar,
And wide roaring torrents rush out to the sea:

Land where the great and the good of the past,
Time's honored sages, with deeds of renown,
Bright actions which ever will stand to the last,
Though their forms have long faded, and graves over-grown.

The pattern of nations, the pride of the world,
Columbia's proud standard will ever stand fast,
For her sons and daughters have her banner unfurl'd,
And the clarion of freedom has poured forth its blast:

The bird of the free, e'er our banner o'erthrow,
His broad spreading wings o'er the pilgrims of old,
When they landed all strangers, and their gallant bark drew,
On New England's wild shore, bleak, barren and cold.

Through hardships and trials they still struggled on,
With famine and death, but their hearts ne'er misgave,
Now America's honored with many proud sons,
And she still is the "land of the free and the brave.

America! happy and proud may you be,
No tyrants rude hand has darkened thy shore,
But thy soil has reared the proud Liberty Tree,
We know thou art free, we ask for no more!

COLLECTOR'S NOTICE.



The undersigned will attend every Thursday, at Hale's corner, and every Tuesday at the Court House, in Chester Town, to receive

TAXES,

STATE, COUNTY, CORPORATION AND SCHOOL. The year is drawing to a close, and in a short time I shall charge interest on all uncollected dues, and shall be obliged to enforce payment against all delinquents by legal and summary process. I have large demands upon upon me, from the State, the Alms House, Supervisors, Teachers, Pensioners and others, which must be promptly met. I have no means of meeting them but by collections, and must consequently make them, however unpleasant it may be to others as well to myself.

JAMES H. EDES,
Collector.

Kent county, near Hale's corner, }
November 30, 1850. } 6w

Bounty Land.

THE undersigned, having formed a co-partnership with Bolivar D. Daniels, Esq. of Baltimore, hereby gives notice to the citizens of Kent county, that he is fully prepared *with all papers necessary* to make application for Bounty Land, under the act of Congress, passed September 28, 1850.

R. HYNSON,
Attorney at Law.

Nov. 23, 1850.

Negroes for Sale.

A woman about 18 years old, to serve 20 years from April 1, 1850, (now pregnant) an excellent cook, washer and ironer. Also a girl 12 years to serve 26 years from March last. These negroes sustain good characters, have been raised in first rate families, on farms, and will be sold low, on a credit of six months, or will be exchanged on fair terms for slaves for life, by

JOHN N. DENNING,
18 S. Frederick st. Baltimore.

Nov'r 23, 1850—4w

A fine lot of Eastern Shore Bacon—*HAMS, SHOULDERS, and MIDDLINGS*, for sale for cash by

W. N. E. WICKES

Ap 27, '50.

Wanted to Purchase.

BY a farmer living near Chester Town, for his own use, a NEGRO GIRL, from 8 to 12 years of age. The highest cash price will be given.

Apply at this office.

Nov. 16, 1850.

THE KENT NEWS.

Frustra laborat, quiomnibus, placere studet:—"He labors vainly, who endeavors to please every one."

VOL. II. CHESTER TOWN, MD., DECEMBER 21, 1850. NO. 34.

Popular Tales.

GETTING INTO THE WRONG HOUSE.

BY FRANK DROANE.

"For me I adore
Some twenty or more,
And love them most dearly."

Such was the light air hummed by a young man one evening in the month of September, between the hours of seven and eight, as he turned in a court leading out of Washington street, where was his boarding house.

The character of the air suited well with the appearance of the young blade for as he turned into the court the light of the lamp "illuminated" him; he was tall and somewhat slender, but finely formed; and his pale and handsome features, large bright eyes, with dark circles around them told of late hours and excitement.

His exterior frock coat, buttoned at the top by a single button pants of a snuff colored hue, white vest, and chain fastened at its lower hole, attached to deuce knows what in his pocket, (we do not mean to say that is the name of a watch, for frequently young gents of that cut are not able to support that useful article, but content themselves with attaching a pencil, a counterfeit dollar, and an instance is known of a ten-penny nail put to that use) boots, hat, and dickey of the latest fashion, and switch cane, completed the rakish *iout ensemble* of our hero.

As we said before, he was humming a tune as he went into the court. Passing up he ceased, and his thoughts, if they had uttered, would have been something like this;

"Some forty or fifty years ago, I should have said, Byron was a hard one—one of the b'hoys decidedly; hang if he wasn't the very personification of his Don Juan—he went on the principle "go it while you're young," and he did it with a vengeance."

During these cogitations, he reached, as he supposed, his boarding house. Ascending the steps he sent his hand on an exploring expedition in his pocket and extricated an instrument resembling a portable poker, with a joint handle. Inserting this instrument into a round hole in the door, he effected an entrance.

On entering he was surprised at the disappearance of the hat tree, and a table in its place.

"Where in the deuce is the hat tree gone to now I should like to know!" he mentally exclaimed, throwing down his hat.—"How awful quiet it is just now," he continued, proceeding towards the sitting room.

Finding it in total darkness, he was still more surprised.

"Jutio! is every body dead, I wonder? I'll have some light on the subject," and with that determination he crossed the room to a mantlepiece, to search for a match. He placed his hand on something that made him utter an exclamation of surprise.

"By everything that's blue, a lady's shoe; extraordinary events must have transpired during my absence—a sofa here," striking against one under the mantle piece. "They have been pitching the personal estate at a terrible rate. Ah! a baby's shoe! Oh, mein Got, as the Dutchman said."

"Charles is that you?" whispered a soft voice at the moment, and a warm hand clasped his own.

Whew! what the deuce is to pay now!" he almost ejaculated in surprise, but recovering himself he answered, in a whisper, "yes, dearest, it is me—over the left," he said to himself.

"I see how it is; I'm in the wrong box, and this damsel thinks I'm Charles no matter I'm in for it now, and might as well put it through." So thinking he seated himself by her side on the sofa, with one hand clasped in hers and the other around her waist.

"Charles," she said, "what made you stay so late? I have been waiting for you this hour."

"The deuce you have," thought he!

"Indeed, I am sorry; but positively I could not come sooner," he said.

"The folks have all gone away this evening, and we'll make the best our time," squeezing his hand.

"Yes, by Jove, we will," was the reply he embraced her and imprinted several kisses on her lips.

"I wonder who I am kissing in the dark," thought he during the operation.

"Why, Charles, I should think you'd be ashamed of yourself, you never did so before."

"Charles must be a bashful youth, thoght our hero.

"Charles you musn't do so!" she exclaimed, "what do you mean?"

"I'm making the best of my time," was his innocent reply.

"You remember the last time I saw you, you said you'd tell me to-night when we should be married," said she.

A whistle nearly escaped the lips of Gus, (such was the abbreviated sponsorial of our hero,) "I should say immediately," he thought "but he thought she might mistrust, and 'twould be no go."

"The time, dearest," he replied, "will be when it shall be most convenient for you."

"Oh, how glad I am," she exclaimed. "What a pickle I should be in, if the folks should pop in all of a sudden," at that moment as he had a presentment. As the thought passed his mind, a latch key was heard fumbling at the door.

At this ominious sound she sprang to her feet greatly frightened.

"Oh dear!" was her exclamation, "what shall I do? here comes the folks."

"What shall I do?" was the question of Gus, as he sprang to his feet.

"Oh, dear! oh, dear!" she bitterly exclaimed where shall I hide you! There is no closet, and you can't get out of the room before the folks will see you. Oh mercy! I shall lose my place. There, the door is opening—quick—quick—hide under the sofa, it is a high one."

He didn't stop to look for a better place, but popped down and commenced crawling underneath. His progress was greatly accelerated by her feet, which she applied quite heavily to his side.

"Thunder what a plantation she's got," said Gus, as it came in contact with his ribs.

"Whew! they keep a cat in the house. Hist! There they come—one—two—three daughters, the old man and woman and two gents, friends of the ladies; I suppose. Here they ate down on the sofa.—How I would like to grasp one of those delicate little feet. Gods! she would think the devil had her. I wonder how long I've got to stay here, I hope the conversation will be edifying."

In this manner his thoughts ran for the space of an hour. By that time he found his situation anything but pleasant, not being able to move an inch. There was no sign of their departure, judging from their conversation, which was as lively as at first, and not knowing how long he should have to stay in such odious quarters, caused him to anathemise them most severely, and he got to such a pitch that he let an oath accidentally slide through his lips.

"Hark! what's that?" exclaimed one, but the others heard nothing.

"Jesu Maria!" thought Gus, "what a narrow escape. If any of the others had heard it, I should have been discovered, then a pretty plight I would be in. I should have been taken for a burglar."

"While thus congratulating himself on his escape, a shawl belonging to one of the ladies, hanging over the back of the sofa, slipped behind. It was soon missed and a search was commenced.

"It must have fallen behind the sofa," surmised the owner.

"I'll ascertain," said one of the young men, rising from the sofa.

Seizing one end of the sofa he whirled it nearly into the middle of the room.

Gods! what a scream. The young ladies nearly fainted away at the sight of Gus lying on his face.

"Burglar! thief! robber!" replied the head of the house, retreating towards the door.

"Complimentary," said Gus, looking up.

"The two young men seized and raised him to his feet.

"Thieves! robbers! watch!" screamed the ladies.

"Stop your noise," shouted the old gentleman as Gus commenced an apology.

"Ladies and gentleman," said Gus, "you have found me concealed under the sofa in a burglarious manner, but 'pon my soul it was for a different purpose."

He then gave a lucid explanation, and in such a manner that it set the old gentleman in a roar of laughter.

The girl was then called to be questioned about the matter.

"I shall see now at any rate, who I have been skylarkin with," thought Gus, as her step was heard on the stairs.

A moment more and a daughter of Ham, black as the ace of spades strode into the room.

Such an appariation of darkness struck our hero dumb. For a moment he was a mod l of amazement; but a roar of laughter from all in the room restored his scattered senses, and he became fully aware of his ridiculous position.

"Where's my hat?" he faintly ejaculated, as he rushed from the room.

Until sleep closed his eyes, did the roar of laughter ring in his ears, and when sound asleep, a vision of the "negress" flited before him.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM CONVENTION.

Annapolis, Dec. 12, 1850.

The Convention met according to adjournment—the President, Hon. J. G. Chapman in the Chair.

The President laid before the convention reports from sundry State officers.—Also, a communication from the Governor of Maine, in regard to the school system of that State, in reply to orders of the Convention. Severally referred.

Mr. Dorsey sumitted the following order:

Ordered, That the committee on the Executive Department be instructed to inquire whether a due regarded to the morality and religion of the good people of this State to that security and protection which justice and an enlightened public policy require should be provided for the rights, liberty and prosperity of the citizens of the several counties of this State and of the city of Baltimore; and whether a like regard for the upright and faithful administration of public justice and the law of the land, do not render it expedient that the present mode of electing the Governor of the State should be changed, and in the event of such expediency appearing to the committee, it is instructed to report to this Convention the necessary constitutional provisions to effect such change, which shall provide, that the Goveror of Maryland shall hence-forth be chosen by an electoral college, consisting of one member elected by each county of the State, and one by the city of Baltimore, and that the election of Governor by said college shall be by ballot, and the person having a majority of all the electorial votes cast shall be declared duly elected, and the number of ballots or votes which each elector is authorised to put into the ballot box shall be as follows, viz: The elector from the city of Baltimore shall give—votes, from the county of Frederick—votes from Washington county—votes, from the county of Baltimore—votes. and in like manner as to all the other counties of the State.

This order gave rise to considerable debate, embracing the absorbing question of representation, and was participated in by Messrs. Dorsey, Brent, of Baltimore, and Brown.

Mr. Kilgour moved the previous question, but the motion was not sustained.

The order was finally adopted:

The following orders of isquirey were also proposed, and refetred to the appropriate standing committees:

By Mr. Smith—for the division of Allegany county, and the formation of a new county west of Cumberland, by the name of McHenry.

By Mr. Hicks—to provide for the sepation of the Eastern from the Western Shore, when judged proper by a majority of the people of the said Eastern Shore, and provided they shall join the State of Delaware.

By Mr. Dent—to prevent the passage of laws imposing pecuniary penalties which shall in anywise insure to the informer.—To provide for the passage of laws by the Legislature, to remove the free colored population out of the State.

By Mr. Randall—to require persons hereafter naturalized to remain one year in the State after naturalization before being entitled to vote.

The Convention adjourned.

The following is the order of inquiry submitted by Mr. Bowie yesterday, and adopted, proposing a certain changes in the Judiciary system of the State:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire into the propriety of making the following alterations and reforms in the judicial department of the government of the State:

1st. The State to be laid off into five judicial districts, three on the Western, and two on the Eastern Shores, one person from among those who ate learned in the law, not under thirty, or more than sixty-five years of age, to be elected by the legal voters of each judicial district, as a Judge of the said State in and for said district, to serve for the period of ten years, or until he arrives to the age of sixty-five years, which ever may first happen, and no longer, and to be ineligible thereafter. The five Judges thus elected, to constitute a Supreme Court of Appelate Jurisdiction, for the State at large, to be styled the Court of Appeals of Maryland, and three of whom may hold a court, who shall have the same appellate jurisdiction as the present Court of Appeals of Maryland now have, and they shall hold their sittings twice a year for the Western Shore at the city of Annapolis, and twice a year for the Eastern Shore, at Easton, and shall have such salaries as may be hearafter fixed by the Legislature, but said salaries when established by law, shall not be increased or diminished, during the term for which they were elected.

2nd. One person from among those learned in the law, to be elected by the legal voters of each county in the State, as a Judge of the said State, in and for said county, who shall not be under thirty, or more than sixty-five years old, and who shall serve for ten years; or until he arrives to sixty-five years of age, which ever may first happen, and no longer, and to be ineligible thereafter. The Judges thus elected to constitute the County Court of this State, and to have the same criminal, comition law and Chancery Jurisdiction and powers, that the county courts of the State now have, and also to have the same jurisdiction and powers in all matters of administrations, last wills and testaments, and guardianships, and all other matters, that the Orphan's Courts of the State now have. The said Judges shall hold two terms in each year in their respective counties, for the trial of criminal and common law causes, and shall meet at least once a month or as much oftener as the Legislature may direct, for the despatch of all Chancery business, and for the transaction of Orphans' Court business; and for hearing appeals, from the decisions of Justices of the Peace. The salaries of said Judges shall be fixed by the Legislature, but when fixed, shall not be increased or diminished during the terms for which they were respectfully elected.

3d. The city of Baltimore to be laid off into two judicial districts, and two persons from among those learned in the law from the city at large, shall be elected by the legal voters of said city, as Judges of the State in and for said districts respectively, which two Judges, together with the Judge to be elected from Baltimore county, shall constitute either one court or separate and distinct courts for the transaction of business for the city and county of Baltimore respectively, in such manner, and according to such course of procedure as may be prescribed by law.—The said Judges not to be eligible under thirty or over sixty-five years of age, and to serve for ten years, or until they shall respectively arrive to the ages of sixty-five years, which ever may first happen and no longer, and to be ineligible thereafter. The said Judges respectively to have the same criminal, chancery and common law jurisdiction and powers which Baltimore county court now has, and also such jurisdiction and powers in relation to testamentary matters, which the Orphans' Court of Baltimore county and city now has, and shall hold their terms in such manner and at such times as the Legislature may by law direct. The salaries of said Judges to be fixed by lay, and not to be increased or diminished during the term for which they were elected.

4th. The establishment of a separate court, chiefly of criminal jurisdiction for the city of Baltimore, to consist of one Judge, to be elected by the legal voters of the said city from among those learned men in the law, who is not under thirty or more than sixty-five years old, to serve for ten years or until he shall arrive to the age of sixty-five years, which ever may first happen, and no longer; and to be in eligible thereafter; said court to be also invested with exclusive jurisdiction in all matters which relate to insolvent debtors, and to apprentices, and to have appellate jurisdiction in all appeals from the decisions of Magistrates within the limits of the city. The salary of said Judge to be in like manner fixed by law, and not to be increased or diminished during the term for which he is elected.

5th. The Legislature to establish by law an inferior court, to be styled the "Police Court of the city of Baltimore," which shall have jurisdiction of all such inferior offences as the Legislature may by Law provide for. The number of Judges, their mode of appointment, tenure of office, qualifications, and salaries to be provided for by law.

6th. No new suit shall be instituted in, and no suit pending elsewhere, shall be removed to the High Court of Chancery of this State, after the adoption of this constitution by the people; but all unfinished business now pending, or which may be then pending in the said Chancery court, shall be closed and brought to a final termination, within five years from the time of the meeting of the first General Assembly after the ratification of this constitution, at which time, or sooner if the said busines shall be finished, the said Chancery court and the office of Chancellor as well as the office of Register in chancery shall be abolished, until which time the salary of the Chancellor and the fees of office of the Register in Chancery shall remain the same as they now are, and in the event of a vacancy in either the said office of Chancellor or of Register in Chancery, the same shall be filled in the manner now provides for, and when the said Chancery, court shall provide by law for the safe keeping and disposition of the records and proceedings of said court as it may deem necessary and proper.

7th. The Orphans' courts and Magistrates' courts of the State and the office of commissioners of insolvent debtors for the city of Baltimore to be abolished; and their jurisdiction vested respectively in the several courts heretofore mentioned.

8th. The jurisdiction of single justices of the peace to be extended to one hundred dollars with the right of immediate appeal to the several courts respectively hereinbefore mentioned.

9th. The clerks of the Court of Appeals for the Eastern and Western Shores, to be annually appointed by the Judges of said court, all other clerks of courts, and the Registers of wills for the county and city of Baltimore; to be elected by the people of said counties and city respectively for a term not exceeding seven years, and to be re-eligible at the expiration of their terms.

10th. The fees of Clerks and Registers of Wills to be abolished; and fixed salaries to be provided by law, for the Registers of Wills, to be paid by the counties and city of Baltimore respectively; and the Legislature to provide by some certain and simple made of compensation to Clerks, in lieu of the present system of fees:

11th Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, Constables and Coroners to be appointed as now provided for, and their fees of office to remain the same.

12th. All judgments, and decrees and orders in Chancery, interlocutory orders and other proceedings of courts of competent jurisdiction in this State; and all public or private acts of Assembly whenever relied upon in the progress of a cause in any of the courts of the State, to be allowed to be given in evidence, under the general issue; and the courts to be prohibited from passing rules of court requiring them to be specially pleaded.

13th. All special pleadling to be abolished in the courts of the State; and every matter pertitent of material to the merits of a cause to be given in evidence under the general issue and without being plead specially.

14th. The trial of Judges by impeachment only, and the doctrine of contempts of court; to be held as utterly odious, and in derogation of the rights of free citizens, and, as establishing in the persons of Judges prerogative privileges and immunities, not belonging to other citizens of the State.

15th. Judges for willful misbehaviour, and other official misdemeanors, to be tried like other citizens, on presentment and indictment in the due course of the common law, subject to such regulations and limitations as the Legislature may prescribe by law.

Dec. 13, 1850.

The Convention met according to adjournment—the President, in the Chair.

Judge Chambers, chairman of the committee on the Elective Franchise, made a report in part

Sec. 1. That every free white male person who shall have been a citizen of the United States for 30 days, and a resident of this State for one year next preceding the election, and of the county for six months, shall be entitled to vote in the election district in which he shall reside in all elections hereafter to be held, and at all such elections the votes shall be taken by ballot, and not viva voce.

2. That if any person shall give any bribe present or reward, or any promise, or any security for the payment or delivery of any money, or any other thing, to obtain or procure a vote for any candidate or person proposed or voted for as Elector for President of the United States, or Representative in Congress, or for any office of profit or trust now created or hereafter to be created by the Constitution or laws of this State, the person giving and the person receiving the same shall, on conviction in a court of law, in addition to the penalties now or hereafter to be imposed by law, be forever disqualified to hold any office of profit or trust, or to vote at any election thereafter.

3. That no person duly convicted of larceny or other infamous crimes shall ever thereafter be entitled to vote at any election in this State; and no person, under guardianship as a lunatic, or person non compos mentus shall be entitled to vote.

Mr. Brown gave notice that he dissented from the first article of said report.

Mr. Ege (disavowing any knowledge of the petitions, or any feeling in common with them) presented a petition signed by P. Konig, Robert Welch, Patrick Knell, Edward Morgan, Robert Flemming, James Tracy, William Clark, Bazil Maker, Reuben Seves, Ralph Kline, Allen Brown, Edward Skinner, Thomas White, James Allen, S. Merritt, Reubenites of Baltimore, that a Governor may be elected at the first election after the adoption of the new constitution—that the success of Mr. Lowe, by advocating anti-Reubenite doctrines in two speeches in the city of Baltimore, since his election, has violated the principle on which he was elected.

Mr. Brown moved that it be laid on the tabel. Negatived—ayes 36, nays 29.

On motion of Mr. Schley, it was referred to the Executive Committee on the Executive Franchise.

The following orders of inquiry were proposed and referred to appropriate Standing committees.

By Mr. Wells—To exempt from military duty persons conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms.

To require all new counties hereafter formed to contain —— inhabitants.

By Mr. Stephenson. To prevent the granting of renewal of charters to Banks or other corporations, except by a vote of two thirds of all the members of both Houses of the Legislature—the names of the members assenting and dissenting, to be recorded. No charter to be granted or renewed (except for education or charity) without granting every stockholder the right to inspect its affairs at all times. To restrict Banking corporations to the business of exchange, discount and deposit, forbidding them to speculate in real estate or chattels, except as necessary for their actual use in the transaction of business or purchased legal sale in liquidation of debts due them, of which they shall make sale in a reasonable time after purchase.—Adjourned.

Annapolis, Dec. 14, 1850.

The Convention met. Prayer. Roll called and journal read.

On motion of Mr. Grason, ordered, that Mr. Glover, door-keeper to the Senate, be allowed the per diem of a door keeper to the Convention for services rendered.

On motion of Mr. Harbine, the Judiciary committee were instructed to inquire into the propriety of holding quarterly sessions of the common law courts. Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Eccleston, an inquiry was directed into the propriety of incorporating in the new constitution the 59th article of the present constitution; and to prevent the calling of a Convention except by a two third vote of both branches of the Legislature.

On motion of Mr. Tuck, the committee on the bill of rights be instructed to inquire into the expediency of requiring that in all applications for bail, where the accused resides beyond the limits of the State, bail may be allowed or refused at the discretion of the judge or justice to whom the application may be made. And that the committee on the attorney General, &c., inquire as to giving the appointment of the Attorney General to the Governor and Senate, and the election by the Legislature of the deputies for each county. The first removable at the pleasure of the Governor, and vacancies in the office deputies to be filled by the Governor until the meeting of the Legislature.

Mr. Brown made a motion to consider the report of the committee on the elective franchise.

Mr. Blackistone moved its postponement till the 1st of January.

Messrs. Brown, Solers and Tuck, favored taking it up at once. Messrs. Blackis