msa_sc2901_scm2352-0292 ©Maryland State Archives

THE KENT NEWS.

Frustra,laborat, qui omnibus, placare, studet---"He labours vainly, who endeavors to please every one.

BY E. MANSFIELD. CHESTER TOWN, Md. $1 50 PER ANNUM, in advance

VOL. 13. SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1852. NO. 3.

AUCTION SALES

Trustee's Sale,

BY virtue of a Decree of the High Court of Chancery, the undersigned as Trustee will expose to

Public Sale,

to the highest bidder at the tavern porch of John McDaniel Esq. in Chestertown on

THURSDAY

the 27th DAY OF MAY 1852 at 11 o'clock, A. M., the residue of the real estate of Dobbs Joiner dec'd, consisting of part of a tract of land called

"PROVIDENCE,"

CONTAINING FROM

12 TO 15 ACRES,

adjoining the Chew property, the lands of Messrs. Parrons and Nicholson and of Richard Smith Esq.

The land is of excellent quality.—There is a fine

APPLE ORCHARD

in full bearing.

THE DWELLING HOUSE OF THE PLAINTIFF, ONE STORY HIGH, with KITCHEN attached.

The Terms of Sale

as prescribed by the Decree, are that the purchaser shall give Bond to the Trustee with approved security payable in three equal instalments in six twelve and eighteen months from the day of sale with interest from the day of sale.

GEORGE VICKERS, Trustee.

Chester Town, May 1. 1852 } tds

Trustee's SALE,

BY virtue of a Decree of the Circuit Court of Kent county sitting as a Court of Equity, the undersigned as Trustee, will expose to

PUBLIC SALE,

to the highest bidder on

THURSDAY

the 27th day of May 1852 at half-past 11 o'clock A. M., the REAL ESTATE of James Wilcox, dec'd—consisting of

Two Lots of Land,

lying within two miles of Chester Town—one containing about

10 Acres,

adjoining the farm of Mr. Charles T. Crosby and the lands of Dr. T. H. Wharton.

The other containing about

11 ACRES,

adjoins the lands of Mr. J. T. Dodd and Mr. A. W. Sparks. On one of the lots is a considerable growth of

Young Pine;

On the other of small young oaks.

The Terms of Sale

as prescribed by the Decree, are, that the purchaser shall give Bond to the Trustee with approved security, payable in three equal instalment in six twelve and eighteen months from the day of sale with interest from the day of sale.

GEORGE VICKERS, Trustee.

Chester Town, May 1. 1852, } tds

TOILET and shaving Soaps, Treple Extracts, Pomenades, Hair oils and Perfumerms &c., for sale by W. N. E. WICKES.

BLACK Doeskins and fancy Cassimers, Fine Silk and Marseilles Vestings, for sale by W. N. E. WICKES.

FRENCH twilled black Cloths, some of very fine grade, for sale by W. N. E. WICKES.

CARRIAGE, riding and Cart Whips, Cowhides, &c., at W. N. E. WICKES.

JUST opening a fresh lot of Green and Black TEAS. W. N. E. WICKES.

LADIES and Gent. Kid; Silk, Thread and cotton Gloves; a large assortment. W. N. E. WICKES.

POETRY.

Truth and Poetry.

The following is really a good thing and a true picture. It don't apply to us at all, however, for we always stay at home evenings, much prefering it to attending secret societies, &c.—We have little confidence in the good effects of such institutions, knowing as we do that they take husbands away from their families, where they should be, and often lead them where they should not be. These late hours and convivial meetings, if they do not beget drunkenness and debauchery, produce a recklessness and a species of mental and moral dissipation, that we should consider almost criminal. But we will let the writer of the following, who is evidently a wife and a victim, tell her own story:

Anti-Stay-at Home Society.

BY ONE WHO KNOWS.

MONDAY NIGHT.

W.—Oh, love, I'm glad you have come home,
The supper's almost cold;
But here's a nice warm bit for you—
I don't intend to scold.

Your office closed—all business done;
Your books laid on the sheives;
How pleasant it will be to pass
This evening by ourselves.

H.—My love, my dearest love, you know
How happy I should be,
If I could pass my leisure hours,
In sweet commune with thee.

But (here he sighs) you know we must
Obey stern duty's call;
And this night, dearest, just this one,
I must be at the Hall.

TUESDAY NIGHT.

W.—My love, Miss C. takes, to-night,
Her benefit, and so,
As she is one I much admire,
I'd really like to go.

H.—You shall, my love—stop, I forgot,
'Tis Tuesday night, I swear:
A special meeting's called to-night,
I really must be there.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

W.—Dear Charles, it's been so dull to-day
Without you I confess,
Let's draw this table to the fire,
And have a game of chess.

H.—I would accept your challenge, love,
And grant your sweet demand,
But Wednesday is our lodge, you know,
And I must be on hand.

THURSDAY NIGHT.

W.—Well, love, what shall we do to-night;
Read, or attend the play?
Or have a little private talk,
The first for many a day?

H.—Just as you please—I'll soon be back;
Business of very great
Importance, love, comes off to-night—
I must not let them wait.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

W.—My love, just clasp this pin for me,
And Charles, pray hand my shawl;
You know you promised me to-day,
To take me to the ball.

H.—I know I did, but, really love,
I had forgot it all,
And promised I would go to-night
Some members to install.

I hate to disappoint you, dear,
I know it is provoking,
But when you spoke of it to-day,
I really thought you joking.

SATURDAY NIGHT.

W.—Here, take the baby, Charles; all day
He's lain upon my lap—
This evening you can watch him, while
I take a little nap.

H.—Poor little thing, how pale he looks,
I hope he won't get worse;
There's an election held to-night,
Else I'd stay home and nurse.

SUNDAY NIGHT.

W.—Dear Charles, here's your cloak and hat.
And overshoes, all warm;
I hope you won't stay late to-night,
There's such a dreadful storm.

H.—Not stay out late! you don't suppose
I really could intend
To leave my dearest wife alone
Her evening hours to spend!

Just place my slippers by the fire,
And wheel that pleasant light
Right by my cozy rocking-chair—
We'll stay at home to-night!

☞The man who ascended Bunker Hill monument on the outside, to avoid the payment of the entrance fee, was arrested last week and bound over for trial. He appeals to the higher law in justification.

SPEECH

OF

Hon. James A. Pearce,

IN VINDICATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT FILLMORE.

IN SENATE, April, 29, 1852.

After some other business, the Deficiency bill was taken up.

Mr. Pearce said he would now discuss the amendment pending, but would depart from the appropriate debate for the purpose of replying to attacks by Messrs. Gwin and hunter on the administration. Senators, if not answered promptly, would, perhaps, create impressions, which would be difficult to remove from the public mind. The speech of the Senator from Californir was an open avowed attack on the administratiro, and it arraigned it not only for its own, but also for the real or imagined errors of Gen. Taylor's administration. He, with equel property, might arraign Mr. Polk's administration for the peculations, embezzlements and frauds committed under its Democratic predecessor. He had hoped Gen Taylor's administration would have escapen the Senator's assaults.

Its old, honest, brave chief had sunk to rest,
"With all his country's wishes blessed."

He was not much in the confidence of General Taylor's administration, but among that Cabinet were some with whom he held relations of personal friendship; and as none of that cabinet were now in office or Congress, he left it due to himself to defend them. The first charge preferred by Mr. Gwin was the appointment of T. Butler King as special agent to California, he being then a member of Congress. He denied that Mr King, when appointed, was a member of Congress in fact, and, even if he was, his appointment was notaa office in the contemplation of the Constitution. An office was something created by law. This was a mere agency, designated by the President, and such an agency as had precedents under the administrations of Jackson and Polk. Mr. King was not invested with complete power over the army and navy, as stated by Mr Gwin. He here read Mr King's instructions. The next charge was that Mr. King, as commander of the navy despatched the steamer Edith, which cost $130,000, on a useless service, in which it was lost. That service was the conveyance of the members of the California Convention to Monterey. Now, if that Convention was proper, and the Senator, who was a part of and enjoyed its fruits, would not deny it, why should not this steamer, then lying idle, be used for the purpose? From papers on file in the Navy Department, it appeared that the Senator himself had urged the selection of a particular individual to command that steamer on that very service.

Mr Gwin said that many of the members of the Convention were at San Francisco, and desired to be conveyed to Monterey; and he understood that they were to be conveyed at the public expense.

Mr. Pearce said he did not complain of the vessel being used, but he complained of the Senator having cited the use of that vessel on that service, after recommending it, as an evidence of the bad effects of Mr. King's appointment. The Edith did not cost $130,000, but $33,000 only. He denied what the Senator had stated, that Mr. King's nomination as collector was withheld from the Senate until after the 4th of March for the purpose of avoiding the constitutional objection to his appointment.—That nomination was sent to the Senate before the 4th of March, and was acted on. The Senate, however, subsequently confirmed it. Were the injunction of secresy removed, he would ask the Senator if he did not himself, sustain Mr. King's nomination.

Mr Gwin said he had voted for Mr. King's nomination, but would have urged its rejection had it come up before the 4th of March.

Mr Pearce said, if there had been any evidence that the nomination had been meanly kept back for the purpose of avoiding any Constitutional objection, it ought to have been rejected whenever it came up.

The next charge was of the escort which was sent out with General Wilson, Indian Agent, to Utah. Military escorts to civil officers were no unusual thing. Under Mr. Polk's administration they were sent out to accompany Mr. Weller, the Boundary Commissioner, and Governor Lane and Judge Pratt to Oregon. These escorts cost $61,000, expended by the Quatermaster's department. The escort accompanying Mr Wilson, Mr Collier and others under Gen. Taylor's administration, cost but 56 000 dollars. The whole cost of Mr. Wilson's escort was but $12,000. He read a letter from Mr. Medill, Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Mr. Wilson, directing him to avail himself of a military escort, and then leave for Santa Fe. This military force would have gone, whether Mr. Wilson went along or not.

Another charge was that Mr. Wilson left Utah, resigned his office, went to California, and by President Fillmore was appointed Navy Agent. He was nominated Navy Agent by Gen. Taylor though he was not confirmed until after President Fillmore came in. Mr. Wilson did not act as Navy Agent for a long time without any bond. He did give two bonds which were approved. He did not draw a large salary and emoluments, for the Senator, as Chairman of Naval Affairs, ought to know that the Navy Agents have no salaries, but draw one per cent on disbursements made by them. He next examined the charge relative to Mr. Collier's escort, costing $35 000. It was important that all civil agents having money in charge, traversing deserts roamed by savages prowling for plunder, should be protected unless it was desired they should lose their scalps and the Government's money.—That cost $34 000, but that sum included the whole cost of the stores and provisions of the military and their horses. A great part of those stores &c. they lost, or were coupelled to leave behind in the desert.

He pointed out the benefit of sending military forces whenever practicable through the Indian country, for the purpose of awarding them and protecting emigrants. This was Mr Polk's policy in sending the Rifle Regiment to Oregon, by way of the plains, the cost of so doing, being $220,000. The next charge was the unwise selection of Benicia as chief of the military depot of California, and the extravagant outlay and expenditures for barracks and quarters there. That site was selected by Gen. Persifer F. Smith, who was appointed there by Mr. Polk, and who made the selection, under authority, in him vested by Secretary Marcy. He read Gen. Smith's letters, showing the advantages of this site. He also read certain portions of letters omitted by Mr. Gwin, in his speech on this point, showing that the officers who opposed Benicia, admitted that the disadvantages of that post were such as were common to all other places in California. The alleged extravagance of expenditures for the construction of Bundings, &c. there, by the Quatermaster's department, were by the orders of General Smith. The blame, if attached to any one, certainly belonged to other quarters than the present administration, for it all took place shortly after the 4th of March, 1849. As soon as the present Secretary of War came into office, and was informed of these proceedings and of the magnitude of the expenditures at Benicia, he issued orders to discontinue them. The next charge was the collection, &c, of duties from the people of California upon goods brought into that Territory. This policy he defended.—Congress at two different times appropriated $50,000 for negotiations with the California Indians. Three commissioners or agents were appointed. They arrived there and had no money. The state of the Indians was such that alarm and anxiety prevailed, and it was desirable to commence negotiations as soon as possible. They applied to Collector King for an advance of $25,000. He refused, but at the instance of Senator Gwin, then there he advanced of $5000. The commissioners then divided the State into three districts, each commissioner proceeding to a separate district. They could not go alone, and escorts were necessary. Collector King advanced to the Quartermaster's department $150,000. There were then sent out three escorts cost $70,000 and not $150 000, as stated by the Senator.—The other $80,000 were applied by the Quartermasters's Department to other services. He admitted that these advances by Mr. King were illegal, and they had been condemned by the administration, but the large advance, he thought, might be excused by the Senator on the same ground, of imperious necessity, upon which he recommended Mr. K. to advance the five thousand dollars, which was as illegal as if a million. The Commissioners negotiated treaties, and in them have stipulated what they had no right to do, to supply the Indians immediately with beef cattle &c., and have proceeded to execute those stipulations, and have drawn for the amount of these contracts. No one could pretend that such powers were vested in the Commissioners. They, however pleaded the necessity and urgency of this state of affairs—the large body of Indians—their warlike character, &c.—The Senator complained that these treaties had not been sent to the Senate.—They were not received by the President till about the 1st of Febuary, and the President has delayed, and most properly delayed, acting on them until some reliable information can be had upon the subject. This information is as necessary for the Senate as for the President, and until obtained neithdr can act intelligently. He knew California was opposed to the treaties, and that she demanded the removal of the Indians beyond her territory. He showed the cruelty and injustice of this conduct. The President does condemn these contracts for beef, &c, to supply the Indians, and the Senator asked why, then, were not the Commissioners dismissed. There were three Commissioners and one sub agent. One Commissioner declared he opposed all these proceedings; nother resigned, and the sub agent had been dismissed. The other Commissioner, who, every one admitted, was the best had been applied to for information to enable the department to act understandingly. Were he dismissed now, it is he would trouble himself by anwering any questions. He then replied to Mr Hunter. He denied the justice of that Senator's remarks, that the present Secretary of War was induced to make reforms by the actions of the last Congress. The present peace establishment was far greater than it was in 1845. The Rifle Regiments were then unknown to the service, and being mounted, were far more expensive. Many of the Infantry were now mounted. The Artillery, the dragoons and the Infantry had all been increased. There were now many incidental expenses of the army unknown in 1845. These were in consequence of the annexation war, and cession by Mexico. The territory had been doubled. Most of it regions remote, without population or products, infested by lawless bands of ferocious Indians, who lived by repine and warfare. The frontier settlements, and towns in these settlements, were as much entitled to protection as the Atlantic cities. Posts are necessary; many of them thousands of miles from navigation. In '45 there was only one post which was ninety miles from steamboat navigation. No comparison of estimates for the present service with those 1845 could be just or proper. The present Secretary of War came into office in August, 1850. Congress and the country was then intensely agitated, and solely occupied with one subject. The former adjourned on the 1st of October, and meeting in December. The Secretary had only two months to become acquainted with his office and its extended operations. In this time he did this, and was expected to ferret out abuses which had escaped the eyes of his predecessors. In his first report he designates many abuses, and the measures proper for their remedy. Mr. P. read extracts from that report, and from orders issued at the same time, directing the employment of soldiers at the posts in the cultivation of grain forage, &c.

Mr. Hunter said that was merely a revival of the order of Mr. Calhoun in 1824.

Mr. Pearce said he knew that, but who had permitted that order to become obsolete? In Mr. Calhoun's time the military posts were all in fertile regions; now, for the most part, they were in barren ones. He also read orders from the Secretary of War, for the dismissal, as rapidly as possible, of all civil employees of the Quarter-master's department, by over one thousand persons had been discharged. He read other orders, showing that nearly every one of the reforms suggested by Mr. Hunter had been already commenced by the Secretary of War, and were now in operation. On the subject of large expenditures for forage, he reminded the Senator that there were now ten thousand animals in the service of the Quartermaster's department. Only half forage for these was estimatdd, the other half being supplied by grazing, &c. Full estimates for forage for these animals, would be over $2,000,000. The department estimated for one million, and Congress gave half a million; hence the deficiency.

He here yieided the floor, without concluding, and the Senate adjourned.

WASHINGTON, April 30.

SENATE.—The session of the Senate commenced at the usual hour.

Mr. Pearce moved that the private calendar be postponed and the deficiency bill taken up. He said his health was precarious, and he might be unable on another day to conclude his remarks.—Another reason was, that there was a necessity for action on this bill. The Quartermaster's Department has no money, and unless appropriations were made, certain troops, now about starting for Oregon, could not be dispatched. The motion was agreed to. The bill for the settlement of claims arising out of military operations in California, in '46 and 47, was passed.

The Deficiency bill was then taken up.

Mr. Pearce noticed one charge made by Mr. Gwin, which he had overlooked yesterday. It was that General Wilson, the Indian agent in Utah, had resigned his office and pushed on to California, burying all his private property, and that upon his arrival in California, the war department ordered a military expedition to proceed to where Gen. Wilson's property was buried, to take it up and to bring it to California, this expedition costing $100,000. This was the charge made. The facts of the case were very different. A scouting party, under commond of Capt. Warner, had been attacked in the mountains by Indians and dispersed, Captain Warner being killed. An expedition was sent out to relieve this party, and to pursue and punish the Indians. Their service carried them near to where Gen. Wilson's goods were buried. On their return they received an order to bring those goods in. The expedition was not sent out, therefore, for Gen. Wilson's property, but upon proper military service. He renewed his review of Mr. Hunter's suggestions of remedial measures of reform, and showed, by reading from records and documents, that the suggestions about a retired list for disabled officers had been repeatedly recommended by the Secretary of War. The abuse of the officers of army being engaged in the contracts for supplies had been brought to the attention of Congress by the Secretary of War, and all he could do had been done to suppress it. The abuse of the officers of the Quartermaster's Department in delaying the settlement of their accounts, was owing to a defect of the law, allowing them prolonged time for that purpose. The Secretary of War had done all in his power to check it. He had issued circulars to one hundred and fifty-four disbursing officers, insisting on the settlement of their accounts, and threatening to report them to the President for dismissal. Great results had followed.—He replied at length to Mr. Hunter's strictures upon the system of transfering balances of one appropriation to supply deficiency in others. He refered to Mr. Berrien's opinion, when Attorney General in 1831, against this practice. That opinion, however, was overruled by Attorney General Grundy, during President Van Buren's administration, and the system has continued ever since, according to Mr. Grundy's opinion. This abuse, if one, was chargeable to the Democratic administration which adopted and continued it; and not this administration. The abuse of allowing the quartermasters to draw upon each other, and to transmit these drafts as a sort of currency, was next adverted to. This practice grew up during the war under President Polk, but in consequence of measures adopted by Secretary Conrad, existed now only to a limited extent.—He showed that the expenditures of the Quartermaster's department have been annually diminished since Gen. Taylor's administration came into power. He agreed with the Senator that something ought to be done respecting the better organization of the clerks in the departments, and that the merit and qualifications should be prerequisites to appointments. He regretted the adoption of the policy "to the victors belong the spoils." It had produced much mischief by making political influence the recommendation to office. He would rejoice to see a return to the state of affairs as they existed previous to 1828.—The administration would in a few days, lay before Congress a plan for the reorganization of the clerical corpse. While the act of Congress of 1820 gave the Secretary of War power to contract for the quartermaster's and subsistence department of the army, that power had never been exercised while Congress was in session. He had never heard of an improper contract for the supplies of the Navy, except one, if that was one.—In 1848 the Navy had a supply of cheese for two years, but a gentleman from Connecticut, by some means or other, procured a contract for four years' supply of cheese for the Navy, at the rate of 80,000 pounds a year. The consequence of this extraordinary supply was, that the cheese, though it did not exactly take wings and fly away, took legs and walked away. The expenses of the Navy proper were not more than they were in 1845, although large squadrons were kept afloat. In 1841 the expenses of the Navy proper were $5,338,000. In 1850 they were but $5,495,000. He did not think the grand remedy for the abuses proposed by the Senator from Virginia, of a change of administration, the surest or safest one. Under whom did these abuses arise? Not under this, but under democratic administrations.—Who posted troops in towns at great expense? When were all these quartermasters and other officers appointed who have expended these extravagant sums of money? Under Mr. Polk's administration. All the other abuses complained of were traceable back beyond the year 1849. If this administration go out of power they will leave the public affairs in a far more comfortable condition than they were kept by their Democratic predecessors. Mr. Polk's administration went out leaving to their successors unknown difficulties to arrange. Vast territories had been acquired which required protection. Nothing had been done for their civil government. They had to establish civil and military organizations in remote and barren territories of which but little was known. All this had been done, honorably, justly, and promptly, notwithstanding Congress had cut down the necessary estimates. He did not think affairs could be better managed or with more benefit to the country, even should the power fall into the hands of the Senator from Michigan, the Senator from Illinois, or even the Senator from California. No change could be for the better. In fact, he believed the public offices were never so well administered; that they were in a condition that any