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KENT NEWS.

CHESTER TOWN, Md.

Saturday, December 24, 1853.

Notice.

ALL PERSONS INDEBTED to the Office "KENT NEWS," are politely requested to call and settle.

Dec. 3, 1853.

Wentworth Seminary.

The annual examination of the pupils attached to this School, conducted by Mr. Bassford, took place, in the Court House, on Wednesday last.—The young ladies and girls acquitted themselves handsomely. Mr. Bassford conducted the examination which was varied, extensive, and strict; with the various subjects of Grammar, Geography, History, National Philosophy &c., the pupils manifested an acquaintance, that was surprising. Mr. B. is perfectly at home on these subjects, and from the manner in which he conducted the examinatiou, it was evident that his whole soul was in the School, and that he had taken unlimited pains and made laborious efforts, to make the proceeding as creditable to the Pupils, as it was honorable to himself. The memory, the quickness and correctness of reply, the ability to give reasons and illustrations, on such a variety of topics, learned, and difficult, and that evidently, without any preconcerted arrangement, made the strongest and most favorable impression, of the character of the School—the mode of imparting instruction, and the success that attended the tact and untiring and skillful efforts of the Preceptor. To us, these examinations are highly interesting, as well as instructive, while we derive great pleasure from them, the scholars are encouraged by a good attendance, and excited to greater emulation. We have wondered that parents are not more alive to these exhibitions, and do not more generally attend them.

A little after 7 o'clock in the evening, the exercises commenced, in music, singing and speaking—single speeches, dialogues and concerts. The house was crowded, and a brilliant audience was in attendance. The exercises were continued till near eleven o'clock. They were of much variety and of great interest. The young ladies and children, acquitted themselves admirably, and won 'golden opinions.' The Musical Department was regulated by Professor Minnick, who has few, if any, superiors; and who should be encouraged by all lovers of the art.—This school, in our midst, conducted by a Marylander, in sympathy, feeling and interest, should be patronized liberally by our citizens. Our daughters can be as well educated here as elsewhere—they are at home, or can reach home in a few hours. The proceeds of the school are expended at home; thus making it our interest, as well as our pride to sustain an Institution among us having strong claims to our support.

Washington College.

The Rev. Dr. FRANCIS WATERS has removed to Washington College, and will take charge as Principal, on the 2nd of January, when the schools will be open. The high character of Dr. Waters, as the head of Colleges and Schools, is so well known and justly appreciated, that it is unnecessary for us to allude to it. Parents and guardians may be assured that every attention will be paid to the pupils as well in relation to their educations as to regular and moral habits and discipline. During the period from 1818 to 1823, when Dr. Waters had charge of the College, it was in a flourishing condition. We believe parents will find it to their interest to patronize this school. The Institution is honored with the name of the "Father of his country"—he made a donation to erect the first building. The Professors will be able. It is locat d upon us, and has strong claims upon the citizens of Kent. The terms are moderate.

New Steamer.

It will be seen by an advertisement in another column, that the beautiful Steamer Champion is to run between Baltimore and Chester Town, on Tuesday in each week, commencing on Tuesday, the 3rd of January next. Captain Norman, of West River, is to command this Steamer. He is one of the best commanders and most affable captains in he bay, and the vessel is a fine sailor.—The terms are low. See advertisement.

Correspondence of the "Kent News."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20, 1853.

CONGRESS.—It is never expected that there will be anything of importance done in Congress till after New Year's. Among the many questions that will arise, may be enumerated the following: The projected railroad to the Pacific; the disposition of the surplus revenue in the Treasury; the enlargement of the Navy, a settlement of the boundary difficulties between the United States and Mexico; and the course to be pursued in our relations with Japan. These are *some* of the important matters that will claim consideration at the hands of Congress. The President's Message is under consideration in the House, and several speeches have already been made upon it. MR. LETCHER, of Va., gave notice on yesterday that he would introduce a bill to establish a "public printing office." This has been tried on several occasions in the House, but has always proved abortive.

I see from the *Report* of the "Superintendent of the Census," that the work is now completed and is in the hands of the *binder*. It contains 1,158 quarto pages. The present number of copies published is 20,000. The Superintendent thinks the present edition is too small. I should be glad if every county newspaper could get a copy of it. It is well arranged and beautifully printed. I think it is likely Congress will order a *second* edition immediately. The expense incurred upon the present Census is $1,318,027,153

It was reported a few days ago, that Secretary GUTHRIE and Senator GWIN had held a somewhat excited conversation, arising from a misunderstanding of each other about public matters; but it appears that a reconciliation has been brought about, as Gen. GWIN was present a few evenings since at an entertainment given by the Secretary of the Treasury. As they are said to be "fighting men," it was thought the matter would not have been adjusted and settled so soon, but I hear no more about it.

The fact of the "*Sentinel*," having fallen heir to the Senate printing, has aroused the ire of the "*Union*," and it has been belaboring most unmercifully those Whigs and Democrats who voted against it and in favor of the Sentinel.—Persons who are mere lookers on in the matter, seem to think it a small affair, this hubbub the *Union* is kicking up, and think it ought to be satisfied with what it has received. But it is only carrying out the old saying—"The more a man *has* the more he *wants*." From the knowledge I have of the Senate Printing, I think it hardly worth the abuse the *Union* is inflicting upon honorable Senators. They voted as it suited them, and as they had the right to do. *Printers*—those who do the work have always been anxious to see the "Congress Printing" divided between *two* or more offices, because it employs more men. They, of course, make no complaint.

It is gratifying to see what an impetus has been given to *Agriculture* during the last few years. Farms that were *fenced out* and given to stray cattle to roam over and feed upon, have been suddenly taken from them, and made to yield their owners ample profits for their expenditures and labor. The old style of implements has been done away with, and new and labor-saving ones have taken their places. Men labor with more ease than they formerly did, and feel less fatigued when their day's work is over. And, indeed, everything pertaining to the Farming interest seems to have engaged the attention of practical and scientific men. Stock of all kinds is being improved, and we are approaching a period in the history of farming, when every husbandman will be able to have everything in *perfection* around him. Let *Industry* and *Improvement* go hand in hand, and the barren and desolate wastes, that now dot many of the old States, will speedily be clothed with the green verdure of earth, and made to yield an abundant and rich harvest. Let men have less to do with Politics, and turn their attention to the grand science of Farming.

We have *two Theatres* this winter in full blast,—both, I believe, are doing a *living* business.

GEORGE HAYDOCK, the "Ex-woodsawyer," as he is called, is here, and is *sawing* away on the unfortunate sons of Bacchus. He is a very plain-speaking man but like most of the Temperance orators, he says *more* than there is any necessity for. My motto has always been—"Be temperate in *all* things."

Washington is very gay this winter, and strangers are flocking in from all quarters. The Hotels and boarding-houses are fast filling. Every body is making preparations for *Christmas* which always brings with it hours of enjoyment and happiness. A merry and happy one to *all* your patrons, and may they be permitted to see the return of many more, is the desire of

WASHINGTON,

Death of an Editor.

BOSTON, Dec. 21st.—Rev. Thomas J. Norris, the editor and proprietor of the "Olive Branch," a religious periodical, died at his residence at Somerville to-day.

Report of the Secretary of War.

The Report commences by stating that the authorized strength of the Army, as now posted is 13,821,—officers and men,—but the actual strength is only 10,417. Of this number 8,378 are employed on the frontiers, or are on the route to them; and the Secretary derives pleasure from being able to say that the measures taken for the protection of the inhabitants of our frontiers of late, have been more than usually successful. The Indian depredations have been comparatively unfrequent, and, except in California and Oregon, have not attained more than local importance. In the Indian country, immediately west of the Mississippi, but two or three collisions have occurred; and arrangements are now in progress for the establishment of new posts, in more important positions, which will enable the department to dispense with many unimportant posts and give additional security. In Texas the Indian depredations have diminished in frequency and in importance; and in a majority of cases, as the Department has been informed, the depredations have been committed by Indians from Mexican territory.

On the Rio Grande, the protection of the inhabitants and the enforcement of the fulfilment of treaty stipulations on the part of the Mexican Government, have made it necessary to strengthen our positions and increase the number of men. Although a peace has been obtained on that frontier, there is no assurance that it will be observed unless a strong force be kept stationed there, and consequently it is the intention of the Department to send an additional force. It is the opinion of the Secretary that with an army of three times as great as ours, it would be impracticable so to guard all points of our extended frontier as entirely to prevent Indian depredations. It is therefore, the intention to post the troops in large bodies on important points, and reduce the number on small detachments.

The appropriations for the erection and improvement of permanent fortifications, for three years past, have either been refused or greatly reduced, under the impression that they depended upon the prosecution of a system of fortifications. This the Secretary suggests is not the case, and remarks that however it may be henceforth viewed, the armament for important posts in Texas and on the Pacific coast sh uld be sent at the earliest period possible. After speaking at length concerning increased requirements for the transportation of stores it is estimated that 4000 recruits will be required for the service of the ensuing year. It is thought that at the present rate of pay, it will be difficult, while other employments offer hi her rewards, to secure the requisite number of men, although it is of the utmost importance that they should be had, and that the full number of rank and file should be maintained.

It is shown by an examination of the statistics of the army from 1826 to the commencement of the war with Mexico, that the average excess of the legal over the actual strength of the army, was 18 per cent. of the latter; that the average loss by desertion has been 12¾ per cent; by discharges for debility and other causes, 7 per cent.; and by deaths only 4 per cent. or that the total loss, independent of discharges by expiration of service, has been 22¾ per cent. of the actual strength of the army. Since the termination of the war with Mexico, the excess of the legal over the actual strength, has been 19 per cent; the average loss by desertion, 16 per cent; by discharges for debility and other causes, 8 per cent; or a total loss, independent of discharges bu expiration of service, of 28 per cent. A part of the desertion is due to the discovery of gold in California. The same cause influenced the number of re-enlistments. The proportion during the last five years was 17 per cent., while during the three years immediately preceding the war with Mexico, it was 25 per cent. of the number of discharges by expiration of service. These results the Secretary traces to 2 principal causes:

1. The disparity between the pay of the soldier and the value of labor in civil life.

2 The fact that length of service carries with it no reward, either in increased pay, rank or privilege.

Both these causes are the fruitful source of dissatisfaction and desertion, and they prevent the re-enlistment of the most valuable men. Thus in an army of 10,000 men, which is about the actual strength of our military establishment, as at present organized, there will be annually, under existing circumstances of pay and service, 4,290 discharges by expiration of enlistment; 720 discharges for disability, &c.; 330 deaths and 1,465 desertions; or 2,811 vacancies annually, of which only 219 are filled by re-enlistments. The actual annual loss to the Army to be supplied by the enlistments of new men will therefore be 3,592. Or in other words, more than one-third of the Army must every year be recruited and transferred from the depots to their regiments. In view of these experiences, the Secretary recommends the adoption of such measures as will prevent desertions and keep the ranks full. Among such, he suggests—

1. An increase of — per cent, of the present pay of the soldier.

2. An additional increase for each successive period of five years, so long as he shall remain in the army.

3. Provision for the promotion of the lowest grade of commissioned officers of such of the non-commissioned officers of the army as may be found qualified for, and, by their conduct, character, and services, entitled to such advancement.

With a number of o her recommendations calculated to render the army more efficient and capable of enduring the hardships of active service, the Secretary proceeds to speak of the necessity of encouraging regularity and uniformity in the militia; and in connection with this subject he recommends providing the militia with the proper books for tactical instruction. The condition of the Military Academy is very favorably spoken of, and the Academic term is, by the Board, recommended to be increased to five years

An interesting history of the various exploring expeditions is given in the report, but as the prominent features of each have been already published, we forbear a synopsis. The document is lengthy, but not, perhaps beyond necessity; and as a history of our army and its condition, will be read with no small degree of interest.

Report of the Secretary of the Interior.

MR. McClelland's report is not quite so long as those of the other Secretaries but too long to be read by more than one person in a thousand. It states that, during the last fiscal year, 9,819,411 acres have been surveyed, and 10,363,891 acres brought into the market. In the same period there were sold 1,083,495 acres. Located with bounty land warrants, 6,742,500 acres; with other certificates, 9,427; selected for the States as swamp lands, 16 684253; total sold and located 25,346,992 acres, being an increase of 12,231,818 over the previous year.

The whole number of land warrants issued under existing laws, up to the 30th of September last, 266,042 of which there were then outstanding, 66,947.—The quantity of land required to satisfy the latter is 4,778,120 acres. Warrants have been issued, under various acts, calling for 25,384,610 acres.

The entire area of the public domain is estimated at 1,584,000,000 acres.—Within the States, exclusive of California, it is 471,892,439 acres; the entire cost of which, including costs of surveys and sales, was $88,994,013. The amount received from sales, up to June 30th was $142,283,478, being $53,289,465 more than the cost. The report enters into some particulars to prove that these lands, which have cost $88,994,013, will yield the net sum of $331,181,369, besides affording means to assist in education and reward for military services.

The Secretary recommends liberal grants for railroads and other highways, in states and territories where lands remain unsold, and cites in proof the advantages arising from them, the results in the case of the Chicago and Mobile and the Illinois Central and other railroads, in leading to immense sales of lands that would have remained unoccupied and unimproved for years. A similar result has succeeded the grant to the Sault Ste Marie Canal.

It is recommended that our present land system be extended over New Mexico and Utah. Measures are also required to guard against speculation and fraud in the mineral lands of California. The operations of the Pension office are spoken of favorably The applicants for pensions under the law of 1853 (widows of revolutionary soldiers married after January 1800) have proved unexpectedly numerous. The appropriations made for it was only $24,000, whereas there will be about $240,000 required, and the number of applicants will probably be 3000. Reference is made to the numerous frauds committed on the Pension office, and measures are recommended for guarding against them.

The business of the Patent office goes on with much greater system than it did formerly, notwithstanding the great increase in the number of applications. Still a long period elapses before final action can be arrived at on applications, and a simplification of the process required by the laws is recommended.

Indian disturbances are described as having been less frequent than usual, during the year. The impoitance of directing their attention to agriculture is strongly urged. Their number amounts to about 40,000 in the States; about 110,000 in Minnesota and along the frontier to Texas, 63,000 in the Plains and Rocky Mountains; 29,000 in Texas; 160,000 in California: 23,000 in Washington and Oregon; 45,000 in New Mexico; and 12,000 in Utah. These amount in the aggregate to 422,000. The resistance of certain Creek Indians to U. S. officers who endeavored to enforce the laws against selling liquors is referred to, but after investigation it is decided that as the laws of the tribe on this subject are severe, it is best to leave them to enforce them, and avoid a conflict of jurisdiction. The issue of bounty land warrants to Indians has been suspended.

The removal of the Seminols from Florida has been transferred to the War Department. The agents are providing places for the removal of the Texas Indians. A reform in the mode of paying annuities to the Indians is recommended as absolutely necessary.

The operations of the Census Bureau have resulted in the completion of their work, with an unexpended balance of $16,000 of the appropriation. Some details are given in regard to this survey, and Congress is asked to make provision for commencing the engravings for the work.

The report gives some particulars about the erection of an iron truss bridge over the Potomac, and asks for an additional appropriation of $75,000. It is recommended that new buildings be erected for the State, War, Navy, and Interior Departments, which can be done at a cost not exceeding $3,000,000.—The remaining paragraphs of the report are devoted to matters of no intetest out of the District of Columbia.

The estimates of the amounts required for the service of the Department during the year ending June 30th, 1853, are $3,937,793,50

A Young Hero.

In the Madison (Ind.) Daily Argus, Dec. 1, we find the following account of the martyrdom of an American boy—a youth of whom our nation may be proud—who died because he would not tell a lie:

Heroes and Martyrs.—Our readers will probably all recollect the story of the Norwegian boy at Chicago, who was drowned by some older boys because he refused to assist them in robbing an orchard. Some of the papers at Chicago now raise doubts as to the martyrdom of the boy, and attempts to account for his death in some other way than they first suggested. It seems to such that heroism, of the kind imputed to the boy, does not exist in the world at the present time. Such editors underrate humanity. A case of moral heroism exceeding that imputed to Knud Iverson, occurred in Marquette county, in this State, a little over a year ago, the facts of which were established by judical investigation, and were related to us by Judge Larrabee, who presided at the trial.

A beautiful, fair-haired blue-eyed boy, about nine years of age, was taken from the Orphans Asylum in Milwaukee and adopted by a respectable farmer of Marquette, a professor of religion and a member of the Baptist persuasion. A girl a little older than the boy, was also adopted into the same family. Soon after these children were installed into their new home, the boy discovered criminal conduct on the part of his new mother, which he mentioned to the little girl, and it thereby came to the ears of the woman; she indignantly denied the story to the satisfaction of her husband, and insisted that the boy should be whipped until he confessed the falsehood. The man—poor, weak bigot—impelled to a sense of religious duty, proceeded to the task assigned him, by procurring a bundle of rods, stripping the child naked and suspending him by a cord to the rafters of the house, and whipping him at intervalls for over two hours, till the blood ran through the floor, making a pool upon the floor below; stopping only to interrogate the boy, and getting no other reply than 'Pa, I told the truth—I cannot tell a lie;' the woman all the time urging him to "do his duty." The poor little hero, at length released from his torture, threw his arms around the neck of his tormentor, kissed him and said, 'Pa, I am so cold," and died. It appeared in evidence, upon the trial of this man and woman for murder, that the child did tell the truth; and suffered death by slow torture rather than tell a lie. The age of heroism and martyrdom will not have passed till mothers cease to instil holy precepts into the minds of their infant offspring. The woman and man who murdered this angel child are now in the penitentiary at Waupun, to which they were sentenced for ten years.

☞ 'Mister, how do you sell your sugar to day?'

'Only 20 cents per pound.'

'Cant give it. I'll drink my coffee without sugar, and kiss my wife for sweetning before I'll give it. Good day, sir.'

'Good day, sir. When you get tired of that kind of sweetning, please call again.'

'Perhaps I may.'

He called the next day.

MARKETS.

	December 23, '53.	
Wheat, white	1 53 to 157	bsh.
" red	1 45 " 1 49	"
Corn white	54 " 57	"
" yellow	60 " 63	"
Oats	41 to 42	"
Rye	78 to 83	"

MARRIED.

On 22nd instant, by Rev. James A. Massey, Mr JOHN MOFFETT to Miss SARAHETTA SCOON—both of this county.

On 20th inst., by Rev. Wm. J. Dale, Mr. THOMAS JONES to Miss ANN MARIA CROUCH—all of this county.

On Tuesday 13th instant, by Rev. Mr Owens, Mr STEUART R. EMORY, of Queen Ann's county, to Miss NANNIE, daughter of Mr. John M. Comegys, of Kent county.

Notice.

THE books of the late firm of A. M. Russell & Co., are placed in the hands of Wm. H. Hamilton, Esq., and we hope those indebted will give early attention to this notice.

A. M. RUSSELL,
JAS. W. PHILLIPS.

N. B.—A. M. Russell still continues to carry on the Saddle and Harness Business at the old stand.

A. M. RUSSELL.

Dec. 24, 1853.

NOTICE,

ALL persons indebted to the late firm of Wise & Tomlinson, Blacksmiths, are hereby requdsted to call on Eben F. Perkins, Esq., and settle by the 20th of January next. Mr. P. has the Books, and is duly authorised to close the books of the concern.

H. A. WISE,
SAM'L TOMLINSON.

Dec. 24, 1853.

Fare reduced to 50 Cents

To Chester Town, Centreville, and the Different Landings on Chester River.



THE fast and safe steamer CHAMPION, Captain Wm. Norman will commence to run the above route on TUESDAY, January 3rd next; from Light Street Wharf, at 7 o'clock, and return same day before night. H. J. STRANDBERG.

Dec. 24, 1853.—1t.

VALUABLE NEGRO S FOR SALE!



FIVE young men raised to farm work and are first rate hands; also, three boys 12; 13 and 14 years old, also farm boys. These servants are sold because their former owners have left the State; and not for any fault of any kind—a part of them raised by one of the best farmers in Talbot county; and all have a term of years to serve, ranging from 7 to 23. They will be sold at low prices on credit to suit responsible purchasers. I have also some 25 women that are good cooks, washers and ironers.

Apply to JOHN N DENNING,
18, South Frederick St.,
Baltimore, Md.

Dec. 24, 1853.

HOUSES FOR SALE—House in Biddle st., near Garden st., opposite Richmond Market, stands back with handsome yard in front, 3 stories, basement kitchen, 25 feet front by 150 deep to Rose st.. house and stable in the rear, will be sold low, either in fee or with Ground Rent, price $2,800. Two houses in Ross st., two story and attic, 16 feet front by 70 feet deep, Groud Rent $25, price $900.—House on Columbia st, three stories, with back building, 17½ feet front by 190 feet deep, with two houses in the rear, that rents for $120,-ground rent $10%, front house rents for $250, price $2500. Lot of Ground on Garden st, opposite Tiffany's, on the east side, 24½ feet front by 150 feet deep, to a 20 feet street, price $1800, or lease it $5 per foot. I have a number of small houses for sale in different parts of the city.

R. W. RASIN,
Cor. Fayette and Park sts.

Dec. 24, 1853.

VENDUE.

THE undersigned will sell at his residence, "Tochester," on

THURSDAY,

29th December, all his Personal property, (negroes excepted,) consisting of



12 Horses, 40



Head of Cows, Heifers and Yearlings,

3 YOKE OF OXEN.

several Yoke unbroken;



60 or 70 HOGS,



and his whole lot of SHEEP, say 50; which are acknowledged to be superior to any in the county, and equal to any in the State;

All Kinds of Machinery

necessary to a first class farm, such as

Grist Mill (Horse Power,) *Threshing Machines,*

CORN SHELLERS,

(both hand and horse power);

TOOLS AND BELLOWS of Blacksmith Shop;

Carpenters Tools &c.,

SEVERAL FANS OF THE MOST APPROVED PATTERNS,

WHEAT CUTTER

2 Carriages

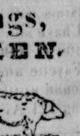
in complete order, with Harness, &c. *PLOUGHS, HARROWS, 2 WAGONS, 3 OX-CARTS, 1 HORSE CART, 1 PAIR TIMBER WHEELS,* and

FARMING UTENSILS

of every description. He will also sell his

HOUSEHOLD AND Kitchen Furniture,

Consisting of 10 or 15 Beds and Mattrasses, several Mahogany and curl Maple BEDSTEADS, A PIANO, BUREAUS, Chairs, Lounges, Tables, Looking Glasses,



2 Cooking Stoves, and in fine, all his his Furniture &c.

TERMS OF SALE are all sums under $10 CASH; all above $10 a credit of eight months with approved security.

JOSEPH T. MITCHELL.

Dec. 24, 1853.

BUFFALO ROBES,

A few very choice ones, just received and for sale by ABEL J. REES.

Rhes' Corner, dec 10.