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KENT NEWS.

CHESTER TOWN, Md.

SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 12, 1856.

☞Wood is very scarce and high too in this place—our farmers will find ready sale for it.

DISCONTINUED.—The Calk's Field Post Office, in this county, was discontinued on the 10th inst., by the Post Master General.

☞We call the attention of our readers to communication, signed "E Pluribus Unum," in another column.

SNOW.—We had quite a heavy snow storm here last Saturday—it fell to the depth of about 14 inches. The sleighing has been fine during the week, and our citizens have enjoyed themselves no little.

☞The weather, the past week, has been extremely cold—Monday morning at 7 o'clock the thermometer was 2 deg. below zero, Fah.—lower than it has been here for twenty-five years.

THE MAILS.—The mails have been very irregular since the snow storm; there has been no connection since Saturday.—The stage arrived here, from Elkton, about one o'clock yesterday, bringing the Baltimore mails of Wednesday, the latest we have. We learn from the driver that neither the Baltimore or Philadelphia train reached Elkton Thursday.

☞The Democratic National Committee have fixed upon the first Monday in June for the meeting of their Convention in Cincinnati.

CONGRESS.—Neither House of Congress was in session Tuesday. The democratic members of the House held a caucus Monday evening and resolved to adhere to their platform and candidate for Speaker.

THE DOG TAX.—We notice that a petition was presented to the Legislature on Tuesday, signed by 98 citizens of this county, to repeal the law taxing dogs to pay for sheep killed by them. This law passed at the last Session, and we believe does not answer the purposes for which it was designed. We shall next week, show the amount likely to be derived from this source, which is doubtless insufficient to pay for one half the sheep that have been killed, since the law went into operation.

FOREIGN NEWS.—The Canada arrived at Halifax, Jan. 8. She had a very boisterous passage. The Canada brings nothing more definite than the Arago. The prospect for peace is somewhat encouraged. Preparations for future operations in the Crimea and the Baltic are pressed forward both by the Allies and Russia, and it is quite apparent that neither party is disposed to trust the chances of peace for any abatement of the energy of war. Breadstuffs had somewhat declined.

The Governor's Message.

The Message of Gov. Ligon is so very lengthy that we cannot transfer it to our columns entire. The Governor congratulates the Legislature upon the highly favorable auspices under which it assembles, emanating from the sound condition of the finances of the State, and its general prosperity. The total sum in the Treasury on the 30th of Sept., 1854, after all claims against it were deducted, was $109,946.11. At the same date there was to the credit of the Free School Fund, $41,427.76. He urges steps for the establishment of an efficient common school instruction, and says the system of public instruction in Maryland, (except the city of Baltimore, whose public schools are an honor to the State,) is in a state of the most utter and hopeless prostration. The defects of law in regard to the enrolment of the militia, are alluded to and the Governor thinks that military instruction should be introduced in all the colleges and academies patronized by the State, or sustained by its bounty.

The agricultural interest of the State is referred to, and he thinks that the diffusion of an agricultural education has been overlooked by the Legislature.

The American Democrat, in speaking of the message says: "His Excellency, having reserved it for the last, that he might be more terrible, indulges in a tremendous, forcible-feeble fling at the American party. We are unable to give a synopsis of this part of his epistle. It falls upon the American party with all the crushing force of a stick of straw. His Excellency, with most commendable conscientiousness, thinks he would have been wanting in obligation to a public duty, if he had not ventured to run his head against the anti-foreign party, although the consequences may be those experienced by a certain animal who tilted at the locomotive.

FANNY FERN MARRIED.—The N. York papers announce the marriage on Saturday last of the far-famed Fanny Fern, (Mrs. Sarah Payson Eldridge) to Mr. James Parton of that city, and author of the "Life of Horace Greely."

For the Kent News.

The License Laws.

MR. EDITOR:—We hope that the declension of the friends of a change in the License system to vend ardent spirits, at the late election in our county, to mix up the subject in the politics of the day will not be miscontrued, in any abatement of zeal of interest in the question, or of an abandonment of the great purpose of procuring a material modification of existing laws. The State seemed divided into two or three parties—one, a new one, young and untried—the contest waxed warm, and the friends of Temperance determined not to make Prohibition a disturbing topic, but to keep it aloof from the contest, and let the conflicting parties have "a fair fight and an open field."—If the temperance element had been seperated from the others, and brought to bear in concentrated force, it might have proved more powerful than many anticipated. There are many persons, doubtless, who are not classed among those of temperance, who earnestly desire to see a change in the Law—indeed, we cannot tell, how any good citizen, who has witnessed the evil results of grog-shps, dotted like the squares of a chequer board, over our county and State, can oppose a vital change in this respect. Fathers, mothers, employers and masters, relatives and friends, in their respective and varied relations, have had cause to deplore this great evil.

The tranfer of power to the Grand Jury was intended to work an important change and to throw a serious check on the practice of almost indiscriminate issue of license to retailers. If no radical change was intended, it was a work of supererrogation, to transfer the power to the Grand Jury. We believe that a moral element was thrown into the question by the law. The Grand Jury, is the great conservative power of the county—its operations are secret—its motives cannot be ascertained or questioned—and as the good order, peace and tranquility of the county are committed to it, it was but reasonable that it should posses the power to stop the sluices and dry up the fountains of four-fifths of the violations of law and public disorder, and confine the evil to as narrow limits as the public convenience and necessity would allow. Is it reasonable that a moral and peaceful neighborhood, should for gain, be invaded by the rum-seller, and drunkenness, disturbance and ruin to many, and annoyance to all, be introduced, without the consent of that neighborhood? Has any man a right to turn a vicious dog, or lion, loose in the community without permission? Has any one a right to erect a nuisance near the public highway to offend every passer by? The laws prohibit all such practices.—Should a man therefore be suffered to establish a soul and body destroying agency—to let loose a *deranger*, more destructive than the dog or the lion—and more terrific to the peace of families and of their homes, than all the wild beasts of the earth—without the consent of the section in which the exhibition is made?

We believe that no one should be permitted to open a retail shop of alcoholic drinks, as a beverage, without the consent of a majority of the people in the vicinity or neighborhood, where it is proposed to operate! We advocate the passage of a law, prohibiting the Grand Jury of our county, from granting permits to vend ardent spirits as a beverage, unless the applicant shall present to that body, a petition signed by a majority of the legal voters, within three miles of the location, in the county—and in towns and villages, a majority of the legal voters in the place, stating that they believe such license would be of advantage to the neighborhood or village. This would throw the responsibility upon the people to be effected by the institution. Such a law existed in a certain locality on the Western Shore, and it may still be in force. Let us test it in Kent and watch its operations with a vigilant eye! This provision, not to prevent the licensing of one or two persons, in a district, to sell the articles for medicines, under proper restrictions.

As the inclemency of the season will prevent a general meeting to discuss the subject and digest a plan, we respectfully submit that the annexed petition, be taken from the "News," and attached to sheets of paper and circulated, for signatures, in the different neighborhoods.—Let every friend af the plan consider himself a special committeeman, to obtain signatures and forward petitions, or leave them with some friend in the county town, to transmit them to the Legislature.

E PLURIBUS UNUM.

To the Honorable the General Assembly of Margland:

The undersigned, citizens of Kent county, have viewed with alarming interest and concern, the increase of grog-shops and intemperance, in our county. That there must be some great error in the Law, as it now exists, we are constrained to believe, from the facts exhibited to us. The power to grant licenses to vend ardent spirits in our county, has been committed to the Grand Jury, but unless some restraint be thrown around its exercise, the evil complained of will remain if not be increased. We do not think that grog-shops should be opened in the various sections of our county, without the consent of a majority of the legal voters within a specified distance from the location. Those whose interests are to be effected by the retailer, in all the varied relations, should be consulted as to the operation of that influence. Grand Juries are selected by the Sheriffs, without any reference to this question, and should consequently, have the management of it, under definite restrictions.—We therefore respectfully and earnestly request your Honorable body, to enact a Law to prohibit the issuing of License, or Permits, by the Grand Jury of Kent county to any applicant, who shall not present to that body, a petition signed by a majority of the legal voters within three miles of the location of such retail establishment, and in towns and villages by a majority of the voters in each place recommending such license as advantageous and proper; but which shall not prohibit the granting of permits to one discreet person in each election district to sell spiritous liquors and wines, as medicines and for chemical purposes, under defined and proper restrictions. Believing that the evils complained of in our county, exist in a great degree, throughout the State, we as citizens thereof, do respectfully solicit, that similar restrictions should, by law, be imposed upon every tribunal or officer, invested with the power of issuing licenses, to retail spiritous liquors—and as in duty bound, we will ever pray, &c.

Kent county, January, 1856.

Taking the Bull by the Horns!

The following resolutions were offered in the House of Delegates last Tuesday, by Anthony Kennedy, Esq., one of the Delegates from Baltimore city. They were laid on the table, to be called up to-day. We ask our readers to give them a thorough perusal:

Resolved, That so much of the Governor's Message as relates to Secret Political Societies, be referred to a select committee of five, with instructions to inquire and report:

Whether any and what secret political societies are known to exist in this State.

Whether any political society, secret or open, is known to "encourage or pursue purposes" which tend to the subversion of the well-established and and deeply "cherished principles of our government."

Whether any and what society or portion of the people of this State, or any of the United States, have introduced "religious issues into the field of political agitation," and that the committee be also instructed to ascertain, as far as it may be in their power, what is the character and import of the secrets which are supposed to be held or maintained by such societies, if any should be found to exist; and the committee use its endeavors to obtain if possible a statement or description of the principles, objects and purposes of such societies, and report the same to this House, with such measures as they may deem necessary for restraining such societies from violating the letter and spirit of either the Federal Constitution or the Constitution of this State.

Resolved, That the committee be authorized respectfully to request the Governor to communicate to them any information he may possess, in regard to such Societies alluded to in his Message, and the nature of the secrets they preserve.

Resolved, That for the purposes of the inquiries submitted to them, the committee be empowered to send for persons and papers, if they shall deem it necessary to their investigation.

Comment.—The State of Maryland, the American party, the whole country owe Mr. Kennedy their undivided thanks for throwing down the gauntlet at once, and challenging the traducer to meet the issue if he dare. Ever since the American Party came into existence, it has been the object of unceasing detraction. It has been denounced in general terms, in all the variety of phrase that malice could invent. On particulars they have not dared to touch. They have been said to be enemies of the Constitution, dangerous to liberty, dark-lantern men, rogues, renegades, everything that falsehood could suggest. When asked to particularize, the slanderers have never dared to do so. They have taken care to make their accusations as general as possible. They never ventured to particularize individuals. There is not one among them who would dare to go to a gentleman holding American sentiments, and say, you are a dark lantern conspirator, you are a traitor, you are an enemy of civil and religious liberty. They abuse a whole party, by applying those epithets to them, and feel themselves safe in a crowd. They would not dare to meet the responsibility of taxing one individual personally after the fashion in which they assail the whole party.

Since they are determined not to narrow down their remarks to individual gentlemen, who would hold them personally responsible, the only wry to deal with them is this indicated by Mr. Kennedy's resolution. Let the Governor of Maryland answer these inquiries. Let him give, not vague newspaper falsehoods for authority, but tangible facts. Let him give the day and the place. Let him verify his accusations, in one word, or let him go forth to the world- a recorded slanderer.—*A. Democrat.*

Legislature of Maryland.

ANNAPOLIS, Jan, 5, 1856.

SENATE.

To-day's proceedings.—Leave to report Bills—by Mr. Schley, to carry into effect the constitutional provision to prescribe penalties for usurious interest; also to carry into effect the constitution provision to protect from execution a reasonable amount of property of the debtor.

The President presented the report of the Comptroller of the Treasury, and 2000 copies were ordered to be printed.

The President announced the following Standing Committees:

On Finance—Messrs. Tyler, Wallace, Hoffman Bond and Sothoron.

Judicial Proceedings—Messrs. Wallace Hughes, Schley, Webster and Cook.

Internal Improvemnts—Messrs. Hoffman, Davis, Bond, Turner and Gaither.

On Invalid Deeds and Defective Proceedings—Messrs. Berry, Semmes, Dennis, McCullough and Schley.

On Insolvent Laws—Messrs. Semmes Chilton, Bowdle, Hoffman, Webster.

On Revolutionary Claims—Messrs. Turner, Pitts, Bowdle, Clark and McCullough.

On Pension—Messsrs. Dennis, Wilkins and Chilton.

On Colored Population—Messrs. Dennis, Clark, Hughes, Berry, Bond and Sothoron.

On Corporations and Joint Stock Companies—Messrs. Schley, Hoffman, Hughes Davis and Webster.

On Elections—Messrs. Wallace, Dennis, Bond Sothoron and Turner.

On Printing—Messrs. Davis, Dennis, Wilkins Hughes and Schley.

On Agriculture—Messrs. Sothoron, Hughes, Clark, Wilkins and Pitts.

On Militia—Messrs. Gaither, Turner, Clark, McCullough and Schley.

On the Constitution—Messrs. Gaither, Semmes, Wallace, Webster and McCullough.

On Executive Nominations—Messrs. Tyler, Hoffman and Schley.

Mr. Schley obtained leave to report a bill to prevent the circulation and faciliate the detection of counterfeit bank notes.

On motion, the Rev. Mr. Nelson was appointed chaplain of the Senate.

The House was not in session to-day.

SENATE.

ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 7.—The President laid before the Senate a communication from S. R. Waters, Inspector of tobacco, warehouse No. 5.

Leave to report Bills.—By Mr. Semmes to authorize the city of Cumberland to subscribe to the Pittsburg and Connellsville Railroad. Also, to amend the charter of the Manchester Mining and Manufacturing Company. By Mr Dennis, to extend to Somerset county the provisions of the act of 1854, relating to repairs of public roads.

On motion of Mr. Davis, the committee on printing were authorized to contract for the same, subject to the ratification of the Senate.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

The Speaker announced the following Standing Committees of the House of Delegates:

Militia—Messrs. Duvall, Witmer, Hauver, Neff, Smith of Worcester, Timmons, Rolph.

Agriculture—Messrs. Davis, Griffith, Wright, Thomas, Brooke, Dorsey, Smith of Worcester.

Corporations—Messrs. Daniel, Silver, Chilcoat, Stubbs, Hugg, Bowling, Wolfe, Buffington, Clark.

Inspections—Messrs. Lester, Dowell, Wilson, Smith of Balt., Stone, Wright, Miller.

Colored Population—Messrs. Sudler, Harrington, Roberts, Scott, Thomas, Lawson, Grove.

Lotteries—Messrs. Stewart, Tower, Valiant, Wolfe, Kildow, Rolph and Cullings.

Library—Messrs. Goldsborough, Bowie, Harris, Witmer, Corby, Holland, Jarrett.

Printing—Messrs. Stubbs, Silver, Askew, Brooke, Whitby, Harding, Hugg.

Insolvency—Messrs. Hall, Neff, Fiery, Cullings, Stack, Abbot, Corby.

Engrossed Bills—Messrs. Wilson, of Calvert, Griffith, Rankin, Hauver, Rowls, Longbridge, Reichard.

Expiring Laws—Messrs. Smith of Carroll, Wickes, Frey, Wilson, Timmons, Hall, Bowles.

Federal Relations—Messrs. Plowdon, Merrick, Silver, Partridge, Kennedy, Carper, Corby.

Currency—Messrs. Brengle, Toadvine, Kildow, Bowling, Dowell, Duvall, Stack.

Contingent Fund—Messrs—Daille, Waters, Brown, Chilcoat, Dorsey, Harris.

The Speaker then announced communications from several clerks of courts, which were referred to the committee on the judiciary.

On motion of Mr. Merrick, the several portions of the Governor's Message were referred to appropriate committees, &c.

HUNG.—Miller, the murderer, was hung at Cumberland last Friday. There were 6000 persons present at the execution, one third of which were women.

BALTIMORE GRAIN MARKET.

[*Corrected from the Baltimore Sun of Wednesday.*]

Wheat White	$1.95 a 2.05
" Red	1.90 a 2.00
Corn, Yellow	76 a 79
" White	75 a 78
Oats	38 a 40
Rye	1.08 a 1.12
Clover Seed,	$9.50

For the Kent News.

MR. EDITOR:—Having been informed through various and reliable sources, that it is believed, to a certain extent, and perhaps generally, that I have been accessory to the escape of some of the slaves who left this county, during the last few months, I wish, through the columns of your paper, to make a few statements relative to the subject. To the charge, I plead *not guilty!* The only reasons given for such belief and suspicions, as far as I have learned, are that I am a Northern man, and an abolitionist; and that I went to Philadelphia about the time some of the slaves ran away, and called on Jas. L. Bowers, on my return.

The atrocious crime of having been born in a Northern State, and receiving views and sentiments, there universally entertained, I shall neither attempt to paliate nor deny; neither shall I attempt to illustrate why, or how it happened, that I was born in a Northern State;—or that I was born at all. But why I left my residence on the 20th of September last, went to Delaware City and Philadelphia, and returned on the 22nd of the same month, and called at the residence of Mr. Bowers, as I returned, (to which last fact, two respectable gentlemen of this county can attest), are matters which some one, without consulting me in the least, has unhesitatingly decided. The object of my visit to those places and the call I made on my return, I will give, and I challenge all Kent county, *and the rest of mankind*, to produce a shadow of proof that I had any other object or motive in view. My principal errand at D. City was: to procure a nurse for my family; which I did, and the nurse has been living in my family nearly all the time since. From Delaware city I went to Philadelphia for the purpose of purchasing clothing for myself, at which place I have procured nearly every garment that I have worn during the last thirteen years.

The object of my call at the residence of Mr. Bowers was to see him, but was old by a lady at the door, his wife I presume, that he was in Baltimore—my business with him was that of collecting money which had been due me from him for nearly a year. I had called on him before for the same purpose, but have since, which may avoid further suspicion, placed my claim in the hands of Esquire Graves.

My views upon the subject of slavery, are something with which the public, just now, have no business. I will merely add that they are not materially at variance with those entertained by slave-holders generally of this county.

The esteem in which I hold the individual who originated the report which I here deny, is also private property. Suffice it to say that I consider that individual who meets me upon the highway at midnight and robs me of my valuables, if any I chance to bear, a perfect gentleman compared to him who has thus vilely assailed my character, and represented me as a man worthy a coat of tar and feathers.

J. W. COREY.

Dec. 19, 1855.

P. S. Mr. B. will please excuse me for mentioning his name in connection with this article.

DEATHS.

In Washington, D. C. on the 4th inst., Mr. GEORGE LAMB, about 60 years of age, formerly a resident of this county.

At his residence in Centreville, a few days since, Mr. Wm. McGee.

CAUTION.

ALL persons are hereby cautioned not to gun or trespass in any way upon our premises Colchester and Mount Airy. The law will be strictly enforced hereafter, against all offenders.

JAMES B. HANCE,
FRANKLIN DUYER.
Near Georgetown X Roads.

Jan. 12, 1856.

A fine lot of **BUFFALO ROBES** just received, on consignment, and for sale below the usual rates by

W. N. E. WICKES.

jan. 5, '56.

A varied assortment of HEAVY OVERCOATS, suitable for the season just received and for sale low by

W. N. E. WICKES.

jan. 5, '56.

Notice.

THE County Commissioners, will meet on Tuesday, the 22d inst., at which time they will appoint a Supervisor of the public roads in the 2d Election District.—Persons wishing the appointment should file their application with the Clerk.

A. M. MELVIN, Clk.

Jan. 5, '55.

READY-MADE CLOTHING

AT REDUCED PRICES.

The subscriber will sell the remainder of his stock of winter Clothing at greatly reduced prices. All persons in want of such goods will do well to call one door below the Post Office.

JAS. ARTHUR.

jan. 5, '56.

GUNS! GUNS!!

JUST received, at Rees' Corner a large assortment of Guns, small and large at all prices from $5 to $50 and warranted to give satisfaction or the money refunded. Call and take a look at them.

ABEL J. REES.

Rees' Corner, Nov. 24, '55

Negro for Sale.

A likely young negro boy, aged about fifteen years, slave for life—this boy will be sold cheap—terms made easy—apply immediate to the editor.

Jan. 5, '56.

NOTICE

THE unsettled notes taken at the sale of the personal estate of W. H. Godwin, deceased have been placed in my hands for collection, and after the first of February next I shall proceed according to law.

E. F. PERKINS,
Atty at Law.

Jan'y 5, '56—4w

ASTRAY.

Taken up as astray, trespassing upon my premises, a red Steer, three years old. The owner will please come forward, prove property, pay charges, and take him away.

JAS. BYROM,
Rees' Corner.

Jan. 5, '56—c advt. $1.

CAUTION.

ALL persons are hereby forwarned no to harbor or trust my wife Anna Maria Tilghman, either for herself or children, on my account, as I will prosecute all disregarding this notice to the full extent of the law.

STEP. TILGHMAN.

Jan. 5, 1856—*

TEACHER WANTED.

The Trustees, Primary School District No. 1, first Election District, Kent county, wish to employ a competent teacher. Apply immediately to

S. A. J. Wickes,
Lemuel Ashley,
Thos. W. Ringgold,
Samuel Riley,
R. F. Legg,

Jan. 5, '56—4w

Dissolution.

The Co-partnership heretofore existing under the firm of Earnest, Benjamin & Benjamin, was this day dissolved by mutual consent.

Henry W. Earnest,
D. A. Benjamin,
M. T. Benjamin.

Dec. 23, 1855.

The business will hereafter be conducted by the undersigned, who will be ready at all times, to accommodate their old friends and the public.

H. W. EARNEST,
D. A. BENJAMIN.

Chester Town, Jan, 5, '56.

Maryland, Kent county, to wit:

I hereby certify that Thomas Baker, farmer, of said county, gave information to me, the subscriber, a justice of the peace of said county, that he had taken up as astray tresspassing upon his enclosures, one black and white COW,



marked on the left ear with an over bit and under bit, no perceivable mark on the right ear. Given under my hand and seal this first day of January, 1856.

JAS. GRAVES, [SL.]

NOTICE.

The owner of the above described Cow, is requested to prove property, pay charges, and take it away.

THOS. BAKER.

jan. 5, '56—$2. Q. Neck.

LIST OF LETTERS,

Remaining in the Post Office, Chester Town, Md. Dec. 31, 1855.

Anderson, Mary L	Johnson Joseph
Beryman Wm	Jones Isaac S
Brice Joseph	Kennard Morris
Coleman Ann E	Kelly Ann M
Chambers Geo	Kean Mc Allen
Calvert Adam S	Lee R T
Coleman Zebulon	Macknahra Amanda J
Corke Jacob, cotd	Neck Jane E
Denning Eliza	Neal Wm
Doman Doniel	Newnan Jno F
Dixon Ben!	Pyle Thos
Elbright J	Parks Alex
Freeman Anna	Philips W
Fowler J L	Sheets Geo Capt
Graves Mary Jane	Somers Elizabeth
Green Charles	Shuster James
Harris John	Stokes Peter
Holly James	Walker Saml
Hepbron Jdo R Capt.	Wilson Fred
Hawkins Elizabeth	Winchester Albert
Hess Joseph W	Winchester Martha

JNO. L. STAM. P. M.

Jan. 5, '56.

Keat county, to wit:

I hereby certify that James Wood, farmer, of Kent county, gave information to me, one of the justices of the peace of the State of Maryland, in and for said county, this first day of January 1856, that he had taken up, tresspassing upon his enclosures,



FIVE CALVES, to wit:

one red Steer, three red and white Heifers, and one black and white, and all horned except one red and white one, no ear marks on any of them—also one red and white Heifer, without horns or ear marks, supposed to be 1 year old last spring. Given under my hand and seal this first day of January, 1856.

JAS. GRAVES, [S. L.]

NOTICE.

The owner of the above described property is requested to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take them away.

JAS. WOOD, Worton.

jan. 5, 56—$2.50.

NOTICE TO TAX PAYERS 1st District.

AS the undersigned is compelled to pay interest after the first day of January, 1856, all persons indebted must pay up by that day otherwise he will proceed to close his books according to law.

ISAAC GALE, Jr., Col. 1st Dist.

Dec. 29, 1855.