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KENT NEWS

1632 — 1854

CHESTER TOWN, Md.

SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 19, 1856.

THANKS.—Hon. J. B. Ricaud, will accept our thanks for a valuable public document.

☞I. L. Price, Esq., has been appointed Postmaster at Harmony, Kent county, vice G. W. Price, resigned.

☞Owing to the indisposition of the Clerk of the Commissioners, we are unable to give the amount derived from the dog tax, as we promised last week.

☞The weather has moderated considerable, the past week—Chester river is still closed up, the ice very thick, and likely to remain so for some time.

NO SPEAKER.—No Speaker has been chosen by Congress yet—the vote on Wednesday stood: Banks, 88; Richardson, 65; Fuller, 29; Pennington 8; scattering 5—necessary to a choice 98.

PETITIONS.—Several petitions. consequent upon the meetings held in December, in reference to the security of certain property, have been left at the Clerks office for signature. Those favoring the measures adopted, or any of them, will call and affix their names.

AT A MEETING OF THE AMERICAN MEMBERS in the General Assembly of Maryland held in the city of Annapolis, on the 7th of January, 1856, Elisha J. Hall, Esq., of Montgomery county, was called to the chair, and the following Preamble and Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, The Representatives of the American Party of the State of Maryland have viewed with delight the fixed determination of their Representatives in Congress to secure to the popular branch of the National Legislature an organization of the House on a sound national and conservative basis;

And Whereas, A fit occasion presents itself to express their unreserved and cordial approbation of the course pursued by their immediate Representatives and those who have co-operated with them; therefore

Resolved, unanimously, by the members of the American Party, in the Senate and House of Delegates of the State of Maryland, in Convention assembled, that they heartily endorse and commend the action of the members of the American Party in the House of Representatives, who have struggled so successfully so far, against a sectional organization of the House, and who have sustained so strenuously the principles and maxims of the party as laid down in the platform adopted for their guidance in the city of Philadelphia.

ELISHA J. HALL, President.

THOS. H. KENT, of Jos., } Secretaries.
W. H. ENGEL, }

On motion, it was

Ordered, That copies of said Preamble and Resolutions be sent to the Representatives in Congress of the American Party, and to the papers in Maryland which support American principles, for publication.

House of Representatives—Defining their Positions.

Saturday, Jan. 12, 1856.

After Messrs. Bingham, of Ohio, and Boyce, of South Carolina, had submitted lists of questions to be answered by each of the candidates for Speaker, Mr. Richardson replied at some length, in the course of which he admitted the constitutionality of the Wilmot Proviso.

Mr. Fuller, of Pa., remarked that he cordially approved the resolution adopted yesterday on motion of the gentleman from Tennessee.

In answer to the specific interrogatories that had been presented, he would say, as to the first, that he did not regard the Kansas-Nebraska bill as promotive of the formation of free States; and he would further say that he did not believe it was promotive of the formation of slave States.

In reply to the second inquiry, he would state that he had never and did not now advocate the constitutionality of the Wilmot proviso. He had never committed himself to the position "that if territorial bills silent upon the subject of slavery (and leaving the Mexican laws to operate) were defeated, he would vote for bills with the Wilmot proviso in them.' This question related to the legislature of the distinguished gentleman from Illinois. What he (Mr. F.) had to say upon that subject was, that he was not a member of that Congress, and had never taken any position upon that subject heretofore; but he was willing, in all frankness and candor, to do so now, and would do so with great deference to the opinions of wiser and better men. Slavery existed before the Constitution, and, in his judgment, now existed independent of that instrument. When the people of the confederated States, met, by their representatives, in Convention to form the Constitution, slavery existed in all but one of the States. The people, having an existing and acknowledged right to hold slaves, conceded, through their representatives, the right to prohibit the importation of them after the year 1808. They made no concession so far as regarded the existence of domestic slavery.—They claimed and it was granted—the right to reclaim slaves of escape; they claimed—and it was granted—the right of slave representation as an element of political power. He held that Congress had no right to legislate upon the subject of slavery; that the Territories were the common property of all the States, and that the people of all the States had the right to enter upon and occupy those Territories, and were protected by the flag of the country; that Congress had no right to legislate slavery into nor exclude it from the Territories. Neither had a Territorial Legislature, in his judgment, any right to legislate upon that subject, except so far as it might become necessary to protect the citizens of the Territory in the enjoyment of their property. He believed that he had answered all the interrogatives.

Mr. Barksdale, of Miss., propounded several other questions, to which Mr. Fuller replied as follows:

He remarked that as he was laboring under severe indisposition, he could not pretend to any eloquence on the present occasion. He would, therefore, answer the questions specifically and directly.—He replied to the first question, "Are you in favor of restoring the Missouri restriction, or do you go for the entire prohibition of slavery in all the Territories of the United States?" I am not.—To the second, "Are you in favor of abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia, in the United States forts, dock-yards &c?" I am not. To the third, "Do you believer in the equality of the white and black races in the United States, and wish to promote that equality by legislation?" I do not.

As to being in favor of the entire exclusion of adopted citizens and Roman Catholics from office, he thought with Gen. Washington, that it would comport best with the policy of this country to appoint native-born citizens in preference to those of foreign birth. [Applause in the galleries.] He would proscribe no man because of his religion, and would denounce no man because of his politics, but would accord to all the largest liberty of opinion and of expression, of conscience and of worship. He cared not what religion a man might profess, nor to what denomination he might belong. Be he Mahamedan, Jew, or Gentile, he would accord him the right to worship according to the dictates of his own judgment.

As to foreign-born citizens, he did not desire to exclude them. He would invite them to come here and enter upon the public land, to occupy the public territory, and to build up for themselves homes, and teach their children to love the Constiution and laws which protected them; but he would say that in all matters of legislation and of administration Americans should govern America. [Great applause in the galleries.]

For the Kent News.

U. S. Senator.

MR. EDITOR:—As the time is rapidly approaching when the Legislature of our State will probably elect a United States Senator, to fill the place now occupied by Senator Pratt, it will not be deemed invidious, or too presuming, in an Eastern Shoreman, to express his thoughts upon that question. It is true that the Senator is to be selected constitutionally and properly, from the Western Shore; but that does not make him any the less the constitutional representative of the whole State; and hence the whole State, both Eastern and Western Shores, have an equal interest in the question, "who shall be their representative?"

I am well aware, that the names of several gentlemen, all of whom stand fairly; nay prominently in their several neighborhoods, precincts, or counties, men who are fully capable to discharge the duties of this high and responsible station; gentlemen who would do honor to themselves and their State, no doubt; but sir, this is a time of trial, a crisis in the political affairs of our State, and no doubt of our country; and we should be unusually cautious in our selection of our leaders. Moreover, the selection of this high officer will devolve upon a new political organization, *this time ang how*. That party that has been reprobated, reviled and condemned, for all that is mean, base and vile; "which all honest men despised and true patriots hated."

This despised party has also been accused of having no honest men, or men of mental endowments or talents in its ranks; and of course none to set as peer with the honorable gentlemen who now compose that body of grave statesmen.—We will see! But before we proceed to name the man of our choice, and who has already been named as the choice of many others, permit us to remark, that it becomes the American Union party, now, in its infancy, to look well to their prominent nominations. If they expect, as I do not doubt many of them if not all of them do, that the burthen and the glory of upholding this mighty Union is to rest upon their shoulders, let them be careful in their choice of standard bearers. We want a man to fill the office of United States Senator, who is not only known in his own vicinity, county or State, as as a capable man, fully able to discharge the duties of the office; but a man known and well known through the broad expanse of this wide spread republic, nay, to all civilized and cultivated nations, as a statesman, scholar and philanthropist, and just such a man we have, a man of learning, of science, an elegant writer, a prominent orator; a distinguished statesman, loved and admired wherever the star-spangled banner is unfurled to the breeze. He is JOHN P. KENNEDY. I do not set myself up as the laudatory puffer of Mr. Kennedy; but we of the American Union party want such a man, to take from our hands, and bear before the most honorable and dignified body, the Senate of the U. States, that flag upon which we have our motto of "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

Perhaps it may be well enough for the writer to say that to Mr. Kennedy, as to all other gentlemen whose names he has yet seen brought before the public in connection with the senatorship, he is entirely unknown. He has no knowledge that his existence is known to any one of them or ever was. But his literary pursuits some twenty years ago, first led to a favorable opinion of Mr. K's literary and scientific attainments; since which active and faithful discharge of his duties in the House of Representatives of the United States, and more recently those of Secretary of the Navy, during the latter period of Mr. Fillmore's term, have confirmed and fixed his high opinion of the man, as a statesman, scholar and gentleman. Believing him to be such, we most respectfully beg leave to urge his election upon the attention of the Legislature.

A MAN OF KENT.

Jan. 14, 1856.

For the Kent News.

MR. EDITOR:—I read with some interest, in your last week's paper, the communication of "E Pluribus Unum," in reference to imposing additional restrictions upon the issuing of licenses to retailers of spiritous liquors. I consider it essentially proper, that a man should procure the consent of those to be injured, before the agent, by which the injury is to be inflicted, shall be established in his neighborhood, In addition to this consent, let the tribunal, granting the permits, have a controling discretion, after that consent shall be obtained.—Would it not be as well to require a majority of each School District, to recommend the license and persons, or would the three miles referred to, in the petition published in your paper, be about equal to the other? Not knowing certainly the area of the county, I cannot make the calculation, but either will do—the object is a good one.

A CITIZEN.

For the Kent News.

The Farmer's Interest.

MR. EDITOR:—For several years past. the subject of weighing wheat, in the Baltimore Market, has engaged the attention of the agricultural community, and either real or supposed injury to them, by the manner of doing it, has produced considerable excitement and complaint. We assume, that the Farmers, generally, think injustice is done to them by the weights in Baltimore. This opinion has been strengthened by the more favorable results of the Philadelphia market. The landed interest being greatly paramount, the subject presses itself with great force upon the Legislative Department, and calls for ample and efficient redress.

The mode of weighing wheat in Baltimore, is to fill what is called "weigh-bags," at stated periods, say for illustration: half a bushel in every twenty or twenty five. If the measurer, be not strictly impartial and just, by keeping the tally in his mind, no difficult thing to do, he will know when the weigh bag is to be filled, without notice, and by a little jostle of the measure, or in striking, may lessen the quantity of the weigh-bag and thus in a large cargo of grain, the loss in weight, may be considerable.

After the weigh-bags are filled, they are taken to the *buyer's* warehouse and weighed by his own scales and weights!! A slight defect or fault in these, may prejudice the seller not a little. During the last autumn, instances occurred. where wheat was weighed in the county, before being shipped for Baltimore, and weighed two lbs. more than it weighed in that city. Similar wheat being weighed in the county, in the same scales, was sent to Philadelphia, and weighed, in that city, precisely what it weighed in the county. In addition to the advantage of Philadelphia weights, in that city they allow for surplus ounces, which is not done in the former city. A number of instances occurred during the last season, of considerable advantage in weights, in the Phil'a over the Baltimore markets. The writer of this, has heard a commission merchant in Baltimore admit, that farmers had a right to complain, but assert that the evil was beyond the power of the commission merchant to remedy.

That an evil, or error exists somewhere, must be palpable—but the manner of reaching and removing it may not be a matter so easy to be performed.—Upon conversing with farmers, various opinions will be suggested and measures proposed. If the season was a good one for convening the farmers, and obtaining their experience and opinions—some means might be devised that would prove efficient—but a general attendance at any given point cannot be conveniently obtained; and as the Legislature will adjourn on the 10th March, it would seem necessary that something should be done speedily. It is not probable, that any proposition will meet with general concurrence—but it is important that something be done, and we think, it would be better to frame and circulate petitions, asking for specific redress, than by divided opinions, accomplish nothing. Although certain remedies may be recommended, the Legislature may modify and add to them, so that the suggestion of a remedy, will not prevent others from being originated and adopted.

We are identified with the farming interest, and feel a deep solicitude for its protection und advancement. With diffidence therefore, we propose for the signatures of the people generally, for all are interested in the prosperity of the farmer, the annexed petition.

A. FARMER.

To the Honorable, the General Assembly of Maryland:

The undersigned, citizens of Kent County, being identified with the Farming interest, beg leave respectfully to set forth,—

That for many years complaints have existed in the community, in regard to the manner in which Wheat, sent to the city of Baltimore for sale, has been weighed and accounted for: In the first place, the fractions of a pound, if less than four ounces, are not accounted for to the seller but go into the pockets of the buyer. In the second place, the grain is weighed in the ware-house, or counting room of the purchaser, and by his own weights and scales, and most generally, in the absence of the commission merchant, who has to report to his employer. Contrast this practice, wtth that of the city of Philadelphia. where every ounce is reported and paid for, and the wheat weighed by a sworn weigher, out of the prosence of seller and buyer, and by means under the control of neither. The results, as produced, in a number of instances, during the last year. were consequently. favorable to the latter city, and many thousands of bushels found their way there, that would, otherwise, have been disposed of in our own city. The difference in favor of Philadelphia, was sometimes equal to two lbs. in a bushel of wheat.

Your Petitioners under equal circumstances, would naturally prefer to sell in our Maryland city, and to cherish and build up her interests and fortunes. We earnestly desire to see Baltimore city, become the great emporium of commerce and trade, and to rival the greatest cities in the Union, but to accomplish such results and to attain such a distinction, she must hold out inducements, and establish modes of business, that will attract trade and promote the paramount interest of the Agricultural community. If the advantages offered by rival cities, shall be superior to hers, the channels of prosperity will be diverted from her, and made to flow to them.

That the interest of the Farmer needs prompt and efficient protection in the matter, thus brought to your notice and attention, we think must be obvious to every one conversant with the subject. We therefore, earnestly and respectfully solicit the action of your Honorable body in the premises, and the enactment of a law Law requiring every master or skipper of a vessel, to provide himself with a tested and stamp'd set of scales and weights, to be kept constantly on board; that all grain sold by weight, shall be weighed by them on the deck of his vessel, in his presence or if necessarily absent, in the presence of his Mate, and the commission merchant or Agent who may sell the grain, and shall be certified by him or them—and that the captain and mate of every vessel shall under a certain penalty, make oath before a Justice of the Peace of their county or city, that they will well and faithfully carry out and fulfil their duties under this law, to the best of their knowledge and ability, a certificate of which oath shall be recorded in the Clerk's Office of the county or city where they reside. Or that sworn and qualified weighers, be appointed by the Executive who shall be provided with approved weights and scales, and shall execute the same duties, diligently and impartially—and that in rendering an account of all such operations, the surplus ounce or ounces over the lbs. shall be certified and accounted for to the seller or his agent and be paid for by the purchaser, or such other means of redress, be devised by your Honorable body, as will remedy this evil so annoying to the Farmer, and prejudicial to his interest, And in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Kent County, January, 1856.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.

The resolutions of Mr. Kennedy, which we published last week, were taken up on Thursday. Here are the proceedings:

The resolutions of Mr. Konnedy being before the House, Mr. Askew moved that the committee shall now be appointed.

Mr. Wickes said he hoped the gentleman would postpone these resolutions until some future day; say make it the order of the day to-morrow. He thought that these resolutions were presented in rather a playful mode, and hoped that as it was the desire of the minority to postpone them them the majority would gratify them.

Mr. Kennedy said—I presented these resolutions in all sincerity. The Governor has said in his annual communication to the House, that "I had failed to discharge a public duty, were I not to allude to a new element in the political controversies of the times, which, in my opinion, has already been productive of more baneful consequences, and has done more to sever the ties which should bind together our whole people, as one common brotherhood, than anything which has occurred since the organization of our Government. I mean the formation and encouragement of secret political societies."

I shou'd feel, sir, that I had not fulfilled my duty here, sir, as a member of this body—or my duty to the oath I have taken to support that Constitution, were I not to notice this part of his message.

If his remarks are aimed at the American party (which I cannot positively say) we demand—I, as a humble member of that party, demand an investigation.—We wish the Executive to inform us, and the people who are those who are plotting treason against the government, and if there is no notice taken of that part of the Governor's message, it will go before the country, that there did exist in this country in 1855 a party which tended to the suppression of the already established and cherished principles of our Government. I presented those resolutions and allowed them to lie over under the rule of this House. But I am unwilling to postpone them. I wish to find out what party this is, that is plotting treason against the Government.

Mr. Daniels said that as there was no business before the House, he moved that these resolutions be considered the order of the day, to-morrow.

Mr. Askew said he renewed his motion as a substitute to Mr. Daniel's motion.

Mr. Daniels said that Mr. Askew's motion is out of order, and the Speaker so decided it.

Mr. Merrick said that he was willing to give the widest scope to investigation. He wished to heart he truth, and the whole truth.

The discussion which will come up will not be gotten through with, and I shall vote for its postponement as some gentlemen has requested.

Mr. Hall.—It does seem to me, sir, as unnecessary for the postponement of this question, as the question will come up after the report of the committee.

The motion being put for the postponement, was lost.

Mr. Merrick said he moved as an amendment, that the committee consist of seven, instead of five.

Mr. Kennedy said he would be pleased to accept his amendent, but his experience taught him that the smaller the the committee the better. He would profer three instead of five; he therefore could not accept the amendment.

Mr. Merrick said he had hoped that the substitute would have been very acceptible. He wished that the committee would consist of fair proportions of all parties in the House.

Mr. ——, of Anne Arundel—I feel desirous to satisfy all parties, and as I consider myself as an humble member of the American party, and as we are in the majority, we should, as far as possible, gratify them.

Mr. Kennedy.—I do not know, sir, that that part of the Governor's Message bears upon the American Party. I was not aware, sir, that there were more than two parties. I do not look upon it as an attack on the American party as yet.—But if it is so, I AM WILLING, SIR, TO DEFEND THAT PARTY HERE OR ELSEWHERE; and when this is known, I am prepared to prove that the Governor is a Know-Nothing himself, I am opposed to the enlargement of this committee. Let this investigation be made in the simple manner proposed.

Mr. Hall.—I think that this question has become quite lattitudinous. The question, sir, is upon the appointment of a committee. The Governor has stated, sir, that there are secret political societies and the propositien of the honorable gentleman from Baltimore is to investigate such a thing. Why should we depart from our rules? I therefore hope that the committee may not be enlarged.

Mr. Merrick.—I do not wish to protract this debate; the gentleman from Baltimore has fired up.

Mr. Kennedy, (interrupting.)—Not at all, sir.

Mr. Merrick.—If we search for truth we must be calm. I do not ask any favor of any man or party. (The substitute was lost by a rising vote.)

Mr. Wickes said that he wished to make an amendmont to an amendment that the committee consist of 21 or 22—one from each county and one from the city of Baltimore.

The gentleman, sir, from Baltimore, in his courtesy, has pressed the question.—The Governor, I suppose, did mean the members of the Know.Nothing or American party. These resolutions are a contempt upon the Gevernor, by a majority upon a minority. I ask a postponement if not from courtesy, from justice.

Mr. Fiery—I shall oppose the motion of the honorable gentleman from Alleganey county simply because a small committee can do better than one larger.—Thrusting this thing aside, I, as a member of this body, regard the expression of the Governor as offensive in the extreme and think, sir, that he has not extended the courtesy which this Hose expects. I hope, therefore, that the amendment will be defeated.

Mr. Kildow said he hope his friend Mr Merrick, would withdraw his amendment as the majority are determined to carry this through; and as the majority may not have so great an ascendency next year and the report will not come up perhaps this session, it must be lost.

Mr. Hall said that the gentleman from Charles county (Mr, Merrick) had entirely misconstrued his remarks. He did not wish that the anti-American party should be excluded from this committee. I know of but two parties here, viz: the American and anti-American party, and the Speaker can tell in the appointments of this committee who are members of each, and for the dignity and honor of the American party, which are the people of Maryland we demand an investigation. The language of the Governor is not only an insult to the American party here, but to a large majority of the people of this State He, sir, has no right to send here a political lecture. It is a descent from his high position, and as the gauntlet is thrown, we the majority of this body, have a right to demand an investigation,

The question upon the amendments of Mr. Wickes, substituting 22 for 5, and Mr. Merrick's substitute of 7 for 5, were lost.

Mr. Wickes said he moved an amendment that the Speaker shall not appoint more than three of the majority on this committee.

Mr. Partridge said such is unparliamentary, and never has been done before.

Mr. Wickes, (resuming.)—Whether it is or not, I make the motion, and I expect it to be lost—for "at the crack of the whip away they start." These resolutions came from caucus. But as the Speaker is engaged I take my seat.

The Speaker.—You can proceed, sir.

Mr. Wickes.—I withdraw my motion.

The Speaker.—I wish to make an explanation to the gentleman, that I did not wish any discourtesy to him. I was investigating with the gentlemen some parliamentary rules.

Mr. Wickes.—What I said was very hasty and improper.

The resolutions were adopted, and the House adjourned.

MARRIAGES.

On Tuesday, Jan. 8th, by Rev. Mr. Quigly, William Hall to Miss H rriet Shriver.

On Tuesday last, by same, Joseph Bolis to Miss Harriet Clark.

On same day, by same, James Wood, to Miss Mary L. Anderson.

On same day, by same, Charles Henry Joiner, to Miss Emily Nickerson, all of Kent County.

On same day, by Rev. Mr. Aspril, Jesse Morris, of Kent, to Miss Francis J. Downs, of Queen Ann's County.

Seamstress Wanted.

WANTED a Seamstress in a family residing ve y near town,—apply to the Editor.
Jan. 19, 1856.—3t.

BUCKWHEAT MEAL.—T. W. Elison has a supply of superior Buckwheat Meal for sale.
Jan. 19, '56.

Gum Shoes.

THE undersigned has just received via Elkton, a beautiful lot of Gum Shoes assorted. Also variety of other articles usually kept by him—all for sale cheap, very cheap.

A. M. RUSSELL.

Jan. 19, '56.

NOTICE.

ALL persons owing the estate of John E Gale deceased, and whose notes are due, are requested to call and settle, as no longer indulgence will be allowed.

JAMES H. GALE,
Administrator of John E. Gale.

Jan. 19, 1856.

NOTICE.

I WILL sell 5 Brood Sows and pigs, 2 Fine Young Mares, 1 Jack—four years old in the spring, and wants to purchase about Twenty Head young Cattle. Persons in want of the above or who have stock to sell will do well to call on

ABEL J. REES.

Rees' Corner, Md., Jan. 19, 1856.

$5 REWARD.

TAKEN from the subscriber; at Rees' Corner, last Friday evening, a double barrel Duck Gun—the gun was full three quarter calibre, with lamrnated barrels; the stock has been broken across the wrist and mended. $5 reward will be paid to any one returning the gun.

JNO. A. STRONG.

Near Shaw's Mill, }
Jan. 19, 1856. } tf

Notice.

AN Ordinance passed the Board of Commissioners of Chestertown, 22nd of December 1832, compelling the owners of dogs or bitches, to take out license on the 1st day of January, in each year.—In compliance therefore with the Ordinances upon the subject—the undersigned hereby gives notice, that on the first day of March next, he will proceed against all who do not pay their dox taxes by that time.

WM. BURKE

Jan. 19 1856.