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The Kent News.

A Family Newspaper: Devoted to Literature, Agriculture, Politics, General News, and Advertising.

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The Kent News:

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, AT

CHESTERTOWN, KENT COUNTY, MD.

Office, Masonic Hall, Court House Green.

Jas. H. Plummer & Wm. B. Usilton,

EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

Terms of Subscription:

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Holliday Street,

Next door to the Theatre, BALTIMORE.

THE undersigned has the pleasure of announcing to his Friends and the Public generally, that he has re-opened this extensive Hotel, and solicits the share of patronage which its highly favorable location, being opposite to the Mayor's Office, and in the neighborhood of all the Public Buildings, adjoining the Holliday Street Theatre, and his efforts to please may deserve.

Having been engaged for many years in conducting popular Hotels on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and this city, he feels assured of being able to meet all just expectation of the Traveling community, in managing the Voshell House in a style surpassed by no Hotel of its class in the Country.

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Yours Respectfully,

fe18—3m. JOHN C. VOSHELL.

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RAW-BONE PHOSPHATE,

UNSURPASSED FOR PRODUCING A

HEAVY GROWTH OF CORN, OATS, POTATOES,

AND ALL SPRING CROPS, AND PERMALENTLY ENRICHING THE SOIL.

IT CONTAINS the fertilizing properties of Guano, Bone, Stable Manure and Lime.

Producing in many cases larger crops by fifty per cent. than either of the above articles, when used separately.

It is a highly concentrated manure, being made from Bones containing all their original animal matter. No Burnt Bones are used.

It has been used by thousands of farmers in this State, with the highest satisfaction. It has proved a perfectly reliable substitute for "Peruvian Guano," being sufficiently quick in its action on the crops, and in all cases enriching the soil, and it is permanent in its effects.

It would be well for farmers to send in their orders early, either to the subscriber or to any of his agents, from whom circulars can be obtained, giving certificates.

GEORGE DUGDALE,

SOLE AGENT,

fe18-3m. No. 105 Smith's Wharf, Baltimore.

PROPERTY FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.

$50,000 WORTH OF PROPERTY in Pennsylvania, is offered for sale or exchange for property in Kent Co., Md., by GEORGE APSLEY, of LOCK HAVEN, Pa. The above property is all in Clinton County, Penn'a, except his residence and a Tenant House, which are in the town of Northumberland, Northum'd Co., Pa., one of the healthiest and most pleasant places in the State of Pennsylvania.

REFERENCES:

Wm. R. Apsley, Farmer, Kent county.
Samuel H. Hurley, " " "
Geo. Vickers, Att'y at Law, Chestertown.

Jan. 28, 1865—3m.

MRS. M. G. BROWN'S

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A CERTAIN CURE FOR

Deafness, Diseased Eyes, and all Bronchial and Throat and Lung Affections, PRICE $5.00.

THE Metaphysical Discovery is composed of three distinct preparations, viz: "Poor Richard's Eye Water," "Ear Mixture," and "Scalp Renovator," and is applied externally. Each remedy can be purchased separately, at the following prices:

Ear Mixture - - -	$3.00
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Eye water, large size bottle,	1.00
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Sent by express, steamboat and hack to any part of the State on receipt of price, with full directions for use. Send for a circular containing certificate of cures, &c.

J. T. COMEGYS,

Sole Agent for Maryland,

mh4-6m. 500 W. Baltimore St., Balt.

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PRODUCE and VARIETY STORE.

THE undersigned takes this method of informing the public that he has removed to the room next door below B. H. Gardner's Tobacco and Cigar store, opposite the new Voshell House, and is prepared to purchase

COUNTRY PRODUCE,

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, such as POULTRY, of all kinds, BUTTER, EGGS, &c., &c., for which the

HIGHEST MARKET PRICE

will at all times be paid. Also, all kinds of

FUR and RAGS WANTED,

at the highest CASH PRICES. Farmers and others having any of the above articles to dispose of will find it to their interest to give me a call. FOR SALE—Notions, Confectionery, and all kinds of Country Produce.

WILLIAM SIMPSON.

Chestertown, Feb. 4, 1865.

REMEMBERED.

Somewhere within the spirit-land,
Where God's immortal children dwell,
A holy and united band,
Is one I long ago loved well.
One who, through all my early days,
Was faithful, beautiful, and dear;
But God's good ways are not our ways—
No human love could keep her here.

O'er her clear eyes a shadow crept,
And slowly dimmed their loving light;
And though I held her close and wept,
There came a dark and bitter night,
When leaden clouds were piled aloft,
And loudly winter winds did rave,
And winter snows fell fast and soft,
They fell upon a new-made grave.

And now, when many years have past,
When I have older, colder grown,
There comes to cheer my heart at last
A smile as sweet as Annie's own;
Like stars that shine through autumn skies,
And brighten all the misty air,
Such smiles for weary hearts arise
To win them from distrust and care.

Still in the watches of the night
Those visioned eyes may come to me;
Still may there beam from them a light,
A glance which I alone can see.
Remembrance of the dead can make
A living love more fond and near,
And it may be for her sweet sake,
That these blue eyes have grown so dear.

The Original Australians.

The religion of the aborigines, says a traveler, in all parts of Australia, includes a belief in sorcery, and a dread in numerous demons, spirits of the wood, of the river, of the mountains and the pool.—Some of these are the spirits of dead men. I once met a party of thirty or forty men and women who were traversing the country along the Barwan, as strolling playactors, performing a pantomime in the presence of every camp of their countrymen, with the avowed design of driving away the ghosts of dead men. All night long the choir continued to sing. In the morning, having marked their bodies with earths of various colors, yellow and bluish grey, they went through a mimic fight with unseen foes, beating the air with branches and rushing about in a frantic manner. After alternately, marching, dancing, and charging to the sound of music, they declared that the ghosts were all gone, and would trouble the inhabitants of the place no more. The general name for ghost or spirit is "wunda." And this name they give to white men, probably from the impression which has spread among them, that white people are blackfellows risen from the dead. The chief of all the wundas, the arch demon, is said to appear at their boras, or public meetings, in the form of a serpent. And there are figures of serpents cut on the trees in some places, to which they pay religious homage. Parental affection is generally very strong in the aborigines; and when a child dies the parents testify their grief in the same manner as the ancient heathen of Canaanites, by cutting themselves. I have seen a number of women sitting down to mourn with a bereaved mother—their skin plastered with white clay, and blood streaming down from large gashes made with the tomahawk in their heads. In conjugal affection savages are generally deficient. As a traveler in distant parts of the interior, I can bear witness that aborigines have treated me with kindness and with polite consideration which I did not expect to meet in such a quarter. And I believe they are as a people remarkably susceptible of impressions from kind treatment. They recognized me as one who sought their good, and were evidently pleased and thankful to see that I thought them worth looking after. Their musical power is strong. Of their very simple melodies, some have a wild mirthfulness, and others a most plaintive melancholy. The very soul of the people seems to breathe out in their brief songs. And when under training their musical taste has been successfully used as an aid in their civilization.

POVERTY.—Bulwer says that proverty is only an idea, in nine cases out of ten. Some men with ten thousand dollars a year suffer more for want of means than others with three hundred. The reason is, the richer man has artificial wants. His income is ten thousand, and by habit he spends twelve or fifteen thousand, and he suffers enough from being dunned for unpaid debts to kill a sensitive man. A man who earns a dollar a day and does not run in debt, is the happiest of the two. Very few people who have never been rich will believe this, but it is as true as God's word. There are people, of course, who are wealthy, and enjoy their wealth, but there are thousands upon thousands, with princely incomes, who never know a moment's peace, because they live above their means. There is really more happiness in the world among working people than among those who are called rich.

THE PAPER DUTY.—Among the other bills lost in the last hours of Congress, owing to a disagreement between the two Houses, was the one reducing the duty on printing paper. The House had fixed the duty at the nominal figure of 3 per cent. ad valorem, which was amended by the Senate by increasing the rate to 15 per cent. The House refused to accept this amendment, and adhered to the original bill. A committee of conference was appointed, which recommended a recession on the part of the House, but no action was had, and the result is that the paper manufacturers still have matters their own way, the duty remaining as formerly at 20 per cent.

THE DRAFT.

Important Provisions of the New Law.

The provisions of the new amendatory act of Congress, passed at the late session, in regard to the enrolling and calling out of the national forces, have been published by Gen. Fry, so far as they relate to the details and the machinery of the draft and to drafted men. The following is a full abstract. As the sixteenth section is important, we give it verbatim:

Revision of Enrollments.

The law provides that quotas shall be hereafter assigned according to enrollments revised at any period previous to the actual drawing of the names, and without regard to previous apportionments. It appears, however, that this provision has no reference to the draft lately ordered.

New System of Credits.

All persons mustered into the service are to be carefully credited to the ward, township or precinct where they actually reside. This is to prevent miscellaneous and unauthorized recruiting, and secure fair and just credits to every section of the country, provided that in any call for troops hereafter, credits shall not be given except for men actually furnished on that or on the preceding call, and mustered into the military or naval service. In computing quotas hereafter, credits shall be given for all men furnished by them respectively, and not heretofore credited during the present rebellion, for any period of service of not less than three months, calculating the number of days for which such service was furnished, and reducing the same to years; provided that such credits shall not be applied to the call for additional troops made by the President on the 21st of December, 1864.

Important to Drafted Men.

The following section will be interesting to a class of persons drafted last summer. It was added during the last hours of the session:

"Sec. 16. And be it further enacted, That persons who have been, or may hereafter be drafted, under the provisions of the several acts to which this is an amendment, for the term of one year and who have actually furnished or may actually furnish acceptable substitutes (not liable to draft) for the term of three years, shall be exempt from military duty during the time for which such substitute shall have been mustered into the service, anything in the act of February twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, to the contrary notwithstanding."

Under the ruling of the War Department last year, any drafted person who put in a substitute for three years was exempted but for a single year. The law now corrects this injustice.

Illegal Enlistments—Punishment for Swindling Recruits.

Any recruiting agent, substitute broker, or other person enlisting, or causing to be enlisted, an insane person or a convict, or a person under indictment or bail for felony, or person in a state of intoxication, or a deserter, or a minor between the ages of sixteen and eighteen years, without consent of his parents or guardian, or any minor under sixteen years of age, knowing him to be such; or any broker or other person who shall defraud or illegally deprive any enlisted man of his local, State or United States bounty, shall, upon conviction, be fined from two hundred to one thousand dollars, or imprisoned three months to two years, or suffer both fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court. An officer mustering in any person whose enlistment is forbidden may be dishonorably dismissed the service.

Principals may be Held to Service for their Substitutes.

In case in which persons (insane convicts, &c.,) are so improperly enlisted as substitutes, after passage of this act the names of the principals shall be restored to the enrollment lists. If a substitute, by reason of any ailment existing at the time of muster, and since the passage of this act, shall be found incompetent to perform the duties of a soldier, the principal will be held to service as though he had furnished no substitute. If a man furnishing a substitute shall in any way encourage the said substitute in deserting he shall himself be placed in the ranks for the period for which he was liable to draft, dating from the time of the desertion of the substitute.

Forfeiture of Rights.

The law also provides for the forfeiture of the right of citizenship, or the privilege of becoming citizens, or of holding office, in case of desertion or of avoidance of the draft; and it requires the President to issue a proclamation setting forth these provisions, and notifying deserters to return to their places. The proclamation is already published.

The law providing for recruiting in rebellious States for the benefit of the loyal States is repealed.

Another Important Provision.

Any person or persons enrolled in any sub-district may, after notice of a draft, and before the same shall have taken place, cause to be mustered into the service of the United States such number of recruits not subject to draft as they may deem expedient, which recruits shall stand to the credit of the persons thus causing them to be mustered in, and shall be taken as substitutes for such persons or so many of them as may be drafted to the extent of the number of such recruits, and in the order designated by the principals at the time such recruits as thus aforesaid are mustered in.

Exemptions.

Acting assistant surgeons, contract surgeons, and surgeons and commissioners on the enrolling boards, while in the military service of the United States, shall hereafter be exempt from all liability to be drafted under the provisions of any act for enrolling and calling out the national forces.

This act is now in effect. Nothing therein is to operate to postpone the pending draft, or interfere with the quotas assigned therefor.

A GOOD HIT.

Mr. Cox made the following admirable point in the debate on the amendment to the Constitution respecting slavery:

If then, as it is said, by the gentleman from Vermont, [Mr. Morrill,] slavery is dead what is the object of this amendment? That distinguished gentleman told us the other day that, like Pharoah and his hosts, the South had rushed with slavery into the Red sea of war, and that slavery was destroyed.

Well, if that be the case, if slavery is dead, where is the necessity of invoking this extraordinary power of amendment? My friend from New York, [Mr. Odell,] who also spoke so well in defence of his views, said that although it was dead he wanted to give it a constitutional burial. I am not much of a biblical scholar, but I believe that we have no authentic record of the fact that after Pharoah and his hosts were destroyed in the Red sea the children of Israel, after the destruction, met together upon its shores, in grand convocation, and after listening to Aaron and the other orators, passed resolutions somewhat like this amendment, to wit:

Resolved, That neither Pharoah nor his hosts, except as a punishment for crime, whereof they shall have been duly convicted, shall hereafter exist within the jurisdiction of the children of Israel.—[Laughter.]

What would the people have thought of the children of Israel for passing such a resolution after the decease of Pharoah? My friend from New York, [Mr. Odell,] belongs to the new dispensation, and would give the deceased slavery a constitutional burial. What would have been thought of the children of Israel, after they had fished out Pharoah's dead body, if they had proceeded solemnly to give to it a constitutional burial? [Laughter.]

CRUELTY OF CHARLESTON REBELS.—A Charleston, S. C., letter writer says: According to the description given, the most inhuman and outrageous acts of cruelty were committed by the rebels when they evacuated. Women and children who had snatched from the flames a few bags of meal or corn, or an apronfull of rice, were pursued by the cavalry and cut down with sabres. The rebels were exasperated to the nature of fiends when they approached a man who showed the least desire to share the fate of the city. Had they been allowed to exercise their own will, not a house would have been left standing. The firing of the Northeastern Railroad Station, together with its contents of rice, meal and flour, was a proof of what they designed to do, with all the buildings. The rebels did their work too, regardless of human life and limb. In that railroad station were stored one hundred kegs of powder, which were purposely ignited while a large crowd of half-starved people were within gathering up a little quantity of meal to keep soul and body together. A most terrific explosion followed, the appalling result of which was the killing and mangling of three hundred and fifty human beings. The total quantity of cotton destroyed by fire was about 4,000 bales. It is thought that 10,000 bales are still in the city. It is scattered around in small lots, some of the owners not having over two or three bales.

PETROLEUM IN THE CUMBERLAND REGION. The "oil fever," it appears, is raging in Allegany county, Md., especially in the coal region. The Cumberland Telegraph of the 9th instant, has the following remarks on the subject:

It is now pretty generally conceded that there are abundant indications of the existence of petroleum underlaying the coal measures and sand stone strata of the Cumberland coal field. And so convincing are the more recent discoveries, a company has already been formed comprising some of our most practical and sagacious citizens to commence at once the sinking of wells. Oil has been found (and exhibited in our city) at Wellersburg, near the Cumbeland Coal Basin, if not forming a continuation of it. Should these developments result in success as from what we learn seems almost certain, it would be difficult to fix a limit even in imagination to the vast wealth about to be poured out from the Cumberland region. The product of the coal sent from the region for the year 1864, at our 300,000 tons only, measured in value by its present price at tide water is about $3,000,000. That product is likely to be nearly, or quite double the present year.

A Richmond paper mildly remonstrates against $10 a quart for skimmed milk.

Prison Life at the South.

The following account is made up of selections from an article in the March No. of the Atlantic Monthly. It is the most graphic recital of prison life at the South that we have yet read. It gives the personal history of one of the prisoners, who is introduced occasionally in conversation with others:

The prisoners, over a thousand strong, were formed in line and ordered to march. As they tramped along the dusty road, they strained their eyes, eagerly, but furtively, for the first show of their prison. Seeing tents on the left, there was a little stir among them, but that proved to be a Rebel camp; then some one spied heights topped with cannon, and "Now," said they, "we are close upon it," and then stopped short for wonder, for here the road ended, ran butt against the wall of a huge roofless inclosure, made of squared pines set perpendicularly and close together in the ground.

"Is it a pen?" asked one, doubtfully.

"Yes, yours," retorted one of the guard with a grin,—"the Stockade Prison."

The word ran down the line like a shiver, and the men stood mute, eyeing each other doubtfully.

They were hardly in, when there was a scramble, and a cry of "Rations!" and came lumbering a train of wagons, bringing the day's supplies. There were at this time under torture twenty-eight thousand prisoners; and as the Southern Confederacy, a Christian association, and conducting itself with many appeals to Christian principle, believes the wind is tempered to the shorn lamb, and so shears the Yankees as close as possible—these men had all been formally fleeced of such worldly gear as blankets, money, and extra clothing. Some further shearing there had been also, but irregular, depending chiefly on the temper of the captors,—stripping them sometimes to shirt and drawers, leaving them occasionally jacket and shoes; so now most were barefooted, most in rags, and some had not even rags. They had lain on the bare earth, sodden with damp or calcined into dust, and borne storm and heat helplessly, without even the shelter of a board, till they were burned and wasted to the likeness of haggard ghosts; most had forgotten hope, many decency; some were dying, and crawled over the ground with a woful persistency that it would have broken your heart to see; they were all fasting, for the day's rations, tossed to them the afternoon before, had been devoured, as was the custom, at a single meal, and proved scant at that; and they crowded wolfishly about the wagons, the most miserable, pitiable mob that ever had mothers, wives, and sisters at home to pray for them.

"I say, my friend, where do we find fuel?" Drake asked of a man sitting quietly on the ground.

"Where the Israelites found the straw for their bricks," was the answer. "There is no special provision made, unless it be an occasional permit to forage outside, under —— Hold off there!—don't touch that, man, unless you want to be cooked yourself for supper!—that's the 'dead line'!"

Drake drew back from a light railing running parallel with the inclosure, on which he had nearly laid his hand.

"What the Deuse is the dead line?"

"The new way to pay old debts, and put a Yankee out of the world cheap.—Show so much as your little finger outside and the guard nails you with a bullet; and as they like that sort of thing, they blaze away whenever they get a chance, which is once or twice a day—for our men expose themselves voluntarily. When Satan said, 'Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life,' he hadn't invented the Stockade Prison."

His rations—a day's rations, remember—were eight ounces of Indian meal, cob and kernal ground together, (as with us for pigs,) and sour, (a common occurrence,) and two ounces of condemned pork (not to appear again in our pages, as it proved too strong even for poor Drake's hunger.) He brought water in the cup from a ditch that traversed the inclosure, and filtered it through a bit of cloth torn from his shirt; and the meal being mixed with this water, (salt was not even hinted at, the market price of that article being four dollars a pound at Andersonville,) it was placed on a strip of wood before the fire, to bake up to the half-raw point, that being the highest perfection attainable in Drake's kitchen: for a range and a steady heat find the baking of meal, so mixed, no easy matter. Eight ounces of meal make a cake six inches long, five broad, and half an inch thick: that is to say, Drake's dinner and supper for that day, and his breakfast and dinner for the next day, were in the mass six inches long, five inches broad, and half an inch thick. Give the figures an Indian-meal consistency, you who are not of that order of Stoics that endures its neighbor's sufferings without a groan. Try the experiment in your own kitchen. One baking will carry conviction farther than batches of statistics. Drake being famished chose to take four meals in one,—improvident man! That done, he went to bed: quite an elaborate arrangement, as practised among us, what with taking off of clothes, and possibly washing and combing, and pulling up of sheets and coverlets, and fitting of pillows to neck and shoulders; but nothing can be more simple than the way they do it there. You just lie down wherever you are,—and sleep, if you can. Drake could and did sleep most soundly.

No cooking-utensils were allowed the prisoner; no tools or materials to construct a shelter were allowed the prisoner; no means of living as a civilized man were allowed the prisoner; no way of helping himself as a savage was allowed the prisoner. The rations were at all times insufficient, and frequently so foul that starvation itself could not swallow them: consequence, stomach and body weakened by a perpetual hunger, and in many cases utter inability to retain food, good or bad. More than that, the sluggish water-course that served as their reservoir crept across their pen foul and thick with the *debris* of the Rebel camp above, and in the center filtered through the spongy ground, and creamed and mantled and spread out loathsomely into a hateful swamp; and the fierce sun, beating down on its slimy surface, drew from festering pools and mounds of refuse a vapor of death, and the prisoners breathed it; and the reek of unwashed and diseased bodies crowding close on each other, and the sickening, pestilential odor of a huge camp without sewerage or system of policing, made the air a horror, and the prisoners breathed it.

HOW CAN WE INCREASE THE QUANTITY OF WOOL.

Wool is increased in the individual sheep first by keeping it in a good fleshy condition; and second, by giving it food which is peculiarly adapted to the production of wool. A Merino, kept in good condition all the year, will yield a pound or two more of wool, at least, than the same sheep kept in thinnish condition all the year round. But it makes a material difference in the product of wool what kind of food produces this fleshy condition.

According to the experiments made on Saxon sheep in Silesia, by Reaumur, 1,000 pounds of peas produced an increase of 134 pounds in the live weight of the animals with fourteen pounds and eleven ounces of wool, while 1,000 pounds of oats produced an increase of 146 pounds in live weight, with but nine pounds and twelve ounces of wool. Peas did not give a greater amount of wool in proportion to the increase of meat than some other of thirteen feeds tried by the experimenter.

Rejecting fractions peas produce a ninth part by weight, as much of wool as meat; oats a sixteenth part, barley a twelfth part, buckwheat a twelth part, mangel werzels and potatoes a seventh part, hay *with straw without other fodder* one-half part, and so on.

Wool is increased in succeeding generations of sheep by breeding, just as every other desirable quality is thus increased, viz: by coupling those males and females together which possess it in the greatest degree, and, selecting the heaviest fleeced ewes to breed from, in each succeeding generation the individual average yield of wool in the flock will constantly increase.

CHILDREN IN JAPAN.

During more than half a year's residence in Japan, I have never seen a quarrel among young or old. I have never seen a blow struck; scarcely an angry face. I have seen the children at their sports, flying their kites on the hills, and no amount of intermingled strings, or kites lodged in the trees, provoked angry words or impatience. I have seen them intent on their games of jackstones and marbles, under the shady gateways of the temples, but have seen no approach to a quarrel among them. They are taught implicit confidence to their parents, but I have never seen one of them chastised. Respect and reverence for the aged is universal. A crying child is a rarity seldom heard or seen. We have nothing to teach them in this respect out of our civilization. I speak from what I know of the little folks of Japan, for more than any other foreigner have I been among them.

Of all that Japan holds, there is nothing I like half so well as the happy children I shall always remember their sloe-black eyes, and ruddy, brown faces with pleasure. I have played battledore with the little maidens in the streets, and flown kites with as happy a set of boys as one could wish to see. They have been my guides in my rambles, shown me where all the streams and ponds were, where the flowers lay hid in the thickets, where the berries were ripening on the hills; they have brought me shells from the ocean, and blossoms from the field, presenting them with all the modesty and a less bashful grace than a young American would. We have hunted the fox-holes together, and looked for the green and golden ducks among the hedges. They have laughed at my broken Japanese, and taught me better; and for a happy, good-natured set of children, I will turn out my little Japanese friends against the world. God bless the boys and girls of Niphon!—*Letter from Japan.*

RICHES.—No man fears riches. Yet it is a fact that a man's liberality generally does not increase in proportion as he grows rich. It is exactly the reverse. He extends his desires, and luxuries become necessaries He must move in another sphere, keep more servants, and take a larger house. Let any one compare the sums given in charity by those of moderate income with the sums given by the wealthy.