EASTON GAZETTE.

WHERE THE PRESS IS FREE—"Literature, well or ill-conducted, is the Great Engine by which all Popular States must ultimately be supported or overthrown."
RELIGION purifies the Heart and teaches us our Duty—Morality refines the Manners—Agriculture makes us Rich—and Politics provides for the enjoyment of all.

VOL. XI. EASTON, MARYLAND, SATURDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 4, 1828. NO. 37.

PRINTED & PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY EVENING
BY ALEXANDER GRAHAM,
At TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS Per Annum, payable half yearly in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS
Not exceeding a square inserted three times for ONE DOLLAR; and TWENTY FIVE CENTS for every subsequent insertion.

A CARD.

R. H. RHODES, R. W. KENNARD and WILLIAM LOVEDAY,

Having associated themselves in business, under the firm of

Rhodes, Kennard & Loveday,

and having purchased the entire stock of Goods owned by W. H. Groome, intend carrying on the

Mercantile Business

in its various branches, at that well known stand opposite the Easton Hotel, formerly for many years occupied by Messrs. Thomas & Groome, and lately by Wm. H. Groome.

The customers of the House, as also those of the late Samuel Groome, and the public generally, are respectfully invited to give them a call.
Sept. 27—tf

NOTICE.

THE PARTNERSHIP of Jenkins & Stevens is this day dissolved in consequence of the death of Peter Stevens one of the Partners.—Those indebted to said Partnership are requested without delay to call on the Subscriber and close their accounts by payment of the same, as longer indulgence cannot be given. In order to close the concern of the above firm as soon as possible, which is quite desirable, the present Stock of Goods will be sold at very reduced prices for the Cash.

WILLIAM JENKINS, surviving
Partner of the late firm of Jenkins & Stevens.
Easton, Sept: 6, 1828.

N. B. WILLIAM JENKINS, begs leave to inform his Friends and the Public in general, that he intends to continue the Mercantile Business at the same House lately occupied by the late Firm of Jenkins & Stevens, and solicits his Friends and the former customers of said Firm and the Public in general for a continuance of their Custom, whom he will endeavour to supply on reasonable terms. W. J.

NEW GROCERY STORE.

THE Subscriber respectfully informs his Eastern Shore friends and the public in general, that he has taken the old stand, at the head of Cheap side No 9, Water st. lately occupied by the Messrs. Schumacher & Robb as a Sugar Store.—He intends keeping in all its varieties, a general assortment of GROCERIES.

CONSISTING OF

The best of Liquors, Loaf and Brown Sugar,
Coffee, Tea, Molasses, Family Flour,
Snuff, Chewing Tobacco, Powder, Shot,
Earthen, Stone and Wooden Ware,
And all other articles in his line, which he intends selling at a moderate advance for CASH.

He has also made arrangements to furnish the best of Stone Lime by the bbl. or hhd. (free from drayage) and upon as good terms as can be had in this City. Any orders for the above articles, or any thing else, shall be promptly attended to and thankfully received. Any other business from his Eastern Shore friends, that may require his attention, shall meet with promptness and dispatch at moderate charges.
THOS. DENNY.

Baltimore, Aug. 30

N. B. Persons having Pork, Cider, Butter or other articles to sell this Fall, who are disposed to favour him with their confidence, shall receive his utmost exertions to obtain the highest market prices, and to give the greatest satisfaction. T. D.

Branch Bank at Easton,

SEPTEMBER, 27th, 1828.

THE President and Directors of the Farmers' Bank of Maryland, have declared a Dividend of 3 per cent, on the stock of the Company for the last six months, which will be payable to the Stockholders, or their legal Representatives, on or after the first Monday in October next.

By Order,
JOHN GOLDSBOROUGH, Cashier.
Sept. 27- 3w

TRUSTEE'S SALE.

BY VIRTUE of a Decree of the Chancellor of Maryland, will be exposed to PUBLIC SALE at the Court House in Centreville, in Queen Ann's county, on Thursday the 23d day of October next, at 4 o'clock, P. M.

A large and Valuable Farm,

Lying about a quarter of a mile from Centreville. This property formerly belonged to Jervis Ringgold, deceased, and contains about *Four Hundred & Sixty seven Acres* including the wood-land which is situated a short distance from the cleared land.

The farm will be sold entire or in parcels as it may be found most desirable to the persons present on the day of sale.

The Terms of sale will be, that the sum of Four Hundred dollars shall be paid to the Trustee on the day of sale, and the purchaser or purchasers shall give bond to the Trustee with good security to be approved by him for the payment of the residue of the purchase money, with interest thereon from the day of sale in four equal instalments of six, twelve, eighteen and twenty-four months.

☞The terms will be more minutely stated on the day of sale.

JOHN B. ECCLESTON, Trustee.
Sept. 27th, 1828.—4w

BOOTS AND SHOES.

THE SUBSCRIBER having just returned from Baltimore with a handsome and good assortment of MATERIALS in his line most respectfully invites his friends and the public generally to give him a call and view his assortment and hopes from his long experience & a determination to pay the strictest attention to business he will be able to render general satisfaction.

Gentlemen disposed to purchase boots would do well to call as he will turn his attention more particularly to that part of the business and flatters himself that he can furnish them with as handsome and as good boots as can be had here or else where.

The Public's Obt Serv't
JOHN WRIGHT.
Easton, Nov. 17.

SPLENDID VIEWS OF AMERICAN SCENERY

ON FRIDAY, the 10th of October, 1828, will be published by *T. K. Greenbank*, No. 64, Spruce Street, Philadelphia, a volume of splendid views of American Scenery as follows:

1. A view of Beck's Shot Tower, on the Schuylkill near Philadelphia, and adjacent scenery.
2. A view of the Light House on Long Island Sound, with the adjacent scenery.
3. A view of York, on Lake Ontario, with the fortifications.
4. Characteristic Scenery on the Hudson River.
5. View of New London, Connecticut, with the adjacent scenery.
6. View of Lemon Hill, near Philadelphia, the seat of Henry Pratt, Esq.
7. The Tomb of Washington at Mount Vernon.
8. View at the Great Bend of the Susquehanna.
9. View of the Upper Falls of Solomon's Creek, Lucerne county, Pa.
10. View of the Lower Falls of Solomon's Creek.
11. View of the Catskill Mountains, from the Hudson.
12. View of Fort Niagara on Lake Ontario, from the Light House on the British side.

These views are executed in the best style of Philadelphia engraving, from drawings made upon the spot. Each plate will be accompanied by a full and accurate description thereof, as to make it perfectly intelligible to every person.

The work will be printed and issued to subscribers in the first style, on superior paper, and with a handsomely printed cover, and delivered to subscribers at the very low price of ONE DOLLAR. Flexible covers will be used for country subscribers, so that they can be safely sent by mail.

☞Any gentleman, postmasters and others, who will interest themselves to procure ten subscribers; and remit $10 to the editor, shall receive *twelve copies*. From the very flattering patronage already received (1200 subscribers have put down their names) this volume will probably be succeeded by another, as soon as other plates can be engraved. All orders from the country will be promptly attended to.

Address, T. K. GREENBANK,
No. 64, Spruce Street, Philadelphia.
Sep. 20

NEGROES FOR SALE.

BY ORDER of the Orphans' Court of Caroline county, the subscriber will offer for sale, at the Court House door in the town of Easton on Tuesday the 7th day of October next, at 3 o'clock, P. M. three likely young negro girls, (the property of the late Doctor Robert Stevens) to serve for a term of years.—Terms of sale, a credit of six months, the purchaser giving bond with approved security, and interest thereon from the day of sale

WM. H. HAYWARD,
Guardian to the Orphan Children of Dr. Robert Stevens, dec'd.
Sep. 27 2w

FOR SALE.

A SECOND HAND COCHEE and GIG, with Harness complete.—Apply to Lambert Reardon, or the Subsriber,

RICHARD KENNEY.
Oct. 4—tf

100 DOLLARS REWARD.

RANAWAY from the subscriber on Sunday morning the 21st inst. a mulatto fellow who calls himself ABRAHAM SULLIVAN, about 21 years of age, 5 feet 10 or 11 inches high, straight and well made, with rather a down look when spoken to, but polite and attentive.—For the last eight or nine months he has been employed as a waiter, in the Easton Hotel by Mr. Peacock. He had on when he ranaway a fox coloured hat, blue cloth coat, corduroy pantaloons and new shoes.—There is little doubt he will change his clothing as he took a variety with him.

Whoever will take up said Runaway and deliver him in the Jail in Easton, Talbot county, (Md.) shall receive a reward of Fifty Dollars, if taken in this State or the State of Delaware—if taken out of the above States, One Hundred Dollars reward will be given.

WM. H. GROOME, Agent
for Isabella Smith.
Easton, Oct. 4—tf

One Hundred Dollars Reward.

RANAWAY on Saturday night last, a negro man called DANIEL, who is about 32 years of age, five feet 8 or 9 inches high, of a dark mulatto colour, has broad shoulders and broad face, is rather lusty and well made, has large white teeth, his eyes are of a reddish colour, and when he is spoken to he has a smile on his countenance. Daniel was hired out in Easton, and went off under pretence of going to Camp Meeting, and there is reason to believe that he was accompanied by a negro man, the property of Mrs. Smyth, who was also hired out in Easton, and is of a chesnut colour and rather tall. I have no knowledge of what clothes Daniel took with him, other than a blue jacket and fur hat nearly new. It is more than probable that these negroes will make their way either to Delaware or New Jersey. The above reward will be paid for apprehending Daniel if taken out of the State and Fifty Dollars if taken in the State and lodged in Jail so that I get him, and all reasonable expenses paid if brought to Easton and lodged in Jail.

EDWARD O. MARTIN.
Head of Wye, Talbot co. Md.
Sept. 27, 1828.

$100 REWARD

WILL be given for apprehending and lodging in Easton jail Negro man ISAAC who absconded Saturday the 23d of August last passed.

ISAAC is a stout active negro twenty years old, 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high a little bow legged and large feet. Pleasant countenance when spoken to, rather a broad flat face, with a good set of teeth and wide space between those in front, which causes him to lisp.

WM. H. TILGHMAN.
Sept. 6.

COLLECTOR'S NOTICE.

THE Subscriber being desirous of collecting the TAX OF TALBOT COUNTY, due for the present year, in the course of this Fall, respectfully requests all persons, holding Assessable Property in the county, to call on him at his Office in Easton, where he will attend every Tuesday for the reception of the same.

It is hoped that those who cannot make it convenient to call on him, will be prepared for a call from him, or his Deputies, in their respective districts.

SOLOMON MULLIKIN, Collector.
Sept. 13—tf

[*From the New York Commercial*]

WILLIAM CORDER.

This Man who was recently executed at Bury St. Edward's and to whose fate we alluded on Saturday, was possessed of comfortable means of subsistence, and in the prime of life. The circumstances of his case were somewhat singular. In 1827, the result of an elicit intercourse between him and Maria Marten, the daughter of a molecatcher, residing near the prisoner, at Polstead, was the birth of a child, which died soon after. It appears that this was not her first indiscretion of the kind.—Corder, however, had promised to marry her from time to time, until on Friday the 18th of May, at mid-day, he called for her to go to Ipswich and be married, as he was in a hurry. She objected, on account of her liability to observation at that time of day. He told her to put on man's attire, and go to the red barn, where she could change it, and wait till he came with a horse and gig. This arrangement having been agreed to, and Corder having carried as was supposed, to the red barn, a bag containing her female apparel and returned, they went out together, she being in men's clothes, the articles of which were recollected. He said, if he could not get a license to be married, he would get her a place to remain in, until he did.—At about half past three o'clock, George Marten, the brother of the girl, saw Corder going along Thistley-lane with a pick-axe. On Sunday morning the mother of Maria saw Corder at her house, and asked him what he had done with her? He said he had got a license, but it must go to London to be signed, which would take six weeks. She mentioned to him what George had said, when he replied it must be a mistake—that it was a lad planting trees on the hill, who was seen with the axe. After this he told several stories, as to where Maria was; and some of his expressions were very singular. In September following he left Polstead. He subsequently wrote two letters, post marked London, to the father of the girl, stating that she was well, and in the Isle of Wight; and assigning different reasons for not visiting Polstead, which it would be tedious to particularize. In the mean time he published in the Sunday Times, of Nov. 25, 1827, an advertisement for a wife, and it appears that in consequence of it a marriage was actually formed between him and a deserving woman. Suspicions having been excited as to Maria having been murdered, the Red Barn was searched on the 19th of April last, and the body of Maria was found, buried under stones and earth, at the distance of about a foot and a half below the surface.

The Coroner's Jury sat next day, and on their finding, the prisoner was apprehended in London. His trial before an overcrowded court, occupied the 8th and 9th of August, and his guilt was fully made out, by the witnesses we have mentioned, and others who testified to corroborating circumstances. He attempted a defence, against the advice of the Counsel first employed, who recommended it to him to admit the killing, but to endeavour to make it manslaughter. There was evidence of there having been a quarrel between the prisoner and the deceased, about a five pound note, and that there had been some high words between them about it, just before the time of her death. This advice was rejected, however. The ingenuity of counsel subsequently employed could do nothing for him.

On the trial, Corder defended himself in a long speech, in which he charged the girl with suicide.—The following is an extract:

'As we proceeded across the fields to the barn, (which I beg you to bear in mind was a place where we were in the constant habit of meeting and passing hours together, and even nights together) I gently reproved her for giving way to tears, and observed to her, that that was not the way she should conduct herself towards one who was willing to make every sacrifice to render her happy. By this time we had reached the barn, when in consequence of this and other observations which passed, and whilst she was changing her dress, she flew into a passion; told me that she did not care any thing about me, that I was too proud to take her to my mother's, and when married she did not think she should be happy, as my mother and family she was sure would never notice her. She upbraided me with not having so much regard for her as the gentleman before alluded to had shown. Much further conversation arose, the particulars of which it is useless to detail, but I felt myself so insulted, and became so much irritated by her observations, that I told her if she would go on in this way before we were married, what could I expect afterwards; that I had then seen sufficient to convince me we should never live happily together, and I was, therefore, resolved before it was too late, not to marry her, informing her that I should return home, and that she might act as she thought proper, respecting her future conduct.

In consequence of this determination, I turned from her, and had scarcely proceeded to the outer gate of the barn-yard, when I heard a loud report like that of a gun or pistol. Alarmed at this noise, I immediately ran back, and to my horror I found the unhappy girl on the ground apparently dead. Astonished at the suddenness of the occurrence, and overwhelmed by my own feelings at the awful event, I stood for some moments in a state of complete stupefaction.—When I had in some measure recovered from this stupor, my first thought was to run for some assistance, (and well had it been for me had I acted on that impulse;) but the dreadful situation of Maria deterred me from quitting the spot. I endeavoured to raise her from the ground, in the hope of affording her relief, but to my horror I found she was altogether lifeless. I then placed the body on the ground, in doing which, I perceived the fatal weapon which I took up, when, to add to my terror, and the extraordinary singularity of my situation, I discovered it to be one of my own pistols, which I had always kept loaded in my bed room. The danger of my situation now flashed upon my mind. There lay the unfortunate girl wounded to death, and by an instrument belonging to me, and I the only human being present who could prove how the circumstance occurred. I will not attempt to describe to you (because it would be impossible) the agitation of my mind at finding myself surrounded by such suspicious and unfortunate circumstances.—My faculties for the time seemed suspended. I knew not what to do, and some time elapsed before I sufficiently recovered myself to become thoroughly sensible of the awful and responsible situation in which I stood."

The circumstantial evidence was, however, so strong, that he was afterwards convicted. Before his execution, he confessed that he had murdered the girl, and related the particulars following:—"When we left her father's house we began quarrelling about the burial of the child, she apprehending that the place wherein it was deposited would be found out. The quarrel continued for about three quarters of an hour, upon this and about other subjects. A scuffle ensued, and during the scuffle, and at the time, I think, that she had hold of me, I took the pistol from the side pocket of my velveteen jacket, and fired. She fell, and died in an instant. I never saw even a struggle. I was overwhelmed with agitation and dismay. The body fell near the front doors on the floor of the barn. A vast quantity of blood issued from the wound and ran on to the floor and through the crevices. Having determined to bury the body in the barn (about two hours after she was dead) I went and borrowed the spade of Mrs. Stowe; but before I went there, I dragged the body from the barn into the chaff-house, and locked up the barn. I returned again to the barn, and began to dig the hole; but the spade being a bad one, and the earth firm and hard, I was obliged to go home for a pick-axe, and a better spade, with which I dug the hole and then buried the body. I think I dragged the body by the handkerchief that was tied round her neck. It was dark when I finished covering up the body. I went the next day, and washed the blood from off the barn floor. I declare to Almighty God, I had no sharp instrument about me, and that no other wound but the one made by the pistol was inflicted by me. I have been guilty of great idleness, and, at times, led a dissolute life, but I hope, through the mercy of God, to be forgiven.

Soon after he had committed the murder he advertised in the London Times, for a wife, and had many applicants. He was married to one of them when he was apprehended. The following is a dialogue previous to his execution:

Among his several conversations the following singular one is said to have passed between him and one of his attendants. It occurred on Friday evening:

Attendant—Pray, Mr. Corder, is it true that it was by an advertisement you were first introduced to Mrs. Corder?

Corder—Indeed it was.

Attendant—Had you many answers to it?

Corder—I had forty-five. Some from ladies in their carriages.

Attendant—Well, that surprises me.

Corder—Surprise you, so it may, as it did myself? but I missed of a good thing.

Attendant—How is that?

Corder—Why then I will tell you. One of the answers which I received required that I should be at a certain church on an appointed day dressed in a particular way, and I should meet a lady, also dressed in a particular way, and both understanding what we came about, no further introduction was necessary.

Attendant—But how could you know her; there might be another lady dressed in the same way?

Corder—Oh! to guard against a mistake, she desired that I should wear a black handkerchief round my neck, and having my left arm in a sling; and in case I should not observe her, she would discover, and introduce herself.

Attendant—And did you meet her?

Corder—No, I did not; I went, but not in time, as the service was over when I got there.

Attendant—Then when you did not meet her how do you know that she was respectable?

Corder—Because the pew-opener told me that such a lady was inquiring for a gentleman of my description; and she came in an elegant carriage, and was a young woman of fortune.—(Sighing heavily.)

Attendant—Then you never saw her afterwards?

Corder—No, never; but I found out where she lived, and who she was, and would have had an interview with her, were it not that I became acquainted with Mrs. Corder, from whom I was not a day absent until we were married.

Attendant—Was that long after your acquaintance?

Corder—About a week.

The following was Corder's advertisement.

Matrimony.—A private Gentleman, aged 24, entirely independent whose disposition is not to be exceeded, has lately lost the chief of his family by the hand of Providence, which has occasioned discord among the remainder, under circumstances the most disagreeable to relate. To any female of respectability, who would study for domestic comforts, and willing to confide her future happiness to one in every way qualified to render the marriage state desirable, as the advertiser is in affluence. Many very happy marriages have taken place through means similar to those now resorted to, and it is hoped no one will answer this through impertinent curiosity; but, should this meet the eye of any agreeable Lady who feels desirous of meeting with a social, tender, kind and sympathizing companion, they will find this advertisement worthy of notice. Honor and secrecy may be relied on. As some little security against idle applications, it is requisite that letters may be addressed (post paid) to A. Z. care of Mr. Foster, stationer, Leadenhall street, with real name and address, which will meet with most respectful attention."

The following are a few of the answers which were returned to *Corder's* Matrimonial Advertisement.

"Having taken up the Sunday Times, I see 'Matrimony' at the head of the paper; should the advertiser be sincere and honorable, he will meet with a lady of respectability [but not of fortune,] one of very domestic habits, having been brought up by a dear and tender parent. Should the gentleman approve of this epistle, the lady will, in her next note, give her real name and address, and by giving her a line post paid, to ——, she will return an answer as soon as possible.

Sir—Having read your advertisement in the Sunday Times, I feel induced to answer it, being desirous of engaging myself. I suppose we must be candid in such cases. I am a third daughter of a Clergyman of the Church of England, who has eight children, therefore you may imagine I can have no fortune. My age is 21. I can give the most unexceptionable reference to character, &c. I shall not be more explicit at present. Direct to

Sunday, Nov. 25.

Sir—In answer to your advertisement, I take the liberty of thus addressing you, stating that I am a young widow lady with no family, and quite competent to make the marriage state happy. Should this meet your approbation, letters to be left, post paid, at ——

Nov. 26, 1827.

If the gentleman who inserted an advertisement in the Sunday Times, headed 'Matrimony' will call at ——, and ask to see Miss ——, between the hours of twelve and three to-day, he may have an interview, when every other particular will be most candidly stated. Should the advertiser look for accomplishment or beauty, an interview will be unnecessary.

Nov. 26, 1827.

Sir,—I have taken the earliest opportunity of addressing you with these few lines. According to your advertisement, as you being the age that will suit me 24, and I am 18, so I think Providence has ordained that you & me should come together, for I am not very pleasantly situated myself, and it appears that you are not. I am of very cheerful disposition, and should study every thing for your comfort and happiness. If it will suit you, the most covenient time to see me will be at eleven o'clock in the morning and at three in the afternoon. If I do not see you in a day or two, I shall think that you are suited. Till then Adieu.

The advertisement of a private gentleman, aged 24, in the Sunday Times paper, happened to meet the eye of a young lady, just 21, of the greatest respectibility. The advertisement rather struck her; and should the gentleman be really in earnest, he must advertise once again in the same paper when he will hear further particulars. But the extreme modesty of the lady will not allow her to put either name or address. The lady is at present in the country; will shortly be in town.

N. B. The lady is not very handsome.

From the Natchez Galaxy.

Some two or three months since, a huge and shapeless bundle arrived at our post office, directed or indirected as the case may be, from the "Federal City," and marked 'free.' Nothing *'remarkable'* was observed about the bundle aforesaid, until the lapse of two or three days, when to the amazement of the deputy postmaster, it gave evident signs of vitality. What in the name of ghosts and hobgoblins was to be done? A consultation of the medical faculty was proposed, but as fees were at that time,

"Like Angels visits, few and far between,"

it was strongly suspected they might "report" the yellow fever or small pox. That would not do. As for an inquest of lawyers, there was *no other* objection than of their dividing the contents of the bundle among themselves, by way of "inducement" to further inquiry. The next proposition was to summon the ancient jury "*de ventre inspiciendo*," but the rapidly increasing rotundity of this wonderful bundle, placed the only point within their jurisdiction at rest. What could it be; Some supposed the rats had found their way into the interior of this non-descriptive. Others supposed the masons were smuggling Morgan up the Mississippi. Others again supposed that Henry Clay had papered the devil himself, and, through Executive patronage, had sent him by mail down the river to frisk his ponderous tail among the Jackson folks. But the more reflecting part of our citizens arrived at the sage conclusion that it was the TARIFF, as that was currently reported to be a huge monster, hoofed and horned—with as many heads as had Briareus, Death and destruction, what was to be done? To peep into it would violate Uncle Sam's injunction. To remove it from the office—one would as soon attack old Beelzebub himself. There it lay swelling and swelling like Esop's frog, until the fourth day, when to the no small amusement of our friend Lyle and the utter consternation of Willy his boy, snap went the strings, open flew the envelope, and forth crept a—what think you, reader—a snake? No. A monkey? No. A rat or frog? No, no, neither frog, rat, monkey, snake, nor the devil. Amazement seize ye; it was a *pumpkin vine!* aye, reader, a PUMPKIN VINE!!!

The truth of the story appears to be this.

A large bundle was mailed at Washington for this place, in which was deposited a quantity of pumpkin seed, of a very rare kind, we presume. It is well known that the streams of water this side the mountains, and particularly in the Southern country, are unusually swollen in the Spring of the year; so much so, that in crossing them, the mail is frequently immersed in water. Such appears to have been the case in the present instance. At any rate, too high a degree of humidity having reached the pumpkin seed aforesaid, caused them to vegetate, much to the annoyance of our postmaster, and against the peace & dignity of the citizens of this city.

[From the Baltimore Gazette.]

On Tuesday last, we were edified by a spectacle which a few centuries ago, would have been a case of public interest; but which, at the present period, is deprived of its awful and mysterious circumstances, and it is only a matter of amusement—the trial of a witch!!!!

Were our opinions to be consulted, we would say that the only witches who exercise their power over us, are the possessors of the bright eyes, rosy cheeks, and houri forms, who assail us with their power in the streets, haunt our imagination by day, and our dreams at night—but, the opinion of the world is against us, and in the words of the law, *communis error facit jus.*

The old woman, who was the subject of this charge, possessed all the requisites to constitute a witch, being very old, very ugly; and, withal, of the colour by the common consent of Christendom assigned to the potentate of the lower world.

We at first supposed, that the learned magistrate would have dispensed with oral testimony, and subjected the heinous criminal to the ordeal by water, according to the universal practice of our ancestors, by tying a large stone around her neck, and throwing her into a pool of deep water—if she sunk, she should be declared innocent—and if she swam, or floated, she should be adjudged guilty, and burnt.

But, he commenced by examining the witnesses to the fact—one of whom testified that she had "the biggest pears and the most desired weggetibles that the market could reford; but that the witch put her spells upon the weggitibles and the people in the market, and she could not sell nothing." Several other witnesses proved similar facts; and the watchman of the district, a man about six feet six in his stockings, having first used the precautions against witchcraft, which tradition informs us are omnipotent in such cases, testified "that on Saturday evening the accused throwed salt, and other spells on the pavement, and bewitched the whole market." On being examined as to his belief in her power, he shook his head very knowingly and mysteriously, and said that "such things had been done, and might be done; and at all events it was a breach of the peace."

The magistrate expressed his opinion, that from the clear and undisputed testimony in the case, he was not at liberty to dispute the fact, but, as he knew of no law, whether of the state or corporation, to prohibit any person from throwing salt on the pavement, he must discharge the prisoner—and the witnesses retired complaining bitterly, that an example was made of such a notorious witch!!

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