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. XIX. EASTON, (MD.) SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 16, 1836. No 3.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY
Saturday Morning
BY
Alexander Graham,

TERMS.

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 CENTS for every subsequent insertion.

ACCOUNT OF THE SHAKERS.

Communicated by the Rev. H. COLMAN,
To the New York Farmer.

Pattern Farming.—The nearest approach to what may properly be denominated pattern farming, as far as my observation extends, is to be found among the Shakers. With two of these establishments I have been somewhat familiar; one at Canterbury, N. H. and one at Hancock, Mass. To a mind pleased with the most exemplary industry, sobriety, good order, neatness and exactness, nothing can be more gratifying. Of their religion I shall say nothing, further than to remark that there must be some good in a religion from which so many good fruits arise. Every man's religion, except so far as he may injure his neighbour's peace, or disturb the public tranquility, is, in my humble opinion, an affair entirely and exclusively his own; and on the same grounds, on which I claim freedom for myself, I am entirely satisfied, that these upright and peaceable communities should enjoy their liberty. But their industry, economy, neatness, and good management are no where exceeded, and are above all praise.

The farm, occupied by the community at Canterbury, comprehends two thousand acres in one body, and five hundred in outlands. It is situated on a high and broad hill; and the buildings, which are remarkably neat and commodious, are visible at a considerable distance. The public roads runs through the centre of the farm; the lots are well divided by good and substantial fences; the gates are neatly painted, and the roads kept in the finest condition. Their first object appears to be to raise for themselves a comfortable, but abundant, and luxurious subsistence; and beyond that the surplus is sold either in a raw or manufactured form. Their grass fields are perfectly clean; not a stone, nor a stump is left standing, nor a weed is suffered to grow by the wall side. The land here is of an inferior character by nature; cold, gravelly, and clayey, and hard to work; but cultivation perseveringly and judiciously applied, have rendered it comparatively rich and productive. I was curious to come at the amount of crops by some better authority than by conjecture; and one of the principal Trustees was kind enough to communicate some facts, which I deem instructive.

From a piece of grass land of twelve acres near the principal dwellings, they usually, and upon an average, obtain twenty-eight tons of hay per year; and in one year they obtained accurately ascertained, thirty-eight tons of good English hay. This land has been forty years uninterruptedly in grass; it is manured regularly and copiously every second year, and a spike roller is used upon it with great advantage in the spring. Their crop of oats this year, upon ten acres, averaged sixty bushels to the acre; and they spoke with approbation of the Tartarian, or as some call it, the one-sided or horse-name oat. They have been many years in the use of the revolving horse rake, which they make with admirable neatness, pointing all the teeth with iron; and for the sake of cleaning the field after the horse rake, they use a hand rake, the head of which is about five feet long, and which is made fast to the handle by two long iron rods. Where the grass is thin the rake is easily managed by one man, and a great deal of work is done by it.

Their pig stye is well worth a visit for the neatness, yes, the neatness of a pig stye! and the admirable and happy condition of its tenants. Twenty or thirty swine in clean swept styes, whose average weight at killing time will be between four and five hundred pounds, is a sight which Parson Trulive, in Joseph Andrews, would have looked upon with ecstacy. The whole care of the swine in one building devolves upon one man, whose feeding tubs and pails, and dippers, and cloths, and brooms, were as exactly arranged as in any lady's kitchen. The troughs are projected in front of the styes, and are closed by a swinging cover. When they are to be fed, this cover is bolted down to the inner side of the trough, so that it may be cleaned, and the food put in without any interference from the hungry expectants, who are not suffered to come to the table until every thing is ready; when the swinging cover is raised and bolted to the outer edge of the trough, to which they then have ready access. I hope I have made this arrangement intelligible, as it is decidedly the most convenient I have ever seen. Intimacy commonly produces attachment; and I was curious to know of the respectable old man, who took care, if he did not become fond of them, and feel some reluctance to having them killed. Nay! nay! says he, from which I was compelled to infer that the poor hog is actually beyond the pale of human sympathies. Why is this? have they no virtues? if they have, they remain to be developed; have they no moral sense? it seems to me nothing which approaches to it; in this respect they appear to stand almost at the lowest round of the ladder in the animal creation; and last of all, whether they have virtues or moral sentiment or not, they certainly, to use the current Yankee phrase, "they certainly have no manners." This seems to exclude them from all courtesy, and to shut up even the compassions of a "Friend" towards them. I have only to add that the food is always cooked, and that the Shakers consider a portion of rye mixed with corn as very much improving their food. Their experience leads them to the conclusion that they would prefer to buy rye at a quarter of a dollar more a bushel than corn, to mix with corn in equal parts, than to give their swine Indian meal alone.

Their dairy is extensive, and in its interior arrangement is most admirable for its order and neatness. Their butter was very superior, and their cheese, I am told by those who can judge of it, equally to be recommended. A little contrivance for turning their cheeses, which I cannot, I fear, describe so as to render intelligible, but by which the board on which the cheese is placed is suddenly inverted by a spring, was ingenious, and made it easy to manage the largest cheeses. I visited at milking, one of their yards of forty or fifty cows, whose appearance and product were good. In this part of the country, the season has been universally unfavorable to dairy products. A few years since, they obtained an improved Durham short horn bull, reputed of pure blood, and a descendent of Admiral; and a large proportion of their cows are half blood of his stock; but the cross has not been attended with any particular advantage in respect to milk.

They have various contrivances for facilitating labor; among others, by means of a windless, a swinging beam, and some large iron hooks, they are able to take a load of hay from the cart at one lift, and deposit it in the mow. Their situation afforded no natural water power, but by the erection of a dam between two hills, and turning several springs, they have formed an artificial reservoir or head of water, which affords a supply for all their purposes; and this water is used six times before it reaches the foot of the hill. They have on the stream a threshing mill, saw mill, corn mill, bark mill, and other works. Their threshing machine is of their own invention, and has evidently furnished the model of many of the machines for which patents have been taken out.

They have a very fine vegetable garden, and raise a great amount of seeds for sale, and likewise a botanical and medicinal garden; and dry and press great quantities of culinary and medicinal herbs, which are disposed of in different parts of the country to advantage.—These establishments are also managed with exemplary care. Their flock of sheep is comparatively small, chiefly of the pure and mixed Merino. The yield of wool is over four pounds, but it is not washed upon the sheep's back, as they deem it injurious to the sheep. They have a small flock of Dishley or Bakewell sheep, which they are inclined to dispose of, as they consider them as less hardy, and not so profitable for their purposes as the Merino. I give these opinions of theirs, which perhaps are mere prejudices, without comment.

The Shakers' village at Hancock and Pittsfield, Mass., is a smaller village than that at Canterbury; and their operations are chiefly confined in providing for the subsistence of the family, to some few manufactures, and to the raising of garden seeds. In point of soil, the location is not very eligible; but there are throughout the whole establishment the same order and neatness, the same admirable and ingenious use of all the means and powers for facilitating labor that come within their reach; and the same general indications of industry and good management, which appear in the former case. The great object of agricultural curiosity at Hancock, is their magnificent stone barn, two stories in height and ninety six feet in diameter. The great mow is in the centre, and is said to be capable of containing between three and four hundred tons of hay. The floor or driveway is on the outside of the circle, and the team goes round and comes out at the same door at which it enters.—Several teams can stand on the floor and be unloaded at the same time. In the centre of this mow a large post or mast is erected, reaching from the ground to the roof. At the apex of the roof is a small cupola like those usual on distilleries. Around this post, slats or strips of plank are placed at a small distance from it, to prevent the hay from coming in immediate contact, and the hay at the bottom being raised by an open frame from the ground, a perfect ventilation is formed, and the steam from the new hay is in this way effectually carried off.

Upon the whole, it is hardly possible for an observing man to visit these establishments without the highest gratification. They have very great advantages in the amount of labor, which they are able to apply to any purpose, which they design to accomplish; and this labor is a most valuable capital, though they are not wanting in pecuniary resources, their honest gains being carefully secured and managed. But they are at the same time entitled to the highest praise for their good conduct and good management—Their farms are literally pattern farms; models of careful, frugal, judicious, exact, neat, profitable husbandry. They are an exemplary and useful community; just in their dealings; peaceful and orderly in their department; wishing well to all men. They contribute their full share in bearing the public charges; and at the same time they throw no burdens whatever upon the public purse, and ask no favors of the public beyond simple protection. That there are some hypocrites or knaves among them, is very probable; for what community is without corrupt mixture? but it is highly to their honor that no general charge of this nature has ever been substantiated; and that the general character of the Society for honor, purity, truth and justice, strong as has been the tide of prejudice and superstition against which they have had to contend, has remained unimpeachable. The disciples of Malthus, and the benevolent political economists of the present day, could no where expect to see in more perfect operation the great moral preventive check. To be sure, on the principles of the Shakers, the world must soon become a solitude; but there are counteracting influences in human nature amply sufficient to save us from all apprehensions of any such disastrous results. The population of the world will go on, and it, with its increase, happiness and improvement will be extended, so also must poverty, misery and vice prevail. This peaceful community will present a refuge to many wearied and disheartened with the cares and perplexities of life; will afford a favorable opportunity to other anxious and sensitive minds to cultivate, perhaps under very mistaken, though honest views, an extraordinary virtue, and a purity more than earthly; will open its welcome doors to many a friendless and houseless being, many a desolate and heart broken widow; and throw its protecting wing over many a fatherless child, and train him to habits of industry, sobriety, self government, and moral purity. In all their good deeds and intentions, may the blessing of Heaven rest upon them.—Whether they can sustain themselves amidst the expanding and brightening light and the continual and extraordinary changes of society, time only can disclose. Their extinction, to say the least, would be the loss of one of the best examples of general sobriety, industry, harmony, good order, and equity, which can be found in the world. But I fear I may have travelled too far out of the record. I had'd signed to speak of them only as an agricultural community; and as such their management is in every respect an admirable pattern. H. C.

Meadowbanks, Oct. 15, 1835.

From the Baltimore Patriot.

SIR:—I have read with intense interest, and partly with approbation, an article in the National Intelligencer, under the the signature of MASSACHUSETTS, which bears the impress of a master spirit, and will attract the attention of the country—I say partly with approbation—for I most cheerfully concur in all that is said by 'Massachusetts,' of the almost matchless talents, vast acquirements and lofty patriotism of the great expounder of the Constitution—nor would I have dissented, had it been declared that there are but few names on the roll of fame, of any country, or of any age, amongst the living or the dead that would compare with Daniel Webster in intellectual power. It is right then to admire his great powers—to love his spotless purity of character—and to honor that straightforward patriotism which, without stopping to enquire what is popular, marches right onward and fearlessly performs what is right.

It is not wonderful that 'Massachusetts' should desire the elevation of a son so distinguished—on the contrary, it is fit and proper that she should desire it—just as it is fit and proper that Kentucky should desire the elevation of her favorite son—the champion of universal liberty—the prince of peace makers—the statesman of expanded views and pure intentions—the successful legislator and the first of living orators—*It* is also fitting that the "children of the sun" should desire the elevation of the great southern Senator—whose splendid talents all admire—whose ardent patriotism none can doubt—whose unsullied private character all must love—and who but for one single error, (as we deem it in Pennsylvania) would have been regarded as one of the greatest statesmen of modern times—and undoubtedly as one of the most popular men in the country.

Yet such is the state of public feeling—such the prejudice of the public mind, however unjust that neither of these illustrious men could be elected by the people to the first honor of the country. I do not defend this state of feeling—I deplore it—but then I contend, that in regulating the affairs of man, you must take him as he is, and not as he ought to be.

The force of prejudice is strongly illustrated in the treatment that HENRY CLAY has uniformly received from Pennsylvania. Was she attached to Democratic Republican principles? *So was he.*—Was she in favor of the late war? *So was he!*—not only in favor of it—but its fearless and eloquent defender.—Was she in favor of the Tariff? *So was he!*—Not only in favor of it, but its early, persevering, most powerful and successful advocate—and yet this great State, that has accorded with them in sentiment, & has been greatly blessed by his labors, refused to sustain him and cheer him in his course. If then she would not sustain Henry Clay, whose principles were her principles—whose measures were her measures—is it probable that she would support Mr. Webster, who was opposed to her Democracy—opposed to the war—and in the first instance, opposed to the Tariff?—No it is not probable, and the man who mingles with the people of Pennsylvania, and supposes that at present her vote could be given to Mr. Webster, must be too blind to read, and too deaf to hear the expression of public sentiment.

The time may come, and I trust will come, when the giant of the North may be elected President—and nothing would rejoice me more, except to see him *Chief Justice of the United States*, a place that of all men living he is in my judgment, most competent to fill in such a manner as to exalt his own fame and command the public confidence. This is a situation to which a second rate man ought not to aspire, and if such a one should be nominated it will be the duty of an enlightened Senate to reject him.

But I wish to impress the fact on the attention of "Massachusetts" that it is no new state of things in the country, for men of the first order of talent to be somewhat unpopular with the mass of the people. I presume it will be conceded that there never has appeared in the country, a man superior to *Alexander Hamilton*, in intellectual power—and yet at no time could that great warrior—great statesman and pure patriot have obtained the vote of the people to make him President.

Take a more recent instance in the case of the late JOHN MARSHALL, who was personally the most popular man in the nation, with the more intelligent men of all parties—yet at no time during his long and illustrious career of public service could he have been elected to the first station. But with the single exception of *Washington*, what President of the United States will go down to posterity with as great eclat as the late Chief Justice.

By these remarks I desire to convince "Massachusetts" that it was from no want of respect and attachment to Mr. Webster by the intelligent Whigs, that he was not nominated by Pennsylvania,—and that if he had been nominated he must have been defeated.

The course of Pennsylvania in relation to the nomination of *William Henry Harrison*, has been patriotic, judicious, and disinterested—she waived all claim in behalf of her own sons for either the first or second honor—and sacrificed all selfish views for the public good—It was in her view a matter of the first importance to defeat the nomination of the Executive, and to break into fragments the chains by which the *few* would bind the *many* to follow executive dictation. To do this it was essential to fix on a candidate on whom Pennsylvania and Ohio would rally, and thus prevent the election from going by default in favor of Van Buren—as it would have done had not General Harrison received the nomination.

I do not mean to say, that Mr. Van Buren has a strong hold on the affections of the people—far from it—but in the absence of a popular candidate the party machinery of the *office seeking party* would prevail. But this matter is put to rest by the nomination of a candidate who will undoubtedly obtain the support of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Maryland and Delaware—and his prospects are flattering in four other States, if even all the present candidates should continue in the field.

But whilst I admire the ability displayed by the powerful writer who assumes the name of "Massachusetts," I must be permitted to say that I see no evidence of either magnanimity or liberality in the manner he has spoken of General Harrison and his supporters.

General Harrison did not thrust himself forward as a candidate. He was brought forward by the people themselves—and he early authorised the declaration to be made public that he would not be the instrument of dividing the party opposed to the Caucus nomination—and that in the event of his election he would serve but ONE TERM—and having made the pledge it will not require and alteration in the Constitution to enable him to redeem it.

Nor is it candid or correct to state that he is supported on the ground that he won the battle of Tippecanoe. Forget, if you can, that he won that battle; forget his masterly defence of Fort Meigs, when the brave but rash Kentuckians, 'prodigal of life,' poured out their blood like water; forget the assistance rendered the immortal Perry, to gain the brilliant & decisive victory of the Lake,—forget the signal victory of the Thames, where he triumphed over Proctor and Tecumseh, and their amalgamated host of Indians and slaves. If it be possible, blot out the record of all these triumphs,—expunge from the general orders and despatches of Generals St Clair and Wayne, that passage in which honorable mention is made of his heroic exploits,—expunge from the Journal of Congress and of the Legislature of Kentucky, the thanks of these respective bodies,—tear from his brow the ever-blooming laurels that adorn it, and then see if there be not left a civic wreath that claims the respect of his countrymen.

When quite a youth he acted as Secretary to the great North Western Territory—then as a delegate from the same Territory to Congress, where he contributed to mature that admirable system of disposing of the public lands, by which the poor man can secure a small tract and become independent—then when the Territory was divided, he was appointed Governor of that part named Indiana, where he continued to act under Jefferson and Madison for twelve years, and until he was called, by the unanimous voice of the country, to defend the North Western frontier, after the disastrous and disgraceful surrender of Hull.

When his military career was ended, and after he had been every where hailed by his countrymen and greeted as a successful General, he retired to his farm at North Bend, to cultivate in peace that soil he had defended in war. But he was shortly afterwards elected by his fellow citizens of Ohio, to the House of Representatives of the United States, and then by the Legislature of the same State, to the Senate of the United States—From this station he was sent by President Adams, Minister to Colombia—whence he was recalled on mere party grounds without any charge being made against him. When in Colombia, he penned his much admired letter to Clay, which ought now to be re published by every free press in the country.

Throughout his long course of civil service, commencing in 1776, and ending in 1829, Gen Harrison discharged the various duties devolved on him to the entire satisfaction of the country—at all times evincing the utmost respect for the Constitution and the supremacy of the laws," and showing a strong aversion to the exercise of arbitrary power. Both as in his civil nor military character has he ever been charged with the violation of law. He has never found it necessary to declare martial law—nor to enter into private feuds or personal combat. His contests have been with the public enemies of his country and with his own passions, and over both he obtained the mastery.

Now is it just, is it generous, is it honorable, for Massachusetts or any one of her sons to represent such a man as a mere soldier, whose only merit is in the victory of Tippecanoe? If a man peril his life in defence of the country, is he thereby disqualified for civil service?—What then shall we say of Washington, Hamilton and Marshall? Were they less useful in peace for having defended the country in war? There is a delusion on this subject—the objection made to Gen Jackson was not that he had won battles—but it was alledged that he had no fitness for civil affairs—that he was a soldier, and nothing but a soldier, without evincing the least disposition to respect the Constitution and the Laws.

In conclusion, I will express the most entire confidence that Massachusetts will pursue that patriotic and liberal course that will appear best calculated to preserve the principles of seventy six, and overthrow the enemies of the Constitution; but whether that course will require her favorite son to continue in the field or to withdraw, I am not at this moment prepared to say: but that great statesman, looking to the country, the whole country, & nothing but the country, will so act as to promote the cause of the Constitution, union and liberty.

SIMON SNYDER.

Wyoming, Dec. 30, 1835.

THE NEW YORK FIRE—The Journal of Commerce of Friday morning contains the report of the General Committee appointed, to ascertain the amount of Losses occasioned by the late fire. It appears, by this statement, that the whole number of buildings destroyed was 527, exclusive of the Merchants' Exchange and South Dutch Church, and that the estimated amount of loss is $17,115,677. This estimate is based upon the statement of 276 firms and owners of real estate, who report a loss of $1,179,700 in (the destruction of 129) buildings, and $6,557,846 in goods. Total, $7,969,150, on which was $7,969,150 insurance. A much less proportion of the owners of buildings reported to the committee, than of the proprietors of merchandise. The whole loss in buildings is estimated at $4,000,000
Merchandise, $13,115,692
$17,115,692

This is an appalling amount, and throws all other fires which ever occurred in this country, far into the back ground.

From the Maryland Republican, Jan. 9.

Legislature of Maryland.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Lottery System—Female Institute.—The friends of the Female Academy erecting upon Elkridge, prevailed with the House of Delegates on Tuesday, to reconsider their vote upon the bill which was negatived on Monday last, extending a lottery grant for the benefit of the project. On Thursday it was again before the house, and

Mr. Ridgely, who had reported the bill, made a few remarks in favor of the object it contemplated, and explanatory of the effect which he conceived the passage of the bill would have upon the lottery system and the sale of tickets without the state, and bespeaking the favorable consideration of the house, to so truly useful an institution, as was contemplated by the trustees of the Academy.

Mr. Brown of Baltimore county, advocated the passage of the bill, at considerable length, arguing, that as the lottery system was of necessity, to be allowed until the expiration of existing grants, and as in most business as well as all other business, the extent of sales were limited only by the ability to purchase, that the end would not in fact be increased, by appropriating the avails to the extent proposed to this institution. If the drawers had not the tickets at the lottery, they would have those of some foreign scheme, going to the benefit of some less deserving object in other states.

Mr. B adverted to the difficulty, if not impossibility, of prohibiting the sale of lottery tickets, as illustrated in the fruitless legislation of our own, as well as the experience of other states. We had tried, and attempted in vain to prohibit the sale of foreign tickets. Ask for a foreign ticket at a broker's, and he would reply that the purchase and sale of them in this state was no more to be prohibited, but if the applicant would leave his order he would send beyond the borders of the state, and procure him the ticket he wanted. Enactment after enactment was tried and the result was, that it was deemed more advisable to *regulate*, and endeavor to derive some advantage from a practice, which it was found could not be suppressed, and the attempt to suppress which only deprived us of advantages which our neighbors took care to profit by.

He entered into further explanations, in regard to the effect which granting this bill would exercise upon the sale of tickets, and insisted, that just as many tickets would be sold, if this grant was not made, as would be if this house were now to make the grant, and thereby insure a lasting benefit to the community. He sincerely hoped the bill would pass.

Mr. Brookhart, offered an amendment to the bill, going in effect, to prohibit the trustees, after having received the benefit of the contemplated grant of fifteen thousand dollars, from charging more than one hundred and fifty dollars per annum, for boarding and tuition, including all the higher branches to be taught in the institution, and proportionably less for any part of such instruction. Mr. B said he had hastily prepared this amendment, and was perfectly aware that there were but few members in that house, but what were better qualified to express the object he aimed at, in regard to education. He had done it, however, with the single disposition of testing how far the friends of the bill would go, towards extending the advantages of the contemplated instruction, to that class of the community who could not afford, as was the case of a large portion of the population of Washington county, which he had the honor in part to represent, to pay more than he had proposed in his amendment, for the education of their daughters.—With a provision to this effect, he would be induced to vote for the bill—and unless it were adopted, he should vote against it.

Mr. Winder, expostulated earnestly with the gentleman from Washington county, upon the effect of his amendments—and stated the usual charges for board and tuition, at institutions of the character of the one proposed. To adopt the proposed sum as the *maximum* for the whole course of instruction, would be to render the grant far from being beneficial. It would be impossible to obtain the requisite teachers, and support the charges incident to such establishments, with such a sum. He proposed to amend the amendment, by making the charge $150 the *minimum*, and proportionally increasing for the higher branches.

Considerable debate ensued, in relation to these and other amendments, which were suggested by different gentlemen, in relation to the charges for instruction, in which Mr. Brown, Mr. Brookhart, Mr. Winder, Mr. Ridgely, and several other members partook, and a compromise sum was likely to be adopted by consent, when,

Mr. Dennis, rose and arrested the discussion upon the details of the bill, by moving to strike out the enacting clause, amounting to a rejection. His object was he said to test the sense of the house upon the merits of the question—and to see whether the same body, that had but a few days before, gravely, and by a

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc2940_scm11030-1020.jpg