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.

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THE DUEL.

The seconds of Messrs. GRAVES and CILLEY, have published in the Washington Globe, a portion of the correspondence which led to, and a statement of the incidents connected with, the late fatal Duel. We give a brief abstract of the correspondence, and the statement in full.

The first is a letter from Mr. Graves to Mr. Cilley, dated 20th February, and refers to an interview which had taken place between those gentlemen in the morning of the same day, at which Mr. G. presented to Mr. C. a note from Col. J. W. Webb, which note Mr. C. declined receiving. In this letter of 20th February, Mr. Graves requests Mr. Cilley to say whether he had not stated *that he did not rest his objection, in the interview, upon any personal objections to Col. Webb as a gentleman.*

The second letter is from Mr. Cilley to Mr. Graves, dated 21st February, and states that Mr. C. in the interview in question, "neither denied or affirmed any thing in regard to his (Col. Webb's) character."

The third letter is from Mr. Graves to Mr. Cilley, dated 22d, and requests Mr. C. to say, "whether he declined to receive Col. W's. communication, on the ground of any personal exception to him as a gentlemen or man of honor? A categorical answer is expected."

The fourth letter is from Mr. Cilley to Mr. Graves, 22d, in which Mr. C says, he cannot admit the right on the part of Mr. G. to propound the question to which he asks a categorical answer, and therefore declines any further response to it.

The fifth letter is from Mr. Graves to Mr. Cilley, 23d, and consists of a challenge, and names Henry A. Wise as his friend to make the necessary arrangements.

The sixth letter, same date, is from Mr. Cilley to Mr. Graves, and names Gen. Jones as his friend to make "the arrangements suitable to the occasion."

The seventh letter is from Gen. Jones, to Mr. Wise, and is as follows:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23, 1838.

SIR: Mr Cilley proposes to meet Mr. Graves, at such place as may be agreed upon between us to-morrow, at 12 o'clock, m. The weapons to be used on the occasion shall be rifles; the parties placed side to side at eighty yards distance from each other; to hold the rifles horizontally at arm's length, downwards; the rifles to be cocked, and triggers set; the words to be, "Gentlemen, are you ready?" After which, neither answering "No," the words shall be in regular succession, "Fire; one, two, three, four." Neither party shall fire before the word "fire," nor after the word "four." The positions of the parties at the ends of the line to be determined by lot. The second of the party losing the position shall have the giving of the word. The dress to be ordinary winter clothing, and subject to the examination of both parties. Each party may have on the ground, besides his second, a surgeon and two other friends. The seconds, for the execution of their respective trusts, are allowed to have a pair of pistols each on the ground, but no other person shall have any weapon, the rifles to be loaded in the presence of the seconds. Should Mr. Graves not be able to procure a rifle by the time prescribed, time shall be allowed for that purpose. Your very obedient servant.

GEO. W. JONES.

Hon. HENRY A. WISE.

The eighth letter is from Mr. Wise to Gen. Jones, same date, and accepts with slight provisions.

The ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth letters relate to a rifle for the use of Mr. Graves, which it was supposed there might be some difficulty in procuring.

The following statement by Messrs. Wise and Jones, the seconds tells the balance of the melancholly tale:—

It was then agreed that the parties should meet at the Anacosta bridge, on the road to Marlborough, in Maryland between the hour of 1½ and 2½ o'clock. p. m. and if either got there first he should wait for the other, and that they would thence proceed out of the District. Accordingly, the parties met at the bridge, Mr. Cilley and his party arriving there first, and all proceeded, about 2 o'clock, p. m. to the place of meeting. On arriving at the place, Mr. Jones and Mr. Wise immediately proceeded to mark off the ground.—They then decided the choice of positions.—Mr. Wise won the position, and consequently Mr. Jones had the giving of the word. At this time Mr. Jones was informed by Mr. Wise that two gentlemen (Mr. Calhoun of Kentucky and Mr. Hawes of Kentucky) were at some distance off, spectators, but they should not approach upon the ground. Mr. Jones replied that he objected to their coming on the ground, as it was against the articles of the meeting, but he entertained for them the highest respect. Mr. Wise also informed Mr. Jones, that contrary to the terms, he had brought on the ground *two* rifles, that if he (Mr. Jones,) required him to do so, he would immediately send one of them away. Upon Mr. Jones finding that the rifle was unloaded, he consented that it should remain in one of the carriages. There were, it is proper to remark, several persons on the ground, (besides the hackdrivers and the two gentlemen before mentioned at a distance) who were there without the authority or consent of either party or their friends, as far as is known either to Mr. Jones or Mr. Wise, and one of these persons was supposed to be the owner of the field. Shortly after the hour of 3 o'clock, p. m. the rifles were loaded in the presence of the seconds; the parties were called together; they were fully instructed by Mr. Jones as to their position, and the words twice repeated to them, as they would be & as they were delivered to them, in the exchange of shots. After this they were ordered to their respective positions, the seconds assumed their places, and the friends accompanying the seconds were disposed along the line of fire to observe that each obeyed the terms of meeting. Mr. Jones gave the word distinctly, audibly, and in regular succession, and the parties exchanged shots without violating in the least a single instruction. They both missed. After which, Mr. Wise called upon the friends generally to assemble and hear what was to be said. Upon the assembling of the friends, Mr. Jones inquired of Mr. Wise, whether his friend (Mr. Graves,) was satisfied? Mr. Wise immediately said, in substance. "Mr. Jones, these gentlemen have come here without animosity towards each other; they are fighting merely upon a point of honor; cannot Mr. Cilley assign some reason for not receiving at Mr. Graves's hands Col. Webb's communication, or make some disclaimer which will relieve Mr. Graves from his position?' Mr. Jones replied, in substance: "Whilst the challenge is impending, Mr. Cilley can make no explanations." Mr. Wise said, in substance:—'The exchange of shots suspends the challenge, and the challenge is suspended for the purpose of explanation." Mr. Jones thereupon said he would see Mr. Cilley, and did go to him. He returned, and asked Mr. Wise again: "Mr. Wise, do I understand aright that the challenge is suspended?" Mr. Wise answered: "It is." Mr. Jones was then about to proceed, when Mr Wise suggested that it was best, perhaps, to give the explanation or reason in writing. Mr. Jones then said, in substance: "Mr. Wise, if you require *me* to put what I have to say in writing, I shall require you to put what you have said, and may say, in writing." Mr. Wise replied: "Well, let us hear the explanation beforehand, as it may not be necessary to put it in writing." Mr. Jones then proceeded, as he now thinks, substantially to say: "I am authorized by my friend, Mr. Cilley, to say, that in declining to receive the note from Mr. Graves, purporting to be from Col. Webb, he meant no disrespect to Mr. Graves, because he entertained for him then, as he now does, the highest respect and the most kind feelings; but that he declined to receive the note, because he chose not to be drawn into any controversy with Col. Webb. Mr. Wise thinks this answer of Mr Jones was, in substance, as follows: "I am authorized by my friend, Mr. Cilley, to say, that in declining to receive the note from Mr. Graves, purporting to be from Col. Webb, he meant no disrespect to Mr. Graves, because he entertained for him then, as he does now, the highest respect and the most kind feelings; but my friend refuses to disclaim disrespect for Col. Webb, because he does not choose to be drawn into an expression of opinion as to him."

Such is the substantial difference now between the two seconds, as to this answer of Mr. Jones. The friends on each side, with the seconds, then retired from each other to consult upon this explanation. After consultation, Mr. Wise returned to Mr. Jones, and said: "Mr. Jones, this answer leaves Mr. Graves precisely in the position in which he stood when the challenge was sent." Much conversation then ensued between the seconds and their friends, but no nearer approach to reconciliation being made, the challenge was renewed, and another shot was exchanged in a manner perfectly fair and honorable to all parties. After this the seconds and the friends again assembled, and the challenge was again withdrawn, and very similar conversations to that after the first exchange of shots again ensued. Mr. Jones then remarked: Mr. Wise, my friend, in coming to the ground, and exchanging shots with Mr. Graves has shown to the world, that in declining to receive the note of Col. Webb, he did not do so because he dreaded a controversy. He has shown himself a brave man, and disposed to render satisfaction to Mr. Graves. I do think that he has done so, and that the matter should end here." To this, Mr. Wise replied in substance: "Mr. Jones, Mr. Cilley has already expressed his respect for *Mr. Graves* in the *written correspondence*, and Mr. Graves does not require of Mr. Cilley a certificate of character for Col. Webb, he considers himself bound not only to preserve the respect due to himself, but to defend the honor of his friend Col Webb," These words of Mr. Wise, Mr. Jones recollects, and Mr. Wise thinks he added the words: Mr. Graves only insists that he has not borne the note of a man who is not a man of honor, and not a gentleman." After much more conversation, and ineffectual attempts to adjust the matter, the challenge was again renewed; and whilst the friends were again loading the rifles for the third exchange of shots, Mr. Jones and Mr. Wise walked apart, and each proposed to the other anxiously to settle the affair. Mr. Wise asked Mr. Jones "If Mr. Cilley could not assign the reason for declining to receive the note of Col. Webb, that he (Mr. Cilley) did not hold himself accountable to Col. Webb for words spoken in debate?" Mr. Jones replied that "Mr. Cilley would not assign that reason, because he did not wish to be understood as expressing the opinion whether he was or was not accountable for words spoken in debate." Mr. Wise then, according to his recollection asked Mr. Jones whether "Mr. Cilley would not say, that in declining to receive the note of Col. Webb, he meant no disrespect to Mr. Graves, either *directly* or *indirectly?*" To which Mr. Jones replied affirmatively, adding, "Mr. Cilley entertains the highest respect for Mr. Graves, but declined to receive the note, because he chose to be drawn into no controversy with Col. Webb, After further explanatory conversation, the parties then exchanged the third shot, fairly and honorably, as in every instance. Immediately previous to the last exchange of shots, Mr. Wise said to Mr. Jones, "If this matter is not terminated this shot, and is not settled, I will propose to shorten the distance." To which Mr. Jones replied. "After this shot, without effect, I will entertain the proposition."

After Mr. Cilley fell, Mr. Wise, for Mr. Graves expressed a desire to Mr. Jones to see Mr. Cilley. Mr. Jones replied to Mr. Wise, "My friend is dead;" and went on to Mr. Graves, and told him that there was no objection to his request to see Mr. Cilley. When Mr. Jones approached Mr. Graves, and informed him that his request should be granted. Mr. Graves inquired, "How is he?"—The reply was, "My friend is dead sir." Mr. Graves then went to his carriage, Mr. Wise inquired of Mr. Jones before leaving the ground, whether he could render any service, and tendered all the aid in his power. Mr. Wise and Mr. Jones concur that there were three shots exchanged.

Such is the naked statement of all the material facts and circumstances attending thus unfortunate affair of honor, which we make in justice to our friends, to ourselves, to all concerned, to the living & to the dead; and it is made for the only purpose of allaying excitement in the public mind, & to prevent any and all controversy upon a subject, which already is full enough of woe. We have fully and *substantially* stated wherein we agree and disagree, We cordially agree, at all events, in bearing unqualified testimony to the fair and honorable manner in which this duel was conducted. We endeavored to discharge our duties according to that code under which the parties met, regulated by magnanimous principles, and the laws of humanity. Neither of us has taken the least exception to the course of the other; and we sincerly hope that all controversy whatever may cease. We especially desire our respective friends to make no publication on the subject. None can regret the termination of the affair more than ourselves, and we hope again that the last of it will be the signatures of our names to this paper, which we now affix.

HENRY A. WISE.
GEO. W. JONES.

THE DUEL.

The interest which the public very naturally, takes in all that relates to this unfortunate affair, has induced us to make copious extracts from the correspondence of the New York American and Courier and Enquirer. The letter from the distinguished Editor of the former paper, who is now in Washington, will be read with thrilling interest. There can be no longer the least doubt that Col. Webb used the sincerest and most industrious efforts to prevent the meeting of Messrs. Graves and Cilley. This is clearly established.

We deeply regret to discover that the administration press is determined to make a party question of the affair.—They are resolved to make out a case of conspiracy against the life of Mr. Cilley, notwithstanding that, in maintaining this absurd idea, they violate every thing like reason or probability. It is impossible, however, that they can succeed. If the case is to be examined, upon the evidence presented by Messrs Jones and Wise, it would not be difficult to show that the proof both of bloody design and ruthless determination is the stronger against Mr. Cilley. The choice of the unusual and murderous weapon—the haste with which the affair was precipitated—the palpable purpose of preventing Mr. Graves from acquiring skill, by the pertinacious offers of a weapon—a thing unheard of in the annals of duelling—all these and other circumstances of which we have been apprised, go to show that, if any deliberate purpose of mischief existed, it was on the side of the friends of Mr. Cilley. When to this, we add the fact that Mr. Benton and Mr. Bynum are known to have instigated Mr. Cilley to refuse to put in writing the reply he had given to Mr. Graves, it will be difficult to resist the conclusion that these remorseless men are chargeable with a large share of the consequences which have followed.—*Balt. Chron.*

Adverting to the course of some of the opposition press to turn the recent affair to party account, the Washington correspondent of the Chronicle says: "I am sorry that the press has taken this course, and has rendered it necessary for you to speak out, upon this unfortunate affair. It is, however, too evident that such a course is forced upon the opposing press by the gross misrepresentations, and perversions of facts, which the Evening Post, the Balt. Republican, and other kindred prints, are already teeming. In addition to the facts mentioned in the Chronicle of this morning, there is another pregnant with the most important reflections; and that is that the Hon. Mr. Williams, Senator from Maine, a warm personal and political friend of Mr. Cilley, as well as others of his friends residents in the same boarding house, knew of Mr. Cilley's intention to go out with Mr. Graves, upon the morning of the day of the duel, and took no pains to prevent it. Moreover, so firm was the belief that Cilley would kill his antagonist, (so skilful had he proved himself in two or three days practice with the rifle, *in the presence of some of his most intimate friends,*) that, at about the hour when it was to be presumed the engagement was taking place, a Senator of the U. S., of the administration party, took out his watch, and with an air of anticipated triumph, remarked to a companion, "GRAVES IS NOW A DEAD MAN!

"What commentary is furnished by such facts upon the course now pursuing by the *political* friends of the late Mr. Cilley! I say no more at present."

It is stated in an evening paper, that the Judges of the Supreme Court did not attend the funeral of the late Mr. Cilley. They were invited by the committee; but they passed resolutions, putting their refusal to accept the invitation on the ground that the deceased fell in a duel.

COL. WEBB.

This gentleman has, as we learn, returned to his residence in New York, and we may reasonably expect something from him, in due time in reference to the late unhappy affair. In the meantime, it is but just that he should have the advantage of whatever his contemporaries in New York, who know him best, may think proper to say in his favor. The Evening Star, edited by Mr. Noah, has the following paragraph.

I believe I know something of Col. Webb; we have been at war and at peace alternately for the last ten years. I have always been his friend, never his enemy. He is careless in his political course—zealous in his resentment—easily subdued and of inordinate vanity—it is indeed his great if not his only weakness, but that he is a "blackguard" or "no gentleman," as he was called by Mr. Cilley, and frequently so by other men who have refused to meet him, is untrue. James Watson Webb is the son of a revolutionary officer, an aid-de-camp to General Washington honor enough we would say for any man to the remotest generation—he is connected with some of the oldest families in this State—has several brothers all men of character and respectibility, and is married in one of our oldest families, and has several children that he is educating with great care and attention. To stigmatise a man so situated as a "blackguard," under an excuse to get rid of the responsibility of a meeting, is only to bring on another issue which, in the case of Mr. Cilley, has led to a disastrous termination, and the choice of rifles by Mr. C. was no doubt made under the impression that Mr. Graves was a decided shot with a pistol.

DUEL IN OLDEN TIMES.—The New York Express, in an article on "New York thirty years ago," gives the following account of a duel which took place in that city in 1807:

Mr. Thompson, one of the warmest politicians of the day, was killed in a duel, by William Coleman, then editor of the Evening Post; they fought by moon light, in the Dydes Field, near where the present University now stands. Mr. Thompson was brought home in a carriage, mortally wounded, and left in the entry of his own dwelling by unknown persons; he survived a very short time, but refused to violate the pledge of secresy that had been made previous to the fight, of disclosing the name of his antagonist. Public opinion fixed on Mr. Coleman, but the whole affair had been so secretly managed by the principals, seconds, and physicians, that the facts were not known until many years afterwards.

JAMES GARNETT, Esq. of Essex county, Virginia, a gentleman who has been for many years President of the Agricultural Society of Fredericksburg, thus speaks of the passion for digging gold:

"This disembowelling passion has produced results, at least in regard to the precious metals, which, I venture to say will greatly astonish all who are not apprized of the facts which I am now about to disclose to you. I give the statement from the sessions acts since 1832, having procured it from our First Auditor's office. It is a most curious but painful disclosure, and one which I would willingly avoid, were it not for my thorough conviction that it may not only prove a very instructive lesson to all who will read it right, but will convince our agricultural brethren to a man that our Legislatures; for the last five years, not content utterly to neglect agriculture, have actually (I will not say intentionally) been busily engaged during a part of each session in passing laws highly injurious to her best interests. The effect has been produced by their holding out the strongest, most allaring temptations to withdraw from her much of the capital she so greatly needs, and to divert it to the most wild and hazardous speculations, thereby powerfully exciting that passion for inordinate gain, which is always sufficiently rash and pernicious of itself, without legislative encouragement to stimulate its mischievous action.—*This our law-makers have done* to a fatal extent, by chartering, since 1832, no less than 70 mining companies, 37 of which were incorporated from the 13th of last January to the 30th of March!! In several of those charters the object of pursuit is designated to be *gold*, in others *copper;* while in many of them the metalic character is not mentioned at all. Their aggregate capital is 5,795,013 dollars, with a right to increase it to 30,000,000 dollars, and to hold land amounting in the whole to 197,000 acres—a territory larger than either of several of our smallest counties."

CONGRESS.

IN SENATE.
Friday March 2, 1838.

CHALLENGES TO DUELS.

Mr. Prentiss having, agreeably to notice, asked and obtained leave, introduced a bill to prohibit the giving or receiving a challenge within this District to fight a duel, and for the punishment thereof.

[This bill inflicts the punishment of death on all concerned in a duel which results in death; from five to ten years' confinement in the Penitentiary on all concerned in giving or receiving a challenge; and from three to seven years for assault, defamation, or abase, for refusing a challenge.]

On introducing this bill, Mr. Prentiss said that, entertaining the principles and sentiments he did, and representing a people who acknowledged no code or system of law but such as is derived from Divine authority, or from regularly constituted and established civil government, he had felt it to be a duty, with which he could not dispense, to introduce this bill. In doing so, (said Mr. P.) I have been moved by no mere transient or fugitive feeling of the moment; by no mere excitement, growing out of a very recent and very lamentable event; though it is somewhat difficult, I must confess, entirely to repress or overcome the emotions which that event has produced.—Although the event to which I allude has carried, as we all know it has, lamentation and wo, unspeakable, unutterable anguish and agony of heart, to an innocent and unoffending family, and is fitted to awaken, here and every where, sensations of the deepest grief and sorrow; notwithstanding all this, I have nothing to do, nothing to say, concerning the transaction, in my place here. It is past and gone. We cannot recall the dead to life. We cannot repair the wrong and injury which have been done. But we can provide for the future. We can do what becomes us to prevent so fatal, so heart-rending an occurrence hereafter.

Sir (continued Mr. P.) in bringing in this bill, I have acted as I have said, from no mere impulse or overwrought sensibility; from no mere temporary excited feeling. I have been influenced by higher, more stable and lasting motives; by principles of action deeper settled, more permanent and enduring; principles which remain the same in all times and under all circumstances. I am influenced by principles which look upon duelling as a crime: as an offence against high heaven; forbidden and condemned alike by religion and morality, by the laws of God and man.

Sir, I might here, with no impropriety speak of the spirit of insubordination and lawless violence which is abroad in the land, infecting and pervading, it would seem, entire communities threatening the subversion of the established institutions of the country, and which, if not checked and subdued, will, it is to be feared, sooner or later, overthrow all law and all government, and open the way to brutal anarchy and misrule, to scenes of civil strife and disorder as sanguinary, as terrific, as any which marked the ferocious and bloody annals of revolutionary France.

But, sir, my purpose is confined to a single, a particular object. It is to prohibit and suppress a practice here, which, if not stoped, must ultimately, in additi on to other deplorable consequences of a private and social nature, put an end to all freedom of debate and action in your Halls of Legislation, banish from them all just and authority, and substitute the dominion of mere brute force *in* its place.

Mr. President, in bringing forward this measure, I repeat that I have acted from a high sense of duty.—The moral and religious principles in which I have been educated, and which I regarded as binding upon me in all circumstances and situations, whether public or private, in which I am placed, would not allow me to hold a seat here, and remain inactive in this matter. And I call upon Senators, heads of families, fathers of the land, to interpose their authority and influence to stay a practice as unsuited to the enlightened age in which we live, as it is revolting to the moral and religious feelings of the country. I call upon them by their regard to the rising generation, upon whom the hopes of the country rest; by their regard to the eternal and immutable principles of moral rectitude; by every consideration of justice and humanity; by the duty they owe to God and their country, to give their aid and support to a measure demanded by the moral sense of the nation, and no less necessary to maintain freedom of discussion here than it is essential to personal security, and to the preservation of law, liberty, and social order.

The bill was then read twice, by general consent, and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.

Correspondence of the Balt. Chronicle.

ANNAPOLIS, Feb. 26, 1838.

In Senate, Mr. Bowie, from the Committee of Conference, submitted a Report, recommending that the proposition of the House, to send a deputation to Harrisburg, to confer with the Legislature there, on the subject of the BEMIS's case, and laws relative to runaway slaves, be concurred in. The report is accompanied with a series of resolutions—it lies on the table. You shall have a copy.

Mr. Jones, from the Committee on Corporations, submitted a Report, recommending that the bill from the House to incorporate the Superannuated Fund Society be not passed. The bill was rejected. The report sets forth the views of the Committee on the subject at length. I will send it to you.

In reply to the proposition of the House, that the Speaker and President proceed to-day to discharge the duty assigned them, relative to fixing by lot the numerical order of the Gubernatorial Districts,—the Senate suggested, by message, the propriety of a postponement of the ceremony until the pending legislation, in reference to the Governor, be consummated.

In the House, Mr. Simmons presented petitions from Baltimore, praying that the law of last session, relating to weighing and measuring Anthracite and Bituminous coal be not repealed.

Mr. Giles presented a petition from J. P. K. Henshaw and others, praying the incorporation of the Hannah Moore Society.

Mr. Kerr from the Committee on Conference, submitted a report similar to that presented to the Senate by Mr. Bowie.

Mr. Giles, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill to provide that the case of the Regents against the Trustees of the University of Maryland be tried at the first term of the Court of Appeals—which was passed.

In Committee of the Whole, the discussion on the Internal Improvement question was continued by Messrs. Tuck, Goldsborough & Alexander.

REPORT
OF
The Committee on Agriculture,
UPON THE
Growth and the Manufacture of Silk.

The Committee on Agriculture, to whom was referred the petition of sundry citizens of Queen Anne's county, praying aid from the State in behalf of the silk culture, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave respectfully to

REPORT:

That the measure commended to the adoption of the Legislature by the petitioners, is one of deep moment, involving in its consequences, the introduction and success of the silk culture, & the immense benefits to be derived from that source of profitable employment.—Your committee have witnessed the failure of agricultural industry, to realize adequate returns, the growing barriers to enterprise, incident to a soil deprived of much of its fertility by exhausting crops, and consequent emigration of many of our most active and useful citizens to the South and West, for the last few years, with feelings of deep concern, and they regard the inquiry which seeks a remedy for those evils, as one of pervading importance, worthy the profound attention both of the patriot and statesman.

In view of the decid[illegible]

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