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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ADVERTISEMENTS

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BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE.

On the Usefulness of the Medical Profession, beyond the limits of the Profession. A Lecture Introductory to the Course of Practice of Medicine in Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia. Delivered November 4, 1842. By J. K. Mitchell, A. M. M. D. Published by the Class. Philadelphia: 8vo. pp. 30.

Professor Mitchell justly remarks, that "of all the professions and pursuits of life, that of medicine demands, in its ordinary preparation, the greatest extent and variety of knowledge," and hence the necessity of an extended preliminary education for those destined to the medical profession.

"The world at large associates with a defective education the idea of professional ignorance and incapacity; that many very valuable works are published in foreign languages, and that, independently of the actual acquirements in the course of a scholastic education, the habits of attention, of arrangement, and digestion, are fertile means for medical attainments. Few thinking men, therefore, such as govern public sentiment, are willing to believe that an uneducated man can acquire or does possess as extensive or as well defined a knowledge of his profession, as one who has had the gain and the discipline of scholastic instruction. For these reasons, physicians, even in this go-ahead and hasty country, are generally much better educated than the mass of beings around them, and, if we take SCIENCE, as well as learning, into the account, than the members of the other learned professions."

This fact is abundantly shown by the numerous and daily contributions to the literature of our country by physicians of high professional rank. To the catalogue which the professor subjoins might be added his own name; for a midst the occupations and distractions of a large practice and onerous professorship, he still finds time

"To pour the unpremeditated lay."

"Dr. Comstock writes on, and teaches admirably, elocution; Dr. Bird stands in the front rank of American dramatists and novelists; Dr. Standbridge composes useful works on the philosophy and practice of music; Dr. Holmes soothes his wearied professional spirit with tones of the poet's lyre, such as command the listening ear of the country, & are heard beyond the broad Atlantic; Dr. Dunglison delivers to immense and delighted audiences lectures on the instincts of animals; or instructs and amuses them with disquisitions on the curiosities of popular superstitions; Dr. Wood retires from his beautiful botanical collection, to pen an able essay on "The British Possessions in India." Some of you may have heard our colleague, Dr. Meigs, busy almost to impossibility, lecturing at the Athenian Institute, on the "Age of Augustus" and the 'Siege of Jerusalem," with an eloquence and interest, as though nothing else could have occupied his mind for years. Dr. Morris, whose busy life every one knows, finds time to make an excellent abridgement of the Life of Wilberforce. Dr. Benjamin Coates invents a matchless balance with one hand, while he fashions with the other a racy ode to an "Antediluvian Fossil; and his talented brother, Dr. Reynell Coates, is just offering to the world the fruits of his extensive learning in a new journal, to be called the Literary age. Dr. Patterson, the accomplished President of the U. S. Mint, is ever ready to disburden, for public good, his powerful mind, richly stored with the wonders of Astronomy and the utilities of Natural Philosophy; while Dr. Hare, of world renown in science applied to medicine, amuses himself and instructs others, with profound memoirs on atmospheric storms, and public currency and credit. Professor Dickson has just reached his southern home, after having delivered at Yale, the annual oration to its Alumni, a discourse of which Fame has spoken to the country. My indefatigable friend, Dr. Dell, issues in rapid succession, valuable works on baths, on health and beauty, and on the art of prolonging life; works presenting discursive knowledge of great extent and variety. Still farther from the beaten path of medicine, he wrote the lives of distinguished painters, and delivered discourses on their favourite subject to the artists of the Academy. Dr. Emerson, advancing from curious and elaborate statistics, just within the circle of medical philosophy, instructs and gratifies the class of the Franklin Institute with learned and ingenious lectures on meteorology. It is but a few days since I was absorbed in the pages of an able and interesting work, the Life of Bainbridge, the naval hero, written by Dr. Thomas Harris. If we did not now know how much has been done by the profession, for extrinsic departments of learning, we should be at a loss to conceive where the busy surgeon found time to read so much, and to write so well. Who now thinks of a voyage round the world, without recalling to mind the rich and instructive volumes of Dr. Ruschenberger!—The same gentleman stoops from the lofty field of general literature, to perform, aye, and well too, the benevolent and useful duty of forming books for schools, where the sciences are made familiar and agreeable to the young mind of the nation.

But I fear I grow tedious, not because of the worthlessness, but the very richness and prolongation of the catalogue. I will, therefore, merely allude to the travels of Mott and Gibson, the reviews of Elwyn, the musical essays of La Roche, the Siamese memoir of J. Rhea Barton, and the literary lectures of Pancoast, and Mutter, and Jackson and Condie.

I should fail in justice to the man, and in respect for the preceptor, if I did not say something of the five large volumes of "Select Speeches, Forensic and Parliamentary," collected, arranged, and published in early life, by Dr Chapman, the taste in the selection of which, is surpassed only by the exquisite general preface, and the pertinent, elegant, and impressive remarks, with which the editor introduces each of the many orations of the extensive collection.

Is not this a wonderous view of the learning, industry, public spirit, and talent of the profession, and does it not more than excuse the enthusiastic sage of Cos, when he declares, that "whatever really constitutes wisdom is to be found in medicine?"—(*Hippoc.*)

Not alone as writers on topics either remote from, or slightly connected with professional pursuits, do physicians stand as a class distinguished, at least, in our country. They are also often conspicuous for varied accomplishments, by which they not only adorn, but serve society.—There is near me a surgeon, of the highest rank in his profession, who is a good modeller, an inventive designer, a man of taste, and a promoter of every thing tending to elevate and refine society. I see another, who has, perhaps, in the world no superior in his art, who draws beautifully, modles exquisitely, and is a master in music. Here is a botanist, there a geologist, a conchologist, a chemist a meteorologist, a metaphysician, a politico-economist, an astronomer. The room in which I lecture, accidentally contains many professional gentlemen each distinguished for knowledge of some one or other of the departments of general knowledge or adorned by literary taste, or conspicuous for social accomplishments.

It is gentlemen when taking such a survey of the merits of the profession, that we must feel the greatest pride in it, and felicitate ourselves on being of a corps professionally so indispensable scientifically so important, and socially so valuable to the country.

The following paragraphs contain much practical good sense, clearly and neatly expressed:

Now it is a curious fact that among the trades, occupations and professions, medicine alone sends its votaries annually to the great fountain of metropolitan knowledge. Like as to a vast heart, the channels of public circulation bring, every successive year from every quarter of our proudly spread country, streams of medical aspirants; who return again a rich freigt of intellectual treasure to the unforgotten fields of kindred and friends. This mighty moral and intellectual circulation is among the richest products of the land. I wave the advantage to those who come and go, vast as it is. I overlook, for the present, the proud store of professional good poured into the recesses of the forest, carried to the sources of the distant rivers, & laid at the majestic feet of the spinal mountains of the continent. I will not even insist on the civilizing effect of a never failing contact with the great centre of refinement But I will declare that the political value of this circulation is far above them all. It may at first view seem rather startling to say so; but let us go into the account, and as the merchants say, strike a balance.

It cannot be denied that our happy country is tied together solely by the *force of opinion*. We have here thank God, no other fetters than the golden chains of patriotic fellowship. It is because the men of the north, and of the south, and of the west, agree to look upon each other as countrymen, that we are an undivided people, though spread over an almost measureless territory, and inhabiting climates of the greatest dissimilarity. The hewer of granite in New Hampshire, the cultivator of wheat in Pennsylvania, the raiser of hemp in Kentucky, and the planter of cotton and sugar in Louisiana, claim as a common right, the principles of the Declaration of Independence; and look proudly up to the stars and stripes which waved at Yorktown.

The stranger who traverses our vast country, is forcibly struck with the great uniformity of our manners and language In England the people of adjacent counties scarcely understand each other though professing alike to speak the English language. The field labourer of Lancashire has a dialect which confounds the agriculturist of Yorkshire; either would be puzzled to translate into common English, the peculiarities of the man of Somersetshire. It is so, also, in France, where the lower orders, as they there choose to call the peasantry and the artisans, speak such a diverse patois, in different districts, as to confound the ear of a Parisian. Nothing, therefore, more surprises the traveller, than the absence of a marked or unintelligible patois, in any part of our country. It is true that we have German settlements, where they speak Dutch, French settlements, where the oral language is French; and Irish and Scotch districts, where those who relish a rich brogue, or a Doric dialect, may be thoroughly indulged. But English, when spoken by Americans, is always intelligible to Englishmen whether they hear it in Boston or Savannah, in New York or Natchitoches. While much of this uniformity depends on the fact, that the early settlers in our country were educated men, and men who strove hard to give to their children the precious boon of scholastic instruction, yet, that our English should have stood so long pure against the corrupting influence of example imported from all nations, and of time and carelessness on our own part can only be explained by supposing that the resort of students of all kinds, but especially of medical students, to the great common centres of learning, has in no small degree contributed to a result otherwise totally unintelligible. In the same way we may explain the unusual uniformity of manners and habits, so often commented on by foreigners, favourably, or unfavourably according to their taste or caprice.

Now I hold that of all the bonds of union by which a people, so diffusely spread as we are, can, be kept united, none is more potent than the sameness [identity?] of language and manners. It makes intercourse easy and agreeable, it promotes good fellowship, and it creates an almot instinctive horror of disseverance. The disruption would be as of one family, whose taste and sentiments, and language and manners are in kindly unison.

Of all men the physician enjoys the best opportunity of disseminating his sentiments, and conveying his example. He visits every family. He converses with the woman and children, and domestics; and the more wild and remote his field of labour, the more frequently and the longer is he thrown into their society.—He is not confined, like the lawyer to his court, or to contact with men, or like the clergyman, to the pulpit or the rare visitation. He is often almost domesticated; he is looked up to confidingly, and he is considered as competent authority in most of the things that usually interest a domestic circle. His opportunity, therefore, of impressing his manners and habits and language on the people is unparralleled.

Stored with science, and learning accumulated both at classical seminaries and schools of medicine, the educated physician is usually disposed to contribute a portion of his knowledge to the benefit of his own little community. He therefore is, both from capacity and disposition, foremost in promoting the literary enterprize of his district. How few lyceums are built up or carried forward without his agency. Few weeks pass without an application to me to deliver a lecture in some near or distant lyceum; and it rarely happens that the invitation is not brought or sent by some liberal physician, who not only teaches himself but solicits aid from others. Giving as much credit to other professions as is their due, we must admit that in this, as in a thousand ways, the American faculty of medicine, by making uniform our manners, enlightening our sentiments, and invigorating our reason, adds immensely to public security and public union.

ANNNAPOLIS THEATRE—This establishment opened on Tuesday evening;—the correspondent of the "Argus" says, "they had neither music nor fire—and the house was empty, save a single person who sat in the boxes!" Just as we expected.

Special Election.—That part of Carroll county embraced in the 3d Congressional District, gave on Monday, for Sewel 332, Preston 103, Winder 24.

EARTHQUAKE.—The Cincinnati Gazette states that a severe shock of an earthquake was felt in that city on the night of the 4th instant, about fifteen minutes past nine. It lasted three or four minutes, and shook the furniture, looking glasses, &c. in an extraordinary manner.

Slight shocks were also felt at Charleston and Columbia, S. C. the same night at the same hour.

REPORT

Of a Committee of the Stockholders of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, appointed to investigate the subject of raising funds to complete the Canal to Cumberland.—Presented December 3, 1842.

OFFICE CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO CANAL COMPANY.

Frederick, Saturday, Dec. 3, 1842.

Pursuant to adjournment, on the 17th ult. a general meeting of the stockholders in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company was held this day, at the office of said company, in the city of Frederick, Maryland.

On motion of General Tilghman, Governor S. Sprigg, took the chair.

Present: The State of Maryland, by
Gov. S. SPRIGG,
Gen. T. TILGHMAN,
JOHN VAN LEAR and
A. BOWIE DAVIS, Esqs.

The United States, by
LEWIS JOHNSON, Esq.

The Corporation of Washington, by
LEWIS JOHNSON, Esq. and
Dr. W. B. MAGRUDER.

The Corporation of Georgetown, by
E. LYONS, Esq.

Also, several private stockholders.

General Tilghman, in conformity with the resolution adopted by the stockholders on the 4th day of August last, in the following words: "*Resolved*, That General T. Tilghman be appointed a committee to investigate the subject of raising funds to complete the canal to Cumberland, and to report at the next general meeting of the stockholders," submitted the following

REPORT:

To the Stockholders of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company:

By an order of the stockholders of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, passed at a general meeting held in the city of Frederick, on the 4th day of August, 1842, the undersigned was directed "to investigate the subject of raising funds to complete the Chesapeake & Ohio canal to Cumberland, and to report at the next general meeting of the stockholders."

The shortness of the time allowed for this investigation has necessarily prevented as full an inquiry into the merits of the question as the magnitude of the subject demanded.

Aware, however, of the great importance of procuring the desired information at the earliest practicable moment, in order that it might be submitted to the company in time for their action before the commencement of the approaching session of the Legislature of Maryland, the undersigned has made every effort to carry out what he believed to be the wishes of the stockholders in this respect, and flatters himself that his exertions have not been entirely without success.

Before proceeding, however, to report the information which he has obtained the undersigned desires to make a brief reference to the *motives* which induced him to propose the investigation, in order that they may be properly understood by those stockholders who were not present on that occasion, as well as by all others whose interests may be affected by any action of the stockholders, of which this proposition may be regarded as the germe.

The immense benefits which must result from the development of the finest mineral region in the world, even to those enterprising individuals and companies who have invested their capital in preparations for the production of coal and iron, and to the still larger portion of the community who are to become the purchasers and consumers of these useful articles, would seem alone to constitute a sufficient incentive to the completion of the canal to Cumberland.

To the stockholders, its accomplishment is of paramount importance, as the only step by which their interest can ever be rendered available; and especially so to the State of Maryland, who not only holds by far the largest portion of the stock, but has to provide means for the regular payment of the interest on the loans with which this stock was purchased.

The full weight of this latter consideration can only be appreciated when it is recollected that the means of paying this interest must be drawn from the people by direct taxation, and that, too, at a season of unusual distress and embarrassment.

But, heavy as the burden must be acknowledged to be, it is as dust in the balance when compared with another calamity which threatens the citizens of this devoted Commonwealth, and oppresses, as with a mountain's weight, the heart of every patriot with in her borders.

The spirit of repudiation has raised its voice, even within her legislative halls; and demagogues are every where to be found, who, whilst professing the most sacred regard for their private obligations, are yet ready to appeal to the feelings of a suffering people, and to attempt to deceive them by the miserable sophistry, that repudiation in a State is less culpable than in an individual.

Let it not be supposed, however, that Maryland is in immediate danger of being overwhelmed by such a disaster.—She is not yet on the black list of repudiating States; and both the journals of her Legislature and the result of the recent elections afford conclusive evidence of the fact that thus far this doctrine has found little favor either with the Legislature or the people of the State.

But the most violent diseases are often, also, the most contageous. The first symptom of such a disease in the body politic should be the signal to every good citizen to resist its extension; and the desire to lend his aid in preventing so dire a calamity was the real motive which induced the undersigned to propose that the investigation should be made at this time.

As long as the pecuniary embarrassments of the State continue, so long will she be subject to the danger which now threatens her; and there is no mode by which she can now be relieved from her financial difficulties, unless it be by the completion of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal to Cumberland.

It is unnecessary here to refer to the recent legislation of the State of Maryland on this subject, further than to observe that she evinces a strong indisposition to embark in any measure which would subject the people to the risk of further taxation. The wisdom of this course the undersigned most heartily approves.

In prosecuting the investigation, therefore, which he was ordered to make, he has confined himself entirely to the consideration of the question, "whether the amount required to complete the Canal to Cumberland can be raised by the company alone, without the aid of the State."

To enable the company to effect this object in the most economical way, viz: by a loan obtained on the faith of the company, it may be assumed as an indispensable condition, that the State should first suspend its priority of lien upon the tolls and revenues of the canal, and thus place it in the power of the company to offer to capitalists the only security on which it is probable the loan could be procured.

The willingness of the Legislature to acquiesce in this measure may be inferred from the fact, that an act containing a provision for the suspension of the State's right of priority upon the tolls of the canal actually passed one House at the last session of the Legislature, and from the further fact that this section was not objected to by the other House, in which the bill was finally lost.

Regarding this difficulty as settled, it remains to be ascertained whether a loan can be effected by the company, at this time, by giving an undoubted lien on the proceeds of the whole canal, to meet interest, and the eventual payment of principal on the amount requisite to complete the canal to Cumberland.

To this question a definite reply cannot now be given. Before doing so, it would be necessary to extend the investigation into the European market, and to afford a reasonable prospect of success in such a negotiation, it would probably be advisable to have it conducted, in person, by an agent sent out for that purpose. The undersigned has taken measures, however, to ascertain the opinions of several of the most eminent capitalists and distinguished financiers in this country, as to the probable result of such an attempt: and they all concur in the belief that the money might be obtained, and without much difficulty, from the present holders of the State bonds in Europe.

If sufficient security could be offered them, they would have the strongest inducement to make the loan, as the surest means of preventing the heavy losses to which they may be subjected by the still greater depreciation of the bonds which they now hold.

There is another mode of raising the required amount, which, although perhaps less economical, is certainly more feasible than the one above mentioned. With regard to this, the undersigned is happy to have it in his power to present to your consideration information of a more definite character.

The mode referred to is simply this: To issue the bonds of the company to the amount of $2,000,000, to be given to any responsible party who shall contract to complete the canal to Cumberland for that sum; the payment of the said bonds being secured by a mortgage on the tolls and revenues of the work, in the manner herein before mentioned.

The completion of the canal is to be made an indispensable condition, and to constitute the very foundation of the proposed plan; and it is hoped that this feature will go far to recommend it to the favorable consideration of the stockholders, provided that parties can be found who are willing to undertake it and who are certainly able to fulfil their part of the contract.

It does not propose to limit the issue of bonds to the specific amount for which it is estimated that the canal can be completed to Cumberland, for the estimates have always heretofore fallen short of the actual cost of the work, and a large allowance must be made for discount in any sale which might be made of the bonds; but it proposes to contract for the completion of the whole work for a named sum, (viz: $2,000,000,) whether that sum be found to exceed the actual cost of the construction or not; and thus to secure the attainment of the object which all former efforts have proved insufficient to effect.

The estimated cost of the work to be done is about $1 600,000; and it is undoubtedly true that the capitalists who might give this amount for the $2,000,000 worth of bonds would make (if the work should prove as profitable as it is supposed it will) about $400,000 by the operation. But when it is remembered that the State of Maryland alone is losing more than this amount every year in interest on the stock which she already holds in the canal, can there be a doubt as to the policy of adopting this course, at least if, upon a full investigation, it should prove to be the only mode by which the funds can be raised at this time?

Believing that a proposition of this nature would receive the favorable consideration of the stockholders, and at the same time prove more acceptable than any other both to the Legislature and the people of the State of Maryland, the undersigned has devoted particular attention to this branch of the inquiry. On this point he is prepared to speak positively. He has not only received the most confident assurances that the required amount can be raised on the bonds of the company, but he is actually authorized, by parties who are generally believed to be responsible for the performance of whatever they may undertake in this respect; to say, that they are ready to contract to complete the canal to Cumberland for $2,000,000, to be paid in the bonds if the company, at their par value, provided the legislature will place it in the power of the company to give the necessary security for the payment of these bonds by constituting them a prior lien on the nett revenues of the canal between Georgetown and Cumberland.—With the announcement of this fact it would perhaps be proper to conclude this report. The undersigned desires, however, to express the hope that he has not exceeded his authority in procuring the most efficient aid in conducting this investigation which the circumstances of the case permitted him to obtain.

For this purpose he solicited the cooperation of Major General William Gibbs McNeill, a gentleman of the highest reputation in his profession, and who stands unrivalled for his success in the prosecution of similar enterprises, where the skill and talents of the diplomatist and financier were required in as great a degree as the scientific attainments and practical ability of the engineer.

To the instrumentality of this gentleman the undersigned acknowledges himself to be greatly indebted for the information which he has now the pleasure to communicate; and, for the further satisfaction of the stockholders, he has obtained from him a written communication, in which his views are given in a more extended form on this interesting subject and which he has the honor to present to their consideration herewith, together with the copy of a law referred to in the said communication.

In conclusion, the undersigned begs leave to call the attention of the stockholders in general, but more particularly that of the agents of the state of Maryland, to the moral effect which may be anticipated from the successful adoption of the measure which is now proposed. If they can but hold out to the people of the State some definite prospect of the completion of this great work, distrust and despondency will be banished, with all their blighting influences, and hope and confidence will be once more re-established amongst us. The taxes which are now grudgingly paid by those who cannot reasonably hope to receive any benefit in return for them, will then be freely loaned to sustain the State in her temporary difficulties. The credit of the State, which is now languishing, will then be rapidly resuscitated: and it may not be going too far to hazard the prediction that when the canal shall have been completed to Cumberland, the State will once more be enabled to obtain a loan on favorable terms, for the purpose of paying off the debt of $2,000,000 which may have been contracted by the company in completing the work."

In this event, the tolls would at once be rendered available for the payment of the interest on the State debt, and the people would be speedily relieved from the oppressive burdens under which they are now so meritoriously struggling.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

TENCH TILGHMAN.

DECEMBER 3, 1843.

The report having been read, on motion,

Ordered, That the same be laid upon the the table, and that 250 copies thereof be printed, in pamphlet form, under the direction and superintendence of General Tilghman.

Extract from the journal of proceedings of the stockholders:

THOMAS TURNER, *Secretary.*

Report from Washington are that the nominations of Thomas S. Smith, the Tyler collector of the Port of Philadelphia, and Joel B. Sutherland, Naval Surveyor, were rejected by the Senate on Friday.

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