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. XXVII. EASTON. (MD.) SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 18, 1844. NO. 20.

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-FIVE CENTS for every subsequent insertion

LAW OF MARYLAND.

CHAPTER 284.

An Act to tax the commissions of certain officers of this State.

SECT. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That hereafter separate commissions shall be issued to the several persons who may hold appointments in the State, except to the Justices of the Peace, and Coroners and it shall be the duty of the Secretary of State, under the direction of the Governor, to transmit to the several Clerks of the County Courts all civil commissions from the Executive, for persons, within their respective counties, to be delivered by him to the appointees, on application therefor.

Sect. 2. And be it enacted, that when the said commissions are delivered to the respective appointees, therein named they shall severally pay to the said Clerk the sums following, to wit: Each Judge of the County Court, fifty dollars; each Clerk of the County Court, each Register of Wills, the Clerk of the Court of Appeals Register in Chancery hereafter to be appointed, the sum of fifty dollars; the Clerk of the Court, and Register of Wills in Baltimore City, each, two hundred dollars; the Clerk of Baltimore City Court, two hundred dollars, and the Clerk of Frederick County and Register of wills of Frederick County, one hundred dollars each; and the Chancellor, hereafter to be appointed one hundred dollars; each Sheriff the sum of twenty dollars; the Warden of the Penitentiary the sum of fifteen dollars; each Commissioner of Lotteries, teach Commissioner of Insolvent Debtors, each Tobacco Inspector of the City of Baltimore, each Inspector of Flour in the city of Baltimore the sum of twelve dollars; each Judge of the Orphans' Court for Baltimore County, each Inspector of Fish, in the city of Baltimore, each Inspector of sole leather in the city of Baltimore, each Gauger of Casks and Inspector of domestic distilled spirits in the city of Baltimore; each Inspector, Measurer and Marker of Lumber in the city of Baltimore, and in Cecil County; each Inspector and Corder of fire wood in the city of Baltimore; each Inspector of Shingles, the sum of ten dollars; each Inspector of Lime in the city of Baltimore, each Inspector of Plaster of Paris in the city of Baltimore; the Weigher of Live Stock in the city of Baltimore, and the Examiner General of the Western Shore, the sum of eight dollars; each Notary Public in the city of Baltimore, the Armorer at Annapolis, the Inspectors of Green Hides and Skins in the city of Baltimore, the State Wharfinger in the city of Baltimore, the Inspector of ground black oak Bark in the city of Baltimore, each County Surveyor, each Tobacco Inspector in the several Counties, each Wood Corder in the several Counties the Wreck Master in Worcester County the sum of five dollars; each Judge of the Orphans' Court in Howard District and the several Counties, except Baltimore, each Notary Public, out of the city of Baltimore, the Armorer at Frederick, the Armorer at Easton, the sum of three dollars; and all other persons holding annual civil appointments, under the Executive, the sum of one dollar

Sect. 3. And be it enacted, that the said commissions shall not be delivered by the said Clerks to any person or persons unless the sums respectively provided, in the 2d section be paid at the time of delivery thereof; and all sums so received by the said Clerks, shall be paid into the Treasury of the Western Shore within twenty days after the same shall be received by them: and for the purpose of providing a check on the said clerks, it is hereby provided that the Secretary of State shall annually furnish to the Treasurer of the Western Shore a list of all commissions issued & sent to the respective counties; and the Clerk's bonds may be put in suit for any monies received under this Act; and the account of the Treasurer shall be evidence of the receipt of said monies, unless said Clerks show by the production of the Commissions remaining in their hands, the amounts with which they may be actually chargeable.

Sect. 4. And be it enacted that the appointments of Justices of the Peace, and Justices of the District Courts may be included in one or more commissions, as heretofore; and it shall be the duty of the Clerks of the County Courts to issue to each of said Justices, on application, and the payment of one dollar, a certificate of his appointment as such; and he shall thereupon, be authorised to qualify, and proceed in his duties, as Justice of the Peace, or Justices of the District Courts, as the case may be.

Sect. 5. And be it enacted, that the Justices of the Peace, and of the District Courts, shall not be authorised to qualify, or act in their official capacity, unless they shall first have procured a certificate, as heretofore directed; and any Justice who shall qualify, or act in such capacity without such certificate shall be subject to presentment, and be punished by fine, at the discretion of the County Courts, and all his Acts, as such shall be null and void.

By the House of Delegates.		*By the Senate.*
March 9th 1844.		March 9th 1844.
This engrossed Bill the original of which passed the House of Delegates on the 5th day of March 1844 was this day read and assented to.	GREAT SEAL	This Engrossed Bill the original of which passed the Senate the 7th day of March 1844. was this day read and assented to
By order, GEO. G. BREWER, Clk.		By order, JOS. H. NICHOLSON, Clk.

FRANCIS THOMAS,

STATE OF MARYLAND, TO WIT:

Be it remembered, and we hereby certify that the aforegoing is a true copy of the Act entitled 'An Act to tax the commissions of certain officers of this State, which passed the General Assembly of Maryland at December session, one thousand eight hundred and forty three.

Given under our hands at the city of Annapolis this 14th day of March 1844.

GEO. G. BREWER, Clerk House of Delegates Md.
JOS. H. NICHOLSON, Clerk Senate of Md.

May 4 1844.

☞ The Leonard Town *Herald*, Upper Marlboro Gazette, Rockville Journal, Torch Light Hagerstown, *Herald* Frederick, Catoctionian Carroll Co, Republican Annapolis, Press Howard District, Madisonian Havre de Grace, Cecil Whig, Kent News, Centreville Times, Pearl Denton, Easton Gazette, Cambridge Chronicle, Herald Princess Ann, Banner Snow Hill, and German Correspondent Baltimore, will insert the above once a week, for four weeks, and the Baltimore Sun twice a week for three weeks.

D. CLAUDE, Treas. Md.

From the New York Tribune.

METHODISTS GENERAL CONFERENCE

NINTH DAY—Friday May 10.

After the transaction of some minor business, the Conference resumed the consideration of the case of the Rev. F. A Hardin The debate was continued by Mr. Collins, Mr. Davis, Mr. Griffith and Mr. Slicer, in favor of the decision of the Baltimore Annual Conference, & by Mr. Smith, of Va. in favor of the appellant, in a speech of two hours and a half, at the conclusion of which the Conference adjourned over.

MAY 11

Methodist General Conference. On Saturday, this body resumed the consideration of the appeal of the Rev. F. A. Hardin from the Baltimore Annual Conference. Mr. Smith moved to reverse the decision, & on taking the vote it stood—ayes 56 nays 117. Mr. Smith then asked leave to enter his protest, which was refused. Considerable excitement, according to a report in the New York Herald, then ensued, and various propositions were made, but the matter was finally laid on the table, and after the presentation of several petitions in relation to slavery the body then adjourned.

General Conference of the Methodist Episopal Church. We stated yesterday, that this body on Saturday, by a vote of 117 to 56, had refused to reverse the decision of the Baltimore Annual Conference suspending from the ministry the Rev. F. A. Hardin, who had become by marriage a holder of slaves This decision created considerable excitement as will be seen by the following from the N. Y. Tribune:

The decision having been announced by the Chair, some one asked in what position the question was now placed, and whether it was finally disposed of,

Mr. Smith said that of course the case might still be sent back to the Baltimore Conference, a refusal to reverse its judgment not implying that it must be affirmed.

The Chair decided that the vote just taken was tantamount to an affirmation of the decision of the Baltimore Conference

Mr. Smith said that some members had voted against the resolution to reverse judgment with the expectation that if it should be rejected, the case might still be sent back to the Baltimore Conference; and believing the decision of the Chair to be unjust, he took an appeal.

The Conference sustained the Chair by a vote of 111 to 53.

When this vote was declared, Mr. Smith rose under much excitement and said he should ask leave to enter his solemn protest against the proceeding, as unjust and subversive of the Discipline.

Much dissatisfaction having been manifested on the part of the minority, Mr. Slicer, of Baltimore, said he would move a reconsideration, in order that the question might be put in a form directly affirming the decision of the Baltimore Conference.

In the midst of no little confusion, some one moved to lay Mr. Slicer's motion on the table.

The motion was put and lost, and the question again recurred upon reconsidering the vote by which the Conference had refused to reverse the decision of Baltimore Conference. The motion to reconsider after some exciting and desultory conversation, was withdrawn.

Mr. Sandford moved that Mr. Smith have leave to enter his Protest upon the Journal.

A member thought this motion should not be adopted, but that the Conference should take no action on the subject until the protest was presented. If it should be found respectful to the body, he would be in favor of entering it upon the Journal.

Mr. Smith now arose, under great apparent excitement, and said he understood the object of the movement just made—it was to shut out the Protest if its doctrines should not be acceptable to the majority. He would give the majority fair warning that it would not suit them. It would burn upon their cheeks a mark which could never be obliterated until they became insensible to shame.

At this point there was much excitement. Some cried 'Order,' 'order,' and others exclaimed 'Don't insult us,' &c &c.

Mr. Smith said he had not intended to insult any one. He was perfectly cool and self possessed, The time had been when such an excitement would have unmanned him, but it was in the power of no excitement to unman him now.—He would stand up boldly in the cause of his country and his God. He denied the right—not the substantive power, but the adjective right—of the Conference to refuse to enter his Protest upon the Journal. He then made some very severe allusions to the course of the majority, which in the confusion were not distinctly heard; whereupon

Mr. Chamberlain, of the New Hampshire Conference, said that such raling was insufferable, and he hoped it would be stopped.

The Chair decided that Mr. Smith was not in order, and after some further confusion and excitement, the motion to allow the protest to be entered on the journal was withdrawn, in order that the Conference might be untrammelled when the document should come up for consideration

The Chair announced the following committee to prepare the pastoral address: William Capers Chairman; J. P. Durbin, Peter Akers, Charles Elliott, Elihu Scott.

The Conference then proceeded to the order of the day, which was the reception of memorials and petitions resolutions of Annual Conferences, &c. A large number of petitions were presented, most of them on the subject of slavery.

Mr. Benton, of the Providence Conference, presenting some petitions on slavery, Mr. Cooper, of the Philadelphia Conference, in a very peremptory manner, demanded a statement of the objects for which they prayed.

Mr. Benton proceeded to comply with the demand, and having stated that one thing desired by the petitioners was that the General Conference would not elect a slaveholding Bishop.

Mr. Cooper exclaimed, under great excitement, 'Stop, sir!' He then went on to say that such petitions ought not to be received, stating as a reason that those who presented them had admitted that they did not desire the Conference to act on the subject, and that they had been sent here merely for electioneering purposes. It was an insult to the body to offer such petitions after his avowal.

Mr. Crandall rose to a question of order. The Conferences had been called upon to present petitions & he maintained that this interruption was disorderly.

There was great confusion at this point a dozen members trying to obtain the floor in the midst of calls to order, &c. &c.

Mr. Earley, of Virginia, offered a resolution to the effect that the Conference will not receive memorials on which no action is desired or expected.

He proceeded to support this resolution with great warmth. He said the memorials in question were brought here for effect, to operate upon the members individually in the election of the officers of the Church. The South did not desire division, and nothing but necessity would drive her into such a measure; but if division should come in consequence of the Abolition agitation, let the responsibility rest with those who sought to disturb our peace. He wanted the Conference to meet the question openly, that the South might know what to depend upon.

Mr. Robinson, of the Maine Conference, denied that those who had presented petitions against the election of a slave holding Bishop had said they wanted no action on the subject They did desire that action should be taken by the Conference.

Mr. Boring, of Alabama, said it had been distinctly avowed by members of the Committee on Slavery, that they desired no action would be taken on this subject, and that the petitions were intended to influence members as individuals.

Bishop Soule here made a few remarks the purport of which was, that, every member who presented a memorial, took upon himself the responsibility of asking the action of the Conference. To offer petitions with any other view was an insult to the body, which he did not believe could come from New England the land of his birth. It was to be taken for granted that action was desired on every memorial presented to the Conference.

Mr. Winnans, of Mississippi, said he was a Southern man—an extreme Southern man—and he believed the memorials were intended for serious effect. We were bound to believe that those who signed these petitions spoke their sentiments He claimed that all memorials should be heard, and candidly and fairly considered. Why object to their reception?—If they were important, they could not accumulate too fast, if unimportant their number could do no harm. For his own part, he shrank from no investigation—he was prepared to meet every question fairly in the teeth—and he hoped that all objections to the reception of the petitions would be withdrawn or voted down.

Dr. Pierce, of Georgia, reiterated the statements previously made as to what had transpired in the Committee on Slavery, insisting that it had been disuncly avowed that no action was desired in relation to the election of Slave holders to office.

Mr. Robinson, of Maine, repeated his denial that any such avowal had been made, and several other Northern delegates confirmed his statement.

Several members here attempted to obtain the floor, and great confusion prevailed; but Mr. Cartwright, of Illinois, succeeded in making himself heard over all competitors He begged brethren not to go off at half-cock. Several of those who had spoken had told us they were very cool but if they were iron and had fallen into the water, he thought there would be some fizzing! The whole discussion was premature. It would be time enough to quarrel over this subject when the Committee should make their report. Perhaps the whole matter could all be knocked out in Committee. He hoped they would not blink the question, and if they *must* quarrel, that they would do it like a company of Methodist Ministers.

This speech was spiced with so much good humor, that it excited no little merriment, and the subject was disposed of by laying the resolution of Mr. Early on the table.

The presentation of petitions, reports of committees resolutions, &c., was then resumed,

Dr. Capers presented the report of the publishing committee of the Southern Christian Advocate, from which it appeared that the paper had 8,500 paying subscribers, and was in a prosperous condition.

Mr. Winner, of New Jersey, offered a resolution proposing so to alter the discipline as to provide that the agents of the Book Concern shall retain their membership in the several Conferences to which they may belong at the time of their appointment, instead of being members of the New York Conference, as at present. Referred to the committee on the Book Concern.

Mr Bowen, of the Oneida Conference, offered a resolution proposing to accept the proposition of the editor of the Northern Christian Advocate (at Auburn) to make said paper an official organ of the Church, such a paper being greatly needed in western New York. Referred to the Book Committee.

After the transaction of some other business of an unimportant character, the Conference having having made the appeal of Mr. Frazee, from the Michigan Conference, the order of the day for Monday adjourned.

ANTI-SLAVERY PROCEEDINGS.—The American Anti-Slavery Society, which has been in session in New York for several days, adjourned on Friday, after passing the following *very patriotic* resolutions:

Resolved, That political union in any form between a slave holding and a free community, must necessarily involve the latter in the guilt of slavery.—Therefore

Resolved, That secession from the present United States government is the duty of every abolitionist, since no one can take office or deposite a vote under its constitution without violating its anti-slavery principles, and rendering himself an abettor of the slave holder in his sin.

Resolved, That fourteen years of warfare against the slave power have convinced us that every act done, in support of the American Union, rivets the chain of the slave,—that the only Exodus of the slave to freedom, unless it be one of blood must be over the ruins of the present American church and the grave of the present Union.

Resolved, That the Abolitionists of this country should make it one of the primary objects of their agitation to dissolve the American Union.

The people who passed these resolutions, says the New York Sun, are famous for minding every body's business but their own—a mere remnant of half witted men and women, who stuck to the Anti-Slavery organization when the intelligent portion left it on seeing its tendency. The whole is a scheme of a few agents, who use Garrison & Abby Kelly to collect a little money for them every year.

THE CAPTURE OF A SLAVER.

By the Rev. P. G. Hill.

H. M. S. the Cleopatra, of seventy-six guns, commanded by Captain Wyvill, arrived at Rio Janeiro in September, 1842, the reverend writer took the opportunity of being transferred from the Malabar, as chaplain. In the beginning of September the Cleopatra left the Mauritius to proceed to the Mozambique Channel, off Madagascar, her appointed station, to watch the slave-traders. After various cruises along the coast, and as far as Algoa Bay, they at last captured a slaver.

April 12—At day break the lookout at the topmast-head perceived a vessel on the lee quarter, at such a distance as to be scarcely visible; but her locality being pronounced 'very suspicious,' the order was given to bear up for her. The breeze falling, the boats were ordered out, and in a few minutes the barge and the first gig were pulling away in the direction of the stranger. So variable, however, is the weather at this season, that before the boats had rowed a mile from the ship, a thick haze surrounded the ship, and the chase was lost sight of. The rain fell in torrents, and the ship was going seven knotts through the water.—On the clearing up of the fog, the chase was again visible. The sun broke forth and the rakish-looking brigantine appeared to have carried on all sail during the squall. They could see under her sails the low black hull pitching up and down; and approaching within range, one of the forcastle guns was cleared away for a bow chaser. The British ensign had been for some time dying at the peak. It was at length answered by the green and yellow Brazilian flag At length after a variety of dexterious manœuveres to escape, and from fifteen to twenty shots fired after her, she shortened sail and lay to. Dark naked forms passing across the deck, removed any remaining doubt as to her character, & showed that she had her slave cargo on board. An officer was sent to take possession, and the British ensign displaced the Brazilian. The scene on board was a sufficiently strange one: the deck was crowded with negroes to the number of 450, in almost riotous confusion, having risen but a little while before against the crew. The meagre, famished looking throng, having broken through all control, had seized everything for which they had a fancy in the vessel; some with handfuls of the powdered roots of the cassava, others with large pieces of pork and beef, having broken open the casks, and others with fowls, they had torn from the coops.—Many were busily dipping rags, fastened with bits of string, into the water casks to act as sponges, and some had got at the contents of a cask of Brazilian rum, which they greatly enjoyed. However, they exhibited the wildest joy, mingled with the clank of iron, as they were knocking off their fetters on every side. From the moment the first ball had been fired, they had been actively employed in thus freeing themselves. The crew found but thirty thus shackled in pairs, but many more pairs of shackles were found below. There could not be a moment's doubt as to the light in which they viewed their captors, now become their liberators. They rushed towards them in crowds and rubbed their feet and hands caressingly, even rolling themselves on the deck before them; and when they saw the crew of the vessel rather unceremoniously sent over the side into the boat which was to take them prisoners to the frigate, they set up a long, universal shout of triumph and delight. The actual number of the negroes now on board, amounted to 447. Of these, 180 were men, few however, exceeding twenty years of age; 45 women; 213 boys. The name of the prize was the Progresso, last from Brazil, & bound to Rio Janeiro. The crew were seventeen, three Spaniards, and the rest Brazilians. The vessel was of about 140 tons; the length of the slave deck, 37 feet; its main breadth, 21½ feet; its height, 3½ feet—a horrible space to contain between four & five hundred human beings. How they they could even breathe is scarcely conceivable. The captain and one of the crew were said to have been drowned in the surf at the embarcation of the negroes. Two Spaniards, and a Portuguese cook, were sent back into the prize.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

From a conversation we have had with Lieutenant G. W. Chapman, the officer sent home from the cost of Africa in charge of the brig Uncas, we gather that the traffickers in slaves are prosecuting their iniquitous calling with renewed vigor the present season. A small brig, the Volador, has successfully run the gauntlet of American and British cruisers, with three hundred negroes on board, notwithstanding the utmost vigilance had been exerted to cut her off.—The Baltimore built ship Crawford, a fast vessel which formerly sailed out of this port, is now on the Coast, and is thought to be waiting an opportunity to carry off a cargo of slaves, of which she could stow at least one thousand. She is 600 tons burthen, mounts six 18 pounders with numerous swivels, and has a crew of some 80 or 90 men. Although she has been sold to the Spaniards, it is suspected that she still has American papers. The boats from the British cruiser Ferrit lying off the Gallinas, endeavored to capture the Crawford a short time since, but were driven off by a heavy discharge of musketry & small shot. After this, the C. put to sea. Lieut. Chapman is of the opinion that a small steamer or two would be of more service in preventing the slave trade than a dozen sailing vessels, and such is undoubtedly the case. Indeed we note among the parliamentary proceedings brought by the Acadia, that Sir Robert Peel avows his own conviction that the principal part of the naval force now employed on the Coast of Brazil, and in the West India seas, would be of much more service on the Coast of Africa.—From the tenor of his remarks, we presume that such a disposition of her naval force will be made by England—N. O Picayune.

THE DISEASES OF WHEAT.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

In his excellent Report, as Commissioner of Patents, Mr. Ellsworth alludes to the methods of preventing the diseases and attacks to which the wheat crop is exposed. He says that the time when the field is struck with rust seems to be just at the time of ripening. A remarkable fact on this subject is stated in a report to the New Jersey Agricultural Society. An extraordinary field of wheat supposed to be out of danger, on a hot day became drenched by a sudden shower, which came on between one and three o'clock, p. m. All was still; and on the passing away of the shower, the sun came out intensely hot. The owner went into his field to examine his wheat, which he found much pressed down by the shower: he immediately perceived a continued ticking, or snapping noise in every direction. The straw was fine and bright; but on examining it, he found it bursting in short slits one quarter of an inch long, and the sap exuding from it. A day or two after the whole field was darkened with rust, and the wheat nearly ruined. Another instance of the same kind is also related. The conclusion stated is—that the loss of the sap, running out and becoming dried on the straw, occasioned the rust. The ancient Greeks and Romans attributed rust to the effect of the weather on the grain as has been mentioned above, and had a prayer to the supposed Rubigo, or rust, for the purpose of warding off the disease.

He says that to avoid the fly, manuring high at seed time and sowing late, were resorted to. But this was attended by mildew and rust. The best means of prevention are, first, a good, dry loamy soil, well prepared by cultivation, and not too recently manured. Secondly, cover the seed about two inches deep, either with drill or plough, that it may have good hold of the soil, and not be thrown out by winter frost. Alluding to the various expedients to protect wheat from smut, he says:

'One directs the wheat, after being thoroughly washed, to be soaked ten or twelve hours in salt water, as strong as it can be made It is further said that no injury will result if it lies in the brine for several days, provided it be in a cool place. After thus soaking it, let it be limed. Another person recommends that the seeds, when placed in the brine, be stirred up thoroughly, so that the light seeds may rise to the surface and be skimmed off, afterwards, that the brine be drained into a tub, and the seed thinly spread on the floor, & sifted with quicklime, at the rate of one gallon to a bushel; and after carefully stirring the lime through the seed a few times, it is allowed to remain a few hours and then sown. The seed which underwent the perfect cleaning gave a return of pure wheat; and that which was sown in its natural state was infected with smut, and had a mixture also of chess.

In a Northumberland report on agriculture, it is stated that Mr. Culley, who grew anually from 400 to 600 acres of wheat, had but one instance of smut in forty years, and this was when the wheat was not steeped. Another experiment was tried on seed, in which were a few balls of smut—one third being steeped in chamber lye, and limed; one third steeped in the same and not limed; and the remainder without steeping or liming; and the result was, that the seed pickled and limed, and that pickled & not limed, were free from smut, and the other had smutty ears in abundance. Another experiment was tried, by taking a peck of very smutty wheat, of which one half was sown in its natural state, the other half washed as clean as possible, in three waters, soaked two hours in brine strong enough to bear an egg, and dashed with lime; the result was, two thirds of the unwashed was smutty, but of the pickled & limed seed there was a full crop, without a single ear of smut. A similar experiment somewhat varied, is the following: Of four sacks of smutty wheat, one sack was soaked in strong brine only; one prepared with lime only; one was soaked in strong brine, & then lay in lime all night; and the fourth was sown without anything; the result was where brine only was used, now & then there was a smutty ear, but not many; where lime only was used, there was about the same quantity of smut; where lime and brine were used not a single smutty ear could be found; and where nothing was used, it was a mass of smut. In another experiment, however, mentioned in the Southern Planter, wheat salted at the rate of a quart of salt to a bushel succeeded effectually in preventing smut.

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