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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TO THE PEOPLE OF MARYLAND.
No. IX.
MORE ABOUT THE CUMBERLAND COAL.

In my last number I spoke of the rise and extraordinary growth of the Pennsylvania coal trade—a trade which from a beginning of 365 tons, has in a little more than twenty years, grown into the enormous annual consumption of 1,100,000 tons which is steadily increasing at the rate of about 100 000 tons per year; the increase of the present year, going it is said beyond that ratio. I stated the reasons which produced in my mind the conviction that the Cumberland coal when placed equally within the reach of consumers, will take from the anthracite a portion of the ground it now exclusively occupies. To what extent the coal of this region will displace the rival article it is at this time hard to say. Persons not prone to be oversanguine in their anticipations, have calculated that the anthracite will be compelled to yield at the least, one-half of its consumers to the bituminous coal. If we are to take the degree of favor in which the two are respectively held in England, as any guide for our opinions here, the extent of our encroachment upon the consumption of anthracite must be in a far greater ratio. For the purpose however, of making an estimate, let us suppose that of those who now use the anthracite, one out of three, may be safely reckoned upon, as disposed to prefer the Cumberland coal, and the present market would then be divided between the two articles, in the proportion of 740 000 tons for the anthracite, & 3,60 000 tons for the bituminous.

But the consumption of Pennsylvania coal has not as yet, by any means spread over the entire extent of the Atlantic States. There is an immense territory in New England, and between the great Appalachian chain and the Atlantic on the South, into which it has not entered and where consumers hereafter will be free and unforestalled in their choice between the two. In this great market the two staples will hold positions the reverse of those already stated if indeed the advantage is not in a much greater degree with the Cumberland coal.

In addition however to the general market of which I have been speaking, there are certain special demands for the Cumberland coal, the supply of which will not be interfered with by any other fuel. I speak of customers on a large scale, who must purchase the coal of this region; because it is better suited than any other to their wants, and who are waiting to lay in their supplies the moment a cheap and reliable avenue can be opened to the mines of Allegany. Before I name these, however, I have a word or two to say upon matters purely incidental.

So far I have said nothing about prices, either of the coal of this region, or of any other coals which may be supposed likely to come in competition with it. Close and accurate calculations have been made which need not be repeated here, showing that the Cumberland coal can be delivered in Georgetown at $3,17 per ton, and in New York at $4 67 per ton, and at any point on the Atlantic border, as low as at New York.

The only bituminous coal which could even if price and supply were equal, maintain any sort of competition with the Cumberland, is the Liverpool coal. But the lowest rate at which the latter article can be furnished in the American market is still so much above the cost of the domestic article, as to remove all apprehension of rivalry from this quarter. My friend Thomas Perry, Esq. has placed in my hands, a communication made to him by Messrs. Wm. Fowle & Sons, of Alexandria, upon whose representations entire reliance may be placed, and who state an account of 100 tons of best Orrell coal, yielding in measurement 3 000 bushels, which they purchased in Liverpool under the most favorable circumstances, and sold at 35 cents per bushel or $10 50 per ton, and the net profit on the 3 000 bushels was but $102 10

These gentlemen say, in the communication alluded to, 'we have been for a great number of years importers of coal generally however, taking on board our ships sufficient only to protect their cargoes of salt, as it will seldom sell at a price to make it an object of importation. We can say with much certainty that coal brought to this country now, at a freight of 15 shillings per ton, will not sell for cost, and if taken for ballast only without any specefic freight, it would leave to the ship owner, but a very few cents, for the trouble and cost of transportation.'

The Liverpool coal sold last winter in the city of New York at $12 per chaldron of 36 bushels, while authracite was delivered there to consumers at $4,50 per ton. I see a recent quotation of the Liverpool coal at $9 per ton in the New York market.

It may therefore be fairly assumed that the Cumberland coal, delivered in New York and at other points on the Atlantic seabord, at an average rate of even $5 per ton, will effectually exclude the English coals from the American market.

The only other article necessary to be mentioned in this connexion, is the Richmond coal, when is soon disposed of, various and repeated experiments having demonstrated that its interior quality alone would forbid its interference with the Cumberland coal.

I am now prepared to enumerate the special customers before alluded to, and at the head of the list; I place the United States government. Congress have authorised the construction of steamers of war, which they could no longer avoid doing for without this species of maratine armament, we should be behind the improvements of the age, and unable to maintain a contest with any one of the leading powers of the world. It is a fact however not generally known, though nevertheless true, that in the absence of a competent supply of the Cumberland coal, we should be unable to procure for our war steamers the fuel best adapted to their navigation, unless from places which in time of war would in all likelihood be situated in an enemy's country

It is proper to state, that the mode of supplying our steam marine with its complement of fuel must be by establishing depots of coal at convenient points for use; as for example at Boston, New York Norfolk, Charleston, Pensacola, the West Indies, the Mediterranean and elsewhere, the supply of a steamer on a voyage being no more at any one time, than a quantity sufficient to serve her from one depot to another. The quantity which the General Government would require for the Navy, the Navy Yards & public departments & offices, has been variously estimated. I shall set down here the lowest estimate I have seen, which is 300,000 tons per annum.

Again, the steamships of France numbering now about seventy, would when cruising in this hemisphere, use the Cumberland coal in preference to any other fuel. France it is true, possesses coal fields of her own, which as far back as 1836 employed 32 000 workmen, yet in 1841 she imported 1 500 000 tons of coal from England. It is a calculation therefore, subject to no condition or contingency, that her depots in the West Indies on the Spanish main and on the coast of the U. S would be formed of the Cumberland coal. Even England may be counted upon as a customer to the extent of her depots in this country.

The quantity required by both France and England, I set down at 100 000 tons per annum, which is about half of what I suppose it will be.

The next customer on the list is the city of New York, which from all the information I have been able to obtain after much enquiry may be safely put down, *I* think at 250 000 tons.

Again, the Hudson steamboat companies have offered, as *I* learn upon good authority, to contract for 100,000 tons—The Atlantic steam navigation companies must also have their yearly supplies'—There are besides in all the Atlantic cities, numerous factories, and thousands of individuals by whom anthracite never has been and never will be used, who would at once become consumers of Cumberland coal.

I have a word to say about Baltimore in this place. She is a large consumer of anthracite coal and every dollar she sends to Pennsylvania, to lay in her supplies, returns to her throughthe banks of Philadelphia in which city it is first laid out in the purchase of merchandize. But when the contemplated access is opened to the mines of Allegany county, and Baltimore finds that the money she sends here for coal, is in a short time brought back to her to be laid out in the purchase of goods, will she not obey the promptings of her own interest, and substitute the Cumberland coal for the anthracite, which she now use?

The items already enumerated when fairly summed up, will make an aggregate of some 1 500 000 tons and yet I have said nothing of the ascending trade on the canal, which in any event must be of great magnitude.

I do not say that this vast coal trade will spring into existence at once. It will require time, either greater or less, according to the means and the enterprize of those who shall be concerned in pushing the staple into market. What I mean to say, is, that the consumers are waiting to receive the article the moment it is placed within their reach, and a very few years, I believe, will be sufficient to effect this object.

WM. PRICE.

Cmberland, July 29, 1844.

To the Editor of the Balt. Patriot:

SIR:—The public mind is so much engrossed at this time with the approaching elections, state and federal, that I can scarcely hope to obtain for my numbers on the subject of the canal, even a passing notice. They have now reached their ninth number, and I propose to suspend their further publication, until after the October election.

In the mean time, I deem it not amiss to say that the subject which of all others, I felt most anxious to examine, and present in full detail to the people of Maryland, was our State debt, and the completion of the Canal as the means best adapted to its liquidation. The ability of Maryland to meet her engagements, is a subject which is not to be considered open to discussion. The man who can tolerate the idea that the State debt is not to be paid, and paid too at the earliest practicable moment, is not a Marylander. No man entitled to that appellation either by birth or adoption, can be willing to disgrace the very soil which nourishes and sustains him, and which is to be the home of his children, when he is no more.

The power, I might almost say the omnipotence, of public and even of associated private credit, seems never, until of recent years, to have been properly understood. In 1803, Mr. Phillips, treating of the expenditures of the Lancaster Canal Company, (England,) writes thus:—'The immense sum of £614,100, raised to complete only one canal, proves the inexhaustible resources and riches of the country, as well as the wonderful spirit of individuals.

A man would be stared at who would speak in this way at the present day.—Since then, the national debt of England has run up to the almost incomputable sum of $5000,000,000; whilst a sum not far short of that amount has been paid for interest on the same debt. And within the last twenty-five years, near $350 000 000 have been raised and expended by private joint stock companies aided to a limited extent by the Government, in the construction of rail roads.—And yet the credit of England, either public or private, is in no wise impaired On the contrary, the princes of the earth come to borrow money of her subjects and exchanges from all parts of the world are in favor of London.

On this side of the Atlantic, public and private credit have manifested their power in a manner equally remarkable. The Erie & Champlain Canals were together estimated to cost $6,000,000, and a writer in the North American Review, for January 1822, speaking of the vastness of the undertaking, discourses thus: 'Posterity will look with wonder at the gigantic efforts of a State, which, with a population of 900,000, commenced, and we trust we may soon say finished, 424 miles of canal.'

Wonderful undertaking indeed! Look at Maryland, with a white population of 300 000, incurred a debt of $15 000 000 for works of internal improvement, and if her credit has suffered a momentary occultation, it is owing not to any infirmity in her resources, but to mistakes as to the best mode of sustaining it Maryland is now fully able to finish all her great works, undertake as many more, restore her credit, and grow rich by the operation

Look at the city of New York, executing a single city improvement at a cost of $14 000 000, going in debt for $12 000 000 of that sum, and her stock rising in the market under the effect of the outlay.

It should be remembered, that of the vast expenditures of Maryland, but a small portion have been actually thrown away. Let her works be completed, and they will add more than the equivolent of their cost, to the wealth and resources of the State, and of her people. Maryland has a plain and simple course before her. She has but to act a part, worthy of her own character and history, and she can finish her Canal to the coal mines, then continue it from the District to Baltimore, and the very extent to which her people shall be required to submit to taxation, will be three years from the first of next January. These are undeniable truths, and when the proper time comes, I will demonstrate them.

A suggestion has been recently started by persons whose opinions are entitled to great respect, that the General Government should be pressed to take the Canal off our hands, pay its debts, and thus relieve us at once from its benefits and burthens. To such a proposition, I for one say no, distinctly. Suppose there be an obligation upon Congress, so palpable that no just man could question it, to finish the work and assume its debts; what does it signify? Every one knows that an application to the justice of Congress, is equivalent to a whole life time of anxious hope, and feverish expectation, and a death of disappointment at the close of it.

The *first* suggestion of sending us to Congress, was made, I fear, in no friendly spirit towards the Canal. Be this as it may, however, I for one never will consent that the *property* in our greatest improvement, lying within our own borders, dug through our own soil, shall pass into the hands of others, and be subject, down to the minutest regulations, to their control. It is a portion of the patrimony of our people, and as a matter of State sovereignty, if not of State pride, the General Government should not have it even for double the amount of its cost.

Respectfully yours, &c.

WM. PRICE.

A fellow having been ridden out of the State on a rail, was asked by an acquaintance whom he met how he came to town.

'I came on a rail way,' said he.

SINGULAR ADVENTURE.

In the year 1818, an English ship, on her passage from Jamaica to Whitehaven had among her passengers a lady Mrs. B., with an infant only a few weeks old. One pleasent afternoon the captain perceived a distant sail and after he had gratified his curiosity he politely offered his glass to the lady, that she might obtain a clear view of the object. Mrs. B. had the baby in her arms; she wrapped her shawl about the little innocent, and placed it on a sofa upon which she had been sitting. Scarcely had she applied her eye to the glass, when the helmsman exclaimed, 'Good God! see what the mischievous monkey has done.' The reader may judge of the mother's feelings when, on turning round, she beheld the animal in the act of transporting her beloved child apparently to the very top of the mast!

The monkey was a very large one and so strong and active, that while it grasped the infant firmly with the one arm, it climbed the shrouds nimbly by the other, totally unembarrassed by the weight of its burden. One look was sufficient for the terrified mother, and that look had well nigh been her last, had it not been for the assistance of those around her, she would have fallen prostrate on the deck; where she was soon afterwards stretched, apparently a lifeless corpse.—The sailors could climb as well as the monkey, but the latter watched their motions narrowly; and as it ascended higher up the mast, the moment they attempted to put a foot on the shrouds, the captain became afraid that it would drop the child and end avor to escape by leaping from one mast to another.

In the mean time the little innocent was heard to cry; and though many thought it was suffering pain, their fears on this point were speedily dissipated, when they observed the monkey imitating exactly the motions of a nurse, by dandling, soothing, and caressing its charge, and even endeavoring to hush it asleep. From the deck the lady was conveyed to the cabin, and gradually restored to her senses In the mean time, the captain ordered every man to conceal himself below, and quietly took his own station on the cabin stairs, where he could see all that passed without being seen—This plan happily succeeded, the monkey on perceiving that the coast was clear, cautiously descended from his lofty perch and replaced the infant on the sofa, cold fretful, and perhaps frightened, but in every respect as free from harm as when he took it up. The humane seaman had now a most grateful task to perform; the babe was restored to its mother's arms, amidst tears, and thanks, and blessings.

FATAL RESULT OF A FROLIC.

There is a good deal of society among the Greek families at Athens for a few weeks before the Carnival. They meet together in the evenings and amuse themselves in a very agreeable way. At one of these parties the discourse fell on ghosts and spirits. Michael, who was present, declared that he had no faith in their existence. All the party present exclaimed against what they called his free-masonry; and even his sister who was not given to superstition, begged him to be silent lest he should offend the *neraiddies*, who might punish him when he least expected it. He laughed and ridiculed Phrossa, offering to do any thing to dare those redoubted spirits which the company would suggest. Nerio a far greater sceptic than Michael, suddenly affected great respect for the invisible world and, by exciting Michael, gradually engaged him, amidst the laughter of his companions, to undertake to fry a dozen of eggs on the tomb of a Turkish santon, a short distance beyond the Patissia gate, to leave a pot of charcoal to be seen next morning, as a proof of his valor, and return to the party with the dish of eggs. The expedition was arranged in spite of the opposition of the ladies.—Four or five of the young men promised to follow at a little distance, unknown to Michael, to be ready lest anything should happen. Michael himself, with a zembil containing a pot of charcoal a few eggs and a flask of oil, in one hand, and a frying pan and a small lantern in the other, closely enveloped in his dusky capote proceeded smiling to his task. The tomb of the Turk consisted of a marble cover taken from some ancient sarcophagus, and sustained at the corners by four small pillars of masonary, the top was not higher than an ordinary table, and below the marble slab there was an empty space between the columns. The night was extremely dark and cold, so that the friends of Michael, familiar as they were with their native city, found some difficulty in following him without a lantern through the mass of ruins Athens then presented. As they approached the tomb, they perceived that he had already lighted the charcoal, and was engage in blowing it vigorously, as much to warm his hands as to prepare for his cooking operations. Creeping as near him as possible without risking a discovery, they heard to their amazement, a deep voice apparantly proceeding from the tomb, which exclaimed, 'Bou gedjkek sohek der adamlera. It must be a cold night for mankind.' 'Te pisevo effendi,' said Michael in a careless tone, but nervously proceeded to pour a whole bottle of oil in the frying pan. As soon as the oil was boiling and bubling, the voice from the tomb exclaimed, 'Gaiour ne apayorsun, mangama pisheriorsun, yuckle buradem, aiyer yiklemassun ben seni kibab. ederem, tabamum yerine seni yerim,' signifying pretty nearly, 'Infidel, what are you doing here? You appear to be cooking, fly hence or I will eat my supper of thy carrion.' And at the instant a head covered by an enormous white turban, protruded itself from under the tombstone with open mouth. Michael either alarmed at the words and apparation, or angry at the suspicion of a premeditated trick on the part of his companions seized the panful of boiling oil, and poured the whole contents into the gaping mouth of the spectre, exclaiming, 'An echeis toson orexin, na ta ladhi, Scheitan oglou! If you are so hungry take the oil, son of Satan!' A shriek which might have awakened the dead, proceeded from the figure, followed by a succession of hideous groans. The friends of Michael rushed forward, but the lamp had fallen to the ground and was extinguished in the confusion. Some time elapsed ere it was found and lighted. The unfortunate figure was drawn forth suffocated by the oil, and evidently in a dying state, if indeed, he was not already extinct. Slowly the horrible truth became apparent. Nerio had separated himself from the rest of the party unperceived disguised himself and gained the tomb before the arrival of Michael, who thus became the murderer of his sister's lover.

—Blackwood's Magazine.

The following notice, so important, and at the same time so unfortunate for the class of persons affected by it, is copied from the Newark Daily Advertiser. It was addressed to P. Dickinson, Esq Pension Agent, at Trenton, by Mr Edward, of the Pension office at Washington.

TO PENSIONERS.

PENSION OFFICE, August 1, 1844

SIR:—It is proper that widows who are entitled to the benefits of the Act of June 17th, 1844, continuing certain pensions for four years longer, should be informed that Congress has made no appropriations for paying these pension, and that therefore no payment can be expected before the latter end of December next.

COL. POLK'S GORGEOUS CHAIR.

'We give below an extract copy of the workman's bill for making this 'Democratic' Chair, as it was presented to and paid by Congress:

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1st, 1838.

The House of Representatives,
of the U. States of America,
Dr. to Buch & Oliver, Upholsterers,
465 Broadway, New York

To Crimson Velvet Chair for the Speaker		165 00
To 27 yards of Silk Bullion fringe, with gimp head, per yard $21		648 00
To 13 yards Silk and Worsted do 9		117 00
To 4 pair of Crimson Silk drapery Tassels	35	140 00
To 2 pair of do do large	45	90 00
To 20 yards of Silk Cable Cord	2	40 00
To 2 large Silk Slides	6	12 00
To 11 pieces of Silk & Satin Damask	30	330 00
To 152 yards Crimson Florence Silk	1 05	159 60
To 143 yards of Muslin Interlings	12½	17 86
To iron fixtures		43 00
To Shield and Ornaments		139 00
To making Curtain over speaker's Chair		40 00
To boxing and Packing		20 00
To Freight and Cartage		12 44
To expense and time in the Summer to measure.		50 00
Do. do. to put up Curtain		60 00
Do. do. do. of a man to assist		50 00
To 3 yards of Silk & Worsted Fringe $9		27 00
To 18 do. Crimson Orris Lace 18½		3 37½
		$2164 27½
Cr. by cash on account,		1500 00
Balance due,		$664 27½

Gentlemen,

I have examined this bill as the manufacturer of the fringe, tassels and, rope, and find the prices to the usual Upholsterer's charge.

(Signed) JOHN JOHNSON.
437, Broadway.

New York, Feb 13, 1839.

I have the best reason to believe that the charges made in the written bill are as such as afford to the undertakers of the work nothing more than reasonable profit, and such as are paid by private persons for the same materials and labor.

(Signed,) T. L. SMITH

Feb. 26, 1839.'

Mr. T. L. Smith was the Register of the Treasury, and a democrat. The chair on which Col. Bell sat when Speaker cost about $30. We submit the case without another word.

Mr. Speaker Bell's chair cost $30—Polk's $2 154!

From the Newark Daily Adv. Aug. 1

MR. CLAY'S PRIVATE CHARACTER.

It is in the last degree humiliating to be constrained to believe that there can exist any where, in a country that has been for near half a century so adorned and blessed with his services, a necessity for recognizing the vile calumnies against such a man as Henry Clay, which so continually defile the columns of a degenerate press But there are those, it would seem, who reflect so little as not to feel that such base abuse of one who has been so trusted, honored & admired by a long succession of the first and best men in the Republic, who has become so illustrious his unequalled services in the most conspicuous stations in the world—for near 40years the observed of all observers—must be the mere slaver of personal or party malice.

To satisfy some such, a gentleman of this city, our friend Dr. J. G. Goble, being the Corresponding Secretary of a Clay Club, thought proper to write to the Rev. Dr. Bascom, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who resides near Mr. Clay, and who is the distinguished President of the Transylvania University, at Lexington, Ky. The letter was not written with any view to publication, but Dr. B.'s prompt reply was so direct, full and satisfactory that Dr. Goble was constrained by the advice of a number of political friends to ask permission that it might be given to the public This, it will be seen by the correspondence which we have the pleasure to subjoin, has been readily granted:

NEWARK, July 9th 1844.

REV. DR. BASCOMB,

PRESIDENT OF TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY.

REV. AND DEAR SIR—You will, I trust, pardon the liberty I take in writing to you when I state that my object is to ascertain from you some testimony concerning the private character of Hon Henry Clay. I do this at the solicitation of many conscientious, upright men, who appear to have been led to regard Mr. C. as anything but an honest and upright citizen—a Sabbath breaker—gambler—profane swearer, &c. I would respectfully ask if these things be so It is not my wish to draw from you a letter for publication, and no public use will be made of your answer, my object being to ascertain how far these representations which are constantly repeated by the democratic papers of the North are warranted by truth.

Your answer to the interrogatories will much oblige Yours, very respectfully,

J. G. GOBLE,
Corres. Sec'y. Clay Club.

TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY.

LEXINGTON, KY. July 24th, 1844.

MY DEAR SIR:—In reply to your letter of the 9th inst. I owe it to truth, virtue, and the claims of society, without any reference to the political strifes of the day, to say, I have been in intimate and confidential intercourse with the Hon. H. Clay, both in public and private life, for more than twenty years, and know the charges enumerated in your letter, against the private character of Mr. Clay, to be utterly and basely false. Mr. Clay, as is known to the whole nation, adorns no claim to Christian piety, in the parlance of our churches, but in view of the ordinary accredited principles of good moral character, no charge can be brought against him without violating the obligations of truth and sound justice To each interrogative charge, therefore, contained in your letter, and reached me in the shape of a question, I return for answer, that I regard one and all of them as shamefully unjust, because not true, in whole or in part.

Very respectfully your ob't. serv't.

H. B. BASCOM.

DR. J. G. GOBLE.

After this full, explicit, and unequivocal testimony of one of the most distinguished divines of our country, we trust no reader will feel that they can be any farther necessity of pursuing the reckless slanderers of Mr. Clay. It is due to Dr. B. perhaps, that his reply to the letter asking permission to publish the above should be added and so here it is:

TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY.

LEXINGTON, KY. Aug. 7th, 1844.

My Dear Sir:—In your letter of the 19th July, you called upon me for information respecting the 'private character' of my neighbour Mr. Clay, assuring me that 'many conscientious, upright men' in your section had been induced by the representations of his enemies, to regard Mr. Clay as 'any thing but an honest and upright citizen—a Sabbath breaker—profane—Gambler, &c.' Your letter added, at the same time, that 'no public use' would be made of my reply—should one be received from me. Thus appealed to, I expressed to you freely, in relation to the private character of Mr. Clay, what I regarded as due to him to myself, and the community in which we live. I need scarcely add, that called upon, under similar circumstances, I should most cheerfully attest the good character of any of my neighbours, without reference to political relation, or distinctions nor do I believe any of them would hesitate calling on me, to this effect, should it be found necessary.

In a 2d letter, just received from you, you ask permission to use my first at dis-

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