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SATURDAY MORNING
BY
WILLIAM H. COUNCELL,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS.

TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE, or TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS if not paid within *one month* of the time of subscribing, or the renewal of subscription—A failure to notify a discontinuance is considered as a new engagement.

The Easton Gazette.

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ADVERTISEMENTS,

Of one square (10 lines,) inserted ONE OR THREE TIMES for ONE DOLLAR and TWENTY-FIVE cents for each subsequent insertion. Longer ones in proportion. A liberal deduction to yearly advertisers. Advertisements not marked the number of insertions desired, will be continued until forbid, and charged accordingly.

Merchants and others who advertise by the year, will in no case be allowed to insert any advertisement not connected with their regular business, without an additional charge.

All orders addressed to the editor, post-paid will receive prompt attention.

ELECTION NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given to the Judges of Elections and to the voters of Talbot county, that an election will be held in the several election districts of Talbot county, at the usual places of holding elections, on

Tuesday, the 6th day of November next,

for eight Electors of President and Vice President of the United States.

It will also be the duty of the voters of Talbot county, to express their approval or disapproval of the following Act of the General Assembly of Maryland, of January session, 1860, chapter 292.

SAM'L SPARKLIN,
Aug. 25, 1860-te Sheriff.

AN ACT

To add a new Article to the Code of Public Local Laws for St. Mary's, Calvert, Howard, Kent, Baltimore, Worcester, Somerset, Talbot, Queen Anne's, Prince George's and Charles counties, entitled an Act to appoint a Board of Commissioners for the better control and management of the free colored population of said counties.

Section 1. And be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the County Commissioners of St. Mary's, Calvert, Howard, Kent and Baltimore counties, be, and they are hereby authorized to appoint biennially, three sober and discreet men in each Election District in said counties, to be styled a Board of Commissioners, for the better control and management of the free colored population, a majority of whom shall at all times constitute a quorum for the discharge of the duties of the act.

Sec. 2. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of the said Board of Commissioners to assemble at the usual places of holding elections in their respective districts, on the first day of December, 1860, and the same day and month in every year thereafter, and adjourn from day to day, or to any named day, for the purpose of discharging the duties imposed by this act.

Sec. 3. And be it enacted, That the said Board of Commissioners shall, under their hands and seals, issue summons to be directed to one or more constables, as they may see fit, of their respective districts, whose duty it is hereby made to serve the same upon every free negro of all ages and sexes in said district, and by virtue of which it shall be the duty of said constable to have said free negroes so summoned before the said Board of Commissioners at the time and place specified in said summons.

Sec. 4. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of said Board of Commissioners to duly notify all said free negroes when brought before them, except such as shall be otherwise provided for in the subsequent sections, that unless they shall provide homes by hiring themselves to some industrious and respectable citizen, as hereafter provided, to labor and serve by the year, they, the said Commissioners, will expose the said free negroes at public sale to the highest bidder for the term of one year.

Sec. 5. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of said Board of Commissioners, after having given the aforesaid notice, to expose at public sale to the highest bidder for the term of twelve months, all such free negroes who shall fail to produce before said Commissioners on or before the first day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and on or before the first day of January of every succeeding year, the note or bond of some respectable and worthy citizen, with security thereon, to be approved by the same, for the hired services of said negro or negroes for the term of twelve months, which said note or bond shall contain the stipulations of the parties, and shall be subject to suit as other notes or bonds are, before a justice of the peace, or the Circuit Courts for St. Mary's, Calvert, Howard, Kent, Baltimore, Worcester, Somerset, Talbot, Queen Anne's, Prince George's and Charles counties, as may be required by the amount of consideration in said bond.

Sec. 6. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of said Board of Commissioners to indenture to some citizen of the said counties, all free negroes from four to twelve years of age, said male free negroes to serve until they arrive at the age of twenty-one, and said females until they arrive at the age of thirty, the party giving bond to the State of Maryland for the good treatment and care of said free negroes.

Sec. 7. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of said Board of Commissioners to require of the party to whom any female aforesaid, or any other female hired or bound under this act, may be bound, to provide for and support all existing or subsequent issues of said female during her term of indenture or hire, until they arrive at the period of four years of age, at which time it shall be the duty of said Commissioners to bind out the said issues in the manner and for the period specified in the foregoing section: it being the intent of this act, that all free negroes, minors from the time of birth up to the period of four years of age, shall be exempt from the hiring and binding provisions of the same; and it shall be the further duty of the said Commissioners to allow the mother of such issues to select the individual to whom said issue shall be bound; Provided, said individual shall execute a bond, with approved security to the State of Maryland, as before required.

Sec. 8. And be it enacted, That in the event of any free negro hired or bound under this act, shall refuse to serve faithfully, the party to whom he or she may be bound for the full term of his or her indenture, either by absconding, secreting or running away from the service of said party, it shall be the duty of said Board of Commissioners on complaint of the party and proof of the same, by some reliable and disinterested person under oath, to expose the said hired or bound free negro, at public sale to the highest bidder, to be sold as a slave for life, the proceeds of which shall be paid by said Board to the Register of Wills of St. Mary's, Calvert, Howard, Kent and Baltimore counties, to be appropriated by him to the primary school fund.

Sec. 9. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of the said Board of Commissioners to provide a fund for the support of such free negroes as they may fail to hire or indenture, because of their extreme old age or disability of any kind, and for any female and her issues whom they may be unable to hire because of the incumbrances of said issues, and which said issues may not be subject to hire by said Board under the provisions of this act, which said fund shall be subtracted from the gross amount of the hire bonds executed for the services of aforesaid free negroes, and the said sum shall be subtracted as well from the bonds of such free negroes who may be hired by the said Commissioners.

Sec. 10. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of said Board of Commissioners to collect by suit or otherwise, the amount stipulated in each bond, and report the same annually to the county Commissioners with a statement of all the expenses attending the operation of this act, including attorney and clerk's fees, constables, auctioneers and commissioner's charges with the vouchers thereof, also the amount necessary to support those incapable of being hired or bound under the provisions of this act, and the said county commissioners after deducting the same from the gross amount of the hire bonds shall direct the said Commissioners to pay the balance due to the aforesaid hired free negroes in proportion to the amount stipulated for in each bond, which said payment shall be made in the presence of some justice of the peace, who shall certify to the payment of the same, and the said certificate shall be filed in the aforesaid clerk's office in satisfaction of said bond, and the said county Commissioners shall further direct the said Board of Commissioners to distribute the funds provided for the aforesaid purposes among the said free negroes of their respective districts, to whom such fund is appropriated by this act, as in their judgement and discretion shall be most proper and equitable.

Sec. 11. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of the said Board of Commissioners to make an annual report of such free negroes as may be brought before them, together with a full description of their ages, names and sex, and in case of minors the names of their parents, which report shall be recorded in the clerk's office of the Circuit Courts for St. Mary's, Calvert, Howard, Kent and Baltimore counties.

Sec. 12. And be it enacted, That the said Board of Commissioners shall allow such constables and such auctioneers as may be called by them into requisition under the provisions of this act, such fees as are usually allowed constables for serving of writs and summons, and such fees as are usually allowed auctioneers.

Sec. 13. And be it enacted, That the said Board of Commissioners shall allow the State's Attorney for all suits brought on any of the aforesaid bonds such fees as are allowed by law as appearance fees.

Sec. 14. And be it enacted, That the Clerks of the Circuit Courts for St. Mary's, Calvert, Howard, Kent and Baltimore counties, shall be allowed for the recording all bonds executed, and census taken in pursuance of this act, such fees as are usually allowed and charges for the recording of deeds.

Sec. 15. And be it enacted, That the said Board of commissioners shall be allowed for their services under the duties of this act, a per diem of two dollars for every day they may be engaged in the execution thereof; Provided, however, they shall not be allowed any compensation for any time that may exceed thirty days in any one year.

Sec. 16. And be it enacted, That this act shall not apply to any free negroes, or free negro, nor his wife, who shall possess in his or her own right one hundred and fifty dollars of assessed property, nor to any free negro, minor or adult, of either sex, who may have a bona fide residence in the family of his or her parents; Provided, said parents shall possess in his or her own right fifty dollars of assessed property for each of his or her said children who may have a bona fide residence in his or her family, in addition to the one hundred and fifty dollars of assessed property which is necessary to exempt him or her from the provisions of this act.

Sec. 17. And be it enacted, That this act shall not go into operation, nor take effect until it shall be accepted by a majority of the legal voters of St Mary's, Calvert, Howard, Kent and Baltimore counties, cast at the next general election for the President and the Vice-President of the United States.

Sec. 18. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Sheriff of St Mary's, Calvert, Howard, Kent and Baltimore counties, in ordering an election of electors for President and Vice President, also to order an election for or against the acceptance of this act, which said election shall be held by endorsing upon the ticket for the aforesaid electors the words for or against the act to appoint a Board of commissioners for the better control and management of the free colored population of St. Mary's, Calvert, Howard, Kent and Baltimore counties.

Sec. 19. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of the judges of election in the several districts to make a return to the clerks of St. Mary's, Calvert, Howard, Kent and Baltimore counties, of all the votes cast for or against the aforesaid act, and it shall be the duty of the said clerks, in ten days after said election, to notify said Board of commissioners by publication in the St. Mary's Beacon, or otherwise, and in some newspaper in Calvert, Howard, Kent and Baltimore counties, or otherwise of the acceptance or the rejection of this act by the majority of the legal votes cast at said election; and if said act shall be rejected, it shall be null and void, but if said act be accepted, then shall take effect from the date of the modification of said clerks of said commissioners, and they shall then proceed to execute its provisions in the manner and at the times and places prescribed in the foregoing sections.

Sec. 20. And be it enacted, That Worcester, Somerset, Talbot, Queen Anne's, Prince George's and Charles counties are hereby included in and subjected to all the provisions of this act, as fully as if it had been so expressed in the preceding sections thereof.

TRIPS OF
New Schooner "Easton,"
TO EASTON POINT.



THE subscribers having had built a new Schooner of fine proportion, a good sailer, and in every respect calculated to assure great safety, would most respectfully inform their friends and the public generally that they intend to run her regularly from Easton Point.

The "Easton" will leave Easton Point every *Wednesday morning* for Baltimore, and return from Baltimore to the Point every *Saturday*.—The usual prices for freight will be charged.—The Schooner, while in Baltimore, may be found at Tobacco Warehouse, No. 2. Wm. S. Pauson, will attend to the business of the boat in her absence. Orders from Easton, left at the Drug Store of Dawson & Bro., accompanied by the *Cash*, will be promptly attended to.

E. T. LEONARD, Captain.

THE AGNES.

THE Schooner *Agnes* has also just been rebuilt, and will ply anywhere on the River where business may call her.

Both of these Schooners are well suited for the freighting business and cannot be surpassed by any on the Choptank River or Chesapeake Bay.

Being thankful for the patronage heretofore bestowed by the public, the subscribers, intend to use every exertion to merit a continuance of the same.

R. LEONARD,
aug 25-1y Captain.

Touton-Field Nurseries.
50,000
Choice and Select Peach Trees for Sale by
EDWARD J. CARTER.
Near Willow Grove, Kent Co., Del.

PEACH TREES—Troth's Early Red, Yellow Rareripe, Early York, Extra Early York, Vansant's Superb, Early Orange, George IV., Crawford's Early Melocoton, Honest John, Red Cheek Melocoton, Morris White, Old Mixon Cling, Old Mixon Free, Large Red Cling, Large White Free, Crawford's Late Melocoton, Magnum Bonum, Red Rareripe, Cassiday's Late Red Rareripe, Orange, Crier's Late Free, Smock Free, Heath Cling, Heath Free, Delaware White, Algiers Winter, Late White Free, Carter's New Seedling, Late October, Todd's Genuine Silver Medal Premium. Price $80 per thousand; $9 per hundred, for three hundred or upwards; and $10 per hundred for one or two hundreds, at the Nursery.

GRAPES—Catawba, Isabella, and Clinton. Price, 25 to 37½ cents, according to size.

QUINCES—Angers and Orange. Price, 25 to 50 cents each.

CURRANTS—Red Dutch. Price, 12½ cents each; $1.25 per dozen.

RASPBERRIES—American Black. Price, $1 per doz.

GOOSEBERRIES.—Honton's Seedling, and several other varieties. Price, $1.25 per dozen.

SHADE TREES—White Maple. Price, 25 cents each; $20 per hundred.

OSIER WILLOWS, for Basket Making.—Eight varieties. Price, Rooted Plants, $1.50 per dozen: Cuttings, $5 per thousand.

☞ Peach Trees delivered within any reasonable distance from the Nurseries; on the Delaware Railroad, at Denton, Md., or Centreville, Md. A reasonable charge made in each case for delivery.

Persons ordering Trees will please state whether they wish them packed or not. We make a small extra charge for packing.

Touton-Field Nursery is on the road leading from the Willow Grove and Greensborough road to Smith's Mill, about six miles from the former and eight miles from the latter place. Orders directed to Willow Grove, Kent county, Del., will be promptly attended to.

JOHN C. SEWARD, Agent,
sep 8-6m Talbot County, Md.

SOAP.—Rosin, Chemical, Olive and Soda Soap, constantly on hand, also an assortment of Toilet Soaps for sale by
ja 28 J. P. BLAKE.

VANILLA BEANS, also extracts of Vanilla, Lemon, Orange and Almond for flavoring ice cream, custard, cake, &c., for sale by
june 9 DAWSON & BRO.

For the Easton Gazette.

The Regatta.

O, bright was the morn,
And auspicious the day;
And the dark blue waters
Of Chesapeake Bay,
Danced gay in the sun-light,—
A beautiful smile,
Encircled the form,
Of an emerald isle.

Our craft dashed along,
O'er the briny wave,
Like a sea-gull dipping
His bosom to lave,
Its snow white plumage
In the crystal stream,
Flashing so gaily
In the morning's beam.

Soon a white cloud hovered
Around the point shore,
Of handsome canoes,
Some twenty and more;
With pretty flags flying,
And sails spread wide,
To catch every zephyr
That comes o'er the tide.

Fair ladies were there,
In beauty and grace,
To look on, and witness
This beautiful race.
The regatta, full worthy
Intelligent men,
And worthy a club
Of *gentlemen ten*.

Now the cream of the sport,
Was when at the start,
They swept past the judges,
As swift as a dart.
Like racers, close after
Each other they came,
All known by their flags,
Their color or name.

Up the river they flew,
Like birds on the wing,
And the leader led on,
As brave as a King:
With well fitting sheets
Swelling out to the gale,
Assuredly, nothing
Could equal that sail.

The "war-eagle," headed
The beautiful fleet,—
"Minnehaha," smiling
So charming and sweet,
"Hiawatha" pursued,
With his arms spread wide,
To catch if he could,
His beautiful bride.

Past Cambridge they swept,
And on, till at last,
We could scarcely discern
A sail or a mast.
Spy glasses, operas,
Into service were brought,
And the ladies at length
A far prospect caught.

The gay Erie larks
Quite a long dive had made,
Behind the blue waves,
And a distant parade,
As on the Atlantic,
Of sails peeped up,
And at last, we could guess
Who was winning the cup.

The little Outcast.

'Mayn't I stay, ma'am? I'd do anything you give me—cut wood, go after water, and do all your errands."

The trouble eyes of the speaker filled with tears. It was a lad that stood at the outer door pleading with a kindly-looking woman, who still, seemed to doubt his good intentions.

The cottage sat by itself on a bleak moor, or what in Scotland would have been called such. The time was near the end of November, a fierce wind rattled the boughs of the only naked tree near the house, and ever and anon a shivering sound into the narrow door way, as if seeking for warmth at the blazing fire within.

Now and then a snow flake touched, with its soft chill, the cheek of the listener, or whitened the angry redness of the poor boy's beaumbed hands.

The woman was evidently loth to grant the boy's request, and the peculiar look stamped upon his features would have suggested to any mind an idea of depravity far beyond his years.

But her mother's heart could not resist the sorrow in those large, but not handsome grey eyes.

"Come in, at any rate, till the gudeman comes home; there, sit down by the fire; you look perishing with cold." And she drew a rude chair up to the warmest corner, then, suspiciously glancing at the child from the corners of her eyes she continued setting the table for supper.

Presently came the tramp of heavy shoes, the door swung open with a quick jerk, and the 'gudeman' presented himself, weary with labor.

A look of intelligence passed between his wife and himself—he, too, scanned the boy's face with an expression not evincing satisfaction, but nevertheless, made him come to the table, and then enjoyed the zest with which he dispatched his supper.

Day after day passed, and yet the boy begged to be kept 'only till to-morrow,' so the good couple after due consideration, concluded that so long as he was docile and worked so heartily, they would retain him.

One day, in the middle of winter, a peddler, long accustomed to trade at the cottage, made his appearance, and disposed of his goods readily, as he had been wanted for.

'You have a boy out there splitting wood, I see,' he said, pointing to the yard.

'Yes; do you know him?'

'I have seen him,' replied the peddler evasively.

'And where?—who is he?—what is he?'

'A jail-bird!' and the peddler swung his pack over his shoulder; 'that boy, young as he looks, I saw in the court myself and heard his sentence—ten months; he's a hard one—you'd do well to look keenful arter him.'

Oh! there was something so horrible in the word 'jail,' the poor woman trembled as she laid away her purchases, nor could she be easy till she had called the boy in and assurred him that she knew the dark part of his history.

Ashamed and distressed, the child hung down his head; his cheeks seemed bursting with his hot blood; his lip quivered, and anguish was painted vividly upon his forehead, as if the words were branded in his flesh.

'Well,' he muttered, his whole frame relaxing as if a burden of guilt or joy had suddenly rolled off; 'I may as well go to ruin at once—there's no use in my trying to be better—every one hates and despises me—nobody cares about me. I may as well go to ruin at once!'

'Tell me,' said the woman, who stood off far enough for flight, if that should be necessary; 'how came you to go, so young to that dreadful place? Where was your mother?'

'Oh!' exclaimed the boy, with a burst of grief that was terrible to behold, 'Oh!' I hain't got no mother—oh! I hain't had no mother ever since I was a baby. If I'd only a mother,' he continued, his anguish growing venement, and the tears gushing out of his strange-looking grey eyes, 'I wouldn't 'a been bound out, and kicked and cuffed, and laid on to with whips; I wouldn't 'a got knocked down, and then run away, and stole because I was hungry. Oh! I hain't got no mother since I was a baby!'

The strength was all gone from the poor boy, and he sank on his knees sobbing great choking sobs, and rubbing the hot tears away with his knuckles. And did that woman stand there unmoved? Did she coldly bid him pack up and be off—the jail-bird?

No, no, she had been a mother, and, although all her children slept under the cold sod in the church yard, was a mother still.

She went up to the poor boy, not to hasten him away, but to lay her fingers kindly, softly on his head—to tell him to look up, and from henceforth *find in her a mother*. Yes, she even put her arm about the neck of that forsaken, deserted child—she poured from her mother's heart sweet womanly words, words of counsel and tenderness.

Oh! how sweet was her sleep that night—how soft was her pillow! She had linked a poor suffering heart to hers by the most silken—the strongest bonds of love. She had plucked some thorns from the path of a little sinning but striving mortal. None but angels could witness her holy joy, and not enjoy.

Did the boy leave her?

Never—he is with her still; a vigorous, manly, promising youth. The low character of his countenance has given place to an open, pleasing expression, with depth enough to make it an interesting study. His foster-father is dead, his good foster-mother aged and sickly, but she knows no want. The once poor outcast in her only dependence, and nobly does he repay the trust.

'He that saveth a soul from death, hideth a multitude of sins.'

An Important Opinion--The Post Office not to be used as a Fraud.

The United States Attorney General has given an opinion sustaining the action of the Postmaster of Baltimore, who refused to deliver letters addressed to fictitious persons or firms. The Attorney General says the Postmaster has authority under the laws to prevent the service from being used for fraudulent purposes. It is a very common practice for sharpers to use the postal service to carry on their operations more widely, and teach persons otherwise beyond their scope, and to operate altogether under fictitious names. According to the Attorney General's opinion, the Postmaster would have authority and be justified in withholding those letters and send them to the Dead Letter Office, when satisfied that the name has been assumed to cheat and defraud the public.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE,
July 21, 1860.

Sir—Certain letters addressed to Emory & Co., Baltimore, were taken by regular course of mail to that city, but they were seen by the Postmaster there to the Dead Letter Office. They were claimed by Mr. E. N. Carr, who asserted that he has a right to receive them, inasmuch as he was doing business under that name and style; but the Postmaster regarded E—— & Co., as a fictitious firm, and acted under section 80 of the regulations, which declared that "letters and packages addressed to fictitious persons or firms, or to no particular persons or firm, not being deliverable according to the regulations, are to be returned at the end of each month to the Dead Letter Office."

The right of the Post Office Department to make a regulation which will prevent the service from being prostituted to purposes of fraud, has, I believe, never been denied.

With that end in view, you certainly have power to order the non-delivery of letters addressed to any person under a name which you know to have been assumed, as part of a system intended to cheat and defraud the public. But the fraudulent intent ought to be clear, for you are not invested with any authority to carry on an extended inquiry into private affairs of persons who receive letters by mail, nor have you the means of associating with correctness what they are. It should also be remembered that the mere misnomer of a firm is not sufficient grounds for saying that the name is fictitious, neither is a firm an imaginary one because the style of it has no reference to the name of its members; nor can you stop a letter on the sole ground that it is addressed to a person whose employment is immoral, it being the duty of the State government, and not the Post Office Department, to punish such offences. But in the case under consideration, if there be a legitimate business of any kind carried on by C——, under the name of E—— & Co., if he has caused letters to be addressed to Baltimore in a name which is merely imaginary, if his correspondents do not know whom they are writing to, and if in addition to this you find the fact to be that C—— is using his firm for dishonest purposes, then the measure taken by the Postmaster at Baltimore ought to be sustained. Yours, &c.,

J. S. BLACK.

Hon. Joseph Holt, Postmaster General.

From the Annapolis Gazette.

The Oyster War.

Sheriff Ireland and posse have recently effected the capture of four vessels for violation of the Oyster Laws, and advertised them for sale.

The oyster catchers of Annapolis, some fifty or sixty in number, have formed themselves into an association to further the execution of the laws against oyster pirates. They had an informal meeting on Saturday evening last, and will meet again to perfect their organization.—The Sheriff of the county has requested them to notify him of any infraction of law, and has promised to use all his power to arrest and punish the parties. It is certainly proper that this association should be formed, and we look for great good to eventuate from it.

The "Miles, Morgan & Co." who have given so much alarm to the oystermen, have not, it seems, abandoned their iniquitous scheme. The following advertisement is taken from the column headed "Sales of Real Estate," in the New York *Herald*:

Oyster Banks, Oyster Bars, Oyster Beds, Oyster Lands of the Chesapeake Bay for Sale. The State of Maryland, sole owner of all the vacant and unoccupied lands above and under the water of the navigable bays and rivers within the State, has determined to sell her said lands, and the last session of her General Assembly did enact a law for the sale and disposal of all said lands, and for the valuable considerations, which she has duly acknowledged, did issue land warrants to the parties now holding, for all the lands covered by the waters of the Chesapeake Bay, lying in and contiguous to all the tide water counties, as also all the navigable rivers. These lands embrace and are covered by all the oyster banks and bars of Maryland, from which thirty millions of dollars' worth are annually taken for the supply of the oyster markets of New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore. These rich and boundless oyster lands are now offered by the warrants from the Land-Office of Maryland with the seal affixed, and the faith of the State pledged to issue an indisputable title direct to the purchaser. The warrants range from 1,000 to 20,000 acres each, in all the counties, all the bay and all the rivers, are now offered for sale to individuals and companies, at $3 per acre, half cash, balance 6 and 12 months. A list of the warrants will be forwarded if desired, and to secure a warrant, application must be made in person or by agent, at the office in Baltimore, 19½ South street. By order.

JAMES P. ARCHER & Co.,
Agents U. C. L. Co.

Baltimore, Sept. 4, 1860.

Speech of Ex-Gov. Francis Thomas of Maryland.

Ex-Gov. Thomas delivered a speech before a meeting of citizens of all parties assembled at Piedmont, Va., on the 20th ult. In introducing a report of the speech, the Piedmont Independent says:

"It should be remembered that Gov. Thomas, though at one time the leading spirit in governmental affairs in the Democratic party, a leading and shining member of the Bar, has lived in almost absolute retirement for some ten years, and only consented to give his views upon the questions that now agitate the country merely to gratify his friends in this community."

The speech is a remarkable effort of close argument and of happy illustration. He said that even if Mr. Lincoln should be, unfortunately for the country, elected, there would be no just foundation for that degree of apprehension concerning our slavery institutions which an organized party in the South hoped to use for their monstrous purposes.

MR. BELL AND POLITICAL PLATFORMS.

After expressing the opinion that the Kansas policy of the Administration had its origin in the belief that the approval by Congress of the Lecompton Constitution was necessary to quiet Southern excitement on the slavery question, Gov. Thomas gave his reasons for believing that Mr. Bell, with whom he had been well acquainted many years ago in Congress, would prove himself to be, in the event of his election, eminently qualified for the discharge of the duties imposed upon the Chief Magistrate. The refusal of the convention that nominated Mr. Bell to construct a platform was an objection to him unworthy of consideration. It was difficult to conceive of a more unprofitable employment than that of constructing platforms for the adoption of party conventions. Papers of that character were generally prepared by those who understood how to use words of double meaning, so that it was easy to give to the resolutions adopted more than one construction.

In 1856 resolutions declaratory of the opinions of the Democratic party on the subject of slavery were adopted by the Convention that nominated Mr. Van Buren for the Presidency. A Democratic member of Congress at that time, from Georgia, introduced one of these resolutions into the House of Representatives and moved its adoption, expecting that every Whig member from the North would vote against it; and in that event the journal could be used to satisfy the people of the South that the Whigs of that section were associated politically with Northern men who were unsound on the slavery question. The yeas and nays were called upon the resolution, and, much to the astonishment of the mover, every member of the House voted in the affirmative. Mr. Adams being first called, first answered yea, and then laughed heartily at the future of the mover to perceive that the resolution had been drawn so that members of the Democratic Convention might conceal, not disclose their opinions. Mr. Bell's platform was to be found in his past life and conduct—and in the past conduct of candidates sensible men would always look when they desired to find the means to judge as to the future conduct of all who sought public station.

This platform making had been the death of the democratic party. Voluminous commentaries upon the Cincinnati platform, upon Mr. Davis' resolutions in the Senate, upon the majority and minority platforms at Charleston, and upon the platforms of the Democratic and of the seceding conventions of Baltimore; and in every section of the United States at this moment Democrats were wrangling and tangling in their vain attempts to get from these platforms, distinguished for their humorous distribution of material, a sensible rule of public conduct. It was surprising that no one had become crazy of those who had read all the Democratic platforms, with the commentaries thereon, which were published from time to time during the last five and twenty years, to make known to the public the opinions of the Democratic party on the slavery question.

THE RECORD OF THE DISUNIONISTS.

It cannot be doubted, but that a large majority of our Northern fellow citizens are now loyal to the Constitutional rights of the South, and would abide by decisions of the United States Courts, and cursed be the citizen of a Southern State that would not be equally loyal to the rights of his neighbors and friends. In such a state of public feeling as now exists, when threats against our glorious Union are ringing in our ears, not threats uttered alone by mad fanatics of the North, but by grave Senators and Governors of States, and other leading statesmen of the South, would it be wise and prudent for the people of Maryland and Virginia to follow the lead—act under the advice and support the favorite candidate for the Presidency of Senator Davis of Mississippi, of Mr. Yancey of Alabama, and Mr. Rhett of South Carolina—all and every one of whom have declared that the Union ought to be dissolved if the Republican candidate for the Presidency be elected?

Would the people of Maryland and Virginia adhere to Mr. Breckinridge when his leading supporters declare that in the event of Mr. Lincoln's election they will favor a dissolution of the Union, when it is obvious that by continuing to be a candidate Mr. Breckinridge assists to defeat the candidate of a majority of the Democratic party, and thus contributes to bring about a result which his own friends say will justify an assault upon the integrity of the Union. In a speech delivered at Jackson, Mississippi, *Senator Davis has declared "If an Abolitionist should be chosen President* of the United States, I will state my own position to be that such a result would be a species of revolution by which the purposes of the government would be destroyed, and the observance of its mere forms entitled to no respect. In that event, in such manner as should be most expedient, *I should deem it your duty to provide for your safety outside the Union.*"

In a speech delivered at Montgomery, in Alabama, in 1858, Mr. Yancey declared that "a unity of a climate, a unity of soil, a unity of production, and unity of social relations," constituted that unit *"which alone can be the basis of a successful and permanent Government."* And as we all know that there are not these unities but varieties of soil, climate and productions, and of the social relations under our present Government of the United States, *Mr. Yancey has in effect declared that this Government ought not in his judgement to exist.* This being Mr. Yancey's opinion, in June, 1858, he wrote that well-known letter which has been published throughout the country, in which he says let us "do as our fathers did, organize committees of safety all *over the Cotton States (and it is only in them that we can hope for any effective movement,")* and *"fire the Southern heart*—instruct the Southern mind—give courage to each other, and at the proper moment, by one organized concerted action, *he can precipitate the Cotton States into a Revolution,"* and advises his friends to keep up their old party relations on all other questions, but still to hold the Southern issue paramount, and influence parties, legislatures and statesmen.

This same gentleman, in a speech delivered a few days ago, at Washington city, openly, frankly proclaimed that he was not a *party man;* and yet he is now traveling, from place to place, addressing Democratic meetings. Ought such a man sought a seat in a Democratic Convention, which, more than any other member, he assisted to destroy, and is, we have a right to believe, now engaged, not in harmonizing, but in distracting and defeating that party which stood, like a lion in the path of that disunion of which he is the champion? Thus pursuing the very course he had in his letter advised his friends to take, holding a dissolution of the Union paramount to all other objects.

Mr. Rhett, of South Carolina, soon after Mr. Buchanan's election said, "all true statesmanship in the South consists in forming combinations and shaping events so as to *bring about a dissolution of the present Union, and the establishment of a Southern Confederacy.*" These quotations were made under no feeling of personal disrespect for the authors of such declarations.—These gentlemen have a right to form and express such opinions, and no doubt they are, when engaged thus, in forming combinations and shaping events so as to fire the Southern heart, precipitate the Cotton States into a revolution, and bring about the establishment of a Southern Confederacy satisfied in their own hearts and minds that this is, in all respects, a proceeding wise, patriotic and humane. And in the face of such opinions, coming as they did from statesmen of acknowledged high character, of wide-spread influence, and of stern purposes, these speaker standing as he had ever done, in awe of no human intellect, of no human combinations would, and hundreds of thousands of brave men of Maryland and Virginia, would also echo that patriotic sentiment which came from the heart of a glorious old companion in arms of Washington:

"Frenzied be the head that would plot to dismember, and palzied be the arm that would not draw to defend our Union."

[From the Denton American Union.]

Out for Bell and Everett.

We publish below, the following communication from Mr. A. J. Willis of this county, from which it will be seen, that Mr. Willis, like an honest, sensible man goes for the election of Bell and Everett. Mr. Willis was elected a State Senator from this county, in 1850 by the Democrate Party, and was last fall a candidate on the Democrate Delegate ticket for this county, and in his own district, received a heavy vote, about 100 majority. We give his letter in his own words:—

POTTER'S LANDING, Sept. 28th, 1860.

To the Editor of the Union:—

It is with feelings of the deepest regret, while I acknowledge the profound respect I entertain for men who are acting with the distracted democracy, that I am compelled, from a sense of duty, which I owe, no less to myself, than my country, to give my support to Bell and Everett, as the most available candidates to defeat the Republican factions of the North and the seceders of the South. I believe the nomination of Mr. Breckinridge equally as sectional with that of Mr. Lincoln. It was made in direct conflict with all the usages of the Democratic party, and the nomination cannot be considered other than a sectional illegitimacy.

Every man who values the Union, and who cannot but see the perilous condition of the country, should exert himself to defeat the efforts of the two factions, thereby burying in one common political grave forever, those principles of disunion. If it was right for ex-Governor Pratt and Jas. A. Pearce, to call on the old line Whigs in 1850 to save the country from Northern fanaticism, how much more apparent must it be now, when the seceders are proclaiming a dissolution of the Union by precipitating the cotton States into a revolution, the result of which would be civil war; from which human blood would flow as it did from the slaughter of the Jews, and which history tells us, ran four miles to the sea. Look at the massacre of St. Domingo, and what the rebels have done in Syria and China. Read the rise and fall of Empires, and if human nature is the same, and like causes produce like results, then may we tremble for our future safety. It is time for rational men to reflect and ponder these things, and if it be possible, rally the conservative masses of the people to the support of the "Constitution, the Union and the Enforcement of the Laws."

Like Hannibal, the old Carthegenian, we should lead our sons to our country's alter, and there administer the oath of allegiance to support the Constitution—point them to the toil and sacrifices of our ancesters—show them their exalted patriotism, and advise them if possible to emulate their virtues. Teach them like the noble Cato, "the that is for my country I am with him, but he that is against my country, my sword is against him." Or like Dantatus if "Rome falls I am innocent."

In the election of Bell and Everett I hope to see peace restored to this distracted country, the arts and sciences prosper, the enactment of good and wholesome laws, and every safeguard thrown around the people necessary for their protection. I hope to see even handed justice dealt out to all men, the rights of the North and the South protected, and finally and forever, a speedy settlement of the "nigger" question, from which has grown all the evils to the country, and the Democratic party. Believing, therefore, Bell and Everett to be honest, competent, and capable of discharging this high trust, I am willing to give them my hearty and zealous support.

I am respectfully, &c.,

A. J. WILLIS.

Keep it Before the People.

Let it be continually dinned into the ears of Democrats North and South, that a vote for Breckinridge is a vote for Lincoln. Let Democracy be compelled to drink now to the very dregs from the same cup it presented the Fillmore men in 1856. There is no avoiding the conclusion that the contest is narrowed down to Bell and Lincoln. Politicians who don't want to acknowledge this will of course deny it. The Democratic party was in a minority in nearly every Northern State when united. Divided as it is—irrevocably divided—it is necessarily powerless. In the South the division in its ranks is even more radical, and while the Union ticket is daily receiving accession from the more conservative element of the country, and thus growing in strength, the schism in the Democratic party is of such a character as to leave no reasonable doubt that Bell and Everett will get a plurality, except in South Carolina, where the people are not allowed to vote for President except through their Legislature. Every vote for Breckinridge is a vote indirectly for Lincoln.

HOW TO PRONOUNCE "OUGH."—The ending syllable "ough," which is such a terror to foreigners, is shown up in its several pronunciations in the following lines:—

Wife, make me some dumplings of dough—
They're better than meat for my cough;
Pray, let them be boiled till hot through,
But not till they're heavy and tough,
Now I must be off to the plough;
And the boys, when they've had enough,
Must keep the flies off with a bough,
While the old mare drinks at the trough.

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