THE GAZETTE IS PUBLISHED EVERY
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.

VOL. XLIII. EASTON, MD., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1860. No. 43.

ADVETISEMENTS,

Of one square (10 lines,) inserted ONE OF 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 232.

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 authorzed 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 same 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 districts, 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, the same 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. Paulson, 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 Seeding, Late October, Todd's Genuine Silver Medal Premium. Price $50 per thousand; $7 per hundred, for three hundred or upwards; and $8 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 40 cents each.

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

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

GOOSEBERRIES.—Honton's Seeding, 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, or at Denton, Centreville, Hillsborough or Rolph's Landing, 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
ju 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.

Lines on a Skeleton.

This poem appeared in the London Morning Chronicle just forty years ago. A reward of fifty guineas failed to bring out its authorship, nor is it yet known :

Behold this ruin! 'Twas a skull,
Once of ethereal spirit full.
This narrow cell was Life's retreat,
This space was Thought's mysterious seat.
What beauteous visions filled this spot,
What dreams of pleasure, long forgot.
Nor Hope, nor Love, nor Joy, nor Fear,
Have left one trace of record here.

Beneath this mouldering canopy
Once shone the bright and busy eye;
But, start not at the dismal void—
If social Love that eye employed;
If with no lawless fire it gleamed.
But through the dews of kindness beamed.
That eye shall be forever bright
When stars and suns are sunk in Night.

With this hollow cavern hung
The ready, swift, and tuneful tongue.
If Falsehood's honey it disdained,
And where it could not praise, was chained;
If bold in virtue's cause it spoke,
Yet gentle Concord never broke!
This silent Tongue shall plead for thee
When Time unvails Eternity.

Say, did these fingers delve the mine?
Or with its envied rubies shine?
To hew the rock, or wear the gem,
Can little now avail to them.
But if the page of Truth they sought,
Or comfort to the mourner brought,
These hands a richer meed shall claim
Than all that wait on Wealth or Fame.

Avails it, whether bare or shod,
These feet the paths of Duty trod!
If from the bowers of ease they fled,
To seek Affliction's humble shed;
If Grandeur's guilty bribe they spurned,
And home to Virtue's cot returned,
These feet with angels' wings shall vie,
And tread the palace of the sky.

Another Letter from the Hon. Amos Kendall.

THE QUESTION OF DISSOLUTION.

WASHINGTON, October, 1860.

To the Editors of the Constitution:

Your paper for a few days past has forcibly reminded me of the days of President Jackson, when Amos Kendall was the theme of a thousand scribblers. Circumstances, however, have somewhat changed. Then he was abused by the enemies of the Old Hero and his Administration; now by the organ of an Administration which claims to be his friends. Who has changed? Is it Amos Kendall, who has not uttered a sentiment which is not an echo of those avowed and acted upon by that purest of patriots?—Or is it certain men who claim his mantle while they repudiate his most dearly cherished principles? When he heard disunion foreshadowed in dinner-table speeches, he rebuked it in his celebrated toast—"*The Federal Union—It must be Preserved!*" and when he saw the sentiment about to be reduced to practice, by his eloquent and patriotic appeal he called into existence one hundred and fifty thousand volunteers to preserve it. Because I alluded to that fact, and expressed the opinion that, should a similar emergency arise, two hundred thousand would respond to a similar call, you denounce me as a bloody monster, ready to slaughter "women and children!"—Yet, no eulogy is too strong for you to bestow on Gen. Jackson.

You are right in the caption with which you head your comments on my letter to Col. Orr —"*Threats will never bring peace.*" For two months past, the papers controlled by the enemies of the Union in the South have teemed with threats of disunion in the event of Mr. Lincoln's election, and my letter was in response to a startling threat of that description. There will not be peace until these threats cease, or until Southern Union men cut loose from the enemies of the Union and cordially unite with the friends of the Constitution in the North to put down Black Republicanism on the one hand and Disunionism on the other. I made no threat; you have misapplied the sentiment of your caption.

Your strictures upon myself need no reply.—If I have not, during a life of seventy-one years, a large portion of which has been spent in public positions, established a private and political character which no name you can give me can mar, and no association in which you may place me can taint, it is useless for me to care for the future. It is a higher aim than self-defence or self-distinction which induces me to resume my pen.

Sir, it is a sad sight to see the organ of a Democratic Administration attempting to establish the doctrine that it would in any event be a crime in the President to defend the Constitution and enforce the laws of the United States constitutionally enacted. Disguise it as you will, your doctrine amounts to this and nothing less. Already the peculiar organ of nullification in the South is recommending secession while Mr. Buchanan is still in office, upon the assumption that he may not enforce the laws and defend the Constitution, which by his official oath he is bound to do.—Doubtless the assumption is unwarranted, though justified by the tone of his acknowledged organ.

Let it be remembered that the question is not now what the South ought to do in case of an actual and irremediable outrage upon her rights and institutions. The threat is to *secede if Mr. Lincoln is elected*. Will his mere election absolve the people of the South from their allegiance to the Constitution and laws of the United States, or relieve the President from the duty of defending the one and executing the other? This is the real question under discussion.

You talk about *coercing States*. States are not the subjects upon which the Constitution and laws of the United States operate. They cannot commit treason nor be hanged as traitors. But neither can they, by any act of theirs, absolve their citizens from their allegiance to the United States.

The Constitution contains the following provision, viz: "The Constitution and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof,

* * *shall be the supreme law of the land*, and the judges in every State shall be bound thereby, *anything in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding*."

The same Constitution declares, that "Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort."

It also declares that the President "shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed," and prescribes to him the following oath, viz.:

"*I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States.*"

Now, suppose Mr. Lincoln were elected, and a citizen of Charleston, acting with or without the sanction of the State authorities, having a cargo of sugar entering the port, should refuse to pay the legal duties, and with an armed party should resist the officers attempting to collect them, thus levying war against the United States, do you think the President would be faithful to his duty and true to his oath if he did not, if necessary, use the militia, the army and navy, in "*taking care that the laws be faithfully executed*," and in "*preserving, protecting and defending the Constitution of the United States?*" Could he, without official perjury, and becoming a traitor himself, fold his arms and say *this would be coercing a State*, and under such a plea suffer the Constitution and laws to be subverted? If bloodshed ensued, who would be responsible—the President, who would "*to the best of his ability*," attempting to perform his sworn duty, or the traitors who were attempting to subvert the Government?

Your doctrine, I suppose, is that the State authorities or a State Convention may declare a State out of the Union, and thus absolve all its citizens from allegiance to the United States.

Now, each State, by a convention elected by the people, agreed with every other State, by the adoption of the Constitution, that all its provisions and the laws passed in pursuance thereof, should be "*the supreme law of the land*."

They all agreed to take a portion of the power theretofore possessed by their respective State governments and vest them in a common government (based on precisely the same authority as their State governments,) whose Constitution, and the laws passed in pursuance thereof, should be above the reach of all State authority. How, then, can any act of a State absolve its citizens from obedience to this "*supreme law of the land*," declared by its highest authority, a convention elected by the people, to be binding, "*anything in the Constitution and laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding*."

To me it is a wonder that any man can entertain an idea to my mind so absurd. The theory of our Government obviously is that the citizen owes allegiance to his State Government *to the extent of its reserved powers*, and to the General Government *to the extent of its granted powers*, and that no act of the General Government can relieve him from allegiance to his State, and no act of his State can relieve him from his allegiance to the United States.

Let me not be misunderstood. I do not deny the right of rebellion in the people of any State when unconstitutional outrages shall be committed on their rights and institutions, and all hope for redress by peaceful means has vanished.—But I deny that the language of aspiring demagogues, or the election of one of them to the Presidency, would constitute such an outrage, though a just cause for alarm.

I also deny that in such an event the South would be without hope of redress. It is not to be found, however, in personal denunciations of eminent Democrats, in attempting to force on the Democratic party new and useless issues, or in threats of disunion. Let all this cease, now and forever. Be just to the Northern Democracy; in devotion to the Union emulate Washington and Jackson, and you will rally an irresistible force, who, by the aid of the ballot box only, will rescue your institutions from danger and firmly maintain every constitutional right.

You say that Southern men are demanding only their constitutional rights. Do you think they have a "constitutional right" *to destroy the Constitution?* Such, indeed, is the claim of a right to secede from the Union, if based on any other ground than a right of rebellion for gross and irremediable wrongs.

You say that the South Carolinians "will even suspect that he (meaning me) is governed by disappointment and the revenge consequent thereon," and that, "under other circumstances, he entertained another sort of sentiments."

I plead guilty to the charge of disappointment though it has filled me with sorrow rather than revenge. My disappointment was in the apparent fact that the present Administration had not the sagacity to perceive that their policy would inevitably destroy the Democratic party, and minister to the designs of those whose ultimate object is the destruction of the Union.

As evidence of *my* inconsistency, you quote certain sayings of Senator Douglas! I might, with propriety, demur to this testimony; but I adopt those quotations as in the main my sentiments then and now unchanged and unchangeable. I believe that fealty to the Constitution in the North and in the South is the only means by which the Union can be preserved. I do not doubt that when the theory of Senator Seward, false in fact, and treasonable in design, that slave labor and free labor cannot exist in the same community, becomes the settled rule of action in the General Government, the Union will come to an end. But my faith is equally strong that it is in the power of the friends of the Constitution in the South, by a cordial union with its friends in the North, to avert this catastrophe and all its consequent calamities.

In conclusion, I implore you, and those who act with you, to abandon your denunciations of men with whom you must ultimately act in preserving the Constitution and State institutions, if they are to be preserved at all. Do not further verify the old maxim, of "Whom God intends to destroy he first makes mad." That the cordial co-operation of the supporters of Breckinridge, Douglas and Bell might have prevented the triumph of Black Republicanism, and may hereafter render its triumph transient and innocuous, no observing man can doubt. Why, then, not labor to bring them together instead of thrusting them further apart? Is the new-fangled dogma on which the Charleston Convention split, or any theoretical claim to the right of secession, of more importance than the preservation of the Union, the Constitution, the peace, the happiness, the prosperity and the glory of the country, hitherto unequalled by those of any other people on the face of the earth? or shall Black Republicanism in the North and secessionism in the South be allowed to cut asunder our bond of union and divide us into hostile States, occasionally drenching our now joyous fields in the blood of their cultivators? Any man who thinks this Union can be peaceably broken up, or, if it could, that peace could always be maintained between its fragments, shuts his eyes to the events of our own age and is deaf to the lessons of history.

AMOS KENDALL.

Can't Cook.

It is a sad defect when young ladies are incapable of directing their own servants—shoes without soles, or waist bands without a shirt are not more useless than one of these. One day shortly after his marriage, a young merchant went home, and seeing no dinner ready, and his wife's appearance anxious and confused asked:

"What's the matter?"

"Nancy went off at ten o'clock this morning, and the chambermaid knows no more about cooking than the man in the moon."

"Could she not have done it under your directions?" inquired the husband very coolly.

"Under my directions! I should like to see a dinner cooked under my directions."

"Why?" asked the husband in surprise, "you do not mean to say that you cannot cook a dinner."

"I certainly do," replied the wife; "how should I know anything about cooking."

The husband was silent, but his look of astonishment perplexed and worried his wife.

"You look very much surprised," she said, after a moment or two had elapsed.

"And so I am," he answered, "as much so as I should be at finding the captain of one of my ships unacquainted with navigation. You don't know how to cook, and the mistress of a family. Jane, if there is a cooking school in the city, go to it, and complete your education for it is sadly deficient in a very important particular."

Bladensburg Dueling Ground.

Here in a beautiful little grass plot, surrounded by trees, forms, made after the image of God, come to insult Nature and defy Heaven. In 1814 Edward Hopkins was killed here in a duel. This seemed to be the first of these fashionable murders on this dueling ground.

In 1819 A. T. Mason, a United States Senator from Virginia, fought with his sister's husband, John McCarty, here. McCarty was averse to fighting, and thought there was no necessity for it; but Mason would fight. McCarty named muskets, loaded with grape-shot, and so near together that they would hit heads if they fell on their faces. This was changed by the seconds to loading with bullets, and taking twelve feet as the distance. Mason was killed instantly, and McCarty, who had his collar-bone broken, still lives with Mason's sister in Georgetown. His hair turned white so soon after the fight as to cause much comment. He had since been solicited to act as second in a duel, but refused, in accordance with a pledge he made to his wife soon after killing her brother.

In 1820 Commodore Decatur was killed in a duel here by Commodore Barron. At the first fire both fell forward, with their heads within ten feet of each other; and, as each supposed himself mortally wounded, each fully and freely forgave the other, still lying on the ground. Decatur expired immediately, but Barron eventually recovered.

In 1821 two strangers, named Lega and Sega, appeared here, fought, and Sega, was instantly killed. The neighbors only learned this much of their names from the marks on their gloves left on the ground. Lega was not hurt.

In 1822 Midshipman Locke was killed here by a clerk in the Treasury Department, named Gibson. The latter was not hurt.

In 1826 Henry Clay fought (his second duel) with John Randolph, just across the Potomac, as Randolph preferred to die, if at all, on Virginia soil. He received Clay's shot, and then fired into the air. This was in accordance with a declaration made to Mr. Benton, who spoke to Randolph of a call, the evening before, on Mrs. Clay, alluded to the quiet sleep of her child, and the repose of the mother. Randolph quickly replied: "I shall do nothing to disturb the sleep of the child or the repose of the mother."

The late Gen. Jessup was Clay's second.

When Randolph fired, he remarked:

"I do not shoot at you, Mr. Clay," and extended his hand, advanced toward Clay, who rushed to meet him. Randolph showed Clay where his ball struck his coat, and said facetiously: "Mr. Clay, you owe me a coat."

Clay replied:

"Thank God the debt is no greater!" They were friends ever after.

In 1832 Martin was killed by Carr. Their first names are not remembered. They were from the South.

In 1833 Mr. Key, son of Frank Key, and brother to Barton Key, of Sickles notoriety, met Mr. Sherborn, and exchanged a shot, when Sherborn said:

Mr. Key I have no desire to kill you."

"No matter," said Key, "I came to kill you."

"Very well, then," said Sherborn, "I will kill you." And he did.

In 1838 W. J. Graves, of Kentucky, assuming the quarrel of James Watson Webb with Johnathan Cilley, of Maine, selected this place for Cilley's murder; but the parties learning that Webb, with two friends, Jackson and Merrell, were armed and in pursuit, for the purpose of assassinating Cilley, moved toward the river, and nearer the city. Their pursuers moved toward the river, but missed the parties and then returned to the city, to which they were soon followed by Graves and the corpse of Cilley.

In 1845 a lawyer named Jones fought with and killed Dr. Johnson.

In 1851 R. A. Hoole and A. J. Dallas had a hostile meeting here. Dallas was shot in the shoulder, but recovered.

In 1852 Daniel and Johnson, two Richmond Editors, held a harmless set-to here, which terminated in coffee.

About Corned Beef.

Corned beef, properly salted, and cooked as it should be, is a dish fit for the sovereign people; but to eat salt junk, such as too often exercises the muscles of the jaws, is a penance even for a malefactor. Most of the beef put up for Winter use, is spoiled by the use of too much salt, which destroys the flavor, and makes the meat stringy and tough. When beef is fresh, it contains considerable blood, which is drawn out by the brine. If the meat is left in this mixture, it will require a much larger quantity of salt to preserve it, particularly through warm weather. My plan is to make a brine by using for one hundred pounds of beef, 5 lbs. salt, ¼ oz. saltpeter and 1 lb. brown sugar. This is dissolved in just enough water to cover the meat, and poured upon it. When it has been in this brine two weeks, I take out the meat, let it drain, pour a fresh brine over it, and then it will be good, the season through.

The cook who uses corned beef, should not be so ignorant or so indolent as to delay putting it over the fire until an hour before dinner. A good sized piece requires three or four hours steady boiling to do it justice. Insufficient boiling must be made up for by extra chewing. Always have the water boiling when the meat is dropped in; otherwise the sweetness will be drawn out into the water. A boiling heat hardens the outer surface at once, and thus keeps in the juices which give richness, and which contain most of the nourishment. An excellent way of cooking corned beef is, to have a large boiler, with a wire or wooden rack on the bottom, for the meat to rest on, over the water. When the water boils, place the meat upon the rack, and put on the cover of the boiler, with a cloth over it to keep in the steam. The heat of the steam will rise above the boiling point, and penetrate the meat, and cook it more quickly and better than could be done by boiling.

How to keep Potatoes.

More potatoes are spoiled through sweating than freezing. I never lose any but save them thus: I raise the place six inches where I want the pit or hole, beating it hard with the spade.—I throw the potatoes on, shaping like a pyramid, and cover thickly with straight clean straw. I then commence at the bottom, throwing on the earth and trampling it hard with my feet; one foot thick is plenty. When within a foot of the top, I made a hole in the straw with my hand, and put in a small funnel, one foot long and three inches square. Close the straw tight around the funnel, and cover closely with earth, clapping the whole solid with the spade. Let the funnel remain two weeks, (cover it with a small board in case of rain,) then take it out, close the hole with straw, cover with earth, place a green sod on the top, set four small forked stakes in the ground around the heap, cover with boards to keep off rain, and I will insure your potatoes.—*American Agriculturist.*

A CHILD'S EVENING VERSE.

Watch o'er a little child to-night,
Blest Saviour from above,
And keep me till the morning light
Within thy arms of love.

Cabbages.

The cabbage has lately been chemically examined, in consequence of the failure of the potato, with the view to its substitution for that root.—It is found to be richer in muscle-forming matter than any crop we grow. It contains more fibrin or gluten; of which substance the muscles are made, and hence is richer in the material essential to the health, growth, and strength of the animal. Wheat contains about twelve per cent. of it, beans twenty-five per cent., of this all-important material, of which the principal mass of the animal structure is built.

An acre of land will produce forty tons of cabbage; one acre of forty tons of drumhead cabbage will yield fifteen hundred pounds of gluten; one acre of Swedish turnips will produce about thirty tons, which will yield four hundred pounds of gluten; one acre of twenty-two bushels of wheat will yield two hundred pounds of gluten; one acre of twelve tons of potatoes will yield five hundred and fifty pounds of gluten. Here is the variation in our general crops, as to the amount of this gluten, this special kind of nourishment, this sustaining principle; which accounts for the preference given by experienced farmers to the cabbage as food for stock and milch cows.

The cabbage flourishes best in a moist, rich soil, such as reclaimed swamps; it is more hardy than the turnip in incipient growth; and, at a stage when the whole fields of turnips are liable to be swept off by the fly, cabbage plants enough to set an acre can be effectively protected under a few panes of glass, or a yard or two of gauze in a frame in the garden.

It is best for those farmers who plant cabbages to raise the plant from seed carefully in their gardens, in beds like onions, and then transplant the sprouts, when about six inches high, to the field.

In the early stage of growth, the cabbages requires careful cultivation, most of which, however, may be done with the plough and horse hoe; as soon as the leaves expand and shade the ground, weeds are effectively prevented from growing enough to injure the crop or propagate their seed. This leaves the field in as fine condition for the next crop as could be desired.

Cabbage roots should have plenty of room to shoot away down. The ground for them should be deeply spaded in a garden and ploughed in a field.

Any rich compost or well rotted manure is good for cabbages, coarse or unfermented manure is not good. Ashes, plaster of Paris, bone dust and poudrette, and a little salt will be found beneficial; but, above all, if our farmers could save the urine of their stables and apply that, mixed with two-thirds of rain during a shower, just on the top of the ground, they would find cabbages grow to a very large size, and with firm heads. This plan of manuring has been long practiced by the Dutch, English, and Scotch gardeners.—*Scientific American.*

National Platforms.

The National Intelligencer has an excellent article on "Platforms," maintaining, in the language of the sentiment put forth by the National Union Convention at Baltimore, that the formal "Platforms" adopted by the various partisan organizations of the last few years "have had the effect to mislead and deceive the people, and at the same time to widen the political divisions of the country by the creation and encouragement of geographical and sectional parties." The Intelligencer concludes its article as follows:

We have adverted to the fact that "platforms" were not found necessary to elevate men like Washington, John Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe or John Quincy Adams, into a commanding eminence before the eyes of the nation. What the first President thought of such "pledges" will be learned from the following statement made by himself in view of his probable election to the Chief Magistracy of the United States:

"Should it become inevitably necessary for me to go into the chair of Government, I have determined *to go free of all positive engagements of every nature whatsoever*. This is the answer I have already given to a multiplicity of applications; and I have assigned as the true reason of my conduct the prominent desire I had of *being at liberty to act with a sole reference to justice and the public good*."

The Constitutional Union party, in determining to exact of their chosen standard-bearers no other pledges than such as will leave them, if elected, perfectly free to "act with a sole reference to justice and the public good," have only returned to the maxims and policy of Washington. And if not mistaken in the principles of the Washingtonian era, under this head, they flatter themselves that they are just as little mistaken in the character and qualifications of the distinguished statesmen whom they have selected to be the exemplars of these principles.

A SAD AFFAIR AT NORFOLK.—*A Father Accidentally Shoots His Daughter Dead.*—A most heart-rending accident occurred at Norfolk, Va., on Wednesday evening, affording another awful warning to those handling firearms. It appears that Mr. Jesse T. Newell, a worthy citizen and indulgent parent, went home from business about sunset, and finding his little son playing in the house and yard with a pistol, not supposed to be loaded, took it from him, and while examining it, it was accidentally discharged. The Day Book thus tells the rest of the truly sad story:

Laura, (Mr. Ewell's daughter,) a beautiful and interesting little girl of nine summers, was seated on the steps getting her lesson when the pistol went off, and instantly jumping up she exclaimed, "*Oh! pa, you have killed me!*" As she said this, the blood burst from her nose and mouth! She fell forward and instantly expired. The pistol had been charged with two buckshot, both of which had entered her right breast and perforated her right lung. The great shock, together with the internal hemorrhage, produced almost instant death. Drs. Galt and Bright were almost instantly called, and reached the scene of casualty in a very short time, but too late; the little girl had breathed her last, and a worthy family were overwhelmed with grief. The unhappy father, almost bereft of reason by the distressing and heart-rending accident, sought, in his frenzy, to take his own life. He seized a knife and made a desperate effort to cut his throat, but was prevented from stepping his family in still deeper grief by some of his friends, who happened to rush up in time. Soothing draughts were given him, and he finally became quieted, and retired with an almost broken heart. The unhappy mother of the little one was heard through the live long night sobbing and mourning the untimely death of her child, while the agonizing wail that occasionally rose upon the night, told how deep was the distress of the stricken parents.

A lady's dressing-table is probably called a toilet because it is there that most of their toil is generally performed. Who is responsible for this?

Tom and Joe were talking over their travels, when Tom asked his chum: "Were you ever in Greece?" "No," replied Joe; "but I once fell into a thundering big tub of soap."

"Only marry me, my dear lady, and you will have seen the end of trouble." "Yes, sir; but which end?"

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc2940_scm11033-0886