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 24, 1860. No. 46.

ADVERTISMENTS,

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.

Millinery Goods for Sale
IN THE TRAPPE.

THE subscriber intending to remove from the Trappe at the end of the year, she would sell her Millinery establishment on moderate terms. Her goods are new and saleable, and to any one that may have a desire to engage in the above business they can here get a bargain.—The stand is an excellent one.

sep 22 ELIZA J. GATTIN.

Last and Latest Arrival.

J. RASIN, has just returned from the city and is now opening a very large and handsome assortment of

FALL AND WINTER GOODS,

of all the latest and newest styles, too numerous to name.

MENS & BOYS WEAR, &c.,

all of which I most respectfully invite the public to call and examine.

sep 29 J. RASIN.

SPICES, &c.

Nutmegs,	Black Pepper,
Mace,	Cayenne do.,
Cloves,	Long do.,
Allspice,	White do.,
Ginger,	White Mustard Seed,
Cinnamon,	Black do.,
Mustard,	Turmerie,

Ground and unground, fresh and pure, for sale by (sep 29) DAWSON & BRO.

NEW FALL GOODS.

THE subscriber is now receiving his Stock of *NEW FALL GOODS*, of all descriptions which will be sold very cheap for cash, or on the usual time to punctual responsible customers. Orders promptly and faithfully attended to.

sep 29-S H. C. MACKEY.

NEW GOODS!
GRAND DISPLAY OF
Fall and Winter Clothing.

HAVING just returned from the Monumental city, with a large and varied assortment Gents' Ready-made Clothing, all of which coming from our manufactory, hence, we can safely say that we can sell any thing in the above mentioned line for less money than any other establishment in this town. Our stock is now complete in anything suitable for Men's wear, viz: Frock or Sack Coats, Overcoats, Pants, Vests and a general assortment of Furnishing Goods, Hats, Caps, Perfumery, Cutlery, &c., all of which we are determined to sell for less money than the same goods can be purchased. In short

We invite you all,
Big and small,
Short and tall,
To give us a call,

before purchasing anywhere else and you may rest assured that we can sell you a greater bargain, give you a better fit, made in the latest style and of substantial material, at a lower figure than you ever bought them at before.—Thankful for past favors we desire a continuance of your custom.

LONG & TANNEBAUM,
L. SACKERMAN, Agent,
oct 6 Easton, Md.

NEW GOODS.
FALL 1860!
FIRST OF THE SEASON!
JAMES H. GRACE

HAS just returned from Philadelphia and Baltimore with a very large and beautiful Stock of GOODS, the largest stock brought to this market since 1856—and at prices to suit the times—

For Ladies,
Misses,
Gentlemen
and Boys,

A complete stock of all kinds of wear—large and cheap assortment of black Silks, Morenoes, Cashmeres, DeLaines, Drusilas, Magenta, Rept's, black and black and white Alpaca, an entirely new article, plaid Jacard Challie, plaid Lastings, Corolen Satin, &c., &c., &c. Also an elegant assortment of Cloths, Cassimeres, &c., for Gentlemen and Boys. Full Stock of Gents and Boy's Merino Shirts and Drawers.

Ladies and Misses Merino Vests and an unusually large stock of worked Collars, Swiss and Cambric Edging and Insertings, Infant's Bodies, Mourning Collars, &c., &c., &c. Also Ladies' and Misses' Hoops in large quantities and of every size and lower than ever seen in this market.

Also a complete assortment of

GROCERIES, HARDWARE, QUEENSWARE,

TINWARE, STOVE, &c., &c.

To an examination of which the public are respectfully invited.

sep 22 JAS. H. GRACE.

JESSE HUGHES.
Bargains! Bargains!
IN
BOOTS & SHOES.



THE undersigned, having purchased the entire stock of G. C. Mackey, Esq., is prepared to sell all kinds of *Boots, Shoes Gaiters, &c*, as cheap, if not cheaper than they can be had at any establishment of the kind in Easton, or on the Shore. I have also just returned from the city with a large Stock of *Boots, Shoes, &c.*, of every description, to an inspection of which I invite my friends and the public generally. I think I can offer inducements to all who wish to buy. I am also prepared to manufacture work at short notice and in the best manner, having purchased an excellent stock of leather, and desire that a share of patronage may be bestowed upon me by those who have heretofore favored me, as one of the old firm of Elliott & Hughes. I shall also have repairing done in a neat and workman-like manner, and at very short notice. I have on hand a lot of *Hats, Caps, and Harness*, which I wish to close out at a low figure, to make room for other goods.

I feel very thankful for the very liberal patronage bestowed upon me in times past, and beg a continuance of the same, feeling confident I shall be able to please all who may thus favor me.—Also one or two setts of Furs, for sale at cost.

I remain, the public's obedient servant,

oct 6-1y JESSE HUGHES.

N. B.—There is no connection whatever between my establishment and any other, but each of the old firm acts solely for himself.

A CARD.

THE subscriber having located in the town of Trappe he takes this method of informing the citizens of that vicinity that he will carry on the carpenters business in all its branches. He also wishes to inform his friends and old customers in Easton that he will still undertake jobs of work there when desired. He will be in Easton frequently on public days and orders for work will be promptly attended to in Easton as well as in Trappe District.

dec 3-1y CHAS. E. GATTIN.

WHEELWRIGHT
AND
Farming Implement Shop.



THE subscribers would most respectfully inform the citizens of Talbot and the public generally that their Shop is now complete, and that their experience in the above business enables them to give general satisfaction in all kinds of work pertaining to their business. They are at all times prepared to manufacture Carts, Wagons, and Farming Implements generally, and during the season, they will at short notice repair Wheat Cradles, newly wood or repair wheat Machines, Horse Powers, Threshers, &c. They can at all times, during working hours, be found at their Shop, adjoining Hugh S. Wrightson's Blacksmith Shop, on West street.

J. SWAINSCOTT,
aug 25-1y J. H. THOMPSON.

MANHOOD.
HOW LOST, HOW RESTORED.
Just Published, in a Sealed Envelope,

A lecture on the nature, treatment, and radical cure of Spermatorrhœa, or Seminal Weakness, Sexual Debility, Nervousness and Involuntary Emissions, producing Impotency, Consumption and Mental and Physical Debility.—By Robert J. Culverwell, M. D.

The important fact that the awful consequences of self-abuse may be effectually removed without internal medicines or the dangerous applications of caustics, instruments, medicated bougies, and other empirical devises, is here clearly demonstrated, and the entirely new and highly successful treatment, as adopted by the celebrated author, fully explained, by means of which every one is enabled to cure himself perfectly, and at the least possible cost, thereby avoiding all the advertised nostrums of the day.—This Lecture will prove a boon to thousands and thousands.

Sent under seal to any address, *post paid*, on the receipt of two postage stamps, by addressing Dr. Chas. J. C. Kline, 480 First Avenue, New York, Post Box 4,586.

READ! READ! READ!!

CARIO, *Illinois, July 20th*, 1860.

Messrs. John Wilcox & Co.: Your "Inpectine," or "Persian Fever Charm," has done wonders. I was wholly despondent and wretched when I applied it, and in five hours the chills were removed and no fever has ensued. It is the simplest cure imaginable, and a wonder of nature or art. I would not be without this "Inpectine" a single hour. By constantly wearing it I seem to be "ague proof."

Yours Very Truly,
E. M. STOUT.

MOBILE, *Alabama, July 23d*, 1860.

Gentlemen: I have been snatched from the grave by the application of your wonderful "Inpectine," or "Persian Fever Charm." For several years I have suffered every season from fever and ague. Last spring my life was threatened, but your remedy has destroyed the disease, and I am rapidly gaining an appetite and strength.

Respectfully, Yours,
D. N. BARRON.

This truly wonderful *preventive* and cure for Fever and Ague and Bilious Fevers will be sent by mail, post paid, on receipt of one dollar. Also for sale at all respectable Druggists and Country Stores.

Principal Depot and Manufactory, 188 Main St., Richmond, Va. Branch Office, Bank of Commerce Building, New York. Address

june 20-1y JOHN WILCOX & CO.

NOTICE TO THE CITIZENS OF TALBOT AND ADJACENT COUNTIES.—I will have the largest stock of Stoves that ever was in Easton, by the 20th of August inst., which I will sell at ten per cent. advance on first cost, for cash. As I was the first one to keep a Stove house in Easton, I solicit a share of public patronage. My Stoves will be of the heaviest plate and latest style. Call and examine for yourselves and find out prices before purchasing elsewhere. Old Stoves taken in exchange for new ones. (aug 11) CHAS. KELLHOLTZ.

APPLE PARERS—a thing every housekeeper should have.

Tea Bells—a novel, beautiful and useful affair.

Tea Scales—no housekeeper should be without one.

Egg Beaters—will do the work in one minute, that the old fashioned affair would require half an hour to do.

Waiters and Trays—new and beautiful patterns.

Ask for anything in the Hardware line and if you do not find it at the Hardware Store, it is little use looking for it. THOS. C. NICOLS.

OVENS, Spiders, Skillets, Pots, Pans, Buiscuit Bakers, Potato Steamers and all cooking utensils required in the fire place may be found in great variety at the Easton "Hardware" Store and *cheaper* than they can be bought elsewhere on the Eastern Shore. [aug 18

ORANGE SHERBET SYRUP, and pure Lemon Syrup—for making a delightful and refreshing summer Beverage, by simply mixing with cold water—for sale at the Drug Store of

june 9 CAMPBELL & GOLDSBOROUGH.

FULLED KERSEY.

JUST opened a large lot of the best *Fulled Kersey* in the market and will be sold at a small advance.

sep 22 JAS. H. GRACE.

NEW WHEAT FLOUR—Just received per steamer of Thursday last a fresh supply of Gambrill's flour—all grades—new wheat—for sale at a small advance for the cash by

ju 21 S. T. KENNARD.

DO you want any good Hosiery, Hdk'fs, Gloves, Combs, Brushes, Needles, Pins, Buttons, or any other article in the fancy line? Then go to the variety store of

(sep 8) J. P. BLAKE.

JUST RECEIVED—Fresh Lemons, Cocoanuts, Sardines, Guava Jelly, Currant Jelly, Maccaroni, Worcestershire Sauce, Liquid Rennet, &c., and for sale by

(sep 1) DAWSON & BRO.

DRIED BEEF and Bologna Sausage, also Scotch Herrings, by the box or dozen just received and for sale by

ju 28 J. P. BLAKE.

NEW CIDER—A good article just received and for sale by (sep 1) J. P. BLAKE.

THE CRESENT AND THE CROSS.

BY THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH.

Kind was my friend who, in the Eastern land,
Remembered me with such a generous hand,
And sent this Moorish Crescent, which has been
Worn on the tawny bosom of a queen!

No more it sinks and rises in unrest
To the soft music of her heathen breast;
No barbarous chief shall bow before it more,
No turban'd slave shall envy and adore!

I place beside this relic of the sun
A Cross of cedar brought from Lebanon,
Once borne, perchance, by some pale monk who trod
The desert to Jerusalem—and his God!

Here do they lie, two symbols of two creeds,
Each meaning something to our human needs,
Both stained with blood, and sacred made by faith,
By tears, and prayers, and martyrdom, and death.

That for the Moslem is, but this for me!
The pagan Crescent lacks divinity;
It gives me dreams of battles, and the woes
Of women shut in hushed seraglios.

But when this Cross of simple wood I see,
The Star of Bethlehem shines again for me,
And glorious visions break upon my gloom—
The patient Christ, and Mary at the Tomb!

Secretary Cobb on Secession
In 1851.

Wise Counsel from the Right Quarter.

From the National Intelligencer.

Whatever Hon. Mr. Cobb may think of the political complications of the hour, we know full well that he is solemnly pledged against the acknowledgment of the right of secession as being included among the reserved rights of the States under the Constitution. Called in the year 1851 to respond to the interrogatory whether he admitted to the doctrine in question, he entered into an elaborate, and, we may add, a masterly refutation of its assumptions, whether considered in the light of history or of constitutional interpretation. We take great pleasure in reproducing this exposition of his views, which was made in reply to a committee of his fellow-citizens in Macon, (Geo.) and which, as contained in his letter under date of August 12, 1851, may be found in the Washington "Union" of August 22, in the same year. If any one is disposed to doubt respecting the advice which Mr. Cobb would give to his compatriots in a similar conjunction, and in response to a similar proposition, those doubts we are sure will be dispelled by a perusal of the following extract from the letter designated:

"When asked to concede the right of a State to secede at pleasure from the Union, with or without just cause, we are called upon to admit that the framers of the Constitution did that which was never done by any other people possessed of their good sense and intelligence—that is to provide in the very organization of the Government for its own dissolution. It seems to me that such a course would not only have been an anomalous proceeding, but wholly inconsistent with the wisdom and sound judgement which marked the deliberations of those wise and good men who framed our Federal Government.—Whilst I freely admit that such an opinion is entertained by many for whose judgment I entertain the highest respect, I have no hesitation in declaring that the convictions of my own judgment are well settled, *that no such principle was contemplated in the adoption of our Constitution.* It it was the purpose of the framers of the Constitution to subject the perpetuity of the Union to the will, and indeed, I may add, the caprice of each State, it is a most remarkable fact that a principle of such vast importance, involving the very existence of the Republic, should have been left an open question, to be decided by inferences and *metaphysical deductions of the most complicated character.* When one rises from a careful study of the Constitution of the United States, he feels impressed with its wonderful adaptation to the wants and interests of this growing people. Not only does he find wise and judicious provisions and guarantees for the state of the country as it then existed, but, with prophetic wisdom, its framers seem to have penetrated the future, accommodating the Government to the necessities and requirements of its present increased population and extended resources. I am not prepared to admit that the men who exhibited so much care and foresight in reference to all the various parts of this complicated machine would have left to vague conjecture the existence of the important and vital power, now claimed for each State, of dissolving at pleasure the Union which had cost them and their compatriots so much toil and labor and anxiety. If they had intended to provide for the destruction of that noble structure which they were then erecting with all the care and wisdom of able statesmen and devoted patriots, by such simple and obvious means as the withdrawal of any State from the Confederacy, they would have manifested their intention by some plain and palpable provisions of the Constitution. Such a course would have been characteristic of the honest, practical, and enlightened statesmen of the Convention. Their failure to do so carries the strongest conviction to my mind *that no such principle was recognized by them.* In connection with this view of the subject, the inqury forces itself upon our minds, if each State reserved the right to withdraw at pleasure from the Union, why was there so much difficulty encountered by the friends of the Constitution in obtaining its ratification by the different States? There were few, if any, who were opposed to the formation of the Union after the Constitution had been submitted to the States for ratification, provided they could ingraft certain amendments upon it. The policy of adopting the Constitution, on condition that these amendments should be acceded to, was urged with great earnestness in the conventions and among the people of several of the States, but was finally abandoned, on the ground that it would be a conditional ratification, *and therefore inadmissible.* On this point I must refer to the opinion expressed by Mr. Madison, who has been called 'the father of the Constitution,' and to whose exposition of that sacred instrument the Republican party have been accustomed to look with such implicit confidence. Mr. Madison says:

"My opinion is that a reservation of a right to withdraw, if amendments be not decided on under the form of the Constitution within a certain time, is a conditional ratification; that it does not make New York a member of the new Union; and, consequently, that she would not be received on that plan. Compacts must be reciprocal; this principle would not in such a case be preserved. *The Constitution requires an adoption in toto and* FOREVER."

"If the right was reserved to each State to withdraw, it would have been an act of supererogation on the part of New York, or any other State, to declare, in advance, that she would withdraw or secede if the amendments she proposed to the Constitution were not adopted. If the right existed, it could be exercised as well without as with the condition annexed to her ratification of the Constitution, and the assertion of it would have been a useless interpolation and a nullity. It was not so regarded, however, at the time, by those who have been active participants in the framing of the Constitution. Mr. Madison considered the reservation of a right to withdraw from the Union as "a condition that would vitiate the ratification." He says further, in writing to Mr. Hamilton on this subject:—"*The idea of reserving a right to withdraw* was started at Richmond, and considered as a conditional ratification, which was itself *abandoned* as worse than a rejection."

"If the opinion of Mr. Madison which I have here referred to be well founded, *it puts an end to this controversy.* There can be no doubt about the fact that he did not recognise the right of each State to secede from the Union at her own pleasure. In addition to the facts which I have just considered, there is a strong illustration of the opinion that prevailed among the framers of the Constitution on this subject in the action of the States of North Carolina and Rhode Island. These States refused to come into the Union for some time after the ratification of the Constitution. They were not opposed to the formation of the Federal Union, but, like some of the other States, they were unwilling to adopt the Constitution as it then stood. If it had been a recognised, undoubted principle that each State was bound to remain in the Union only so long as it suited its own convenience, no one doubts that these States, instead of withholding their assent to the Constitution, after it had been adopted by the requisite number, would have come at once into the Union, with the intention of immediately withdrawing from it upon the refusal of the other States to adopt such amendments as they desired; but, regarding the effect of their ratification of the Constitution *in an entirely different light from the secessionists of the present day, they adopted quite a different policy.* So far as we can gather light and information from the opinions and actions of the men who framed and adopted the Constitution, it all goes to strengthen and confirm the conviction I have already expressed *against the existence of any such right.*

"The political history of the country, from the time of the Declaration of Independence to the adoption of the Constitution, is confirmatory of the correctness of the opinion I have expressed. In the original articles of confederation it is more than once declared that the object was to form a perpetual Union. Those articles of confederation were found too weak and inefficient to carry out the great purpose of the people in the establishment of a General Government: and hence it was that, in its own language, the present Constitution was adopted for the purpose of forming "A MORE PERFECT UNION." It would be a reflection, both upon the integrity and the wisdom of the framers of the Constitution, to say that they abandoned "*a perpetual Union*" to form A MORE PERFECT ONE, and in doing so adopted a temporary, conditional Union. Such, however, is the construction placed by the secessionists upon the action of those great and good men to whose energy, wisdom, and patriotism we are indebted for our present noble and glorious Union.

"The policy of our Government, during its whole existence, looks to the continuance and perpetuity of the Union. *Its temporary and conditional existence is nowhere impressed either upon its domestic or foreign policy.* It has for more than half a century pursued the even tenor of its way, growing in strength and increasing in usefulness, taking deeper and deeper hold upon the hearts and affections of the people, illustrating the great American principle of free government, and reflecting upon its inspired founders the highest and brightest honor. Whilst I do not propose to illustrate these views by a detailed review of the action of the Government, I cannot forbear to refer to one portion of our history, which is strongly corroborative of the correctness of the position I have assumed. When the people of the United States determined upon the purchase of the Louisiana territory, and effected that desirable object at the cost of a considerable amount of money, and by the exercise of a questionable constitutional power, it will not be said that they did so for the benefit of those who then inhabited the country, nor indeed for those who might subsequently remove there. They were prompted to the acquisition of that vast and valuable territory by considerations of public policy, affecting their interests and welfare as citizens of the various States of the Union. The commercial and military advantages to the United States from the possession of that country were so great and important that its acquisition was considered almost an act of self-protection. *Will it now be said that the people of Louisiana possess the right to deprive the remaining States of the Union of all the interests and advantages which they have bought and paid for out of their own treasury, by withdrawing or seceding from the Union at will?*

"Louisiana is as free, sovereign, and independent as any other State of the Union; *and if this right exists in any one State, it exists in all, without reference to the mode by which the territory was acquired out of which the State is formed.* I apprehend that the people of the United States did not for a moment entertain the idea that in admitting Louisiana into the Union they had thus peraled all the advantages of that important acquisition, by placing it in the power of a single State to deprive the Union of commercial and military advantages and resources of inestimable value, purchased by the joint treasure of all the States, and now held by them as beyond the reach of any price or consideration that could be offered in exchange for them. These remarks apply with equal force to all the territorial acquisitions made by the United States where States have been or may hereafter be formed and admitted into the Union; and the same principle might be forcibly illustrated by reference to the action of the Government on subjects of a kindred character, but it cannot be necessary, and I will not extend this view to any great length.

"When the right of a State to secede from the Union at will is conceded, *we have put the existence of the Government at the disposal of each State in the Union.* The withdrawal of one is a dissolution of the compact which holds the States together; it is no longer the Union that the Constitution formed, and the remaining States are absolved from all moral obligations to abide longer by their compact. I say moral obligation, because the argument of the secessionists denies the existence of any binding legal obligation.—By admitting the doctrine of the secessionists, we are brought to the conclusion that our Federal Government, the pride and boast of every American patriot, the wonder and admiration of the civilized world, is nothing more than a voluntary association, temporary in its character, weak and imbecile in the exercise of its powers, incapable of self-preservation, claiming from its citizens allegiance, and demanding annual tribute from their treasure, and yet destitute of the power of protecting their rights or prsserving their liberties. If this be the true theory of our Government, what is the Constitution of the United States that we should estimate it so highly? Where is its binding force that we should hold to its provisions with such unyielding tenacity? Individuals cannot violate their compacts, or set asile at pleasure their mutual obligations, without the assent of the other parties. Nations cannot recklessly disregard their treaty stipulations without incurring the consequences of violated faith. But our Constitution—the revered monument of Revolutionary patriotism and wisdom, which we have been taught to regard with reverential feeling—is doomed to fall below the standard of national treaties and individual contracts. It has formed a Union founded upon mutual sacrifices and concessions—made by the several component parts for the greater benefits to be derived by each from the combined co-operation of all; and now we are told that there is no obligation to observe that Union beyond the pleasure of the parties to it, *and that the Constitution can be annulled by the act of any State in the Confederacy.*

"*I do not so understand our Government. I feel that I owe my allegiance to a Government possessed of more vitality and strength than that which is drawn from a voluntary obedience to its laws.* I hold that no Government is entitled to any allegiance that does not pass wise and just laws, and does not possess the power to enforce and execute them.

"But if a collision of arms between the States composing our glorious Confederacy should ever come, it requires no prophet to predict the result. *The Union would fall beneath the weight of revolution and blood, and fall, I fear, to rise no more.*

In view of such unmistakable evidences of Democratic opinion on this portentous question, we think our readers will agree with us that there can be no doubt as to the direction in which the present Democratic Administration ought to wield the moral power with which it is clothed for the dissuasion of any State or confederation of States from risking the tremendous experiment of disunion, under the pressure of apprehended evils which, even if the purposes and objects of Mr. Lincoln and his supporters were such as they are represented, could only occur in consequence of a degrading subserviency to his imputed designs, as well as a criminal violation of duty on the part of both Houses of Congress and of the Supreme Court of the United States. As in the height of party madness at the South no man has assumed to impugn the loyalty of the Federal Judiciary as now constituted, and as it is ascertained that both branches of the Federal Legislature will be hostile to the Administration of Mr. Lincoln, it follows that the question of disunion, as based on the simple fact of a Democratic defeat in one branch of the Government, would imply, if carried, a deep-seated hostility to the Government itself, since even on the ground assumed for its destruction no such necessity can possibly arise without involving the personal dishonor of men who, whether in the halls of Congress or on the judicial bench, are as far above reproach and fear in all that concerns the rights and welfare of their section as could be found in the most select confederation of "Cotton States."

DOESTICKS AMONG OIL WELLS.

[From the N. Y. Sunday Mercury.]

Isn't it barely possible that the subject of politics may be talked at a man until he has really too much; in fact, a complete surfeit of Polly?—I think I may venture to hazard an opinion that the thing can be done—in fact, I will go further, and I here say, and I say it boldly, that the thing *has* been done; and that I myself, in my own individual identity, am a case in point. I feel that I have had so much too much of the affairs of State in the last few weeks, that I don't think I should mourn if I never again heard mention made of the little matters of Disunion, Slavery, Tariff, Nigger-driving, Majorities, White House, Right of suffrage, Register your voting ability, vote for Boggs, Scroggs, Noggs, Hoggs, Joggs, Loggs, or Doggs, or any of the other mis-titled election nuisances, for the term of about twenty-five natural lives, if I should have so many, and I don't think I shall, into a dozen or two.

So last week I slipped off the cares of business, and slid away down into Pennsylvania to see to some newly-acquired property. An old uncle of mine, named Suett, had also just slipped and slid—he had slipped from poverty, and slid into another and a better fortune. The old man had been an oily old cove—an allpose ancient—an unctuous uncle—a sebaceous slippery swell—a soapy specimen—a fatty favorite of mine for many greasy years. He had rolled along through the world like a huge bladder of lard, not to be distespectful to the old gentleman. I should suppose he would weigh about 407 pounds, but there is no getting at his weight with any show of exactness, for he always slips off the scale platform before he gets fairly on. How the old man has continued to keep up his weight while he has been so poor, is a mystery to me; but then he's the man who has monopolized the good-nature of the hundred or so fellows I know who haven't got any at all, and we all know that good nature runs to fat.

Well, the old man got the oil fever that everybody in Pennsylvania is suffering from this year, and began to bore for oil. He thought his chance as good as anybody's for his farm was called Butter Meadows; it was situated near Tallowtown, on Pomatum Ridge, about two miles from the Candle branch of Old Creek, just above the North Spermaceti Forks. The old man thought he perceived indications of oil, and as every one up there was mining on his own individual hook, and help could not be hired, the oily uncle sent for me to come and help him work his claim on shares.

Nothing loth, I started on my tour; nothing remarkable till we began to get near the oil district whither we were going by stage; about forty miles from Tallowtown, the driver got the heavy anchors ready for action; then, whenever we came to a steep hill, instead of putting on a brake he would throw out an anchor; if one didn't seem to be enough, he would let go another; and if the exigencies of the case demanded it, over would go another one or two. Asked the reason and was informed that the oily nature of the soil made the road so slippery that a brake would be of no use whatever. About ten miles further along, they put on a sharp-shod team, took off the wheels and running-gear, and fitted on a set of runners. The idea sleighing, with the thermometer at 70 degrees, and no more snow to be seen than out-door violets at Christmas, was a curious one—but we did it. Skating in midsummer would be nothing to it.

Got to the farm of old uncle Suett; old man at the gate, standing in the middle of a large grease spot; shook hands, and at once found that my hand was dripping with grease, as if every finger was a tallow candle, and I'd been warming my hands before a blast-furnace; had dinner; the corned beef had been boiled in oil, I should think, like a Christian martyr, and each particular vegetable had, evidently, been cooked in a particular kind of grease—each kind greasier than all the others; began to think I had got into the oil region; was sure of it when they having brought me a bucket of water for my wash-stand, I had to tear off a strip of the towel and use it for a wick to burn an inch and a half of oil off the top of the water, before I could wash my face.

In the morning the old man showed me his claim; offered me half, and we agreed to go right to work; he was very enthusiastic, and told me that some of the neighbors in the vicinity had very rich claims; he said that the man a half a mile to the north had a well that yielded nine barrels a minute—but this was nothing to the man half a mile to the east, who had two pumps going all the time, each one throwing a stream as big as your leg—and this did not begin with the man a mile and a quarter to the South who had so much oil that he used to take an oil bath every afternoon to make him suple, and he could already knock a chip off the top of his head with his heel, take a reef-knot in his left arm, and fasten both legs around his neck in a double bow-knot—and this man's claim wasn't to be mentioned in the same day with that of the Vermont Yanker, two miles west of us, who had been obliged to put up machinery of 9000 horse-power, for making barrels, beside which he had three circular saws, a planing machine, and a turning lathe, all getting power from a single water-wheel which was driven by a steady stream of oil that came from his claim back on the mountain, and on sunshiny days, when the oil would fly out of the ground faster than other times, he had to lose several thousand barrels every afternoon, that ran over the water-gate.

I feared that some one had hoaxed the old gentleman; but we set to work nevertheless. We walked along the stream till we found a place where the oil was so thick on the water that you could grease your boots by wading through the creek. Then we marked out a claim, and began. In five days I became disgusted, and started off to prospect, and see the country. The result of my observations is as follows:

At Greasy Gulch, on the east fork of the Oxtail River, Smiggers & Co., are at work—Smiggers and four sons. They were splashing about up to their knees in a very fair article of train-oil, worth about 37 cents a gallon at miner's prices. They say that this oil was very good, and they could make a very good living by barreling, if the barrels didn't cost so much. They can't afford barrels for train-oil this year, and so they have to let it run to waste—though it is a fine article for lubricating machinery. This is a fine agricultural country, and pumpkins, by a special grace of Providence, attain a most enormous size. In the spring, Smiggers and the boys are going to plant 97 acres of pumpkins, which, when hollowed out, will take the place of barrels. Hooped with hickory withes and braced with white-oak saplings, they do very good service. Smiggers tried this dodge this year, but he picked his pumpkins while they were green and small, none of them holding more than two barrels and a half; and before they got to market, more than two-thirds of them warped and split. They hope for better luck next season.

Lard Level.—Blobbs & Brothers are having very good success here. Eight feet from the surface, they struck a vein of first quality Cincinnati Lard, worth, at the mine, 11 cents a pound. They have taken out 22 barrels a day for four weeks, are satisfied, don't want to sell.

Pomatum Point, on Sap River.—Wiggins, wife, two girls, and a hired man. All well here, and times prosperous. 22 feet underground, they tapped a vein of wintergreen hair-oil, which is yielding well. They also found a few packets of pomatum, and a thin vein of moustache cosmetic; not profitable to work—though the girls have preserved some fine specimens of crystalized pomatum, and cosmetic in quartz. Are short of barrels, and Wiggins has been trying to engage six acres of Smiggers' pumpkins. Old Smig said: "Nary punk, for love nor money." The word "love" gave Wiggins an idea. He sent Mrs. W. to Smiggers to offer the hand of Miss Lubricatina Wiggins in exchange for 10 acres of pumpkins delivered at Pomatum Point.—Smiggers hesitated, but finally agreed, on condition that Wiggins would give the girl a dowry of 200 barrels of hair oil, and haul his own pumpkins. Wig agreed, and the happy pair are to be married when the pumpkins are in blossom.

Tallowtown.—The principal find of the inhabitants of this thriving city is in Tallow. It is found at the depth of about 200 feet, mixed with mica, brownstone, and white marble. The process of smelting tallow is interesting, but I haven't time to describe it. There is generally about 73 per cent. of pure tallow. A little stuff is found occasionally in thin deposits, and some fine nuggets of whale's blubber and red precipitate ointment have been discovered.

Soapstein.—Coggins & Co., are working a very fine vein of fresh butter; this valuable mineral is found in combination with lard rock, dripping-stone, and red-hair granite; it is washed with a cradle and long-tom, and in some instances worked with a quartz-crusher and chute-bones; Coggins, at six feet depth, tapped a vein of croton oil as big as a gander; at thirteen feet, he encountered a layer of soft-soap; at fourteen feet, he struck a vein of castor-oil, discharging a barrel an hour; at fourteen and a half feet, he found a valuable nugget of Dalley's Pain Extractor, a small pocket of oil of cinnamon, and a crevice that yielded ninety hogsheads of pure spermaceti; then, at eighty two feet depth, they struck lard, by which they knew that butter was near; after cutting through six feet of solid leaf-lard, they were rewarded by striking butter.

Besides these flourishing mines, I heard of a lake of salad-oil up in the interior, with several fast yachts in it; they tried a small steamboat on it, but had trouble about getting water for the boilers; having previously tried salad oil, and finding that it wouldn't make steam; I met a man who said he was in the habit of swimming every day in a perfumed pond of liquid bear's grease, in Bucks county; I myself saw a soap-greased bog, and a hill so slippery with the little rivulets of oil oozing out, that a man might turn back his coat-tails, sit down, and slide two miles and a half down the side of the mountain without friction enough to make his pantaloons need a patch.

When I got back to my uncle, I found that the old man had discovered a huge cave, from the top of which, hung like stalactites, millions of mould candles, six to the pound. He also whispered something about having found a deposit of sausages, superimposed upon a stratum of suet dumplings, but I don't believe this till I see it.

The only discontented man I've seen in the country is a Michigander, who struck a vein of salad-oil, and then was down on his luck, because he couldn't find some sort of a tree that bore ready-made glass bottles, with the corks in, and gilt edged labels on.

Content as I am with the country, we—that is, uncle and I—could still be induced to part with our claim, for money down, for we have both seen enough of this slippery country to be willing to slide.

The old man says, if it will be any inducement to any one to buy, he'll swear to a lot more things, and among other trifles, that he's just discovered a fountain of sweet cream.

Unctuously, DOESTICKS, P. D.

Thanksgiving is to be observed the same day, November 29th, in Maine, New Hampshire, New York and New Jersey.

Short calls are the best, as the fly said when he lit on the stove.

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc2940_scm11033-0898