PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING, BY GRAHAM & JOHNSON. J. A. JOHNSON, EDITOR.

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.

WHERE THE PRESS IS FREE—"Literature well or ill conducted is the Great Engine by which all Popular States must ultimately be supported or overthrown—RELIGION purifies the Heart and teaches us our Duty—Morality refines the Manners—Agriculture makes us Rich, and Politics provides for the enjoyment of all."

VOL. XXXVI. EASTON, MD., SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1853. No. 36.

ADVERTISEMENTS,

Not exceeding one square, (12 lines) inserted 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 publishers, post-paid, will receive prompt attention.

For the Easton Gazette.

IS IT WELL WITH THE CHILD?

IMPROMPTU—ON PAYING A LAST VISIT TO A DYING INFANT.

Is it well with the child?—ah! how silent and weary
Where all was so sparkling with vigor before!
As it lies on the pillow—a wreck of the living—
Scarce lingers a trace of the look it once wore.

It is well with the child—for a mightier Healer
Than he who now sits by her side is at hand—
He will quiet her pangs and soothe all her young sorrows—
And gently conduct to a happier land!

Is it well with the child?—Lo! the death-dews are forming
And slowly she folds her pale arms on her breast!
And dull grows the orb half concealed from our vision—
And the last feeble heart-throb is almost at rest!

It is well with the child—in the far home of Heaven
Through bright, boundless years, its bless'd future shall be—
In his arms ever folded who, when among mortals,
Once said—"Let the little ones come unto me!"

It is well with the child—it is well, weeping mother,—
Not hers are the sorrows that shadow thy way—
On her pathway of life joys eternal are blooming,
No cloud in her sky—and no night to her day! C.

From the New York Dutchman.

THE WAY SOL. SCIENCE SOLD HIS DADDY.

BY NED ALBRO.

'Solomon, my son!'

And he came very quickly 'for'ard,' to use a sailor's phrase, for the old man had catched him up in the loft a 'chuckin' dice with Jim, an older brother, and he knew he was a 'gon'er.'

'What am you doin' here?' asked the old daddy.

'A playin' of '*sweat*,' said Sol, gathering up what constituted the 'bank.'

'*Sweat!*' And what's that sonny?'

'Why. you see this 'ere board, with 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, painted on. Well, Jim said he wouldn't bet on any other figure but the five, if I'd let him 'double,' and I throws 6's every time, and beats him to perfect smash.'

Old Mr. Science didn't quite understand this answer, but he reckoned to himself the 'little rascals had been 'er gamblin' and a winnin one another's money.'

'Jim,' said he sternly, 'jest *tote* yourself in the house, an' stay there until I return; and you, Solomon, go an' cut me a willow branch—directly.

'What for?' asked Sol.

'I am going to give you a lickin' my son. What sez Scriptur', 'Spar the rod, an' spile the child,' an' if I should do that thing, you'd continer to go on in this wicked way, until you'd come to the gallus.'

'Daddy,' exclaimed the youngster, putting both hands in his trowser's pocket, 'there's no use a talkin' to me in that durn strain, for I tell you I'm bound to be a gambler—gallus or no gallus. Now there's Nancy Smith, the female I set up with, she says as how I'm a lamb; and don't all lambs *gambol!*'

'Hold your tung, you dratted skunk, you're ignorant as a horse; an' if you don't take warnin' you'll come to a dreadful end—sure as you're a human bein'. Solomon, I say them gamblers have dealin's with the devil, an' if you should go down to Noo York with ten dollars in your pocket, they'd win it all from you in a *day!*

'I'll bet they wouldn't.'

'Besides, if they couldn't get it no how they'd cut your throat with a banana, and then chuck you down sum of them hundred feet pits.

'Who's afraid? I'm a teapot if I don't think I could beat the Captain of the hull crew all to shivers with these 'ere dice.—Why I can throw three sixes a dozen times hand runnin'—and, daddy, I can tell how many spots is on the top and bottom without lookin'!'

'An' me shake 'em up, an' kiver 'em over?'

'Yes, daddy.'

'An' you turn yer back, an' shet yer eyes?'

'Edzactly!'

'It can't be done,' said the old man, solemnly, 'thing's onpossible! Angels could do it—I couldn't.'

'Well, I kin, said Solomon with a grin.

'Silence! you dratted villian; don't I tell you nobody could.'

'What'll you bet?'

'*Me* bet! an old man 'most in his grave, and a deakin at that. What would Sister Crump say, I wonder, if she should hear of sich a thing.'

'No dad,' said Solomon, 'I didn't mean to say you would bet—I allus knowed you wouldn't; but I'll tell you what I did mean. You see I've got five dollars in silver, and I want five more to buy a watch. Now, you give me your five if I'll do this 'ere trick, and I'll give you my five if I don't.'

'An' did you say I should shak the things,' asked Mr. S.

'Of course,' nodded Solomon.

The old man scratched his head, and muttered to himself:

'It can't be wicked to try, for it ain't bettin', the boy can't do it, 'cose it's onpossible. Besides it will drive them nasty notions out of his head, and he'll never do so any more. Yes, I'll humor him this wunst—I vow. Solomon?'

'Yes, sir.'

'What did you say was the trick?'

'Why you take these 'ere dice, and shake 'em yourself, and I'll tell you how many spots there is on the top and bottom—and won't look. If I don't you can have my five dollars; if I do, you must give me your five.'

'Well, sonny, I'll do it; give me the things.'

'There they be,' said Sol., handen' 'em to his daddy, 'now put your five dollars in this pile, 'long with mine, and all will be fair you know.'

'I will,' and the old gentleman laid a ragged Indiana V amongst Solomon's silver, and put the dice in his hat. After shakin' 'em a good ten minits, he dumped 'em on the floor, and said he was ready.

'Wait a spell,' said Sol., makin' b'leeve he was puzzled; 'all right! I guess there is twenty-one.'

The old man raised his hat—counted both ends of the dice—top an' bottom—and of course there *was* twenty-one.

'Bless the Lord!' said he, 'the child has done it—slick and sure. But it wasn't fair—I declare to natur' it wan't, Solomon. If you'll do it again I'll give you another five dollars, and git you a new pair of breeches, besides.'

'Well, daddy, go ahead, but I don't think I can guess again, no how! That's right, shake 'em a heap, I aint got no injection whatever. All ready? Well, there's twenty-one spots there this time, *too!*'

Up comes the hat. 'There goes three sixes, daddy, that's eighteen. Turn 'em over—three aces. That makes twenty-one again, by thunder!'

The old man held his hands up, and groaned.

'Merciful Egypt! did you ever! No, I never. No, I never did. Solomon, how was it done!'

Done? said Sol., gathering up his daddy's dimes, 'done? I don't like to tell you how *that* was done, but (aside) *you were 'done' omniferous!*'

From the Cotton Plant.

Interesting Communication from a Maryland Slave-Holder.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Of late years, negro slavery has been in the United States, the subject of much angry agitation. This agitation, which has had its origin among a set of deluded fanatics, has been eagerly seized upon by designing and unscrupulous politicians in certain sections to subserve their own selfish views, and not to promote either the happiness or the welfare of the negro race.

The constitution of my native State, (Maryland) recognizes negro slavery within her limits, and her laws in reference to the subject are framed in view of its permanent existence. The constitution of the United States also recognizes slavery in the States subject to their municipal regulations.—Slaves then are property guaranteed to us by the constitution of the United States and by the constitution and laws of the State in which I live. This were indeed to those who entertain a proper sense of legal rights, assuredly enough to entitle me as a citizen, to the peaceable enjoyment of my property and to secure me in its undisturbed possession. What stronger guarantees could be asked, and under such guarantee what less am I as a citizen entitled to? My slaves are assessed as property, and for their value I am taxed by the laws of my State, for the support of her government. To deprive me of my property under any pretext whatsoever, unless by the operation of law, is to violate my vested rights, to do me an irreparable injury and an unjustifiable wrong. But when the pretext is a false and groundless one, when those who seek to injure me in my property are under a wild delusion, or actuated by baser motives, and when they are beyond the search of the laws of my State framed for the protection of her citizens in the enjoyment of their property, the case then is a peculiarly hard one, as it is without a remedy. And such, indeed, is the condition of the Maryland slave-holders.

In penning this article, it is altogether foreign from my intention to excite sectional feeling, and to be frank I do not expect to convert to my side of the question, either the unscrupulous politician of the *higher law* school of morals, or those deluded fanatics who are seeking to violate and trample under foot the vested rights of property of their fellow citizens, and whose ignorance and madness can alone be urged in the paliation of the wrongs they seek to perpetrate. From these two classes I expect no converts. My remarks are intended for the candid and unprejudiced, to present the subject of slavery in its true palpable light, and not as viewed through the pages of a novel, the medium of a fictitious and distorted picture, but as in fact exists.

The slave population of Maryland, and I may also say, of all the Southern States, as a mass, are in a far better condition than the laboring classes of any other grade. Contrast their condition with that of free negroes in any section in which they may be found, and you will discover the plantation slaves better fed, better clothed and in the more certain enjoyment of both the necessaries and comforts of life, than the free negroes as a mass. In truth the comparison between these two classes shows the condition of the slaves infinitely the most comfortable and happy. I will not stop here, but carry the comparison a step farther, and to that end will ask the unprejudiced reader to accompany me on a tour to a Southern plantation. Let it be in a late autumn, or early winter, the dreariest season of the year, after the crops are gathered and housed. Look to that well-stored corn-house, to that pen of thriving hogs near by, and to those lowing beeves, all these speak of plenty and tell that guant famine is far distant. Now look around and see that humble, but snug cabin, with the huge pile of wood at its door, enter and see its inmates all warmly and comfortably clad, and after that examine the other necessary preparations for the coming year that are to be found, not on one but every Southern plantation. Do these speak of comfort, or do they tell the tale of want, misery and suffering? And for whom are these ample stores, the produce of the plantation prepared? The owner and his family cannot consume them. These are the abundant preparations for their sustenance, which the slaves daily and hourly behold whenever they turn their eyes, and they know, for they see that in anticipation their wants in food and raiment are all supplied. The old, the young, the sick, the healthy, the able, and the infirm, are all provided for and the wants of each are alike anticipated.

And now take a view of the laboring classes, who are not slaves. Who so amply provides for them and their families! certainly not their employers? For, although, the employer may promptly pay the wages of his laborer, he makes no provisions in anticipation for the wants of the laborer, or his family, when in sickness and distress, or when out of his employ. The laboring classes receive from their employers not one single stiver more than they earn by their labor, nor do they ever receive employment when their labor is unproductive or unprofitable to their employer, or when their service can be possibly dispensed sed with. I will venture then, boldly to assert that the slaves of the South are better provided for by their owners, than the laboring classes in any other section of the country by their employers. The condition, then of the slave is not one of want, misery, and suffering, as it has been often falsely represented, but on the contrary, while the slaves are in the possession of most of the comforts, they are in the full enjoyment of all the necessaries of life.

It has been vauntingly laid as a charge at the slaveholders door that he holds in bondage a race of men for his own individual emolument, and in no wise for their benefit. Than this assertion none can be more false. Slavery imposes on the slaveholder many burdensome obligations and yields to the slave many benefits of which he would not otherwise be the recipient.—To support this proposition, let facts be examined, and on these facts let the determination be formed. It must be admitted on all hands, that the negro population descended from the African race, can never in this country be elevated to an equality with the whites; their condition must ever be that of inferiors. The aggregate of comforts and happiness is greater among the slaves, than among the free negroes, who, as a mass are in truly a degraded and suffering condition. It follows, then, that slavery, by its operations, is productive of benefits to the negro race while they constitute a portion of the population of the U. States. From observation, more than casual, I am satisfied that among the laboring classes, the proportion of those, who, by their labor, are able to do more than support themselves, does not exceed the one-third. Of the two-thirds, but a small proportion can support themselves, and the remainder of the two-thirds are wholly incapable of self-support, and must be a burden for their support on some one, or suffer for the necessaries of life. Take, for instance, one hundred persons who compose the slave population on a plantation, or the laboring class in any other section of the country; of this hundred, one-third are vigorous men and women, the remaining two-thirds old men and women, who are superanuated, or infirm and decrepid, or are children of such tender age as not to be able to earn a support, and these must be taken care of and provided for. The Southern slaveholder, has as his capital his lands and his farm stock, his horses, mules and oxen, and the necessary implements of husbandry for the cultivation of his plantation. His right to these is undisputed, and this is his capital invested. Now take the hundred negroes on his plantation, they are composed of several families and constitute a laboring community, and must all be supported. Some of them are old men, some are old women, some infirm and some children of tender years, while others who are vigorous men and women, are children of the old, and fathers and mothers of the young. The capital invested is the planters, but, as a slave-holder, he in fact only holds it in trust for the support of his hundred slaves who compose a laboring community, and his imperative duty requires he should hold to labor the able and vigorous slaves on his plantation for the maintenance and support to their fathers and mothers, their children and blood relations. The slave-holder confers a benefit on his slave, whom he holds to labor for the support of those who have on him natural ties, and who can claim of him the slave succor and support. The slave-holder advances his capital, and on this capital by their labor the slaves comfortably support themselves and their families. Where then, is the wrong or where the injury? As a slave-holder, I am burdened with the imperative obligation of providing comforts and necessaries for my slaves, whether they be capable of profitable and productive labor, or incapable of self-support. In each case the obligation is equally imperative and cannot be avoided. As a slave-holder I furnish my slaves the capital on which they are required to labor, not indeed for emolument alone, but also for their benefit, for my capital invested yields not only to me an interest, but by their labor returns to them adequate means for the support of themselves and families. If my interest on my capital invested be large, their means of support is so much the more sure. Where then the hardship that the slave is held to labor, and where the evil of his condition; which is far more comfortable than that of the free negro, and where my capital enables him to support in comfort his superanuated father, perhaps his sick wife and young children. But do not mistake me, I am not pleading the cause of the slaveholder, or offering an excuse for him. I am only presenting facts as they exist, which cannot be questioned and will not be controverted. I have already said in my slaves, I hold the vested rights of property guaranteed to me by the laws of my State and the United States. I have shown the condition of the slaves more comfortable and happy as a mass, than the free negroes, and equally, if not more so, than the condition of the other laboring classes of the country. And I have also shown the benefits received by the slaves in the advancement of capital on which they labor. In doing this, I have dispassionately presented a statement of facts, which every unprejudiced mind will admit to be true.

A MARYLAND SLAVE-HOLDER.

The above truthful views of the relations of master and slave was written for the Cotton Plant, but furnished for our paper by the author, a distinguished Democrat of this county.

[COMMUNICATED.]

ST. MICHAELS PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

MR. EDITOR:—Being in St. Michaels, some time since, and understanding that the examinations of the Primary Schools in that town were about taking place, we concluded that we would do ourselves the pleasure of attending them.

There are three schools here under the charge of two male and one female teachers. The examinations were conducted by the respective teachers, under the supervision of the Board of Trustees, each school occupying a day, and as you may judge, were very thorough; but not more thorough than satisfactory. We must say, we have never seen so full an examination in any of our primary schools; nor in any other since our own school-boy days. The questions were close and, as a general thing, answered with that promptness which is always a proof the scholar knows what he or she is about.—What pleased us particularly, was the off handed manner both in which the questions were asked and answered, showing there was no conniving between teacher and scholar; or in other words, there were no fixed questions and answers for particular scholars.

The examination of the Female Department, under the charge of Mr. L. Dodson, occupied the first day. Here let us remark we were glad to see several young ladies probably seventeen years of age, in attendance as scholars, and who, doubtless. regarded it as an honor to be connected as such, with the school. The course of examination here, embraced History, Geography, Arithmetic, Grammar, Reading, Writing and Singing. We were particularly pleased with the examination in grammar—that great bug-bear to all school-children. Geography, that beautiful study, was amply attended to. The children manifested great proficiency in this branch and promptness in their answers. All the other branches received their proper share of attention, and were it not, that by noticing them at length, we should make an article much longer than we wish, we should certainly do so.

The second day was occupied by Miss McMurray, who has charge of a mixed school—(boys and girls together) and mostly composed of the younger children; the oldest as we were informed, being scarcely twelve years old. This school was examined in the same branches of learning, as that of Mr. Dodson's; and really we were surprised, that children of so tender an age could be so thoroughly taught in their different studies. The children of this school, did themselves and teacher great honor, by their prompt and correct answers in History, Geography and Grammar. The children sung some beautiful pieces of music and declaimed a number of well selected articles. Though, by the way, we must be allowed to suspect two of the pieces as being original with the lady-teacher:—we mean the salutatory and valedictory. We should like to have the former of these two to make some selections from, as there were some decided *hits* which suits our locality. In this school were also exhibited some very pretty pieces of needle and other handiwork. This shows that while the mind is being instructed, the fingers are also trained in some useful as well as ornamental work.

The third day was occupied by the Male Department, under the charge of Mr. B. Farrel. Here, too, as in the other schools, the course of study embraced the usual branches taught in primary schools; all of which secured proper attention in the examination. In this department, we were struck with the rapidity and facility with which the children solved some most difficult questions in Arithmetic. The questions were extemporaneous, and shows the children had been drilled thoroughly, in this branch of education, so important to young men; and *now becoming equally* so to *young ladies*. We like this system very much, as it gives confidence to the scholar, and learns him to depend on himself. We would like to notice the examination of this school further, but we have already exceeded our intended limits. We must, however say a word or two in reference to the examination, in two other branches, which we have not as yet noticed, and which received full attention in each of the schools. We mean Orthography and Etymology.—These branches so important to the man of letters, and also the man of business, are as a general thing, in our school, too much neglected. Teachers are too apt to think their knowledge may be acquired after a child has entered upon the business of life. This is a grand mistake. But in these schools they have received such attention as their importance demands. And who doubts their importance? In fact, to the honor of the teachers (we mean all three) be it said, they appear to have struck at the rudiments of all the branches taught; thus laying a sure foundation on which to build, shall we say, their *educational temple*. We belong to that class of persons who are willing to make allowances, sometimes, for false syntax; but for bad orthography, at this day, we think there is scarcely any excuse.—So, Mr. Editor, you may judge we were delighted with this part of the exercises.—These branches received full attention in each of the schools.

Addresses were made to the children by Dr. Jones, W. Jones, Esq. and Rev. B. F. Price.

In conclusion we would say, resolutions complimentary to the teachers and scholars were unanimously adopted. We think the Trustees may well be proud of the high rank their schools have attained, for we understand they have labored assiduously to discharge their duties as trustees, and raise the schools to that position they should hold.

Their motto is, "pay well and attend well!" Would that we had a few more of the same sort. It would be much better in our county for EDUCATION.

The S. Carolina papers say the late rains have done great damage to the cotton crops.

[COMMUNICATED.]

EASTON MALE PRIMARY SCHOOL.

The annual examination of the pupils of the Easton male primary School, under the direction of Mr. Peter M. Smythe, was held on Wednesday (10th inst.) at the school room. The various classes exhibited considerable proficiency, giving evidence of the superior abilities of the teacher and of their own industry. The exhibition came off in the evening before a respectable audience of the friends and patrons of the school, the young speakers acquitting themselves very greatly to the satisfaction of those present. At the close of the services Dr. C. C. Cox addressed the assembly as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen:—I was requested this morning, to be present, and make such remarks as might be deemed appropriate at the close of these exercises. After listening to so many young orators, who have been subjected to a course of admirable drilling for the occasion, and who have just acquitted themselves so handsomely, the unpremeditated speech I have to offer, will, I doubt not, be thrown very far in the back ground. I might after the fashion of public speakers, avow my extraordinary diffidence, was I quite sure you would give me credit for the possession of this rare and commendable quality. Unfortunately you have had too many evidences of my assurance to believe that I am readily abashed by a room full of upturned faces. Under all disadvantages, however, I respond, with no ordinary pleasure, to the invitation extended me by the Teacher of the school.

I know not how the audience may be affected by a scene like this—but to my mind, a cluster of children treading in the paths of their fathers, exploring with young feet the avenues of knowledge, knocking at the portals of the temple of learning, presents a world of inspiring and interesting thoughts and associations. There is something in their manly struggles for success which goes to our very hearts. Something in their responses which awakens corresponding echoes in the chambers of our memories; in their radiant and hopeful faces; the flush of success which mantles their cheeks; the pulse of youthful aspiration beating at the doors of their breast; which recalls that happiest, sunniest period of our own lives—the school time of years ago! We, who have passed the Rubicon of childhood to recross it no more, love to speculate upon these things—and while I sat here this morning, listening to the examination of the various classes (and which, I take this occasion to say, and I mean it as no empty compliment, reflected in the precision and correctness of the responses, and the good order of the arrangements, much credit upon both tutor and pupil.) While listening to these exercises, I could but trace in the lineaments of each little boy the expression of his character, and picture to myself his future destiny. How did the miniature reflect the larger portrait of life! Here was the sensitive Keats'-like nature, shrinking from contact with the world; and there the bold, dogged perseverance, forming the type of our Republican character. Looking into coming years more than one of these dear little boys could I see, holding lofty and honorable positions in society and the State—vindicating by upright and useful lives the propriety and value of the instructions they are receiving at the hands of this Institution.

It is wholly unnecessary I should say any thing in defence of education—of the imperative obligations imposed upon all to diffuse far and wide the blessings of intelligence and learning. Its conservative importance to society and government is acknowledged.—The past points its value not less unerringly, than do the present and the future. It is in fact the great Palladium of our liberty and Institutions. Neglect it, and you at once, abolish the land marks of our existence as a free people. Treat it with indifference, and you let loose unbridled demagogueism and fanaticism, and anarchy upon the land. Cherish it, promote its advancement by every means in your power, and the country and the country's liberties are secure.—Demagogueism will yield to the dignity of learning and qualification for office; and the waves of faction beat as vainly upon the pillars of the Union, as the surges of ocean against the immoveable and eternal barriers of her cliff-bound shores. The system of public schools is the glory of our Institutions. It is not perfect—it is not pretended to be perfect. But it is progressive.—The eyes of the wisest and best are upon it—the strongest minds of the nation are moulding it into shape—and in a few years the aggregate effect of the little log school houses dotting our forests and road sides all over the country, and whose modest sites are now passed unnoticed by the traveller, will tell with tremendous power upon the happiness and prosperity, the social, intellectual, and moral condition of the continent and the world—and afford an argument in behalf of the perpetuity of the Republic which no sophistry of the old governments, however derived, can silence or gainsay. I confess that my sympathies are deeply enlisted in the cause of common schools. I believe that the Patriot, Philanthropist and Christian, can find no broader field, no higher ground, for the exercise of zeal, and the investment of hope. But my feelings are transporting me beyond the limits I had assigned myself when I rose, and I shall therefore sit down, after a few remarks addressed principally to the pupils—whose claims upon respectful attention I would by no means undervalue.

And in the first place, I beg to renew to you, for myself, and in behalf of others, dear children, assurances of the gratification afforded by the examination to which you have this day been subjected. A like diligence to that which has characterized your studies in this room, and a like promptness and correctness to that which has marked your responses in the class, will, when you go out upon the world in future years to battle with its peculiar difficulties, crown your more important efforts with the same kind of commendation and encouragement you have experienced here. Remember that you are now in the initiative—that you are here to prepare for the future—that you are here forging the separate pieces of that homely but strong armour which is to be your defence in the coming conflicts of life. Value the privileges you enjoy.—Trifle them not away. Every step you take in the path of useful learning now—every lesson from the lips of your able and accomplished Teacher you cherish now, will be of untold worth to you, hereafter. As surely as you are young, if God spares you, you will one day be old, and called upon to fill responsible places in society. Time is swiftly speeding away, and although the vista between you and the boundaries of manhood may seem far distant now, the day will come when, in looking back from manhood to your present position, that long path will dwindle to a very small space. You have much—oh! how much to acquire, and how little time for its acquisition! Be diligent then—

Art is long, but time is fleeting,
And our hearts, tho' stout and brave,
Still like muffled drums are beating,
Funeral marches to the grave.

In our country is every thing to stimulate to industrious efforts. Under our benign and generous government the doors of preferment are thrown wide open to all. We have nothing to bolster up family or rank. The mind and the character, remember it, will constitute the claims to honorable positions. Nay, the obscurity of family origin, and the badge of poverty, instead of proving an objection, will be recorded in your biography, and on your tombs, if you are ever great, as a part of your glory, when contrasted with the lofty heights to which you may soar above such clogs and obstructions. The history of those who have figured in our national councils, and shed imperishable lustre upon our land, confirms every word I utter. Our Websters and Clays have formed, in years gone by, a part of the band of ragged urchins who have crowded the log huts, the smoke from whose chimnies might be seen curling aloft, through the quiet atmosphere, upon the skirts of our ancient forests.

One word more. While endeavoring to acquire knowledge, do not neglect the cultivation of the heart. Be good children, that you may be good men. Without moral and religious direction to your faculties, and attainments, you will accomplish little that is useful. You may excite wonder and admiration by the brilliancy of your talents, but without character you can never attract the esteem of men, or the approbation of God. Remember that a

"Good name in man and woman—
Is the immediate jewel of their souls."

I will not detain you longer, than to thank the Teacher and yourselves for the entertainment furnished by the exercises just concluded—and wish you, dear children, a sound night's repose after your toils and anxieties, and a happy and propitious vacation.

INGENIOUS ESCAPE OF A PRISONER.—Jas. Dunn, a convict at Sing Sing, N. Y., on Friday last effected his escape from that institution in a very ingenious manner.—Procuring some strips of India rubber, he made an air-tight tube some six feet long, to the end of which he attached a bag of the same material, shaped like a duck. Managing to elude his keepers, he came to the river, where he threw off and secreted his clothing, and with his new life-preserver plunged in, and when at the bottom kept one end of the tube in his mouth, the bag meanwhile floating on the surface and supplying him with air. In this way he passed the prison docks, and had proceeded about half a mile down the stream to Colyer's dock, when, his pipe giving way, he was forced to swim ashore, where he met a crowd of people, and informed them that some one had stolen his clothes, and left them in pursuit of the thief, which was the last that has been heard of him. He was twenty years of age, had served one term of confinement, and was at the time of escape under sentence for life.

THE CASE OF CAPT. GIBSON.—It is stated that Captain Gibson is engaged at the State Department, making out a brief of his case, from about three thousand pages of documents on the subject, to be presented to the Cabinet meeting to-day, if possible. It appears that Captain Gibson desires the enforcement of his claim for $82,000 damages awarded him by the Dutch Court. When this point is disposed of, he will ask to be sustained in his right to the grant made him by one of the Dutch East India Princes, of a large and valuable coal region from which, he says, he can supply a superior quality of fuel, at four dollars per ton. There is said to be little doubt the administration will embrace this opportunity, not only to enforce whatever claim Captain Gibson has for redress, but to bring about if possible, commercial relations between the United States and Holland's twenty-one millions collonial subjects.

Colonel James Collier was arrested in Ohio a few days ago by the United States Marshal of Ohio, the object being to send him to San Francisco for trial on the indictment under the Sub-Treasury act, charging him with withholding public moneys which accrued in his hands when collector of that port. It is not denied by Colonel Collier that he withholds from the Treasury money which he acknowledges to be due the Government, refusing to pay until the Department is prepared to settle certain other and disputed items. He has the means to pay, and no doubt *will* pay, whatever of the disputed sums any court may declare to be due by him; but his refusal to pay an undisputed sum now in his hands is unfortunate, calculated as it is to be used to his prejudice.

Hugh Haugh, a file cutter, died in New Haven, on Friday, of lock-jaw, caused by running a nail into his foot.

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc2940_scm12401-0580.jpg