The Chestertown Transcript.

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Chestertown Transcript
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E. F. PERKINS, Editor.

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TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM, IF PAID IN ADVANCE. If not paid within three months from the time of subscribing, TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS will be charged.

Advertisements

Of TEN LINES Bourgeois (or its equivalent n space) or less, will be inserted three times for One Dollar: Twenty-five cents for each subsequent insertion. One square three months, three Dollars: Six months, five Dollars: One Year, eight Dollars. Fractions of a square will be charged as a square. Yearly and semi-annual advertisements at moderate rates. Yearly and semi-annual advertisements must be paid quarterly. Advertisements not stating the number of times they are to be published, will be continued and charged for until ordered out.

JOB PRINTING.

Having supplied our office with a large, varied and beautiful assortment of TYPE FOR JOBS, we are prepared to print

HANDBILLS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS,
SUITABLE FOR
STORES,
TRUSTEES' SALES,
Public Sales,
&c., &c., &c., &c.,

☞ Cheap for Cash, and at short notice. ☜

A FIRST CLASS BLACKSMITH SHOP IN CHESTERTOWN.

JUST WHAT IS NEEDED!

Where the People can get Blacksmithing done by Experienced Workmen.

Chapman & Lambert

Take this method of informing their friends and patrons and the public generally, that they have completed their large and commodious Shop on Cross street on the site of the former Shop. Expressing thanks to the public for their patronage in the past and hoping for a continuance of the same, we think our past work a sufficient reference for our ability in doing business.

CHAPMAN & LAMBERT.
Chestertown, August 24, 1867.

BAKERY.

EVERY PERSON SHOULD LOOK TO HIS OWN INTEREST.

THOSE in want of *CAKE and CONFECTIONARY* for the coming Holidays, should not forget to call at HUDGINS' BAKERY, where Cakes are made up in style surpassed by no other Bakery in Kent county,
SUCH AS
Fine Lady Cakes, French Wine Cakes, Almond Drops, Jelly Cake of different kinds, New Year Tea Cake, Cakes for Parties, in fact
CAKES OF DIFFERENT KINDS, such as you will find in a similar establishment in the City. Also, a full assortment of

Confectionary of all Kinds.

Nuts,	Kisses,	Raisins,
Currants,	Dates,	Figs,
Prunes,	Citron,	Candies.

BREAD, RUSK, BISCUITS, AND PIES,
FRESH EVERY DAY.

☞ Our Mince Pies are delicious—just try them.

Thankful for past favors, he respectfully asks a continuance of the Public patronage.

WASHINGTON HUDGINS,
Main St., nearly opposite Post Office.
N. B.—Cakes at Retail, Wholesale and by the Barrel. Dec. 19, 1863.

SODA! SODA!!
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN
Of the Town and County,
You are respectfully invited to call at LEVI FIDDIS', Jr., and try his Soda Water. It is superior to any thing ever offered in this Town, and you will find it delightfully refreshing this warm weather. He has a very superior Fountain, and every facility for furnishing the best article. June 1.

WHEELER & WILSON
HIGHEST PREMIUM
LOCK STITCH
Sewing Machine!

Awards at the Paris Exposition. The Sewing Machine Result.
WHEELER & WILSON
CARRY THE DAY.

A dispatch from Paris this morning gives the award at the Exposition for Sewing Machines.

Messrs. Wheeler & Wilson are awarded the First Premium Gold Medal
For Greatest Excellence over all others Exhibited.

There were eighty-two competitors. The greatest interest attended the announcement of the result.

W. MERRILL, AGENT,
214 West Baltimore Street,
July 27, 1867—y BALTIMORE.

MACHINE OIL of superior quality, just opened by
Dec. 8, 1867. THOMAS S. WICKES.

PUBLIC LOCAL LAWS

OPERATIVE IN KENT COUNTY,
PASSED JANUARY SESSION, 1867.

AN ACT to amend the Charter of the Kent County Railroad Company, passed January Session, eighteen hundred and fifty-six, chapter 148, entitled an Act to incorporate the Kent County Railroad Company "to secure the completion of the said road by the issuing of additional bonds to the company, and to provide for the payment of the State's subscription for stock in said company to waive the State's lien.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the fourteenth section of the Act passed January session, eighteen hundred and fifty-six, chapter one hundred and forty-eight, entitled, "an Act to incorporate the Kent County Railroad Company," relating to the condemnation and valuation of lands and the mode of assessing damages, returning inquisitions and other proceedings, shall be applicable in all respects to the lands of minors or persons under the lawful age as if they were made to apply to the same by the terms of the said section, and that the said act of eighteen hundred and fifty-six, chapter one hundred and forty-eight, shall be applicable to the lands and estate of minors or persons under lawful age, in the same manner as if the said lands and the interests and estate of minors were embraced and included in terms in the said Act of the General Assembly.

Sec. 2. And be it enacted, That the said Kent County Railroad Company shall have power to issue its bonds or other securities, or the pledge of its property, estate and franchise, bearing interest at a rate not exceeding six per centum per annum, redeemable at any time within twenty years, and not exceeding in amount the sum of three hundred thousand dollars, and dispose of the same for the purpose of constructing and equiping said railroad, and the erection of building and for all purposes connected with the making, equipping, completing and running said road, and no bond of the said company issued in good faith for the construction, completion, or equipmment of said railroad, shall be annulled or abated, because the same may be disposed of by the said company at less than its par value.

Sec. 3. And be it enacted, That the bonds, securities, or pledges of property mentioned and referred to in the above second section, are in addition to the bonds, securities and pledges authorized to be issued or put out by the Act of Assembly passed at the extra January session eighteen hundred and sixty-six, chapter one hundred and fifty, entitled an Act to secure the completion of the Kent County Railroad, by the Kent County Railroad Company, and to regulate the mode of voting at meetings of stockholders of railroad companies on the Eastern Shore, and that lien held by the State of Maryland on the property of the Kent County Railroad Company to secure the payment of six per centum interest out of the profits of the work on the shares of the capital stock of the said company held by the State, shall not be construed to give a preference to the State over the bond-holders of the said company, and the said lien is hereby expressly waived, postponed and deferred in favor of the holders of the said bonds authorized to be issued under this and the former Act, and which may be issued for the construction and equipment of said road, and the necessary buildings and appurtenances of the same.

Sec 4. And be it enacted, That the Comptroller of the Treasury be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to issue his warrant to the Treasurer for the payment to the Kent County Railroad Company for the State appropriation heretofore made for the said company, *provided* the whole payment by the State in any one year shall not exceed the one-fourth of the subscription of the stock by the State; *and provided further*, that the said payment by the State shall not exceed the amount which has been previously paid by other parties, including contributions or value of work, land or materials, as may be shown from time to time by the certificate, under seal of the Treasurer, of said company, countersigned by the State directors thereof.

Sec. 5. And be it enacted, That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Nov. 2, 1867—3t.

AN ACT to incorporate the Quaker Neck Wharf Company, in Quaker Neck Kent county, on Chester River.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Edward Wilkins, Francis Baker, James P. DeCorse, John Hadaway, William G. Trew, Bartus Trew, Barney DeCorse, Oliver P. Jones, Philip T. Simmons, William Henry Lambert, William Scoon, Chas. H. Baker, Philip E. Trew, C. Dilnot and Geo. B. Westcott and their associates successors and assigns, be, and they are hereby created a corporation and body politic by the name and style of the Quaker Neck Wharf Company, and by that name may have succession, and shall be able and capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto in any court of law or equity in this State, and to make and use a common seal, to ordain and establish such by-laws and regulations as shall be necessary and convenient for conducting the affairs of said corporation not contrary to law.

Sec. 2. And be it enacted, That the capital stock of said company shall not exceed the sum of five thousand dollars, to be divided into shares of ten dollars each.

Sec. 3. And be it enacted, That for the management of the affairs of said company, the stockholders shall elect a President and not over five Directors to manage the affairs for one year or until their successors shall be elected, a majority of whom shall form a quorum or board for the transaction of business.

Sec. 4. And be it enacted, That the stock of the company shall be deemed personal estate.

Sec. 5. And be it enacted, That the company shall have full power and authority to levy, charge and collect from all vessels of every description whatever, using said wharf, the same reasonable tolls or wharfage that may now be sanctioned by law or usage in this State, and in the same manner, and to be collected as other small debts are.

Sec. 6. And be it enacted, That this Act may be repealed or modified by the Legislature.

Sec. 7. And be it enacted, That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Nov. 2, 1867—3t.

AN ACT to authorize and empower the Trustees of the parsonage property in Chestertown, of the Methodist Protestant Church of Kent Circuit, to sell and convey certain real estate in said town.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That David Arthur, John W. Collins, George Vickers, Absalom W. Sparks and John T. Dodd, Trustees of the Methodist Protestant Parsonage in Chestertown, on Kent Circuit of the Methodist Protestant Church of the Maryland District, or a majority of them, be and they are hereby fully authorized and empowered to sell and convey in fee, to John Greenwood of said town, part of the said parsonage lot of land, fronting on Queen street in Chestertown, not exceeding three-fifths of an acre, by deed to be executed acknowledged, according to law.

Sec. 2. And be it enacted, That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Nov. 2, 1867—3t.

PUBLIC LOCAL LAWS

OPERATIVE IN KENT COUNTY,
PASSED JANUARY SESSION, 1867

AN ACT to incorporate the Chestertown Water Company.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That George B. Westcott, Thomas W. Eliason, Richard Hynson, John T. Dodd, Jesse K. Hines, Charles Stanley, Henry W. Earnest, Joseph A. Wickes, Nicholas G. Westcott, John L. Stam, Wm. N. E. Wickes and William A. Vickers, of Chestertown, and all such persons as shall associate with them by becoming stockholders, in the manner hereinafter provided, their successors and assigns, are hereby made and constituted a body politic and corporate, by the name, style and title of the Chestertown Water Company, and by that name shall have perpetual succession, and shall be capable in law to sue and be sued, to plead and be impleaded, to answer and be answered, in any court of law or equity, to make and use a common seal, and to alter the same, and generally to do and perform all such acts, and make all such agreements and contracts, and to purchase, lease, hold, use and possess such lands, water right, powers and privileges, tenements, goods and chattels, as may be necessary for collecting streams of water, elevating, preserving, using and distributing the same, as the means of abundantly supplying with pure water the public and private houses, streets, squares, lanes, alleys, and other places in Chestertown and its precincts, and thereby also to prevent the destruction of public and private property by fire, and for properly disposing of the said water, and such other powers as may be necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this Act; *provided*, the said company shall not possess or hold at any time real and personal estate together above the value of five thousand dollars, without the consent of the General Assembly.

Sec. 2. And be it enacted, That the several persons named above, or a majority of them, may cause books to be opened at such times and places as they may direct, giving public notice thereof, for the purpose of receiving subscriptions to the capital stock of said company, which shall be divided into shares of ten dollars each, and be limited to five hundred shares, and that the Commissioners of Chestertown are hereby authorized, if they shall deem it proper to do so, to subscribe for fifty shares or any less number, and to collect the same by taxation in two or more installments, in the manner that taxes are now collected by the said Commissioners.

Sec. 3. And be it enacted, That so soon as fifty shares of said stock shall be subscribed as aforesaid, and three hundred dollars shall be paid in, the said thirteen persons, or a majority of them, shall call a general meeting of the stockholders, at such time and place as they may appoint in said town, and at such meeting the said stockholders shall elect a President and four directors by ballot, to manage the affairs of the company; each stockholder at every election and every voting, shall be entitled to have one vote for every share of stock owned by him, and the election for President and Directors shall be annual, and the persons in office shall continue to hold their offices till their successors shall be appointed.

Sec. 4. And be it enacted, That the President and Directors for the time being, or a majority of them, shall have power to call for the payment of the subscriptions to the capital stock, as they may deem necessary, under the penalty to the subscribers of forfeiting all previous payments, thirty days notice having been previously given; to appoint all officers and agents to manage the business and affairs of the company, to purchase and lease property, real and personal, water rights, powers and privileges, and to erect thereon all suitable reservoirs, dams, tunnels conduits, fountains, gins and machinery, buildings and works of the company, to collect the water and dispose of the same for the purposes hereinbefore stated, to excavate the earth and lay pipes for water in the said town and its precincts; *provided*, no injury is done thereby, and the Commissioners of Chestertown shall assent thereto; to receive subscriptions for the whole or any part of the capital stock remaining unsubscribed, in such manner and at such times as they may deem proper; to make and pay over to the stockholders from time to time dividends of the nett profits of the said company; to make rules, regulations and by-laws for the government of the said company, and its agents and officers, and to take such bonds from them for the faithful performance of their duty as may be deemed necessary; to borrow money if required by the company, and secure the same by mortgage on its property.

Sec. 5. And be it enacted, That the election for President and Directors shall take place annually on the first Monday of May, from among the stockholders by ballot, and of which due notice shall be given by advertisement in a newspaper published in Chestertown, if one shall be published, at least twenty days before the election; but if said election shall not then take place, the said company shall not thereby be dissolved, but an election may be held on any other day due notice thereof being given in one or more newspapers printed and published in said town, for the time aforesaid.

Sec. 6. And be it enacted, That the stock of the corporation shall be deemed personal estate and shall with all the effects of the company be liable for its debts, but the stockholders individually shall not be liable therefor, and the service of any judicial process on the President shall be sufficient service on the company.

Sec. 7. And be it enacted, That in case the said company shall not be able to agree with the owner or owners of any land, springs or water, or with the Commissioners of Chestertown, for any lands, springs and water required for the purposes aforesaid, of the said company, and in case the owner or owners, as aforesaid, shall be a "feme covert," under age, "non compos mentis," or absent, or in case of disagreement with said Commissioners of Chestertown, as aforesaid, on application to a Justice of Peace for Kent county, he shall issue his warrant, under his hand and seal, directed to the Sheriff of said county, requiring him to summon a jury of twenty men of said county, and not related to nor in any manner interested in the premises, to meet on the land or at the springs of water to be valued, on a day that shall be specified in said warrant, not less than ten nor more than thirty days after issuing the same, and in case any of the jurors aforesaid do not attend, the Sheriff shall instanter summon as many jurors as may be necessary, with those in attendance, to furnish a panel of twenty jurors, and from them, each party, his, her, or their agent, guardian, or trustee, and if either be not present in person or by agent, guardian or trustee, as the case may be, the Sheriff shall strike off four jurors for each of the absent parties, or for either of the parties failing to act, and the remaining twelve shall constitute the jury, and the Sheriff shall qualify the said twelve jurors, either by oath or affirmation, as the case may be, justly, truly, and impartially; to estimate the value of the damages which may be sustained by the owner or owners of the said land, springs or water required, or of the interest of the said town, as may be claimed by the said Commissioners, who represent the interest of said town, and the said jury in estimating the damages aforesaid supposed to be sustained by the owners or Commissioners as aforesaid, shall take into the estimate the benefit resulting to said owners, or to the said town, but only in lessening or extinguishing the claim for damages, and the said jury shall reduce their verdict to writing, and sign and seal the same; and it shall then be returned by the Sheriff to the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Kent county, and if no good or sufficient reason shall be shown against said verdict, it shall be affirmed by said Court at the next term succeeding the return of said verdict, but if the said verdict shall be set aside, the said Court shall direct another inquisition, to be held in the manner before described, and when the verdict is confirmed and valuation paid or tendered to the owner or owners, or their representatives, or to the said Commissioners of Chestertown, or paid into the Circuit Court for Kent county, the said company shall be entitled to the estate and interest in the same, as if conveyed to it by the owner or owners.

Sec. 8. And be it enacted, That if any person or persons shall injure any of the canals, springs, reservoirs, tunnels, mounds, dams, plugs, pipes, engines, machinery, buildings, or any of the works of the corporation, or shall pollute or render impure any of the said waters, by placing foul substances or nuisances therein, they shall forfeit and pay the damages sustained therein, to be recovered with costs of suit, in the name of the said corporation, before any Court of Justice, or Justice of the Peace having coguisance thereof.

Sec. 9. And be it enacted, That the water usually known as the Free School Spring, in the precincts of said town, shall not be diverted from its present use, except by a consent of a majority of the whole Board of Commissioners of Chestertown, and in case the said spring shall be appropriated to the use of said company under this Act, the citizens of said town shall not be deprived of the use of the waters of said spring while the said works are in progress of construction, unless good water suitable for drinking shall be provided for them, free of expense, until the said works shall be completed.

Sec 10. And be it enacted, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to give to the said company any banking privileges, and the General Assembly hereby reserves the right to alter, amend or repeal the charter hereby created.

Sec. 11. And be it enacted, That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Nov. 9, 1867—3t.

The Poet.

THE LADY'S DREAM.

BY THOMAS HOOD.

Alas! I have walked through life,
Too heedless where I trod;
Nay, helping to trample my fellow-worm,
And fill the burial sod—
Forgetting that even the sparrow falls
Not unmarked by God!

I drank the riches draughts;
And ate whatever was good—
Fish and flesh, and fowl and fruit,
Supplied by hungry mood;
But I never remembered the wretched ones
That starve for want of food!

I dressed as the noble dress,
In cloth of silver and gold,
With silk and satin and costly furs,
In many an ample fold;
But I never remembered the naked limbs
That freeze with winter's cold!

The wounds I might have heal'd!
The human sorrow and smart!
And yet it never was in my soul
To play so ill a part;
But evil is wrought for want of thought,
As well as want of heart!

She clas p'd her fervent hands,
And the tears began to stream,
Large and bitter, and fast they fell,
Remorse was so extreme—
And yet, oh, yet, that many a dame
Would dream the Lady's Dream.

Matrimonial Candidates.

It is a custom at the Galway (Ireland) Fair for all the marriageable girls to assemble and to tempt all wanting wives, by their captivating charms, to be made more happy for life. Says an American gentleman of the highest character, who was an eye witness, and invited by a nobleman to go and see these girls: "At 12 o'clock precisely, we went, as directed, to a part of the ground higher than the rest of the field, where we found from sixty to a hundred young women, well-dressed, with good looks and good manners, and presenting a spectacle quite worthy any civil man looking at, and in which I can assure my readers there was nothing to offend any civil or modest man's feelings. These were the marriageable girls of the country, who had come to show themselves, on the occasion, to the young men and others who wanted wives; and this was the plain and simple custom of the fair. I can plainly say that I saw in the custom no very great impropriety—it cerainly did not imply that, though they were ready to be had, anybody could have them. It was not a Circassian slave market, were the richest purchaser could make his selection. They were, in no sense of the term, on sale; nor did they abandon their right of choice; but that which is done constantly in more refined society, under various covers and pretenses—at theatres, at balls and public exhibitions, I will say nothing of churches—was done by these humble and unpretending people in this straightfoward manner.

Read an Hour a Day.

There was a lad who, at fourteen, was apprenticed to a soap-boiler. One of his resolutions was to read an hour a day, or at least at that rate, and he had an old silver watch, left him by his uncle, which he timed his reading by. He stayed seven years with his master, and said when he was twenty-one he knew as much as the young squire did. Now let us see how much time he had to read in, in seven years, at the rate of an hour each day.—It would be 2,555 hours, which, at the rate of eight reading hours per day, would be equal to three hundred and ten days; equal to forty-five weeks; equal to twelve months; nearly a year's reading. That time spent in treasuring up useful knowledge would pile up a very large store. I am sure it is worth trying for. Try what you can. Begin now. In after years you will look back upon the task as the most pleasant and profitable one you ever performed.

Corns.

The safest, the most accessible and the most efficient cure of a corn on the toe, is to double a piece of thick, soft buckskin, cut a hole in it large enough to receive the corn, and bind it around the toe. If in addition to this the foot is soaked in warm water for five or more minutes every night and morning, and a few drops of sweet oil, or other oily substance are patiently rubbed in on the end after the soaking, the corn will almost infallibly become loose enough in a few days to be easily pricked out with a finger nail. This saves the necessity of paring the corn, which operation has sometimes been followed with painful and dangerous symptoms If the corn becomes inconvenient again, repeat the process at once.—*Hall's Journal of Health.*

A young lady went out with a rather timid beau sleighing one evening, complacently remarking to him that she seldom went a sleighing but she got chaps on the lips. The young man took the hint and chapped.

The Arlington Estate.

This historical place, situated upon Arlington Heights, and in full view of the city of Washington, is still an object of interest, and claims the attention of hundreds of visitors. To those who remember its appearance years since, with its splendid walks, beautiful trees and shrubbery, it presents a sad commentary upon the effects of the late civil war. The Washington Chronicle in describing the present appearance of this property, remarks:

Formerly the property of George Washington Parke Custis, the adopted son of the "Father of his Country," it was left by him to his daughter and her children. Mary, the only daughter, was the wife of General Robert E. Lee, by whom the estate was occupied at the beginning of the late war. For nearly three-quarters of a century it was the abode of elegant hospitality, and its owners were distinguished by that ease and affability that spring from the knowledge of the possession of peace and plenty. The pleasure-goers of this city will remember the many happy hours passed at Arlington Spring, which was always a famous resort. The mansion which is a large one, was built of Virginia freestone, and both the internal and external arrangements were all that one could wish for. Shortly after the outbreak of the rebellion the family of General Lee hastily abandoned the mansion-house and removed to Richmond, Va., taking the most of its contents with them.

The articles left by the Lees were either carried off or destroyed, and many of the noble trees, and much of the shrubbery, &c., that lent such dignity to the approaches of the "Great House," as it was called, were cut down and converted into firewood or cabins, and the house itself somewhat damaged by its constant use as headquarters, offices, &c., during the war, it having been seized by our soldiers in the name of the government, who have since retained possession of it. Afterwards a soldier's cemetery was projected and carried out upon an extensive scale, and there now sleeps in quiet repose, "after life's fitful fever," many thousand soldiers of the Union who fell in its defense or by disease contracted in the service.

Arlington is still held by the United States government, and has on it a freedmen's village. Sunday schools for colored children, a national cemetery, three immense vaults filled with soldiers' bones from the battle-fields of Virginia, and 1 or 2 churches, in one of which meets weekly the Arlington Republican Club. The government had at first only a possessory title to the place, but it now holds title from the United States tax commissioners, Messrs. Hawkhurst and Watson, by whom it was sold for non-payment of the direct war tax, on the 11th of June 1864. The amount of tax was $93 07, with fifty per cent. penalty, and ten per cent. interest. At the sale, advertised by the commissioners, the estate was bid in by order of the then President Abraham Lincoln, for government use, for war, military, charitable and educational purposes. The transfer of the title, which is recorded in the Alexandria County Court, was perfected March 7th, 1867, by the acknowledgement of the commissioners, when the deed was admitted to record.

The amount understood to have been paid by the United States for the property was $26,000. As there was nobody to pay this amount to, it is presumed that the sum named was only transferred on the books at Washington, and charged to the account of Arlington. As was stated in the beginning of this notice, Arlington belongs, by the will of its former owner, to his daughter during her life, and to her children at her death. The well-known White House, on James river, owned by old Mr. Custis, was willed in the same way, and is now (the house having been burned by McClellan during the war) being cultivated by one of Custis' grandchildren. Arlington was worth about $300,000, and hardly could have been purchased from any of the Lee family for any consideration.

Believing, but not Understanding.

"I will not believe anything but what I understand," said a self-confident young man in a hotel one day.

"Nor will I," said another.

"Neither will I," chimed in a third.

"Gentlemen," said one well known to me, who was on a journey, and who sat close by, "do I understand you correctly, that you will not believe anything that you don't understand?"

"I will not," said one, and so said each one of the trio.

"Well," said the stranger, "in my ride this morning I saw some geese in a field eating; do you believe that?"

"Certainly," said the three unbelievers.

"I also saw the pigs eating grass; do you believe that?"

"Of course," said the three.

"And I also saw sheep and cows eating grass; do you belive that?"

"Of course," was again replied.

"Well, but the grass which they had formerly eaten had, by digestion, turned to feathers on the backs of the geese, to bristles on the backs of the swine, to wool on the sheep, and on the cows it had turned to hair; do you believe that, gentlemen?"

"Certainly," they replied.

"Yes, you *believe it*," he rejoined, "but do you understand it?"

They were confounded and silent, and evidently ashamed as they well might be.

The printer of the *Western Gazette* recently published the following notice:—"Dry stove wood wanted immediately at this office, in exchange for papers. N. B.—Don't bring logs that the devil can't split."

Public Instruction.

From the Maryland Educational Journal.

Now that it is decided that the system of public instruction shall be amended, it may not be inappropriate to call attention to a few points that experience has shown require a change, with a view to invite consideration and discussion thereon, previously to the meeting of the Legislature.

1. A uniform set of books all over the State is not an essential feature to the successful education of children. It rather fosters a principle of speculation, requiring, perhaps, in some cases a "*douceur*" to get a book adopted. There are many most excellent text books now published, and it is very difficult for even experienced teachers to decide which is the best; but in the same city and county the books might be uniform with advantage.

2d. The pay of teachers must be better, or good schools will be too much of a mush-room kind. Teachers should be paid by their grade of ability as certified to, on examination, and not by the number of pupils that they may happen to have.—It makes a teacher too dependent upon gratifying the whims of the children or parents; and in a sparsely settled neighborhood the best teacher in the State could not get a large school, and would have to take more meagre pay than the poorest in a settled district.

3d. All the school fund should be appropriated to the use of the common public schools, yet for the encouragement of meritorious students of either sex State scholarships should be established as prizes to be awarded by a disinterested committee to each county according to population.—These certificates of scholarship to be paid yearly by the State, to any school, academy or college, named in the law, that may impart *bona fide* the necessary higher education. This would avoid the favoritism that sometimes governed donations to schools, and allow parents to send to that school that labors most for the good of "State scholars."

4th. Supervision, in the sense of office-making, is an unnecessary expense. The teacher of a public school, if he is, as he ought to be, a competent man, needs no more overseeing than the teacher of a private school. All we absolutely need is, three intelligent gentlemen as a Board of Education and Examination, whose certificates of competent education should be sufficient for the life of any teacher to whom it may be granted. To examine a practising physician every two years would be about as good a thing as examining teachers bi-annually.

5. One Commissioner for each county would be sufficient. He could appoint for each school for such person as the parents sending to school may in writing request, if in possession of a proper certificate of competency from the State Board of Education and Examination. He should also report annually to the State Board the condition of the schools and the progress of education. Nothing more in the way of Commissioners, Vistors, Trustees, Presidents, &c., are in reality required. Teachers and Commissioner could do, perhaps, all their business by mail.

6th. Every teacher should report, according to some printed and uniform plan, all the facts in relation to his school that are really valuable and no more, to the County Commissioner quarterly, who on receiving it and finding it correct, should remit a draft or order to him for the amount due him. All other duties, such as riding over the whole county, and spending one-half hour in each school—or trying petty cases—or seeing that each teacher has a republican form of government or examining the children in some of their studies, is as valueless as it is costly.

7th. For Baltimore city a sufficient number of Commissioners should be appointed by the Board of Education and Examination, to carry out properly its present system. In all other respects it might be left as it is, except the removal of all those partisan teachers who were appointed for no other reason than that they could take the *iron oath*.

8th. Each county should have the privilege of arranging all the details of the system of public instruction to suit its own peculiar wants: fix the vacations,—the plan of school houses,—the hours of study,—and use the text books most preferred. It must be a poor teacher that could not teach from any of our present excellent series of school books of every kind. The State, however, should in every case furnish the books and stationery, as otherwise many children would be poorly provided. A county convention might be called by the Commissioner to determine on all undefined points in the new school law we are to have. All expenses whatever that belong to the school system should be paid by a State tax, county tax, and the school fun as now established.—Every county should be required to levy annually not less than some fixed amount for the repairs and building of school-houses and the support of the schools.—This judiciously expended, and with few expenses of regulating and managing, would give us a system just the kind the whole State wants. It will not do to raise all the funds for the support of schools by a State tax, because it would be too unequal in some places. T. L.

A sweet young lady says that males are of no account from the time the ladies stop kissing them as infants till they commence kissing them as lovers.

A father said to his wife, when his dissipated boy had come home. "Wife kill the prodigal, the calf's returned!"

"According to Milton, Eve kept silent in Eden to hear her husband talk," said a gentleman to a lady friend, and then added in a melancholy tone:

"Alas there have been no Eves since."

"Because there have been no husbands worth listening to," was the quick retort.

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