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ADDRESS OF COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, BEFORE The Kent County AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION,

SEPT. 27, 1876.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: Your invitation to address you to-day, upon subjects appropriate to the occasion, is a compliment, the full appreciation of which, I cannot readily express.

The task your partiality has imposed, is one of delicacy and importance. Were I to consult my own judgment, and yield to the consciousness of my incapacity, I should decline "the situation." But, I have been too long a soldier in the patriot army of Agriculture, not to feel it a duty, promptly to respond to any demand, when my brothers of the plow deem my humble services may be of use in aiding the progress of the great cause we all have so much at heart and so much desire to see prosper. I think, every farmer, when called on to perform any work, should *try*, and if he fails, he has the self-approval of having done his best to secure success.

Before discussing subjects more germane to the occasion which has brought together this assemblage, I trust it will not be deemed inappropriate or tiresome, if I hastily refer to some statistics illustrative of the immense strides of our country in progress during its first centenary; proving that we have good reason to rejoice in our Centennial celebration—evidencing the wisdom of the founder of the Republic, when they proclaimed "man capable of self-government," and thus inaugurated a new and wise political system,—challenging our admiration and reverence for those grandly noble men of 1776,—and commanding our gratitude to the great Ruler of the universe, who seems to have made our forefathers and us His chosen people and continuously blessed our glorious land. This Centennial year has proved to be as prodigally fruitful in nature's bounties, as it has appropriately, exhibited patriotic impulses.

When the Colonies on the 4th of July 1776 declared themselves a free and Independent Nationality and claimed sisterhood with the civilized nations of the world, the total population was less than 3,000,000, including half a million of slaves, and to-day we number 43,000,000, —all free!—making us the fourth among the great empires of the earth. The territory nominally occupied by the Colonies that united in the Declaration of Independence exceeded 800,000 square miles, and the aggregate area covered by population in [illegible] was only 250,935 sq. miles. Since then by purchases, treaties, annexation and other means, the total area now amounts to 3,603,844 sq. miles or about *two thousand millions* of acres, one half of which are Government lands. The British, Chinese and Russian empires are the only three powers that surpass the United States in extent of surface and in population.

I am indebted to a careful compendium of statistics, furnished in the New York Tribune, for many facts I am giving, and will read this paragraph also from its columns:

"In 1776 the farmer went to the village blacksmith when he needed a plow, and many of his tools were made in his own woodshed. To-day the manufacture of farm implements is one of the leading industries of the nation, the production of 2,000 establishments amounting to $50,000,000 in 1870. At the close of the revolution the production of cotton in the South was scarcely 100 bales, now the annual product is about 4,000,000 bales. In 1870 the production of the six cereals—corn, wheat, rye, oats, barley and buckwheat—was 1,2[illegible]7,999,253 bushels. This is an allowance of 33 bushels for every inhabitant or 25 bushels more than the average man requires annually. The total value of the farm, garden, orchard and forest products, (including live stock slaughtered) was $2,974,781,000 or $80 for each inhabitant. The aggregate area of the farms was 407,735,041 acres, or about 21 per ct. of the *surface* of the country. The cash value of these farms was $9,262,803,861; farm implements, $336,878,429; [illegible], $1,525,277,476.

In 1790 the value of the manufactures of the United States was estimated by Alexander Hamilton at $20,000,000. In 1870 there were 252,148 manufacturing establishments [illegible]

dition and once again our trade will be vigorous and commanding.

While the inexhaustible mineral resources of the United States have been developed immensely, the means of transportation along with facilities for travel, have been supplied in a wonderful manner by the genius of our scientists and the skill of our artisans. Up to 1815 we had no canals, and to-day there are in operation at least 1500 miles. Maryland incorporated the first rail road company in the United States and not until 1832 was steam used as a motive power on a rail road. Now there are 75000 miles of rail, with an aggregate capital of near 5,000,000,000 dollars, transporting annually over 200,000,000 of tons of freight.

Only a few years back, *Morse* sent the first message from Baltimore to Washington by telegraph. This triumph of genius startled the world. This day there are 80,000 miles of wire at work in our country, and men of the old world hold converse with the citizens of young America by means of wires at the bottom of the Atlantic ocean. Telegraph wires run over all the grand divisions of the earth, —under the seas, through towns and hamlets, over mountains and through tunnels that penetrate the bowels of the ground. During this first centenary of our National existence, *Franklin* drew the electric fluid from the clouds and subjected it to the service of man, and *Morse* utilized it into a news-messenger or letter-carrier that transmits intelligence silently, secretly and mysteriously with the rapidity of light around the globe. *Fulton* in the meantime has utilized steam so that it has become as manageable as a domestic animal with a thousand times its power. With steam, the farmer can plow, harrow, sow the grain, reap, thresh, winnow, transport to mill or market, or he can grind the grain, make and cook the great staff of life—*bread*. From the smallest watch-spring or cambric needle to the engine which transports us for hours at the rate of forty to seventy miles the hour, and the thousand conveniences and necessaries of life are generated and perfected by this wonderful power—brain-born child of *Fulton*, and by whose genius it was educated and moulded into the unequalled and indispensable benefactor of the whole family of man. What mathematician can compute the amount of physical labor the subjection of steam to man's control has saved? Fulton's tiny steamer on the Hudson, was the little star that heralded to a sleeping world the most startling revolution that has ever happened in the history of civilization, war, commerce and, the more important than all, agriculture. It would take long to tell of all the benefits conferred by the use of that element which Fulton made peculiarly his own, and made it so obedient and subservient to man, that he becomes truly, as God gave him the right to be, lord of the "land and the sea and all that they contain." Without the control of *steam*, he was only the master, by accidental circumstances and the combination of a large amount of physical force.

Howe was the first to substitute machinery for the nimble fingers of woman, and what do we, who love the daughters of Eve—owe to the man who has so largely contributed to their relief in those dreary moments, when wearied women had to stitch, stitch, stitch! to earn a pittance, wherewith to obtain food and clothing. On this subject, let the hearts of women respond. I am incapable fully the describe the advantages and help of the sewing machine to the poor sewing girls.

The grand invention of the cotton gin by Whitney, was the means by which millions of persons unemployed, became engaged in profitable employment, and to this hour are indebted to his mind and perseverance for their daily bread.

New industries have been opened in the field of our wide-spread agricultural science, by the inventive genius of our mechanics who study the laws of natural and mechanic sciences. Strange as it may appear, we condense milk, rendering it pure and wholesome for years—solidify cider—prepare eggs for transportation around the globe and return fit to be used, so fresh, that chickens do not distinguish it from an egg so newly laid that the hen has not ceased to cackle over her last achievement. Large quantities of all these new things are annually sent to foreign countries. Fruits in various forms, and the products of the waters, are exported to the amount of millions of dollars. American beef, slaughtered here, undersells the best beef of England at her own door. An immense trade is springing up in fresh beef, so encouraging as to soon put in the shade the already great exports of American cured meats; lard, cheese, &c. Every can, pound of fresh or salted meat, cheese, hogshead of tobacco, bushel of grain or barrel of flour or bale of cotton landed in any part of Europe or other foreign land, is to that extent so much contributed to the lifting off of our present embarrassments and adding to our individual prosperity [illegible]

population, in agriculture, arts, science, and useful mechanism. This has all been done, notwithstanding four long wars, nearly seventeen years, beside frequent costly Indian wars, in which the country has been engaged, involving great suffering, interruption in business and depletion of finances. Now while we have all this to glorify our love of country and stimulate our patriotism, it must be admitted with shame and sorrow, that we have lost much of the true manhood, honor and integrity of our fathers. The wholesale defalcations, briberies, corruptions and robberies by many of our officials, have brought us to a deplorable condition and subjected us to the just scorn and contempt of other nations. It rests with the honest fathers and mothers of the land—the public school teachers, Patrons of Husbandry, and the religious instructors, to work immediate reform in the public morals, and by united efforts, advance knowledge, increase learning, foster religion, and especially enforce morality by home example, education and training, so as quickly to restore the rising generation to the lofty standard of true American manhood as manifested by deeds in the lives of the men of '76, who were true, honest and truthful, loving their country more than self-aggrandizement or any selfish purpose whatever.

I gladly leave this only one dark cloud, to come nearer home and sunshine.

From the Report of the Chief of the Bureau of statistics for 1870, I find that *Kent* is put above nearly every county in the State as to price of improved and unimproved lands, and that its farms rent for more than farms in other counties. Is this because the population increased so much in the last decade and that pomology has been practiced on so large a scale? If so, it is a significant fact, which Southern Maryland would do well to profit by. Your exemplar is worthy to be followed by the entire South. From the Report I referred to, it would seem you are not a manufacturing people, but chiefly engrossed in horticulture and agriculture. May I not here ask, would it not be better to grow more products to be within your own county manufactured into articles such as cheese, butter, clothing; sugar, from watermelons and beets; meat, liquors &c? The making of silk would be both profitable and pleasant for ladies. This was your status in 1870. You had only an area of 250 square miles; the cash value of the farms was $9,400,000. The amount of all products on the farms was $2,111,000. It is good for a people to look back a decade and ask themselves, "have we added to our national wealth and our social and moral condition—how far and in what direction? It is for you to ponder this over and answer. From what I have seen and gathered by inquiries, I think you have cause for congratulation upon your advancement, even since 1870, in education, social facilities, real aggregated wealth, in horticultural pursuits especially, and in enlarged means of communication and traffic with the outside world by water and rail, enabling you to reach markets of our own and neighbor States with your products in shorter time and at less expense than formerly and therefore with less loss in all perishable materials. I congratulate you, people of Kent, that you can truly exclaim, "*Our lines have fallen to us in pleasant places; yea, we have a goodly heritage!*" You have refined and intellectual society with a locality possessing many natural advantages—fertile soil, beautiful scenery, salubrious climate and famed for delicious fruits, with an abundance of epicurean delicacies and substantial food furnished at all times by your beautiful rivers, as well as by the Chesapeake Bay, of which they are tributaries. Any observer who chances to visit your favored county must be pleased to see your fine roads, elegant and comfortable dwellings, good enclosures, handsomely ornamented grounds, excellent cultivation, promising crops, rich grass fields, and your large and magnificent orchards. But the present scene, with the exhibition of stock, implements, agricultural and horticultural products, adorned by the beautiful display of the taste, skill and industry of ever-to-be-revered woman, here exhibited in every branch of the household department, must forcibly impress the beholder, that Agriculture is onward with you, and that you feel zeal enough in the noble cause to show to the world the first fruits, as it were, of your improving system of husbandry in all its branches and divisions.

It is not my province to attempt instruction to a community, many members of which are better informed than I am, about the requirements of agriculture and especially horticulture in the details. Nor have I time to discuss the long mooted questions as to deep or shallow plowing, open or blind ditches; the economy of live or dead fences, pasturing or soiling—the latter having [illegible]

servation and thoughtful study. But there are some general conditions and rules, which all agree are essentially necessary to successful farming. A deep rich soil, perfect drainage, high manuring, proper rotation of crops and thorough cultivation, when the land is in a right condition and sufficiently dry to be worked. These rules and principles are the chief ones on which success and progress depend.

As to the glaring mistakes and faults too often shown by farmers of our State, I would suggest, as among the more prominent, and ought to be avoided or abandoned, are as follows: Bad roads, preventing foreign capital from investment in our territory, and what is just as good or better, immigration of industrial, working classes; too much fencing, which is more expensive than buildings for stock; a reasonable soiling system; not enough attention to the improvement of breeds of stock of all sorts; too great a desire to own a large quantity of land, when the owner has not the capital to properly cultivate or to utilize it profitably, and this connected with the suicidal error of working too much land in crop, without the means of doing it justice. Another error, is not growing more grass, which I consider the most intrinsically valuable of all crops. There is too little grass-seed sown to the acre, and not as many kinds mixed together, so as to insure a supply, in succession, of fresh green pasture.

A very important mistake is made, by having a great specialty, and not diversifying productions more, so as to suit our ever-varying seasons. More and better stock should be reared, or fed, on the farm, especially by those who are distant from market, inasmuch as it is more profitable to return to the land what it produced and send at the same time the grain and hay packed in living carcasses than in bags and bales subject to heavy freight. The true theory, I think, of individual, community and national prosperity, is to produce all the necessaries of life as far as possibly practicable and the *excess* in that or those crops or products, which will yield the surest and largest profit, send to the market; and this must be determined by climate, soil, location and facilities to market.

Again, how few realize the fact that there is no progress in farming without special attention be given to the making, collecting and saving of manure on the farm. Among all the discoveries of scientists or practical men, not one has been made to supplant the manure pile accumulated in the barn-yard, or equal it in sustaining and increasing the fertility of the soil or supplying as valuable food to all the divers plants, most of which by their roots, stalks, or leaves, in the laboratory of nature, are converted into rich humus and returned to the land to swell its capacity of plant production. Here comes in very properly, the suggestion I made just now, that grass is a necessity, for as the French proverb reads, "without grass we can have no cattle, without cattle, we have no manure; without manure we have no crops." Owing to the compact form, ease of handling and comparative cheapness of manufactured fertilizers, our farmers are too apt, from indolence or other unworthy cause, to rely upon, as prompt substitutes for farm manure, and they neglect to husband those banks which never bankrupt the stockholder, always return high interest on all deposits, and from which alone should the farmer ever ask for loans. With a full supply of manure banks the farmer can have no need of commission men or ever be the slave of grinding "middle men"—those who are eaters-up of the toil of the producer and the destroyers of the consumer. They live upon the credulity of the producer and fatten on the necessities of the consumer. In advocating more attention to saving home manure, I do not disparage the use of manufactured fertilizers. They cannot be well dispensed with. They are a great boon that science has given to the farmer on poor land by which he can lay a foundation for future improvement of the soil, enabling him to grow large crops of clover and other grasses, wherewith to increase fertility, and they are also convenient mediums to furnish the land with such mineral manures as are wanted for particular crops.

In regard to using barn yard manure let me say, fellow farmers, follow nature and top-dress. Long and coarse manure used as a top dressing on grass or grain, with plaster sprinkled over it to retain the ammonia, furnishes not only food to the crops as fast as needed, but acts as a mulch, retaining moisture and protecting the tender roots from the withering heat of the sun. In recommending top dressing, I speak with confidence inspired by long experience of years.

Farmers pay too little attention to farming, either as a science, or as an [illegible]

constantly to deal with *life*—his thoughts and researches should be devoted to the economy of nature. He has to study life, and endeavor to bring it to the fullest development under its conditions, both in the field and the herd. What study more noble or mind-inspiring!

Fearing that I am trying your patience by going over these well trod paths, I quit them and will venture upon other tracts less frequented. There is a subject of vital importance to us and to our posterity that has not been as properly discussed as it should be, and I have but to glance at it in a superficial way.

It is conceded that agriculture and horticulture have made wonderful progress in the last twenty-five years. Now in what way is the progress to be successfully continued? I answer, by elevating labor; by recognizing the full importance of the sciences and educating our young men for the profession of agriculture in all its branches as carefully as those are educated, who mean to enter the learned professions, the field of literature, or determine to become philosophers, or scientists.

The youth of the country must have colleges in which are taught the sciences specially adapted to the developement of agriculture. After having acquired the rudiments of an Education, they can enter an Agricultural College and learn, Latin, French and German, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Surveying, Book-keeping, Botany, Chemistry, Natural Philosophy, Natural history and in fact every branch of knowledge calculated to make them accomplished agricultural scholars. In addition, such a college ought to have a President or Professor of high standing as a gentleman, a scholar and one popular manners who, by conversation and by lectures, win the students to a love for making practical tests and applications of their acquirements in the several branches they were learning. He should be a practical farmer and possess a taste for and experience in floriculture, pomology &c., and be able to teach in the field and garden the details illustrative of the theories expounded in the lecture-room. There should be a farm attached to the college, which should be made a source of profit, showing successful farming not by the labor of the students, but a portion of the farm be set apart as an experimental, model farm, under the entire management of the agricultural class, on which experiments of various sorts would be made accurately by the students and a record of the same kept. This would give plenty of outdoor exercise and at the same time they would learn the use of, and best manner of handling farm implements, thus engendering an interest in these and other useful rural occupations. They would acquire a knowledge of road-making, ditching, levelling and embanking. It is a farce to call that an Agricultural College, where the clasics, military and naval tactics and science are taught as preparatory for entrance into the naval academy or West-Point, to the exclusion of agricultural education. By such a course of study the young farmer would be able to survey his farm; lay off and plat his fields and lots; grade his roads and dig his ditches scientifically; keep accurate accounts in proper form; know the characteristics of domestic animals—their wants habits, dispositions and disease and thereby the easier supply them with the proper food, administer the right remedies in sickness, and enable them always to be more comfortable and more profitable.—He would be able to analyzed fertilizers and soil, perceive any defects and supply the wanted ingredients to make it uniformly productive. When these educated farmers go forth into the battle-field of life, well-drilled cultivators of the soil, then will begin thorough investigation and all the elements of the soil will be scrutinized and man will become familiar with his mother-earth. The wonders of nature will be bared before the most unthinking minds, and ten blades of grass will grow, when only one had grown before.

Until within a short period, the great draw back to improvement, was, the low estate that manuel labor on the farm was held in,—as only fit for "hewers of wood and drawers of water," or men who by habit, education and mental acquirements were unfitted for anything else. This was particularly so in our slave States when the owners of broad acres, were professional men, merchants, or as was most often, politicians who lived in the whirling excitements of petty party struggles, neglecting home and everything else.

Slavery is no longer a curse upon the native energies of our gallant sons.—We have awakened to our true condition—no longer to be looked on as the mere tillers of the soil, but as the owners of that, from which every thing comes, which supports the mechanical industries—which feeds all, clothes all and sustains all—which is the great motor that drives the whole machinery of the world's [illegible] life of commerce and [illegible] of all the various [illegible] of man whether of high or low degree. In the language of an able British writer—"all the artists, manufacturers and [illegible] of the world are employed [illegible]

all, and each of them equally engaged in one object, namely, that of rendering the productions of the earth, subservient to the use and convenience of man. The stock of every ware-house and shop, the furniture of every mansion and cottage, all implements and utensils may easily be traced to the same origin. Even the books of the scholar, the pen and the ink through whose means he communicates his thought to others, are derived from the same source as the material on which the naval and civil architect exercises his ingenuity and skill, the loftiest spire and the smallest needle are both the effects of labor and skill exercised on the soil."

Comprehending the greatness of their pursuit and vastness of their power, the agriculturists have aroused from their rip-van-winkle sleep and appreciate the dignity of their high calling. They no longer spurn "book-farming," but eagerly study the writings of scientists, read the results arrived at, by quiet investigators and gain daily useful knowledge from the many journals, at the present day, devoted exclusively to their pursuits. Already the efforts of thousands of Farmer's Clubs, State and County Associations, similar to the one you preside over, Mr. President, have concentrated thought and action, and by frank, genial interchange of views have collected facts and disseminated truths, and thus brough together the views and feelings of the millions of followers of the plow, until they are able now to speak their wants in trumpet-tones in the name of the Patrons of Husbandry or under any other honorable and significant title, and have their just power acknowledged. A spirit is abroad in the land that will look no longer to be governed entirely by those, whose interests are often antagonistic to such international laws, and laws of trade, which might materially advance the farming interest. Thank God! the day of agricultural reformation has dawned and its morning beams are lighting up the political horizon to burst forth ere long in the full effulgence of meridian brightness.

The moral cowardice of being ashamed of manual labor no longer prevails. The athletic, educated and brave young yeomanry, drive their teams a field, or turn the mold with the plow, proud of their labor and achievements in tilling the earth that yield them plenty and pleasure, vigor and health, manly independence and noble manhood. How much better such an industrious life, than that of one who spurning the "clod-hopper," and a rural home flies to the cities to swell their starving crowds, or if to secure success, must use a flattering tongue and supple knee, and play the humiliating part of time server to all who may have the power to aid him. The cities have heretofore engulped many who had they remained at their country homes content, would have acquired riches for themselves and been benefactors of their race. It is partly to rid themselves of house-hold authority, but chiefly, to enjoy the deluding attractions of town life, that so many leave the parent nest, because it chance to be humble unattractive and secluded.

It is therefore a duty, parents owe to their children, to make home pleasant and happy. It behooves them to ornament their homesteads and adorn their grounds with flowers, shade and fruit trees and simple conveniences for healthful outdoor exercises, to afford as much as possible, recreation and rational pleasure to their sons and daughters and their young friends; to foster kindly friendships by interchange of visits and providing on proper occasions and at reasonable intervals hospitable entertainments with refined amusements. The feelings and pride of children should at an early age be enlisted in habits of industry and stimulated to learn and excell in domestic and farm work, by liberally rewarding them in some substantial way, for whatever work or duty that they perform well. In this way, by patient instruction and encouragement, the girls would grow up accomplished house-wives and the boys, practical farmers and have gained much by close observation, before being old enough to study works of science, and would fully appreciate agriculture as an high art, which Dr. Johnson said: "Every government ought to protect, every proprietor of land to practice, and every enquirer into nature to improve."

In the presence of so many who have largely continued to render this portion of Maryland, famous for its Horticulture, I cannot close my remarks without particular allusion to that beautiful art.

It is strange that horticulture has always been looked on as secondary branch of agriculture, when it was certainly the first occupation of man. The Good Book tells us, God planted the garden of Eden, and therein placed man with orders to "dress it and keep it." Thus, before Adam sinned, he was a gardener, and after his fall he was forced to cultivate the soil and "earn his bread by the sweat of his brow." Horticulture languished for centuries, with rare exceptions among communities and individuals who excelled in learning, and civilization, because the art has ever been indicative of the *advance of a people in refinement and cultivated taste*. There were a few gardens in Europe, such as the Cosmo de Medici in Pisa, the Montpellier of Henry 4th, in France and the famous [illegible] Fuchs in Germany, prior [illegible] in England, conservat[illegible]

advance is felt and seen in the improved comforts and beauty of buildings, ornamentation of grounds and increasing love of flowers among all classes of people, and also "in a literature of its own, pertaining to the science and practice of horticulture, establishing systems specially adapted to the climate and the wants of the country.

I need not mention the many important additions to the number and variety of vegetable esculants that skill and culture have provided within the recollection of many here present. Nor need I call to the minds of the ladies, the innumerable new plants and countless varieties of flowers, which by various processes and by importations, our florists have extended the flora of America. So great of late years has been the demand for novelties, frigid and torid zones, and every corner of the globe have been ransacked to find rare plants and beautiful flowers. Millions of money are invested yearly in the products of the flower and vegetable garden. It seems to have become a necessity, to decorate, with a profusion of flowers suitable to the occasion, every stage of man's career, from the cradle to the grave. The fruit trade has grown to a huge degree, in value rivalling any one of the great staples of agriculture. The new fruits and improved sorts are counted by thousands.

The day is not distant when Maryland will produce from the beet, sorghum and the excess of water melons, nearly all the sugar her people will require. The cargoes of melons, we can neither consume or can sell for a living price, will be made into sugar superior and purer than that from the cane of the tropics; it surpasses the beet in sweetness, in flavor and in the economy of growth and manufacture. The enormous amount of horticultural products could be made very profitable, by concentration of energy and capital, utilizing them in many ways, at present entirely new or unknown to our rural population. The thousand perishable articles of the vegetable kingdom and the choicest fruits are either lost or of but little value to the producer, because of the high rate of transportation and the requirements, honest or otherwise, of the consigners or middle men. Producers have too long been under the ban of extortionate transporters and middle men. An organized system of home manufacture would put them beyond the power of these people, by converting all fruit, which were not bringing fair prices in market, to such concentrated form and condition as would cost less to transport, or to keep on hand to await remunerative prices, therefore none should be deterred by fear of over-stocking the market with fruits or fish. The demand is yearly on the increase and you have but to combine and manufacture the excess of products of land and water. Cheese and butter factories will use profitably all you furnish from the dairy; the Alden and other processes of drying will save your fruit from waste, and the canning establishments will be a home market for fruit, vegetables and the bivalves and other fish of your waters. If all these fail, you can make the *mill and the still* a vast resort for horticultural products, and gladden the hearts of your people with pure, unadulterated wine, whiskey and brandy from any overplus of grapes, peaches or apples. Let us live within ourselves and we shall live longer, merrier, happier and more prosperous.

Fellow farmers, there are unquestionably times of pressure and pecuniary embarrassment; let us then, get rid of every species of property which is not profitable, as honest Cato centuries ago advised the Romans, when they were in the same strait we find ourselves now. Let us get rid of our old luxurious habits:—abandon the fashionable follies of the day; lop off all unnecessary expenses, and return to the plain unsophisticated customs of our forefathers. Let *Industry and Economy* be your watch-word, and let it be practically seen and felt in your household.—Make an annual investment in the improvement of your farms. Let us give up the fashion of selling nothing that we can consume, but rather, let us waste or prodigally consume nothing we can sell. By such radical changes in our course of living and in our system of farming, that peace and plenty, that comfort and contentment, that ease and happiness, all which is our birth-right as workers of the land, will again revisit our homes and the bright sun of Prosperity will again shine over old Maryland—"*my Maryland*"—in all its wanted effulgence, and light up with happy smiles the countenance of her independent sons and beautiful daughters. Let us henceforth, from this centennial year, declare in the immortal words of our own patriot poet Key,

"*This* be *our* motto: In God is our trust,
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave."

☞ The following, which is suggestive to coffee drinkers, is from a tombstone in Connecticut:

Here lies, cut down like unripe fruit,
The wife of Deacon Amos Shute;
She died of drinking too much coffee,
Anno Domini eighteen forty.

[illegible]

☞ [illegible]