Chestertown Transcript.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1891.

COLLINS & HOPPER,
EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS.

THE "World's Fair" which will take place at Chicago in 1893, as it were a full day after the feast, will be held in buildings costing over ten millions of dollars. No alien labor will be employed in their construction.

SOCKLESS JERRY SIMPSON, Representative-elect from Kansas, is in favor of abolishing the United States Senate. He considers it as simply a means of checking the people, and says that the movement inaugurated in Illinois, to elect the Senators by the popular voice, is the beginning of what is to follow.

THE FINES amounting to three thousand dollars, recently imposed against the Maryland State police boats Governor McLane and Governor Thomas and their commanders, Captains Howard and Turner, have been remitted on the ground that no law had been violated in not keeping a list of the passengers carried. The list is required only when the route is over one hundred miles in length.

MR. QUAY, after having waited for years before courage could be summoned to admit of a public denial of the blighting charges brought against him, has now decided to vindicate his character by suits for libel against the papers in which the charges was published. Mr. Quay had better let well enough alone and drop the matter where it is, for he may rest assured that he will scarcely recognize himself when the sifting process of his life has been finished. Truly, "the last state of that man will be worse than the first."

MRS. M. M. RICKER, a prominent member or the National Woman Suffrage Convention, in an impassioned appeal to her sisters last week, stated that: "If we had a change to vote we ought to elect Blair, of New Hampshire, and Major McKinley, President and Vice-President respectively, because the women and soldiers saved this country and the tariff paid the bills." Sad but true, gentle speaker, that the philanthropist Mr. Blair has been relegated to Japan, and the gallant McKinley would make a highly ornamental figure for an Egyptian pyramid, and we would suggest a journey to the Nile where he may eloquently advocate the protection of the ancient Hieroglyphs.

HON. JOHN G. CARLISLE, of Kentucky, has recently been enrolled on the list of candidates for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1892. For ability, sterling integrity and eminent fitness for the position, the candidacy of Mr. Carlisle could but command the respectful consideration of the entire people whom he has so honorably and worthily served. His candidacy, however, revives the old question of whether or not it is expedient in the selection of the nominee to overstep the "Mason and Dixon Line" into the erstwhile forbidden territory. Mr. Bayard, of Delaware, was the first man voted for from the prohibited section, and he was first voted for at the Baltimore convention of 1872, and continued in the presidential nominating race with increasing popularity until 1884, when he dropped out and Mr. Carlisle dropped in.

DEMOCRACY AND SILVER.

CHESTERTOWN, March 4, 1891.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—The "silver question" will boom in the near future. It is not wise in the Demoratic party to hush it up. Like the tariff monstrosity it needs the full glare of the sunlight to disclose all the dangers and economical deformities beneath, above and through the silver cloud. The people should be enlightened regarding the matter. The tariff has surely tempted us to straddle in many conventions. When we boldly took the honest side of that issue we buried the McKinley crowd beneath such a victory that even their wails of despair are well nigh inaudible.

Many Democratic papers still insist that a silver dollar is as honest money as a gold dollar. In spite of the fact that the two silver dollars I now have in my pocket are worth intrinsically only one dollar and sixty cents, I am asked to hurrah for the unlimited coinage of these silver dollars! For a plain, pithy, pointed way of telling the truth about the matter, I commend to your readers the following clipping from the New York *Herald* of March 3, 1891:

"The Boston *Globe* insists that a silver dollar is quite equal to a gold dollar.

"In what way is it equal? Intrinsically, for instance? You can very easily settle that question. It is not a subject for discussion, but a matter of fact. Melt your gold dollar, then melt your silver dollar. Offer the two as metals to a jeweller. He will give you eighty cents for the one and one hundred cents for the other.

"Is the silver dollar equal to the gold dollar in purchasing power? If so, where? It may buy as much at the corner grocery as the gold piece, but suppose you buy a bill of goods in London, what then? Why, the equality of the two metals disappears instantly. They are no longer on a par with each other. The foreigner has so decided a preference, that where he is willing to take both metals or either one of them, he accepts the gold at its face value and the silver at its market or bullion value.

"Isn't it just a bit stupid, then, to insist that the two kinds of dollar are equivalent when you know that outside certain geographical limits they are not equivalent?"

LIMITED COINAGE.

To Our Readers.

We beg to call your attention to the lines of the "Great and Only" Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway. They now own and operate over 5800 miles of road, including through Illinois, Wisconsin, the Dakotas of Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Iowa and Missouri. It is the short line and best route from Chicago to Council Bluffs, Omaha, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Kansas City and intermediate points. Its equipment is unsurpassed. Electric lighted and steam heated cars, Pullman's finest sleepers, finest dining cars in the world. If you contemplate a trip to the Northwest or South, you will make no mistake in buying a ticket over the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. All agents sell them. For rates of fare, time tables and full information, write to the undersigned, Gen'l Passenger Agent, Milwaukee, or to Wm. Kelley, Jr., Traveling Passenger Agent, 16 South Broad St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Epoch.

The transition from long, lingering and painful sickness to robust health, marks an epoch in the life of the individual. Such a remarkable event is treasured in the memory and the agency whereby the good health has been attained is gratefully blessed. Hence it is that so much praise is heard of Electric Bitters. So many feel that they owe their restoration to health, to the use of the Great Alternative and Tonic. If you are troubled with any disease of Kidney, Liver, or Stomache, of long or short standing you will surely find relief by use of Electric Bitters. Sold at 50c. and $1 per bottle at Colin F. Stam's Drug store.

STILL POND FARMERS' CLUB.

Progressive and Practical Views as Advanced by Practical Men.

STILL POND, Feb. 26, 1891.

The Still Pond Farmers' Club held its regular meeting to-day at the residence of Mr. Jas. S. Harris, and its members had to contend with the first out and out storm and the worst roads they had experienced since its reorganization in August, 1889. Despite the stormy weather nearly all the members were present, although a little late. It was nearly noon when the president called the meeting to order and the club settled down to business. After the reading and approval of the minutes of the last meeting, the asking and answering of questions was declared to be in order.

Mr. H. L. Crew asked if any of the members were using spraying machines, and which were considered the best.

Mr. Barnard replied that Dr. W S. Maxwell and himself had used the Little Giant Pump and the Nixon Nozzle, and considered them as good as any he had seen.

Mr. Harris said there was a machine which was worked by horse power in use in New York State; it is a large machine, expensive, and for large pear-growers like Dr. Maxwell, W. D. Pennington, H. L. Crew, N. Barnard and himself, he thought that it would be far more economical for several of them to combine and purchase one in partnership. He said that he would be one of four or five to make the purchase.

Mr. H. L. Crew said that he had received information that there is a machine which can be purchased for $8.50 which is guaranteed to spray one hundred trees per hour, and he thought that that would answer for him, as many of his trees are not yet in bearing.

Mr. W. D. Pennington said that young trees certainly needed spraying, as they were almost certain to lose their leaves from blight, and show bloom in the fall which he considered very injurious. But he was afraid that it would not be possible for one machine to get over all the orchards in time to save the young fruit from the curculio, as they get in their work while the fruit is very small.

Mr. Harris said that experience led him to believe that there is a space of a week or two in which the spraying could be done with sure results, and that was ample time for the machine to get around to his place at all, but if it was found that it would pay better to have more machines, why then two could join in the purchase of one machine. He was advocating the purchase of one as an experiment.

Mr. Barnard said that the difficulty with the small machines was the keeping of the mixture well stirred, as it took one man to drive, one to pump and one to do the spraying and stirring, and in order to stir well you had to keep the barrels open and they were continually getting leaves and other dirt in them which clogged up the nozzle and gave a great deal of trouble. He was willing, he said, to join Mr. Harris in getting a machine that would not require so many hands to run it.

Mr. H. L. Crew and W. D. Pennington volunteered to make up the four and on motion of Mr. Harris, Messrs. W. D. Pennington and Henry Krisen were appointed a committee to purchase the best pump and nozzle that could be run by horse power, and experiment with it in time to report at the next meeting.

Mr. W. D. Pennington advised that the first spraying should be the bordeaux mixture to prevent scab, and follow with ammoniacal mixture afterwards to prevent the loss of leaves. He thought the first should be put on as early as possible.

Mr. Harris stated that the first spraying done in the experiments at Dr. Maxwell's, was on May 6, and followed at intervals of about ten days. The result showed, however, that three sprayings were sufficient, as those trees which received three applications were in just as good condition as those which received more.

Mr. Crew asked Mr. Barnard if he had ever known the sing to appear before July. Mr. Barnard replied that he had seen them in June, but an application of white hellebore was certain death to them. Mr. Crew said that a good dusting with dust from the public road had always cleaned them up for him.

Mr. Harris asked for the opinion of the club as to what were the most profitable kinds of vegetables to raise in this locality. We are, he said, distant from any creamery, and we all have land that could be planted in some crop in the spring; and he thought that perhaps that there might be some profit in vegetables.

Mr. Barnard recommended potatoes, W. D. Pennington, potatoes; H. L. Crew recommended potatoes, and said that he always raised a better crop planted on the dark of the moon in June than when planted at any other time. He also recommended the New York Marrow Squash. It commands ready sale in all city markets. He had heard of one man who sold $600 worth from two acres.

The club then adjourned for dinner.

Now, Messrs. Editors, I see that Eusebius in the *Kent News* sometimes brags a little on the dinners he gets almost everywhere but at his own table; the truth is, the bill of fare for the club dinners is one of the by-laws of the organization, and any infringement thereof subjects the offender to a fine of one million dollars, and I am glad to say that no member has been vain enough for the mere notoriety of the thing, to be called up to the president's desk and compelled to plank down the cash; and then, too, the prevailing hard times have no doubt had some effect, although from some little indications which I have seen cropping out, should there be a peach crop in this section, I expect the club will be a formidable claimant for first place with Jay Gould by October.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The minutes were read and approved; also minutes of the ladies' meeting. The club enjoyed the company of two young lady visitors, the Misses Nettie and Grace Howard. Mr. E. B. Pennington read the following item, and asked the opinion of the club in regard to it:

"When asparagus begins to develop top and branches it frequently suffers from the ravages of a beetle, and as is the case with the more modern potato beetle, the damage is done by the larva or grub. The eggs laid on the plant soon hatch, and the grubs feed with voracious appetites upon the stalks, and if left alone they will rob the stems of their succulence and cause them to wither and die. Top dress the rows with a heavy coat of refuse salt as a fertilizer; this is a remedy for the beetle. The grub when it reaches the proper stage of growth, drops on the ground and enters it, and there develops into the perfect fly. Dust the infested plants with air-slacked lime; this causes the grub to let go his hold and fall to the ground, where the salt completes his destruction. Those which escape the action of the lime and reach the condition for entering the ground, meet a similar fate in their efforts to perpetuate their kind."

Mr. W. D. Pennington said that he had tried both lime and salt and could not see that they had any effect whatever. He said that Mr. C. H. Price had packed some beetles in salt for some days, and the only effect was, he thought, it made them a little more lively. Mr. H. L. Crew corroborated Mr. Pennington.

Mr. Harris said the beetle had caused him very serious loss, as they had destroyed his two last plantings, amounting to ten acres, and he has just learned that a solution of London purple sprayed on the young plants was a sure protection.

Mr. W. D. Pennington said that this could not be used on patches that were old enough to cut, and some other remedy was badly needed. He estimated his loss last year at fully two hundred dollars, and he believes that it would pay him to have the bugs picked by hand and killed. He had noticed that neither birds nor poultry seemed to consider them worth eating, and the grower would have to depend on his own efforts to get rid of them.

Mrs. E. B. Pennington asked how many hours were considered a day's work for a farmer's wife; and not a soul present was sufficiently educated to make the calculation. Now, Messrs. Editors, this certainly shows the need of High Schools, such as they have in Talbot county. The members of the club are all graduates of the best primary schools to be had, (for the money) but you see something more is needed. The answer to so simple a question as this should be within the reach of the average farmer, and it will have to be answered, or a strike will be the consequence. The following questions were then read and answered by the members to whom they were referred:

Will poultry keeping pay in connection with farming? Mrs. W. D. Pennington replied: Yes, if sufficient quantities can be raised. Small lots do not pay for trouble.

Will the production of eggs pay the farmer during the winter months if he has to feed grain to get them? Mrs. E. B. Pennington replied: Yes, even it grain is high. Winter eggs always mean profit.

Which is the most profitable to grow, sweet or Irish potatoes? Mr. H. L. Crew said that he could not say. It would depend largely on the nature of the land; one thing he did know, and that was that it was very profitable to grow plenty of both kinds for home use.

Does overworking butter make it softer and of a lighter color? Mrs. J. S. Harris said she thought that it did, but had not sufficient experience to state positively and referred to Mrs. Crew, who said much working softened it, but she could not say whether it changed the color or not.

Is not the cost of erecting and maintaining many of our fences equal to the value of the crops they protect? Mr. E. B. Pennington said: Oh, no; not by a long way. He cited several instances in which cattle damaged even grass fields in one day sufficiently to pay for fencing one side of said fields, and in order that the proper rotation of crops might be kept, it was necessary to fence the whole farm, in order to enclose one's own stock.

Who is reponsible for the exorbitant prices we are compelled to pay for school books? And should not every candidate for the Legislature be required to give his constituents a written pledge, that he would vote for a law by which they would be furnished at first cost? Mr. W. D. Pennington replied that he did not know who was responsible, except the voters, and he thought something should be done. He recommended that the matter should be brought to the attention of the Farmers' Alliance, as they were in a better position to enforce their demands than the club, and could doubtless afford some relief. Mr. Barnard said he was confident that he paid three times as much for his books as they could be furnished for in large lots, and claimed that the county or State should be the purchaser and furnish them to the pupils at cost. Mr. H. L. Crew said that he had been asked $1.25 for books that of other publications could be bought for 40 and 50 cents, and it was an outrageous extortion. Mr. E. B. Pennington said that it was not only the high price, but also the very frequent changes that were objectionable. He said the next Legislature was an important one, and he favored appealing to the Alliance, as the Grange of Pennsylvania and New Jersey had done, and were now doing much good in this line.

The regular question: Are our farms filled to their full money capacity? if not, why not? was then taken up, and opened by Mr. Harris as follows:

"Mr. President, to the first clause of this question there can be but one answer—they are not, and the answer is plain to all who will compare the average income per acre from our Maryland crops with those of England. Granting that the dense population causes higher prices for farm products there, we will compare the yield per acre of the great staple crop, wheat, which perhaps is as fair a sample of average croping there and here, as we can name. We find (ag. report 1885) the average yield of wheat per acre in Maryland is a fraction over nine bushels, while in England it is 28 bushels. Similar proof can be found by comparing our yield with that of France, Hungary and other continental countries.

"The answer to the second clause is more of our omissions and neglects. Many of us pay too little attention to selecting such crops as are best suited to our land, and such that will net the greatest average income. Another reason is our failure of thorough culture. Another and the last reason I shall name, is our neglect to properly feed our crops. While our most successful wheat growers raise crops equal to the average English farmer, there must be many whose crops are below our Maryland average, not only of wheat but of all our crops. It is much easier to name these reasons for small crops and small profits, than to prescribe and apply the remedy. But we will briefly consider the last one. To tillers of the soil, the means by which to increase our crops with the most economical outlay, is the all important subject at this time of general depression; that there is need of increasing the productiveness of our lands, no one doubts; and that we can by the use of the proper means increase our yields, no one questions. But the great difference in the kind of soil, even on different parts of the same farm, makes the intelligent, economical use of fertilizer somewhat of a complex question. A knowledge of the nature and needs of the soil to be treated, is really the first and very important requisite in successful cropping. Since science and experience have demonstrated the fact, that the three elements, nitrogen, potash and phosphoric acid are the chief needs of our growing crops; and the wisdom of our law-makers has, for the protection of honest fertilizer manufacturers, as well as for the benefit of their customers, the farmers, devised laws requiring all fertilizer packages to bear testimony as to their contents, any farmer can, with a little pains in experimenting, soon convince himself in regard to the deficiency of his soil and the needs of his various crops. And having obtained this knowledge, he can more economically increase the yield of his crops. With the farmer's present surroundings, pressed on every side, the economy and abundance with which his plant food is supplied is a pivot on which the vain enough for the mere notoriety of the thing, to be called up to the president's desk and compelled to plank down the cash; and then, too, the prevailing hard times have no doubt had some effect, although from some little indications which I have seen cropping out, should there be a peach crop in this section, I expect the club will be a formidable claimant for first place with Jay Gould by October.

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