OLD TIME STUFF

WHAT OUR DADDIES AND GRAND DADDIES DID 60 YEARS AGO IN BALTIMORE COUNTY

In the fall of 1864 the National Union or Republic Party nominated General James L. Ridgely for Judge of the Circuit Court. It was first supposed that he would be unopposed, but in the American of October 28th, 1864, appears the following advertisement: "Independent Candidate for Judge of Circuit Court for Baltimore County, Richard Grason. Election Tuesday, November 8th." Mr. Grason, afterwards Judge Grason, was the grandfather of Mr. C. Gus Grason of the local bar.

A wartime Thanksgiving proclamation by President Lincoln may be interesting to our readers, and this is a verp appropriate time to publish it:

"By the President of the U. S. of America. A Proclamation.—It has pleased Almighty God to prolong our national life another year, defending us with His guardian care against unfriendly designs from abroad, and vouchsafing to us in His mercy many and signal victories over the enemy who is of our own household.

"It has also pleased our Heavenly Father to favor us, as well our citizens in their homes as our soldiers in their camps, our sailors on the rivers and seas, with unusual health. He has largely augmented our free population by emancipation and by emmigration, while He has opened to us new sources of wealth, and has crowned the labor of our working men in every department of industry with abundant reward.

"Moreover, He has been pleased to animate and inspire our minds and hearts with fortitude, courage and resolution sufficient for the great trial of civil war into which we have been brought by our adherence, as a nation, to the cause of freedom and humanity and to afford to us reasonable hopes of an ultimate and happy deliverance from all our dangers and afflictions.

"Now therefore I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do hereby appoint and set apart the last Thursday in November next as a day which I desire to be observed by all my fellow-citizens, wherever they may be, as a day of thanksgiving and praise to Almighty God, the beneficient Creator and Ruler of the Universe.

"And I further recommend to my fellow-citizens aforesaid, that on that occasion they do reverently humble themselves in the dust, and from thence offer penitent and fervent prayers and supplications to the Great Disoser of events, for a return of the inestimable blessings of peace, union and harmony throughout the land, which it has pleased Him to assign as a dwelling place for ourselves and for our posterity throughout all generations.

"In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done at the City of Washington this 20th day of October in the year of our Lord 1864, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-ninth.

Abraham Lincoln.

By the President:
William H. Seward, Secretary of State."

There is an account of a sale of the personal effects of the late Wm. McDonald of Guilford. Many persons will remember the old mansio and the large stable just off the York Road at the three-mile hill. Mr. McDonald was the father of Samuel McDonald, who was tried in this court for the murder of Berry Amos at the old Rose House in Baltimore city. It was quite a celebrated case and ended in his acquittal. He was also owner of Flora Temple at one time the fastest trotter in the world; as will be seen she was sold at this sale. The article is as follows:

"Mammoth Sale.—On Tuesday last, the sale of the stock of the late Wm. McDonald took place at his late residence, 3 miles from Baltimore city, on the York Road. It is estimated that not less than 6,000 persons were present during the day. The celebrated trotting mare, Flora Temple, was purchased by Geo. G. Presbury, Jr., of this county, for $8,000. A double-barreled breach-loading gun was sold at $1,325 to Alexander Brown, Esq., of this county; other guns from $400 to $500. Two dogs sold at $115 each. The sale amounted to $30,300. F. W. Bennett, of Baltimore city, was auctioneer."

A very pretty missionary story appears in this issue entitled "The African and His Dog" that is well worth reproduction:

"When the devoted missionary, Roger Moffatt, was in England, he told an amusing story of a poor African who lived near one of the

(Continued on Back Page)

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