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The Planters' Advocate.

UPPER MARLBOROUGH:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, February 25, 1857

☞ The leading feature in the Congressional proceedings of the past week was the long-expected report of the corruption-investigating Committee of the House. They appear to have performed their duty with great energy, determination and ability, with a single eye to ferreting out the alleged corruptions and exposing the guilty parties. The results of their investigations were comprised in several distinct reports, referring respectively to the members implicated, and accompanied by resolutions recommending the immediate expulsion from the House of Messrs. Wm. A. Gilbert, Francis S. Edwards and Orsamus B. Matteson, members from the State of New York, and of Wm. W. Welch, a member from the State of Connecticut.

The reports were received in the House and leave given to the accused to file answers, &c., and it is supposed this matter will almost exclusively occupy the remaining days of the session. The proof in each case was of the most direct and unequivocal character, going to establish beyond all doubt corrupt bargainings on the part of the accused parties for the passage of sundry bills.—The exposure of such conduct, although *proved* upon so small a number of members, is sufficiently humiliating. It may be worthy of note that all the corrupt members are Black-Republicans.

In the Senate, bills for the admission of Oregon and Minnesota have been under consideration, and also the Atlantic-Submarine-Telegraph-Bill. Less than a week of the session now remains, in which to pass all the appropriation bills and other necessary measures.

☞ During the past week the papers have been publishing a cast of Mr. Buchanan's cabinet, which seems to be looked upon as altogether reliable, except perhaps in reference to one of the names. It is as follows: Lewis Cass, Secretary of State; Howell Cobb, of Ga., Secretary of the Treasury; John B. Floyd, of Va., Secretary of War; Aaron V. Brown, of Tenn., Secretary of the Navy; Jacob Thompson, of Miss., Secretary of the Interior; J. Glancey Jones, of Pa., Post Master General; Isaac Toucey, of Conn., Attorney General. Upon this list public opinion appears to have definitely settled down. It has been said, however, that in consequence of some opposition to the appointment of Mr. Jones, that gentleman has requested Mr. Buchanan not to tender him a place in the cabinet, and it is thought that some other name will therefore be substituted for his. Some opposition having also been indicated at the North to the appointment of Gen. Cass as Secretary of State, on his account of his reputed bellicose disposition towards England, it is said that in a speech a few days since, in the Senate, he put himself right upon that point, declaring strongly in favor of a pacific policy and saying that the continuance of peace was "inevitable." He also disclaimed the sentiments towards England so generally attributed to him.—Touching the foreign policy of the incoming administration, we observe some reference made to an article in the *Union* of last Saturday, in which all partnership with England in Central American affairs is denounced, her policy declared to be insidious, hostile and insulting to the United States, and a decided independent course recommended on our part. It is intimated that the article in question savors of authority from the fact of the presence in Washington of Mr. Appleton, who is to edit the new "organ"—but the opinion seems to be a little far-fetched.

Death of Dr. Kane.

A despatch from New Orleans (says the Baltimore *Sun*) brings us the intelligence of the death of the distinguished scientific traveller and Arctic navigator, Dr. Elisha K. Kane, an event for which the public mind had become prepared by the previous advices of his serious illness. He breathed his last at Havana on the 16th instant, quietly and peacefully, as the dispatch informs us. We have thus to mourn the loss of one of our most respected and renowned countrymen. Dr. Kane was born in Philadelphia in 1822. He received his classical education at the University of Virginia and his medical education of the University of Pennsylvania, where he graduated as a doctor of medicine in 1843. Soon after receiving his degree he was appointed surgeon to the first American mision of China. He traveled extensively in China, the East Indian archipelago, British India and Egypt. After his return to the United States from these adventures he next sailed for the west coast of Africa, and visited the slave factories from Cape Mount to the river Bonny. During the war with Mexico in 1847 he visited that country, and performed a perilous service in bearing President Polk's dispatches to General Scott.

He was subsequently employed in the coast survey, until he was made surgeon to the first Grinnell expidition to the Arctic regions. His "Personal Narrative" of this cruise was published in 1852. Before it was completed for the press he had effected his arrangements for the last Arctic expedition, appropriating to this cherished object his own pecuniary resources, as well as drawing largely on those of Mr. Grinnell and several of the scientific institutions of this country. The history of that expedition and the remarkable discoveries to which it led are now before the country. They constitute in themselves an imperishable monument to Dr. Kane's fame.

The Charleston Races.—The races over the Washington (S. C.) course closed some ten days ago. We learn from *Porter's Spirit*, that the racing was of the very highest character—indeed, unprecedented in South Carolina. A new candidate for the championship of the American Turf was brought forward here, whose performances are calculated to

"Fright the souls of fearful adversaries."

We refer to Charleston, a three year old, by imported Sovereign, out of Millwood, who ran a *fourth* heat in 1:46—the four heats were run in 1:49¾—1:47½—1:50—1:46—and a second heat of two miles in 3:39½. If he is not the most promising colt in the country, we should like to hear of his fellow.

White Squirrels.—The Rockville *Journal* says:

A white squirrel was cought on the farm of Mr. John W. Hall, near Darnestown, in this county, a few days since, which altogether is something of a curiosity. He is, we are informed, almost as white as alabaster, is still living, and is becoming quite tame.

Mr. C. Yeydon, editor of the Charleston *Courier*, has in his possession the original commission of the famous warrior Marion, as Lieutenant Colonel of the United States Army. It bears the signature of John Hancock, then President of Congress, and a member of the distinguished Maryland family of that name.

The Baltimore Annual Conference of the M. E. Church, will commence in Baltimore on Wednesday, March 4th. About 400 ministers will be in attendance.

THE RETIRING PRESIDENT.

One week from to-day will witness the retirement of Franklin Pierce from the great office to which he was called four years ago, and the close of the administration of which he was the creator and director. This event, as usual, has called forth very generally the comments of the press; and the conservative portion of it has, we are pleased to observe, been justly lavish of its praises upon those who are about to surrender the powers which they have for four years exercised with such distinguished ability and success. It profits no man to salute the setting sun: but there is no more pleasing duty in the scope of a journalist's efforts, than to do justice to the merits of well tried public servants after they have lost the power to reward.

We think we but echo the opinions of the discreet men of the land when we say that this administration has been generally conducted with great success. We are confident that it will most favorably compare with its predecessors, when tried by the standard either of its endeavors or its achievements. The Cabinet has been composed of men not less remarkable for their energy than for their abilities. All its members have worked together and in concert; and we believe it is the only Cabinet, since the formation of the Government, in which there was no change whatever during the whole period of the administration. This fact may have resulted from accident or from express arrangement, it is true; but it indicates concert of opinion and of purpose, and gives a clue to the origin of that strength and unity which have supported so forcibly its leading measures. No administration has been more constant to the principles upon which it came into power; none has ever stood more firmly by the measures which those principles made necessary.

He who would do justice to its merits will find them recorded without stint in every department of the public service. Never before has every branch of public business been supervised with greater energy and watchfulness; and from the heads of Departments to the humblest subordinate, work, industry and efficiency have been its peculiar characteristics. There is scarcely a Department or Bureau which has not been systematized and improved; and the most captious of enemies can scarcely deny to it the credit of having been a *working* administration.

That the foreign affairs of the Government have been conducted with wonderful ability and success, no one, we presume, will gainsay.—Within the past four years have arisen some of the most difficult and embarrassing questions ever agitated in our diplomatic annals—complicated, too, by the delay of their settlement, and presenting an aspect sufficiently menacing. Bold demands have been made in support of our national rights, and bold steps have been taken in the enforcement of those demands. The opinions of the administration have been sustained by a degree of diplomatic ability that has vanquished its opponents in older countries; and through all the disputes that were left on the hands of this administration, through all the new questions and complications that have arisen, the nation has been conducted honorably, ably, successfully, and peacefully.

In our domestic relations, one proud boast to which it may long claim is the manner in which it has managed the finances. The best judges of success in that department are business men; and from the whole business community of the country there has come forth an unvarying testimony to the wisdom and strict integrity which have watched over the Treasury. No administration has ever been so prompt and energetic in enforcing a settlement of claims due the Government. Under no other has the public debt been so largely decreased. Under no other have there been so few complaints of misdirection of public monies. It has set its face against unconstitutional appropriations. It has opposed, thoughout, all plundering schemes on the public funds, and by a course of the strictest economy and watchfulness, has done much to sustain the public credit.

But, in a domestic point of view, the great glory of this administration is the policy it has pursued upon that question most troublesome to every administration; and in the after time it will need no better proof of its forcsight, its justice, its national sentiments and its fidelity to the Constitution, than will be afforded in the great slavery settlement perfected by the act organizing Kansas. It had the wisdom to see that the great principle of that measure was in accordance with the Constitution, with the Compromise of '50, and with common justice; and, being so convinced, it had the courage to put forth its whole strength in its support. It did this in the face of an excitement theretofore unequalled, and despite the most virulent maledictions of its adversaries. But it has already had the satisfaction to see its policy sustained by the people, under the most trying circumstances, in a manner that gives earnest of the full measure of justice which that policy must one day command.

These are but a few of the points which might be urged in proof of the merits of the administration. In giving credit to it, we are necessarily in an indirect manner approving the course of him who has been its chief and its director.—He needs no other commendation than the public history of his administration will afford; but he is entitled to the credit of having had the wisdom and energy to prosecute the great measures which have signalized his Presidency.—And what shall we not say in praise of the manly courage which he has evinced, and the personal sacrifices he has made, in standing up boldly to his ideas of constitutional right? What panegyric shall we not bestow upon that calm devotion to principle, that unflinching determination to see public right and justice maintained, which have enabled him to pursue his course straight onward, unmoved by the curses of his adversaries, and in despite of the most unexampled detraction and abuse? To say that he has stood up to his duty like a man, to say that he has maintained his convictions like a patriot, hardly would convey an adequate appreciation of the straightforward, determined, self-sustaining and heroic line of conduct which he has pursued. He has proved himself to be a genuine man, and a consistent, national statesman. The opinions which his messages have disclosed are known to have been held by him in all his previous public life. He was always a States-rights man; he was always an advocate of simplicity and efficiency in administering public affairs; he was always jealous of federal powers and watchful of its encroachments; he was always a national man in sentiment, willing to do justice to every section. Let his most virulent enemies say whether, during his Presidency, he has abated one jot or tittle of these opinions! Coming from the very nest of fanatics, he has proved himself the most terrible foe of all fanaticism; coming from the midst of the enemies of the South, he has proved himself her warm defender in her constitutional rights. A man who in such times could pursue such a course; who could stand up to the rights of the weaker section in defiance of the menaces of the stronger; who, in so doing, could entirely overcome any prejudices which, as a Northern man, he must have shared; and who, firmly convinced of the right and justice of his purposes, could keep right onward, unmoved by the most furious and unceasing abuse—such a man, we think, must have a degree of metal in his composition that deserves appreciation. Yet it is by this very conduct, by those very sacrifices, by this very heroism, that Franklin Pierce has entitled himself to our gratitude, and has furnished a striking and brilliant example of a public servant, fully adequate to the duties and demands of his high position. He will retire into private life with the blessings of a majority of his countrymen, (who have already given one great verdict of approval,) and amid the mocking curses of his foes. But unless common justice has been discarded by the nation, he will live to see his public services receive their adequate appreciation in a manner not less signal or decisive than that great expression of the popular will which four years ago called him to the head of the Government.

Court of Appeals.

Annapolis, February 17, 1857.—Nos. 48 and 144. Walter Smith vs. William Clark—appeal from the Circuit Court of Prince George's County—were further argued and concluded by Pratt for the appellee and by Johnson for the appellant.

Annapolis, February 18, 1857.—No. 140. Christiana Edelen, Administratrix of Francis Edelen, vs. Thos. H. Edelen—appeal from the Orphans' Court of Prince George's County—was argued by Digges and Causin for the appellant and by Berry for the appellee.

Annapolis, February 19, 1857.—No. 50. Thos. S. Semmes, Executor of Martha Young, vs. C. C. Magruder and C. Young, Administrators of Notley Young—appeal from the Circuit Court of Prince George's County—was argued by Hagner for the appellant and by Magruder for the appellees.

No. 145. Thos. W. Gough vs. Thos. G. Pratt, Administrator of James Kent—appeal from the Circuit Court of St. Mary's County—was commenced by Causin for the appellant.

Annapolis, February 20, 1857.—No. 177. Joseph K. Roberts and Samuel L. Brooke vs. James S. Morsell—appeal from the Circuit Court of Calvert County. Justice Eccleston delivered the opinion of the Court. Decree reversed with costs to appellants.

No. 145. Thomas W. Gough vs. Thomas G. Pratt, Adm'r of James Kent—appeal from the Circuit Court of St. Mary's County—was further argued and concluded by Causin for the appellant, and by Pratt for the appellee.

No. 40. Hatch D Billingsley vs. Gideon D. Tongue and Thomas O. Tongue—appeal from the Circuit Court of Anne Arundel County. Justice Mason delivered the opinion of the Court. Decree affirmed with costs.

No. 45. Albert B. Berry vs. Robert B. Griffin et al.—appeal from the Circuit Court of Prince George's County. Justice Eccleston delivered the opinion of the Court. Judgment affirmed.

[Special Dispatch to the Baltimore Sun.]

Georgetown Municipal Election--Anti-Know-Nothing Ticket Successful.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 23.—11 o'clock P. M.—The election which was held here to-day for Mayor and Board of Common Council was closely contested by the two parties. It was the first trial of universal suffrage in this town, and the result is a revolution in the politics of the city government.

Richard R. Crawford was elected mayor, over Henry Addison, the American or Know-Nothing candidate, who, for a number of years has filled the office. Mr. Crawford's majority is 55. The whole anti-Know-Nothing ticket for Common Council, was also elected as follows:

David English, Samuel Champ, Mich'l Jones, [illegible] Seymour, Robt. A. White, Jos. N. Fearson, Henry Barron, Brooke B. Williams, David W. Oyster, Jenkin Thomas.

The friends of the successful candidates celebrated their victory to-night by salutes of cannon, and evince great enthusiasm and rejoicing.

There were some disorders during the day in Georgetown, amidst which some flesh wounds were received by some, but the people there attribute it all to the officious attempt of young Washingtonians to interfere with their election.

Important from Mexico----The New Treaty with the United States Arrived--The Revolution Put Down, &c.

Mobile, Feb. 20.—The Mexican war steamer Guerrero has just anchored in our harbor, in five days from Vera Cruz, bringing Col. Carlos Butterfield, special commissioner appointed to deliver and lay before the United States Government an important treaty negotiation recently concluded between the American minister at Mexico, Mr. Forsyth, and the Mexican government.

From private sources by the Guerrero we learn that the revolutionary party of Mexico have recently suffered a severe if not fatal reverse at San Louis Potosi, and the prospect everywhere throughout the country is more favorble to the present administration than it has ever heretofore been.

Capt. Dennison, with Dr. S. W. Crawford, U. S. A., bearer of dispatches, came in the Guerrero.

Don Barradurano, secretary of the Mexican legation at Washington, also arrived in the Guerrero, with a copy of the treaty. The party left Mexico privately to avoid suspicion, and the government tendered the steamer to Mr. Forsyth.

Comonfort's administration is gaining strength. The rebellion has been crushed, and several of its leaders arrested. An officer of the steamer states, if the treaty is accepted, the steamer will remain for repairs, but otherwise will return immediately.

From Washington.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The President has approved the coinage bill recently passed by Congress.

The current events in Persia have occupied the attention of the administration, which has applied to Congress for an appropriation of $12,000 for sending an envoy extraordinary to that country, and also for nearly $5,000 for a secretary to the legation and an interpreter.

A correspondence will be published to-morrow relative to the recent assertion that Mr. Brooks' death was caused by the ignorance of his physician. Letters from Senator Butler and Messrs. Kiett, Orr, McQueen, and Corrie, show the statement to have no foundation in truth.

The Kansas judgeship question was warmly debated for more than three hours by the Senate, in executive session to-day. A motion to postpone the nomination of Harrison until after the 4th of March, failed by one majority. The discussion will be resumed probably to-morrow.

Indictment against Mrs. Cunningham and Mr. Eckel.

New York, Feb. 21.—The Grand Jury at a quarter to 1 o'clock to-day entered the Court of Sessions, and presented indictments against Mrs. Emma Augusta Cunningham and John J. Eckel, for the murder of Dr. Burdell. The Court then adjourned for the term. No other presentment was made by the Jury. Snodgrass, being a very important witness, was held to bail as such in sum of $2,500.

John Farrell the Witness in the Burdell Murder.

Albany, Feb. 20.—John Farrell, the witness in the Burdell murder case, is said to be a former Albanian and fugitive from justice. He was while here noted for his inebriety, and was last arrestsd for illegal voting. He subsequently got bail and fled to the City of New York. His portrait in the illustrated papers has occasioned his identification by persons who knew him here.

The President Elect.

Philadelphia, Feb. 23.—Mr Buchanan, the President elect, will arrive here to-morrow to meet Mr. Breckinridge, who is already here, and will proceed next day to Washington in company with Senator Bigler.

Senator Sumner.

Boston, Feb. 23.—Senator Sumner started for Washington to-day, to resume his seat in the Senate of the United States. He will proceed to Europe in the steamer Fulton on the 7th of March.

Washington Correspondence.

Washington, *Feb.* 22, 1857.

The mist that has so long hung over the new Cabinet movements seems to be gradually disappearing, and we are enabled, to some extent, to discern the full proportions of some few of Mr. Buchanan's constitutional advisers. First, Mr. Cass will succeed Mr. Marcy—and as every one sets up to be a prophet likes to sound his own trumpet, I will be pardoned for a slight blast in asking you to look over your files, and in the issue of December 17th you will find that this selection was announced in your Washington Correspondence of that date. At times since then, I thought it would be Mr. Cobb's fortune to preside over the State Department, but then the supposition was based on the generally believed unwillingness of Mr. Cass to continue longer in public life. That the Premiership would be tendered to him, I never for a moment doubted. His acceptance has become a matter of certainty only within the past few days, and depended solely on a contingency which has resulted agreeably to Mr. Cass' wishes. The new Secretary of State will, almost as a matter of course, invite the present Assistant Secretary of State, General Thomas, to continue in a position for which he is so preeminently qualified. I say almost as a matter of course: 1st, because he can find no man so thoroughly acquainted with the delicate and responsible duties of that office, nor one who has the advantage of having studied so long under the first diplomatist and the ablest statesman that the civilized world can at this moment boast—and this even the European opinion in regard to Mr. Marcy; 2nd, because Mr. Cass will, to some extent, need the services of an *expert* in the business of the State Department, at least until he becomes himself familiarised with its intricacies and requirements; and 3rd, because the staunch Democracy of New York, to which Mr. Cass is under more obligations than to that of any other State in the Union, will feel it to be its duty to see that Gen. Thomas's wishes in the matter shall not be disregarded.

Next, Gov. Cobb stands before us as pretty certain to succeed Mr. Guthrie in the Treasury Department. This is another appointment which will give universal satisfaction, and foreshadows the conservative policy which will sway the councils of the incoming administration. There is little doubt that Glancey Jones, of Pennsylvania, will take charge of the Post Office Department, and Gov. Floyd, of Virginia, and Mr. Toucey, of Connecticut—the one as Secretary of War, the other as Attorney General—will nearly complete the *personel* of the new Cabinet. The names of the others have been published in the different papers, but it is as yet mere respectable guessing. In a few days, however, we shall know all about this important first measure of the new President;—in the meantime, we may rest satisfied that he will select the best and the ablest men in the country as his constitutional advisers in directing the Ship of State.

The report and resolutions of the Investigating Committee will come up for consideration on Wednesday next. There will be an exciting time, perhaps, for two or three days—much talking to Bunkum on one side. Some old stagers in lobbying will spout sermons on Congressional honesty and spin out their text with homilies on the turpitude of the age. Others again will denounce the Committee and their action as inquisitorial and iniquitous. One or perhaps two will argue that, as respects Mr. Matteson the proof is not sufficient to sustain so grave a charge, and in regard to all four, that their *indiscretion* has been sufficiently punished. Thus, the matter will be passed over, and no expulsion will follow. Such is my opinion. I don't much relish the task of puffing Henry Winter Davis. He is entitled, notwithstanding, to the benefit of my humble opinion that he has acquitted himself, on this Committee, creditably, impartially, and with marked ability. Let him have this—and wait till he gets another.

Do you remember the story which you read in your school-boy days about the man who had a hen that daily gave him a golden egg? I fear me very much if some of the political hotspurs of your Congressional District had the future destiny of the national Democratic party of that District in their keeping, they would realize the folly of that avaracious man. Not satisfied with the slow process of an egg a day, they would make their pile in a flurry, and expose themselves to ridicule and contempt by losing all. *Qui vuet capere, capiat.*

Vindex.

THE MARKETS.

Saturday, *Feb.* 21.—The offerings to-day were larger than for some time past. *Wheat.*—About 5,000 bushels offered, and sales of 300 bushels of common white at $1.43@1.45 and 1,300 bushels fair to good and prime do. at $1.50@1.58.—We quote choice white at $1.60@1.62. Sales of 1800 bushels fair to good red at $1.41@1.43, and 500 bushels prime do. at $1.46 ℔ bushel. *Corn.* A good demand, and prices tending downward. About 18,000 bushels offered to-day, and sales of 900 bushels inferior white at 57@58 cents; 2700 bushels good to prime yellow Corn at 60@62 cents ℔ bushel. *Rye.*—About 200 bushels offered to-day, and sales of 650 bushels Pennsylvania at 80 cents. We quote Maryland Rye nominally at 75 cents ℔ bushel. *Oats.*—About 750 bushels offered to-day, and sales of 400 bushels Pennsylvania at 43 cents, and 350 do. Maryland Oats at 41 cents ℔ bushel. *Seeds.*—An active inquiry for Cloverseed, and prices steady. Sales to-day of 60 bushels good at $7.62½, 400 bushels prime do. at $7.75, and 250 bushels very prime do. at $7.87½ ℔ bushel.

Monday, *Feb.* 23.—*Wheat.*—A fair demand. About 5,000 bushels offered, and sales of fair to good white at $1.40@1.46 and prime do. at $1.58@1.60. Sales of red at $1.40@1.46 ℔ bushel. *Corn.*—A good demand, and prices a shade lower. About 25,000 bushels offered today, and sales of inferior white 57 cents, good to prime do. at 60@61 cents, and some prime old white from store at 65@66 cents. Also, good to prime yellow Corn at 60@61 cents, and 2500 bushels inferior do. at 58 cents ℔ bushel. *Rye.* Market dull. About 1000 bushels offered to-day, and small sales of Pennsylvania at 80@82 cents, Maryland Rye at 70@72 cents ℔ bushel. *Oats.* About 3000 bushels offered to-day, sales at 40@45 cents ℔ bushel. *Seeds.*—An active inquiry for Cloverseed. Sales to-day of 150 bushels good at $7.75@7.81, and subsequently 600 bushels at $7.87½, and 500 bushels do. at $8 ℔ bushel.—These sales were mostly for the New York market.

Tobacco.—The receipts of Tobacco during the past week were very light. There were only 30 hhds of Ohio sold during the week, and at full prices. No inspections of Maryland. The demand continues good for shipping and manufacturing purposes at the quotations. We now quote the range of prices as follows, viz: Maryland sound common $6.50@7.25; good common to middling $7.50@8.37½; good to fine $9.12½@13. Bay Tobacco—Tip $7.87½@8.37½; seconds do. $12@13; superior $17.50@25.50; yellow $25.50@32.50, as to quality. We quote Ohio as follows: Inferior to good common brown. $8@8.50; middling to good reds $9@10; good to fine reds and spangled $10@13; good to fine yellow $15@20; fine red segar wrappers $12@15. The inspections for the week were 68 hhds. Ohio.

The cost of printing and advertising in York County, Pa., for 1856, was $1,484.50. There the tax-payers are informed of the doings of their servants, the office holders.

Local and Personal.

Death of Judge Key.—We regret to record the death of Hon. Edmund Key, at his residence in Nottingham District, on Sunday morning last. He was in the 87th year of his age.—Judge Key was first raised to the bench, we believe, about the year 1806; and he was one of the Judges of the First Judical District of Maryland until he was superseded by the new constitution in 1851. So long a record of regular judicial service is seldom met with. During his long continuance in office he was remarkable for the diligence he brought to the discharge of its duties, and by his uniform and undeviating courtesy to all with whom he was brought in contact—having always preserved the respect and enjoyed the confidence of the people. He was a man of an open and generous nature, of great intelligence, and of a social disposition, which, even to the last, rendered him very interesting to all who came within its influence. His death, though not unexpected from his great age, will be greatly lamented by a large circle of friends.

A Homestead for $10.—We ask the attention of the reader to the advertisement, in another column, headed as above. We have assurance, that there is no humbug in this matter, and that all that is promised will be fulfilled, to the letter. The Editor of the Easton *Star*, in calling the attention of its readers to the inducements held out to purchase tickets says—"We took a chance in the first drawing, drew a lot, and received our title deed free of cost, except the cost of the ticket."

Sale of Negroes.—Daniel C. Digges, Esq., as attorney for Henry S. Mitchell, Esq., disposed of several negroes yesterday, heretofore advertised in this paper. One was sold at public sale, a negro man, who was bought by William Z. Beall, Esq., for $990. A family, consisting of a woman and four children, two boys and two girls, were bought by George W. Graham, Esq. at private sale, at $3125. The rest were either withdrawn or sold at private sale—at what prices we did not learn.

A negro man belonging to Thomas Marshall, Esq., was also sold at the same time. He was purchased by George W. Wilson, Esq., for $950.

Sales Ahead.—On to-morrow, S. B. Hance, Esq., attorney for O. C. Harris, Esq., will sell at public sale the large and valuable meadow lying on the north side of this village.

Also, on the same day, the administrators of Leonard H. Chew, deceased, will expose at public sale a portion of the personal property of the deceased. See advertisements in another column.

For Congress.—We perceive that a correspondent of the *Port Tobacco Times*, in a communication to that paper, suggests Major William B. Stone, of Charles County, as a suitable person to represent this District in Congress, and presents his name in connexion with the nomination for that position.

On the First Page, the reader will find an inimitable sketch, which we extract from a late number of "*Porter's Spirit of the Times*," the new sporting journal, whose merits have been so frequently spoken of by the press. It is a fair sample of the entertaining and spirited character of this journal. We commend it as a cure for the blues.

Our Thanks are tendered to Alexander Keech, Jr., Esq., Attorney at Law, Houston, Texas, (formerly of this county,) for a copy of the "Texas Almanac for 1857, with statistics, historical and biographical notices, &c." relating to that locality.

Sale of Land.—Robert W. G. Baden, Esq. has sold his farm in Nottingham District, on which he recently resided, containing one hundred and thirty acres, to Jonathan T. Sasscer, Esq., for $6500.

Appointment.—The Post Master General has appointed Francis A. Ward to be Post Master at "Horse Head," in this county, in the place of John Burke, deceased.

The Board of Commissioners for the County will meet in this place on Tuesday next, the 10th of March. See advertisement in another column.

Akkekeek Church.

At a meeting of the Vesty of Christ's Church, (commonly called Akkekeek,) St. John's Parish, Prince George's and Charles Counties, held this 16th day of February, 1857, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, on the evening of the 23d of December, 1856, the Parish Church, known as "Akkekeek," was almost destroyed by fire; and whereas, the zeal, alacrity and promptness of the parishioners themselves in their efforts to replace the structure, have been most laudably and generously aided by others without the parish: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the Vestry, in view of the unexpectedly liberal subscriptions, have cause for congratulation, which we cordially extend to the parishioners and to all others who feel an interest in promoting the worship of God and the dissemination of the Christian Religion.

And be it further resolved, That we felicitate the parishioners upon that deep and kindly interest that they have manifested upon this occasion of our lamentable and awful deprivation, and the great readiness they have displayed in accelerating the restoration of the Church.

And be it further resolved, That we tender our thanks to those out of this Parish for the sympathy they have expressed and the aid they have most freely and generously extended to us.

And be it further resolved, That the editors of the Upper Marlborough and Port Tobacco papers and the Monitor, of Baltimore, be requested to publish the above proceedings.

THOMAS MARSHALL, Register.

February 25, 1857—1t

MARRIED,

In Washington City, on the 18th instant, by the Rev. Mr. Byrne, Mr. G. B. Briscoe and Miss Bettie B. Sasscer, daughter of Jonathan T. Sasscer, Esq., all of this county.

On Tuesday evening, the 17th inst., by Rev. Mr. Rolfe, Mr. Richard Prather, of Anne Arundel county, and Miss Susan H. Suit, of this county.

On Thursday evening, the 19th inst., by the Rev. Dr. Pinkney, Dr. Benjamin Berry and Miss Fanny A. Jones, all of Bladensburg District.

On the 18th instant, at Eutaw street M. E. Church, by Rev. R. L. Dashiell, Wm. W. Hall, Esq., of this county, and Miss Elizabeth H. Rittenhouse, formerly of New Jersey.

In Port Tobacco, on the 5th inst., by Rev. L. Wilmer, Mr. J. W. Rawlett, formerly of Virginia, and Miss Mary C. Robertson, of Charles county.

DIED,

On Tuesday the 10th inst., Mrs. Maria Mayhew, in the 54 year of her age.

At her residence, near Beantown, in Charles county, after a short illness, on Friday evening, 16th January, Mrs. Christiana D. Wheatley, in the 46th year of her age.

Letters from the People.

For the Planters' Advocate.

THE COLLEGE OF ST. JAMES.

To the Editor of the Planters' Advocate—

Sir: You will confer a favor on many of your readers interested in the subject, if you will publish the annexed account of the destruction by fire of Kemp Hall, one of the departments of the Diocesan College of St. James, near Hagerstown, which occurred during the night of the terrible storm in January. You will perceive from the initials of the writer, that this sketch is from the graphic pen of Bishop Whittingham. The subject is one which ought to appeal powerfully to both the Episcopal Clergy and laity—to the former for their exertions, and to the latter for substantial aid: and few, I trust, will be proof against the burning words of the Bishop. The Rector of Trinity Church, Upper Marlboro', will gladly forward contributions—an office which no doubt will be also eagerly performed by the other Episcopal Clergymen of the county. A. F. N. R.

Whoever was out on the night of Sunday, the 18th, will never forget the awful rage of that wintry storm. In a degree of cold almost without example, a wind only less than a hurricane whirled in blinding and distracting drifts the masses of snow, falling more heavily than it had done for years.

In the fiercest bitterness of that tempest, at the deadest hour of night or early morning, the Rector of St. James's College was knocked up, with the call, "Sir! Kemp Hall's on fire!"

Kemp Hall, though not the original building of the College, has been, since its completion, that of most importance, as containing the largest dormitory, the College study, the refectory and kitchen, four apartments of instructors, seamstress' and housekeeper's and servants' rooms, and pantry and store-room.

Sixty-five students, four instructors and the house-keeper, seamstress and several servants, slept in the building.

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At twenty minutes past three, a Prefect (member of the Senior class in College and Book-keeper,) who occupied one of the south rooms on the ground floor of Kemp Hall, felt oppressed with heat. He rose in bed, and saw the flames issuing from the flue which warmed his room. Without an intant's delay, to put on a single article of clothing, he rushed to his door and up the stairs to the room of Professor Coit in the second floor: "There's a fire, from the furnace, sir!" with the instant reply, "I'll go up to the dormitory and rouse the boys!" was all that passed; and down again rushed the thoughtful Prefect, to secure a lame youth below, who would be unable to help himself. With no thought of dress, he seizes the lad, night-clad, as he was himself, and bears him in his arms, through snow waist deep, across the College lawn to the Rectory—at once to save the boy, and bring the Rector to the dreadful post of duty. Providentially, attendance on a child had caused Dr. Kerfoot to be half dressed, and in less time than it takes to tell it, he was on the spot.

Meanwhile, Professor Coit had sprung out of bed, half-dressed (coat under arm, and shoes on stockingless feet) and rushed with a light into the dormitory above. "Boys all! jump up! each wake his neighbor, and come out!" was the order shouted in his loudest tone. The dormitory keeper,—"a brave an energetic fellow," says the graphic letter writer—(himself Prefect of another Hall) from whom I copy most of my detail,—was in an instant up and almost as soon dressed and ready. It was no light task to quiet and calm more than threescore lads so roused. ("There was great danger of the boys becoming frantic and jumping out at the windows or thronging the stairway" to their own destruction. The College story is, that one did, cat-like, descend the lightening rod. None saw him, and none tried to follow him.) The Professor and the Prefect calmed them, rallied them, and detailed them as fast as possible, without endangering each other's lives down the staircase, to the outer air.

But the flames were out. The burning flue which first woke the Prefect in the lower room, was but a few feet from the hall and stairs. The smoke was becoming suffocating. Smoke and flame met the descending boys, before all were down; and while a dozen yet above, with the instructors, heat and smoke turned back the uppermost, and descent for any more became impossible.

Then appeared the value of fore-casting wisdom. When Kemp Hall was built, in view of the possibility of this very contingency, the Rector had caused at the upper end of the dormitory a large trap-door to be constructed, and a stout sufficient ladder to be provided, for keeping in the dormitory. Never once used, but always ready, there it had lain, until the hour for which it had been made, came when least expected. In the study beneath, a corresponding trap-door communicated with the refectory, and thence, through the kitchen, out of the north end of the building, with the open air, at the corner remotest from the fire.

The brave Prefect and Professor were prepared for the emergency. The heavy ladder was seized and placed, and one by one of the half suffocated boys were sent through the trap-door to the room below. All were down. The Professor was just putting his foot on the topmost round, when he heard through the smoke the *Rector's voice!*

All this had taken up just the time needful for Prefect Lewis with his burden to get across the lawn, and bring back the ready-dressed and instantly startled Rector. Dr. Kerfoot met the boys thronging out of Kemp Hall by the south door, fire and smoke bringing up the rear. Two, on the very threshold reply to the question, "Are the boys all out?" "No! there are some up there still." Up rushed the Rector, by the way which the boys had found impassable. At the second story, fresh volumes of smoke and flame compel him, for a moment to recede. But he thinks of his charge, and even fire cannot keep him back. Holding his breath, he bursts through the barrier, and gropes his way up the second flight into the dormitory. The way is closed behind him, but he will save those above, or die with them. As he shouts to them through the murky substance which shuts out all power of vision, and almost, transmission of sound, the well known voice catches the ear of Professor Coit at the other end. He stays his descending foot on the ladder which has yet to be used below to save the lives of all there gathered and his own. He turns to meet the Rector, and calls out, "They are all out, sir!" "Let us go round and look in every alcove," is the reply. They join, and carrying the Professor's light, look (or rather feel, for the dense smoke renders the light useful only to make darkness visible) in every several alcove on each side of the long apartment. It was at the imminent peril of life to both: for had the light gone out, the overpowering, choking bewildering smoke would have made it hardly within the bounds of possibility that they should have found their way back to the ladder by which they and all below were yet to be saved from the burning building.

God mercifully preserved them. Certain that every boy was out, they crawled back to the trap-door, and both went down—*the Rector the last to leave the room.* The next trap-door was to be opened, and way found, through the momently increasing smoke and heat, out of the kitchen and northern door. It took less time to do it than it would take me to tell it. At the bottom of the ladder in the lower story, the Professor and boys once safe, the Rector hurries, light in hand, to the house-keeper's and seamstress' rooms. They are roused and saved: but without even a second dress. *Neither life nor limb are lost; but all besides is gone!*

But was all life preserved? There were two instructors' rooms. How the occupant of one used his time, I have been telling you. Opposite Professor Coit's apartment on the second story, was that of Professor Dashiell. Where was he? It was the Rector's next thought after the deliverance of the others. Rushing round, he asks of the excited trembling crowd, "Is Mr. Dashiell out? Is Mr. Dashiell out?" They know nothing of him. "We musn't leave him!" and a rush once more to the burning door and stairway, are the word and deed that follow, without a second's hesitation. But Prefects Mills and Harrison are ready with a ladder, if need be, to enter Professor Dashiell's room on the side where the fire has as yet made least headway from without. Meanwhile, he appears. He is safe.

At the same moment that Mr. Lewis was awakened by flame bursting through his flue, a sense of smoke in his room aroused Professor Dashiell in the story above. That something was terribly wrong about the furnace, was his instant impression; and his action as instant, to get up to right it. In drawers and boots he rushes out to do so, and on the stairs meets Professor Coit, on his way to the dormitory.—"What's the matter?" "Fire from the furnace!" is the only greeting, and each holds on his way. Straight to the furnace the Professor went, but could not get in. Presently the watchman's help enabled him to open the furnace room, but the raging fire burst out in volumes that forbade the attempt to enter, or the slightest hopes of saving anything.

By that time all living beings were out, and all else was wrapped in flames, the hopeless prey of the devourer. College stores; kitchen battery; pantry stock; refectory furniture; study furniture; dormitory furniture; clothes-rooms; all the little "supellectile" of every alcove; and all the clothes and books of the sixty-five student-inmates; the valuable libraries (hoards and loves of their whole life-times) of Professor Dashiell and Coit, and those (less voluminous and costly, but not by them less prized) of Prefects Lewis and Mills:—all, all gone! Not one of them with even an entire suit of clothes saved!

Think of the position of men left in that condition, with nearly a hundred College-pupils to provide for, and *all* means and almost all accommodation, for the moment, gone! and in such fearful weather!

Food was to be at once provided. The slender means of the Rector's and Vice-Rector's houses must furnish it. They did. Such as could be prepared, was instantly made ready. Succedaneums for coats and boots, and begged or borrowed under clothing, were arranged for. Expedients of every kind, for every thing, were thought of, suggested, tried.

A faculty meeting, held at once, came to the brave determination to hold "right onward."—"Regular work to-morrow" was the announcement, before the fire had ceased to burn. "We will do as we did before we had Kemp Hall," was the answer to all despondent inquiries.—"How is it possible that we can get along?"

Ah! a six foot adult of thirty might almost as easily do with his jacket and trouses of sixteen! Most painful and wearisome strife with difficulty must those stout-hearted