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THE PLANTERS' ADVOCATE AND SOUTHERN MARYLAND ADVERTISER.—APRIL 1, 1857.

The Planters' Advocate.

UPPER MARLBOROUGH:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 1, 1857.

☞ The Maryland appointments have not yet all been made, and though it is well understood who are to have the principal offices, the announcement has only been made in one instance—that of Attorney-General. As stated in our last, Hon. [illegible] Mason is to succeed Mr. Thomas as Comptroller; Levi K. Bowie is to be Naval Officer, vice Kettlewell; Dr. [illegible] (of the Eastern Shore) is to be Surveyor, vice Dr. Wharton; and the appointment of Dr. John Morris as Postmaster at Baltimore, vice Jacob G. Davies, has been officially published. It is stated as being almost certain that Wm. Meade Addison will be re-appointed District Attorney, and J. W. Watkins Marshall. There is also no doubt that H. G. S. Key will be unmolested as Navy Agent. Nothing new has transpired concerning the Maryland applicants for foreign positions. Henry May, who was named for the Neapolitan Mission, is now spoken of as having been offered the Commissionership of Indian Affairs. The lesser appointments at Baltimore, it is thought, have not yet been considered.

☞ Kansas Affairs appear to have engrossed the time and attention of the President and Cabinet during the past few days, consequent upon the resignation of Governor Geary. The President has prevailed upon Robert J. Walker, formerly Secretary of the Treasury under Mr. Polk, to accept the appointment, and it is thought he is to go out with almost unlimited powers, with a view to restoring peace and order in the Territory. Hon. Frederick P. Stanton, of Tennessee, has been appointed Secretary of State, and will proceed to Kansas at once, to act as Governor until Mr. Walker's arrival. These two appointments are unexceptionable, and evince the set purpose of the administration to make the law supreme in that region.

It is stated that the outlines of the instructions to Gov. Walker have been agreed upon by the Cabinet, and proceed on the principle of recognizing the statutes of Kansas as valid. The principal business with which he is charged is to see that the people have free, independent and uninterrupted expression of opinion and the exercise of suffrage concerning the affairs of the Territory in carrying out the provisions of the census and registry law and that for the election of delegates to the constitutional convention.

The troops heretofore employed in the Territory are to be removed, and others not engaged in the former difficulties to be ordered thither, but it is not apprehended there will be any use for them nor the militia.

The administration have resolved that the laws shall be maintained, and have full confidence in Mr. Walker's ability to carry out their instructions.

Gen. Scott and the Administration.—One of the pleasant things connected with the incoming of Mr. Buchanan's administration has been the restoration of amicable relations between Gen. Scott and the present head of the War Department. Gov. Floyd, it is said, will not unnecessarily interfere with the General in the disposition of matters belonging to his position as Commander-in-Chief, under the President, and the evidence of this is already seen in the reversal of the dispositions of Major-General, made by the late Secretary of War.

Another Search for Franklin.—The New York *Journal of Commerce* states that letters received from England convey intelligence that the Government having decided against sending out another expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, Lady Franklin has determined to fit out one from her own private means,—devoting the remains of her fortune to a final attempt to discover the lost navigator, or additional traces of the expedition. The qualities of heart and mind which prompt the act command admiration; whatever may be said of the wisdom of the measure.

The Murder Trial at Washington.—*Acquittal of Lee.*—The case of Dodridge C. Lee, for the murder of David Hume, a respectable citizen of Alexandria, Va., by shooting him a short time since in the Pension office at Washington, which had been on trial during four days in the criminal court at Washington, was given to the jury late on Saturday afternoon, who, after being out all night and until 11 o'clock Sunday morning, rendered a verdict of *not guilty*.

Lieut. William T. Magruder, U. S. Dragons, will please accept our thanks for late California papers. It may be interesting to his many friends in this region, to learn that he arrived with his command at Los Angeles on Saturday, the 31st January, from Fort Tejon.

Postmaster at Annapolis.—Mr. Augustus Gassaway has been re-appointed Postmaster of that city. The *Republican* says: He has conducted the office for the past four years with efficiency and satisfaction to the public, and had no competitor for the place.

Death of the President's Nephew.—About half-past eleven o'clock on Thursday morning last, as President Buchanan was receiving company, a telegraphic dispatch was delivered to him announcing the unexpected death of his nephew, Eskridge Lane, of Lancaster.

Three persons were burned to death by the explosion of the Alcohol Distillery of Higbie & Co., Baltimore, on Thursday, and four or five others badly injured. The cause of the explosion of the boiler is not known. The loss of property is twelve or thirteen thousand dollars.—The catastrophe made much excitement in Baltimore.

Dr. Charles A. Harding, of Montgomery County, has been appointed physician to the laborers employed on the Washington Aqueduct. A good appointment.

The Baltimore Clipper appeared on Monday in a new dress, and makes a very neat and handsome appearance.

We learn from the Annapolis *Republican*, that Judge Mason intends to make that city his future residence.

The oldest man in America, it is said, is John Hames. He now lives in Murray county, Ga., and is aged 134.

The complimentary dinner given in Louisville, Ky., to ex-Secretary Guthrie was a brillant affair.

The average rent of fish stands in Alexandria market is $390. Last year $198 was the price.

John A. Washington has again proffered Mt. Vernon to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

## ROTATION IN OFFICE.

The new administration has not yet had the opportunity of disclosing its policy on a single point—one of no very [illegible] importance, to be sure, [illegible] but [illegible] keenly interesting, doubtless, to all [illegible] concerned. We allude, of course, to the distribution of the public offices among the myriads of those who seem to have set their hearts upon them—a task which, thus far, appears to have monopolized the time of the Cabinet, and to have wearied the patience of its members almost to an extent that it has impaired the health of the President. Probably so much consideration and care were never before bestowed in that quarter with a view to judicious appointments; and this circumstance, by eliciting discussion in the newspapers, has brought the matter closer home to the consideration of every citizen than heretofore. It is one of those subjects on which there is a "good deal to be said on both sides:" and as it now stands forth so prominently, we may be excused in a few observations with a view to setting forth the wise and judicious principles which seem to be guiding the President in the solution of this very vexed and vexatious topic.

The doctrine of "Rotation in Office" has always divided public sentiment in this country. Upon its first introduction as a party necessity, its friends and its enemies stood out in bold relief, one against the other; but the final practical adoption (if not approval) of it by all political parties, as they respectively came into power, very much modified, both in location and intensity, the movements and arguments for or against it. The sphere of its discussion became much more circumscribed. No one party could be found pledged for it, or committed against it—while its individual defenders and opponents could be found alike in the ranks of every party. Both opinions, therefore, by becoming more diffused, became less pronounced; and no theory of the matter having ever become identified with the purposes of any political organization, the subject as a whole has, as yet, failed to be met face to face, or to be brought to a direct issue on its merits. Yet, while the great mass of the people has remained sufficiently indifferent in the premises, there have been quite enough advocates of opposite views to keep the subject alive: and, just at this exigency, the champions of either cause are found quite energetic in proposing their respective views. As between the *Ins* and the *Outs*, the question is one of abstract right—is it proper that removals should be made for the sake of making removals, yea or nay? But, as between the conflicting applications and the appointing power, the question is reduced to one of expediency—is it *politic* that Mr. A should give way to Mr. B? And while the latter query is that which undoubtedly gives the pother to the Government, the former is really that which makes the matter interesting to the people, and involves the principles upon which its merits must be decided.

There have been those, we believe, who have favored the practice of indiscriminate rotation as a sound rule in itself, as a practice good for its own sake, and as a thing that, whether precisely right or no, nevertheless *ought to be done*. "To the victors belong the spoils," they said; and, acting up to the full purport of this ominous declaration, they favored a "clean sweep" upon every change of administration. But this thing, though so long unfortunately practiced by all parties heretofore, could scarcely be justified upon any strong reason or necessity. Indeed, we may say of the doctrine of Rotation, carried to that extent, that we know of nothing more contrary to true principles or sound reason. For it perverted hopelessly every thing like a right conception of what public offices are designed to be. The holders of such places ceased to be looked upon as *servants* of the public, and came rather to be regarded as a set of highly favored beneficiaries, subsisting comfortably upon means furnished to their hands: and the offices themselves came also to be looked upon as very cozy, comfortable berths, free to be occupied by those who could get them. In other words, it came to be considered that positions of honor and profit under Government were designed as "Political Rewards" and ought to be so bestowed; and that their holders were fortunate fellows who had got at last a recognition of their long and faithful party service. How false and rotten a notion this is—how utterly subversive of any true view of the dignity and utility of the public service—is sufficiently obvious upon its statement; and it is hardly necessary, we presume, to advance any thing in refutation of it. But how reckless and threadbare does the absurdity of it seem when, taking its correctness for granted, we attempt to follow it to its alleged origin! For, if offices are *rewards*, then they must have been constituted as such. The Constitution and the laws must have foreseen that there would be a great many citizens who would *deserve* to be supported at the public expense, and therefore made provision for them. But, if this was the object, how poor a provision was made in this behalf! How niggardly Government was, in creating so few offices where there would be so many to deserve them! Upon the principle assumed, ought not it to have so arranged that every good citizen should have an office? Such considerations as these fetch *this* theory of Rotation straight to a ridiculous absurdity, and throw up into bold and favorable contrast that higher and more dignified view of official life and of the public service, which regards the occupants of office as the *servants of the State;* which looks upon such places as having been created because there was a necessity for their creation—because there was work to be done which required them; and which views the compensation and emoluments attached to them, not as party rewards, but as a fair equivalent for the sacrifices which every man is at least *presumed to make*, when he quits his private occupation for the duties of a public position.

Carried to the extent we have noticed—and we fear it *has* been pushed so far by all parties—this exaggerated theory of rotation has drawn along in its train some great evils, and has occasioned some most deplorable results. It brought all public places into a market, as it were, where they could be had for a certain equivalent of a certain kind, and where all might bid who would. Merit ceased almost altogether to be a recommendation for place, and instead of the "old gradation," as Iago hath it, preferment went "by letter and affection." It became known that political services were a path to public positions;—and this struck out at once a new road, easy to be followed, and gave origin to a trade by which men could learn to live without working, by getting up "claims" on those who had the bounty to distribute. Hence the numerous class of peofessed "small politicians" in every part of the country—men who abjure the old fogy plan of living by the sweat of the brow, and seek to live by their wits; whose business is to make political capital, to manage political affairs, to get up excitements, to rouse public passions, and to do any thing and every thing that will serve to poise them in the air till they have a chance to slide into some safe and comfortable berth, as a reward for their long-suffering anxiety for the public interest. And hence, too, that "Wild Hunt for Office," properly so called, which keeps such a proportion of the population out of decent and honest occupation in the vain effort to become the dependents and mercenaries of Government, and which produces that farcical and unceasing rush at Washington which has come to be a quadrennial spectacle, and which is and ought to be regarded as a public disgrace. This morbid state of affairs has been kept alive because heretofore its objects have been attained and its reasonableness more or less acknowledged. And it has quite naturally driven many of the people, out of mere detestation of its working, into entertaining extreme opinions in the opposite direction: So that there have been, and are now, many conservative-toned politicians, particularly at the South, who oppose all rotation as such, and would only allow it when it is absolutely necessary and unavoidable.

Between these, we think, there is a middle course, which is more consonant to the provisions of the organic law than either of them. It hardly seems that the power of appointment and removal would have been granted or located anywhere, unless it were intended to be exercised. And such power, always conferring the right to use it, carries with it a full discretion to the individual intrusted with it. No one would deny the expediency and propriety of such a functionary's using the privilege in an individual case, upon just considerations; yet does it appear that he may not, for equally good reasons, also use it in a more general way? Indiscriminate rotation, it is true, is clearly wrong as a principle, and indiscriminate *retention* not less so. The problem is to strike the line to which removals may be justified and beyond which they may be judged unnecessary—a thing that is sufficiently difficult. We think the most rational and the safest rule that has been suggested is, to take the relative *importance* or *responsibility* of the offices as a criterion. It is manifestly of little importance who may fill the minor or irresponsible places, upon which nothing depends of any moment, and which merely accomplish a routine of necessary and subordinate work. These may probably be better filled by persons long used to their duties, and rotation here is obviously ridiculous. But this is not so clear in reference to the more prominent places under Government—receiving or accounting offices, for example, of which the emoluments are large, the responsibility heavy, and the temptation to corruption greater and harder to be resisted. In such offices it appears to be due to the public interest that the incumbents should be more frequently changed, and, with regard to these, rotation may safely be the *general* rule, subject of course to such exceptions as a wisely-exercised discretion may perceive. And such changes in high places of trust, while they conduce to public virtue and protect the public interest, seem also to be consonant to those notions of official purity and governmental integrity which are blended with our ideas of the proper working of a Republic.

This appears to be very nearly the rule which Mr. Buchanan has laid down to be pursued. He has by no means allowed himself to be drawn into that practice of general proscription unwisely followed by many of his predecessors, but has resolutely set his face against it. The [illegible] in no changes in the minor offices, we are told, except for cause; while many new appointments are made to the responsible places as the commissions of old incumbents expire. Thus, while he recognizes the republican principle of not vesting one man too long with great duties or responsibilities, he sets his foot upon that unworthy theory which would countenance change for its own sake. We think he has thus nearly hit upon the true solution of the great questions of "Rotation" and "the Spoils;" and we do him honor for his course, because we believe it will have great effect in correcting the false and degrading notions that have heretofore obtained touching the nature and proper disposal of the public offices.

Interesting Re-union.—Gen. La Vega, the Mexican General, is stopping at Willard's Hotel, in Washington, as is also Col. May, who took La Vega's guns, and made him prisoner at the battle of Resaca de la Palma; and to complete the curious re-union, Col. Magruder, to whom May handed La Vega over for safe-keeping, is at the same hotel. It must have been pleasant as well as suggestive to see these warriors assembled at the same dinner table, in a friendly way, and popping champagne corks instead of nine pounders.

A Relic.—An iron comb, about four inches long, with the letters G. Washington forming the top, has been picked up in Chester county.—The West Chester *Republican* says:

Very likely this comb belonged to the age when Washington and his army were at Valley Forge. It may have been his own, or it may be of the kind furnished the soldiers. It is a curious old relic that our illustrated newspapers should get a picture of. One thing is certain, it was found along a road where Washington was frequently seen to ride when at Valley Foge.

Whitewash for Outhouses and Fences.—As the season of the year when considerable whitewashing is performed is near at hand, we give the following receipt for mixing the composition, which is said to be first rate:

Take a clean barrel that will hold water, put into it half a bushel of quicklime, and slack it by pouring over it boiling water sufficient to cover it four or five inches deep, and stirring it until quite slacked; dissolve in water and add two pounds of sulphate of zinc and one of common salt, which will cause the whitewash to harden on the woodwork in a few days; add sufficient water to bring it to the consistency of thick whitewash.

To make the above wash of a pleasant cream color, add 3 lbs. yellow ochre.

For fawn color, add 4 lbs. umber, 1 lb. Indian red, and 1 lb. lampblack.

For grey or stone color, add 4 lbs. raw umber and 2 lbs. lampblack.

The color may be put on with a common whitewash brush, and will be found much more durable than common whitewash.

A Foot Race.—The Atlanta (Ga.) *American*, of the 24th ultimo, says:

Gen. B. N. Williford, our City Marshal, succeeded, on Sunday evening last, in arresting George Hood, who is charged with being concerned in the murder of Isaac Free, at Smith's Court Ground, in Gwinnett county, on the day of the late Presidential election. We understand that Hood has been a fugitive since last fall, and had come to this city to meet his wife, who was to accompany him to a new home. On finding that he was discovered, he took himself off on foot, at railroad speed, but was arrested after a "two mile heat." It was the first "foot-race" of the season—neither party being mounted—but the General proved to possess the best bottom, and finally overhauled the fugitive at a country saw-mill, where he had taken refuge under some old slabs.

The Legislature of Missouri has been presented with a Bible. When the Governor was sworn in, they had to borrow one from the penitentiary.

## From Nicaragua.

A letter to the New York *Commercial*, dated Aspinwall, March 19, says:

"Walker is strongly fortified at Rivas, and will defend it at all hazards, although he has only a force of 600 men, and is getting short of provisions. He is hemmed in with 3,000 Costa Ricans, and the States of Honduras, Salvador, and San Jose are furnishing and have forwarded 3,000 more to join the Costa Ricans, making a total of 6,000 troops of the allied army. Walker is in a critical situation, and unless he is immediately reinforced, his chances are small of gaining another battle. He will maintain his position and hold out as long as possible, and his men will sell their lives dearly before they will be taken, as no quarter will be given by the allies."

The Panama *Star and Herald* says:

An additional force of 600 men has been sent to Liberia, which, united with the 400 already there under Gen. Bosque, was to march on San Juan del Sur.

General Cabanas, ex-President of Honduras, has superseded General Belloso in command of the Salvador troops, and was to march from Leon against Rivas; and Salvador was to send 1,000 additional troops with outdelay. Besides this, Admiral North, of Guatemala, has gone up to San Jose to bring down 1,000 troops in his two vessels, and 1,000 more are to march into Nicaragua overland.

It is positively stated by some of Walker's deserters that his men had unanimously refused to go out of Rivas to fight, but expressed themselves willing to defend their position.

The *Album Semanal*, of Costa Rica, publishes a long address from a number of deserters from Walker's army to their late companions, in which they are strongly urged to follow the example which has been set them. We make an extract:

"To one and all who came, with whatever expectation or under whatever inducements, we ask what thanks or emolument have you received, or can you expect to receive from impoverished Nicaragua or thankless, unfeeling Walker? For all the toils and privations, the night marching and watchings, the hungerings and thirstings, the sickness, wounds, and battles you have experienced and suffered in one form or another?—We answer emphatically and truly, none. Where is the realization of all the brilliant promises from time to time made by the arch filibuster and his myrmidons?—vanished into air, or rather into the sulphurous vapor of villanous gunpowder.

"What benefit have you received or are you likely to receive from the hard-fought battles of Rivas first and second, Virgin Bay, Massaya, or Granada, or the terrible sufferings of the return from Santa Rosa? Think of the horrors of the siege of Granada, where the sick and dying lay mingled with the dead and wounded—where innocent and helpless women and children were dying in your very sight from privation and sickness, while you yourself were supporting a feeble strength, upon unnatural and loathsome food, to enable you to resist a victorious enemy, and victorious only through the notorious incapability of him whom you looked to for guidance and direction.

"This man does not even possess the tact or ability to gain and keep some small portion of the respect and affection of yourselves, his soldiers. You do not either love or respect him as a man, or confide in him as a good general. Why, then, do you still cling to him?"

Large numbers of this address, it is said, have been forwarded to the men remaining under Walker's command.

The Costa Rican government have recently issued a proclamation inviting all of Walker's men to lay down their arms and come over to them, promising to use them kindly, and procure passages for such of them as wish to come to the United States. It is further stated that these proclamations, which are on printed slips, are extensively circulated among Walker's men by women who gain admittance to the camp under pretense of selling apples, fruit, &c.

In accordance with these promises of good treatment, free passage home, &c., a large number of Walker's men have already deserted, in [illegible] and the desertion continued up to the time the passengers by the Illinois left Panama.

Some of those who have deserted from Walker state that, at the time of their leaving, Walker's cause was hopeless, and the condition of his men terrible. They were destitute of food and clothing—being bare-footed, half-naked, half-starved, sick and emaciated; and when they left Walker had only three hundred effective men. His treatment of his men was a scandal to civilization and humanity. For sixteen days they lived on mule meat. Nearly all of his officers are made up of gamblers and drunkards—generally the offsourings of San Francisco, New Orleans, and New York. In very many instances, however, the case is different with the men, where they go out intending in good faith to settle as farmers, but being pressed into service immediately on landing. They state also that the Costa Rican authorities had offered a reward of $20,000 for the capture of Walker alive, or $10,000 for his head.

## The Solemn Feast of Lent.

The term "Lent" is derived from the Saxon word signifying Spring, and has been applied to the spring fast, or the time of humiliation observed by Christians before the festival of Easter. The fast corresponds with the preparation of the Jews for the yearly expiation, and is like other observances of Jewish origin. Their humiliation was forty days before the expiatory sacrifice, and that of the Church being forty days before the expiatory sacrifice of the Son of God upon the cross for the sins of the world. It will be found by consulting *Eusebius* that it was customary for the Christians from the earliest ages to set apart a portion of time for humiliation, prayer, fasting and other devout exercises.

The number *forty* has been rendered in various ways quite significant, and was appropriated to these special seasons of repentence. For forty days the deluge covered the earth; forty years the Isralites wandered in the desert, until the whole generation except one was cut off; Moses fasted forty days on the mount; Elijah forty days in the wilderness; the Ninevites were allowed forty days for repentance and amendment; and our blessed Lord fasted forty days in the wilderness at the commencement of his ministry on earth. Hence it is that this practice has been followed for more than eighteen hundred years. The early Christians observed the season with great strictness. No marriages were celebrated—no festivals were held except on Saturday and Sunday, and except on these two days the Eucharist was not consecrated during Lent. Other fasts ended at three o'clock in the afternoon, but this was kept up until evening. The propriety and duty of observing this season we leave to those whose proper office is to enforce them from the sacred desk.

The observance of this season in another view is highly beneficial. During the holidays, the rejoicings have been connected with the choicest viands, and consequently as spring approaches the system is more predisposed than at other times to disease, and unless these humors be eradicated in time, will produce much sickness. By a proper abstinence, then, the body resumes its natural tone, and good health continues.—Fasting, then, is good; indeed, much better than physic.

Changed his Mind.—A Frenchman by the name of Le Blond, went into a magistrate's office, in St. Louis, a few days ago, to lodge a complaint against his wife. Before the magistrate could make out a warrant for her arrest, Le-Blond changed his mind, and said that he did'nt wish to live any longer, and would take it as a special favor if some gentleman would have the kindness to blow his brains out. He implored the bystanders to accede to his request, and relieve him of the cares of the world. Three of those present winked at each other, drew their revolvers and pointed them at LeBlond. If ever a poor mortal begged for his life, it was just at that moment. He thought they were in earnest, and declined dying.

Sale of the White Sulphur Springs.—The White Sulphur Springs of Greenbrier, have been sold at last. They have been purchased by a company of Virginia capatalists, for the sum of $750,000; and are to have expended upon them as speedily as possible, some $250,000, for extending the accommodations and beautifying the grounds. The prominent stockholders are Messrs. Capeton and Berne, of Monroe, Macfarland, of Richmond, and Wm. Calwell, of Greenbrier.—Mr. Calwell is to be continued as the active manager.—*Charlottsville Advocate.*

From the Richmond Dispatch.

## Virginia Emigrant Aid Society.

We chronicled, a few days ago, the fact that Eli Thayer, the chief mover and first fiddler of the above unique and benevolent association, had gone to New York for the purpose of obtaining an act of incorporation from the Legislature of that State. The New York Herald continues to expatiate and exult over Mr. Thayer's plan in the most complacent and jubilant manner, and is evidently of the opinion that it is rubbing the raw places of Virginia pride with a curry comb dipped in a strong solution of Cayenne pepper. The Herald is of opinion that the Northern States can spare a great many rowdies and blackguards, who, though not capable of contending with the active current of Yankee competition, will be abundantly able to regenerate and redeem this Heaven-forsaken land of "niggers" and "nigger-drivers," to bring forth the minerals, make two blades of grass grow where none grew before, and finally to break down the antiquated and barbarous system of African servitude. Accordingly, a fillibuster expedition, headed by Thayer, who proposes to be the Walker of the Nicaragua of the Old Dominion, will be organized forthwith, and, as soon thereafter as money can be obtained, they will descend upon Virginia in hordes more innumerable than the locusts and lice of Egypt. We are not advised whether the invaders are to have a newspaper organ, but as the press always follows the march of New England emigration, we have the right to anticipate that Greeley will accompany the expedition in the capacity of organist and trumpeter. What course the army of occupation will take is not yet ascertained. Some suppose that a great number of balloons will be manufactured, and being duly supplied with gas from the Free Soil presses, will start off some moonless night, and before day-break deposit their burdens on the roofs of the houses, taking back as a return cargo the "down-trodden bondmen;" others, that the invaders will advance in a solid column through the borders of Pennsylvania, Thayer marching in front, Parker, Beecher, and other "asses and savans" in the centre, and Fred Douglas and Senator Sumner bringing up the rear. Some think they will come round by the Capes, so as to enable them to occupy the forts, seize the navy yard, and steal all the oyster boats in Hampton Roads. In fine, the New York Herald may rest assured that this Commonwealth is paralyzed with consternation at the threatened campaign, and that the "slaveholding aristocracy" are about to depart for Kansas, so that, in all probability, by the time the vanguard of Thayer's army crosses the State line, there will not be a first family left in Virginia.

We would treat this subject with seriousness, if it were possible to be grave over such a farcical proposition. If the Herald condescends to statistics, will it calculate how far Thayer's funds will go towards buying up the waste places in a single county of the State? This is but one of the difficulties of this immigration. At the very threshold lies another, which is, that before the Goths and Vandals can develop Virginia, they may be devil-uped themselves. If the Five Points abolitionists ever succeed in fertilizing our worn-out lands, it will be necessary first to reduce them to a state of decomposition, which, judging from their past habits, can be done with ease, and then, by spreading them thickly over the soil and ploughing them energetically under, it is possible they may make an excellent manure, and afford a good substitute for the guano crop, in case that should give out. We recommend this subject to the immediate attention of the border Ruffin of the Southern Planter.

For ourselves we have no fears of the menaced irruption. If enemies of Southern institutions are sent here to plot against the institutions of the State, they will meet with more summary justice than Judge Russel deals out to the garroters of New York. From emigrants of a different character the South has nothing to fear, nor they from the South. Virginia has no more loyal citizens than thousands within her own borders of Northern birth. They have seen the social state of both North and South, and their preference is one of enlightened choice and judgment. Future emigrants to Virginia are more likely to buy negroes themselves and thus identify their own personal interests with the institution than to raise a little finger for its abolition.

## Court of Appeals.

Annapolis, *March* 30, 1857.—No. 49.—William A. Quynn vs. George W. Carroll et al—appeal from the Circuit Court for Prince George's County. Chief Justice LeGrand delivered the opinion of the court. Judgmant reversed and procedendo awarded.

No. 48.—Walter Smith vs. William Clark—appeal from the Circuit Court for Prince George's County.—Justice Mason delivered the opinion of the court. Judgment affirmed.

No. 144.—Walter Smith vs. William Clark—appeal from the Circuit Court for Prince George's County.—Justice Mason delivered the opinion of the court. Decree affirmed, with costs.

The Washington correspondent of the New York *Post*, states that ex-President Pierce will settle down on a farm in the interior of his native State, New Hampshire, where, for the rest of his life, he will devote himself to the raising of horses and stock cattle. Three of his horses left Baltimore last week, in the Boston steamer, on their way to New Hampshire.

The McDonogh estate appears to be a bone of contention from which the legal profession will have fat pickings for years to come. We learn from the New Orleans papers that on the 4th ult., in the District Court in that city, a natural son of the deceased filed an application by proving a codicil to the famous will, by which he expects to obtain the handsome little sum of $100,000.

A Hopeful Sign.—The New York *Times* states that the European, which was established in that city for the purpose of publishing all the unfavorable facts to American society which appear in our papers, has been compelled to reduce its dimensions, from lack of material to fill it up with.

A gentleman of Philadelphia offers to give $1,000, if ninety-nine others will join him in a similar manner, for the establishment in that city of a free gallery and school of the arts, and another thousand on the same condition for the establishment of an academy of music, where the art may be taught as completely as in the great academies and *conservatoires* of Europe.

## MARRIED,

On Sunday, the 29th ultimo, by the Rev. Mr. Scrivener, Mr. Barton Smith and Miss Martha M. Randall, all of this county.

By Rev. Henry Walker John Wesley Disney and Miss Susanna C. Harrison, all of this county.

On the 19th ultimo, by the Rev. James Sewell, Henry F. Talbot and Eliza A. Crosby, all of Calvert county.

## DIED,

At the residence of her sister, Mrs. Jane Warren, after a weeks' painful illness, Mrs. Elizabeth Magruder, aged 77 years, consort of the late Wm. Magruder.

At Mount Airy, on Thursday last, the 26th ultimo, Mrs. Elizabeth Calvert, in the 77th year of her age.

On the morning of the 25th ultimo, Virginia Lynch, in the 18th year of her age, eldest daughter of Dr. S. D. Lynch, of Anne Arundel.

On the 8th ultimo, at his residence, near Grandcato, Louisiana, Dr. Robert E. Smith, formerly of St. Mary's county. At an early period of his life he removed to Louisiana, where he entered upon the practice of medicine, and became eminently successful in his profession, amassing a handsome fortune. He enjoyed a confidence and reputation that endeared him to all who lived within the sphere of his usefulness. He was a gentleman of the highest moral and religious tone, persuasive and kind-hearted, modest and retiring, and died lamented by all who knew him, leaving a family of six children to mourn his premature death.

In Washington city, on Wednesday last, the 25th ultimo, Mr. David Ridgely, formerly of Annapolis, in the 65th year of his age. The deceased was for many years State Librarian of Maryland, and by his gentlemanly deportment won the esteem of all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. He was a kind and affectionate husband and father, and his death will long be mourned by those who knew his amiability of character and virtues.

"Oh! let not tears embalm my tomb,
None but the dews by twilight given!
Oh! let not sighs disturb the gloom,
None but the whispering winds of heaven."

## Local and Personal.

**Circuit Court.**—The regular Spring Term of the Circuit Court for this county will begin on Monday next. The trial docket, we learn, is about the usual size, but there is a considerable falling off in the new business brought to this term. There are no criminal cases of any importance.

We avail ourselves of this issue to call to the attention of our country friends to sundry little matters of interest to them (and to ourselves,) which they can learn by applying at this office. Our books are burdened with innumerable small accounts, now long over-due, which we desire to be closed up at once; and we do not think we demand too much in requesting our patrons to recollect us when coming here during Court.—It is a small matter to each one of them, but it is of considerable moment to us.

**High Prices for Tobacco.**—We insert with pleasure, the following extracts of a note from Messrs. Belt & Bowie, Commission Merchants, Baltimore:

Baltimore, March 30, 1857.

Dear Sir: We here send you the list of sales of 38 hhds. of Tobacco, made by us last week for Wm. B. B. Cross, Esq. Our object in sending you this statement, is to get you to notice it on Mr. Basil Brown's (Mr. Cross's manager) account. We think he deserves some notice for his very superior management of Tobacco. Every hhd. of this was well assorted and every leaf in perfect order.

Sale of 38 hhds. of Tobacco for Wm. B. B. Cross, Esq.:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | hhd. | at | $20.00 |
| 2 | " | at | 18.00 |
| 10 | " | at | 15.00 |
| 2 | " | at | 14.00 |
| 2 | " | at | 13.00 |
| 3 | " | at | 12.00 |
| 4 | " | at | 11.00 |
| 14 | " | at | 10.00 |

This Tobacco was sold in two lots—twenty-six hhds. at an average of $12.00, and twelve hhds at an average of $14.00.

Yours truly, Belt & Bowie.

*T. J. Turner, Esq.*, Upper Marlboro' Md.

**News from the Laurel.**—A correspondent at our enterprising manufacturing village, the Laurel Factory, sends us the following items:

The first "cloth" was manufactured in the new factory last week; and in less than a fortnight, it is anticipated the half complement of machinery will be in full operation. This is an important event to the business community of the village, and to many of the surrounding farmers, who here find a ready market for much of their produce. The remaining half of the machinery is now being constructed by Mr. Heath, and is expected to be finished by September.

The large estate of Mrs. Nicols, called "Fairlands," near here, was offered at public sale, on the 25th ultimo, but there were no bidders present.

It is understood that the late Tristam S. Dorsey has left a bequest of $500 to the Bible Society, and $500 to the Domestic Mission of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

The scarlet fever, in a malignant form, has been prevailing here to a limited extent. The most malignant and rapidly fatal case, was one to whom had been administered the lately so much lauded preventative, Belladonna, for ten days previous to its inception. Philo.

**We regret** to record the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Calvert, at "Mount Airy," on Thursday last. She was the relict of the late Maj. Edward Henry Calvert, who was the eldest son of Benedict Calvert, of Mount Airy, and grandson of Charles, the sixth Lord Baltimore. She was one of our oldest citizens, having been in the 77th year of her age. She was a lady of the old school, retaining to the last the habits and manners of days long past, and enjoying the esteem and respect of a large acquaintance.

**Appointment.**—Jeremiah Mullikin, Esq., having resigned the place of Postmaster at this village, the Postmaster-General has appointed Alexander H. Tyler, Esq., to fill the vacancy. Mr. Mullikin has long discharged its duties with great diligence and to the general satisfaction, and Mr. Tyler's experience as his assistant will enable him doubtless to be an efficient officer.

**Transfers.**—The Commissions will meet on Monday *next, the 6th of April*, and remain in session for six consecutive days, for the purpose of hearing appeals and noting transfers of the assessed property of this county. Those interested would do well to take notice.

**The Orphans' Court.**—There will be an adjourned meeting of the Orphans' Court on Wednesday and Thursday next, the 8th and 9th instant.

## THE MARKETS.

Saturday, *March* 28.—*Wheat.*—Receipts light, and the market has a drooping tendency. Only about 1800 bushels offered on 'change to-day, and sales of ordinary to fair white at $1.40@1.48, good to prime do. at $1.50@1.55, and choice do. at $1.60@1.62. Sales of good to prime red at $1.33@1.37 ℔ bushel. *Corn.*—A fair inquiry to-day. About 21,000 bushels offered on 'change to-day, and sales of white at 60@62 cents, and ordinary to fair yellow at 54@58 cents, good to prime do. at 60@62 cents ℔ bushel. *Rye.*—About 380 bushels offered on 'change to-day, and all sold, Maryland at 74 cents, and Pennsylvania Rye at 78 cents ℔ bushel. *Oats.*—The market steady. About 4100 bushels offered on 'change to-day, and sales of Maryland at 44@46 cents, Pennsylvania at 45@47 cents. We quote Virginia Oats at 38@40 cents ℔ bushel. *Seeds.*—Market quiet for Cloverseed. Sales to-day on 'change of 20 bushels good Cloverseed at $8.50, and 50 bushels prime do. $8.87½ ℔ bushel. We quote Timothyseed nominally at $3.50@3.75 ℔ bushel.

Monday, *March* 30.—*Wheat.*—A better demand and the market rather firmer. Receipts still light, which tends to check operations. About 3800 bushels offered on 'change to-day, and sales of good to prime white at 1.55@$1.58, and choice do. at 1.62@$1.68. Sales of good to prime red at 1.36@$1.38; and 300 bushels mixed at 1.38@$1.39 ℔ bushel. *Corn.*—A fair demand, and white slightly declined, while yellow showed a slight advance. About 28,000 bushels offered on 'change to-day, and sales of good to prime new white at 57@59, and prime old do. at 62 cents; good to prime old yellow at 60@63 cents ℔ bushel.

Tobacco.—The inspections of Tobacco during the past week were large, and Maryland has been bought up as fast as inspected at full prices.—Choice lots have brought a shade higher than heretofore. Ohio has also been in good demand, and we note note sales of some 280 hhds. at full rates. Prices generally are unchanged. 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, 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 wrapper $12@15. The inspections for the week were 940 hhds. Maryland, 37 hhds. Kentucky, 2 hhds. Virginia, and 279 hhds. Ohio. Total 1260 hhds.

**Clerk Wanted.**

THE undersigned wish to engage at once the services of a young man, writing a good hand and otherwise qualified as a clerk in a store. One who has had some experience in the business would be preferred. Apply to

BELT & WILLIAMS.

Upper Marlboro' April 1, 1857—tf

## FOR CLERK.

*To the Editor of the Planters' Advocate:*

SIR:—As it appears to be conceded that the Anti-Know-Nothing County Convention will, in any event, nominate a candidate for the Clerkship of the Circuit Court, we respectfully suggest *THOMAS E. WILLIAMS*, Esq., to the party as a fit person for that position. His long experience in the office and his known efficiency as a clerk, point him out as well qualified for the responsible duties of the office; and he would receive the cordial support of the people.

Nottingham.

April 1, 1857—tf

## FOR REGISTER OF WILLS.

MR. EDITOR:—You will please announce Mr. JOHN J. LAMBERT, as a candidate for Register of Wills. Mr. Lambert's qualifications for the office are two well known to be mentioned here; and he will be warmly supported by his numerous friends throughout the county, and particularly by this District.

Piscataway.

April 1, 1857—tf

## To the Voters of Prince George's County:

FELLOW CITIZENS:—At the solicitation of friends from all portions of the county, I offer myself as a candidate for re-election to the office of Register of Wills, which, by your former favor, I have now the honor to hold. I beg to return my thanks for the support which I received in 1851, and with the pledge of devoting myself strictly to the duties of the office if elected, respectfully solicit your suffrages for a continuance in a position, the duties of which I have made every effort to fulfil satisfactorily to the people.

WILLIAM A. JARBOE.

March 25, 1857—tf

## FOR CONGRESS.

MR. EDITOR:—As the question of a change in our Congressional delegate has been agitated (although it appears to me we could hardly be more ably represented) I would suggest the name of one of our own countymen,

**MAJOR SAMUEL H. BERRY,**

It would be superfluous to mention anything here of Major Berry's qualifications for the honorable station. Suffice it to say as to experience, energy, high mindedness, and the most pleasing and captivating eloquence, Major Berry has hardly an equal in the district. His nomination would be hailed with pleasure—and his election certain—as Democrats and Old Line Whigs would support him to a man.

R.

March 18, 1857—tf

## FOR THE SHERIFFALTY.

MR. EDITOR:—You will please announce *JOHN W. WEBSTER*, of Piscataway District, as a candidate for the next Sheriffalty of Pr