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The Planters' Advocate.

UPPER MARLBOROUGH:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 8, 1857.

☞ In the news of the week the principal interest centres around the Isthmus. We received a day or two since of a great victory achieved by Walker over the Costa Ricans. The news was brought to New York by the steamer Texas, which conveyed several private letters giving details. The battle was fought at San Jorge.—Gen. Henningsen writes "that the loss of the enemy is ascertained to have been upwards of 400 killed. Our victory is decisive and breaks up the allies completely, and in a few weeks all fighting within the bonndaries of Nicaragua will be over, and if any contest is kept up it will be in the other States. Our army is in high spirits."

He also says, in another letter, that the fighting lasted ten hours, and adds:

"We attacked San Jorge by a cannonade and drove the allies out of the town. At nightfall we suspended our fire and the enemy being reinforced ventured to attack us in a hollow in the road near the town. They were repulsed with a loss of upwards of 400 killed. Our loss in killed, wounded and missing does not exceed fifty. The defeat is fatal to the enemy. It breaks them up. All the forces the allies could scrape together were here, and they are now scattered."

An officer with Walker confirms these statements, saying the triumph was complete, and his loss not one tenth that of the enemy, who outnumbered Walker three to one.

Another writer in one of the New York papers gives quite a jubilant account of the fight, and says:

"The fight was in fact a second edition of the Granada battle, but we had a better chance at them. You remember how they scattered when we returned from Massaya. Well, here they did'nt have the same chance. The old St. Jorge road, you know, is lined with native ranches, and fenced with cactus. Probably 200 or 300 got into these huts, and escaped by the gardens in the rear. *We killed all such prisoners all the rest.* You never heard such a howling amongst the poor devils as when we opened; for Henningsen, us Gen. Sanders facetiously remarked, was giving them all the *law* allowed. They flung their arms every way. This morning we are bringing them into Rivas, half of them loaded. We shan't need any more importations from California for a while. Of course you will all want to know how many we killed. If anybody asks you, you can say—as our old water-cure friend used to—"any number you please." Wilson began to count them and got up to 320, and said he thought it was wasting the precious hous of a probationary state to spend any more time on dead greasers. It is certain that we finished at least 500—and have got about as many more on our hands in a most deplorable condition. But the General has given orders to take good care of them all, and no doubt we shall save all that's worth having. One thing you may be sure of: they will never stand up against us again—even if there was any sort of harmony amongst their leaders. So you may consider the hard fighting about over."

Another sets down Walker's loss as 10 killed and 40 wounded. The number of Casta Ricans killed, wounded, and taken prisoners, are stated as being in the neighborhood of 800 men. After citing the particulars of the battle on the 16th ult., the writer refers to Walker's present position and his intended future movements, and adds:

"Gen. Walker, at my writing, is in most excellent spirits. All the officers are feeling jovial and fine. The brilliant assault following the engagement of St. George, which I have detailed to you, has stirred up the privates with encouragement and enthusiasm. I tell you Gen. Walker's plan to conquer this country is a good one and his men, I believe, begin to apprehend wha, it is. This plan, as unfolded to you in one of my earliest letters, he will rigidly adhere to. He will allow the allied forces to exhaust their resources, and, when their resources of men and arms and ammunition are exhausted, then he will strike his effective blow. I tell you Nicaragua is ours."

☞ The Annapolis *Republican* urges the location of the State Penitentiary at Annapolis, and says: "During the last session of the Legislature, application was made by the Board of Directors of this establishment for an appropriation large enough to enable them to build a new and capacious building for confining their convicts in when not engaged at labor, and it was proposed to purchase a portion of the Jail lot belonging to the city for locating this new building on, if the appropriation needed could be obtained. That appropriation was unwisely denied by the Legislature, and since then, as we learn, the city authorities have dug the foundation for their new and commodious Jail so near the Penitentiary walls, that all prospect of obtaining a location for the proposed new Penitentiary building on the Jail lot is forever lost. If, therefore, the present Penitentiary buildings cannot be so reconstructed as to find separate confinement during the hours of relief from labor for all their convicts, the State will be compelled to purchase a new site for a Penitentiary, and erect new buildings out-and-out. Under such circumstances, no place can be so suitable for the erection of a new Penitentiary as the neighborhood of Annapolis. The Capital of the State is where the State Prison ought to be any how. With but three or four exceptions, every State has erected her State Prison at her Capital, and as Annapolis has shown some signs of life and improvement during the last few years, the State of Maryland ought by all means to stimulate our energies a little more, by giving us the benefit of the erection of her Penitentiary in our vicinity."

The Washington correspondent of the New York *Evening Post* says that there are some funny reports about the answer of Chief Justice TANEY to the application of the *National Intelligencer* for a copy of his opinion in the Dred Scott case.—One of them is that the Chief Justice, in order apparently to administer a slap at the conduct of his associates, CURTIS and MCLEAN, in publishing their opinions in advance of filing them, replied somewhat as follows:

Chief Justice Taney returns his compliments to the editors of the National Intelligencer, and, in reply to their request, begs to inform them that he does not prepare opinions for the use of juvenile debating societies, or of political newspapers. He would add, that when his opinion is filed, it will be published by the reporter of the Supreme Court, who alone has the right of publishing its decisions.

THE WASHINGTON EVENING STAR, we perceive, has put on a new suit of type, and is otherwise improved, presenting an attractive appearance. This is an evidence of success which it has well deserved, and we wish it a continuance of prosperity.

JOHN APPLETON, Esq., announces his withdrawal from the editorial chair of the Washington *Union*. He has been appointed Assistant Secretary of State, vice General Thomas, resigned.

Miss Heron's engagement as Wallack's extends to two more nights. The entire engagement will have comprised 50 nights, which, it is said, she has realized something like $7,000. She goes to Boston next week.

Hon. Thomas F. Bowie.

The following communication, highly complimentary to Gen. Bowie, our representative in Congress, we find in a late number of the Alexandria *Sentinel*:

MESSRS. EDITORS: I have recently read with great interest the speech delivered in the House of Representatives by this gentleman, in reply to his colleague, the Hon. H. Winter Davis, and in vindication of the principles proclaimed in the President's last annual message.

No one can fail to perceive from the views expressed by Mr. Bowie, that while ardently attached to the Union and the Constitution, he is earnestly devoted to the interests of the South, and will protect them with unremitting vigilance. In a word, that he is one of those men whose services the whole country, and more especially the South, needs in the public councils, in the present critical condition of affairs. The prominence which the public men of Virginia have occupied in the councils of the nation, has not been owing so much to their great superiority in point of ability as to the experience gained by them in a long continued term of service; and here it is considered always more safe to retain a faithful and eminent representative, who has gained a practical knowledge of the business of legislation than constantly to supplant him by an inexperienced man. Without intending to intrude upon the rights of the people of his district, whose interests and ours are identical, yet as a Virginian, with many others, I hope he may be retained in his present position.

He is a representative of whom his constituency may be proud, and in his hands so far as their interests and our interests are concerned, we have nothing to fear. Of great abilities and untiring industry in the discharge of his duties, and of a generous and manly character, and withal a sound and consistent supporter of Southern rights, I know of no man who better deserves the endorsement of the people.

Alexandria, March 30, 1857.

We have the pleasure also to find another flattering notice of the same speech in the *Lexington* (Missouri) *Expositor*, which says:

SPEECH OF HON. THOMAS F. BOWIE.—We publish on the outside of this week's paper, the speech of this gentleman, in answer to his colleague, the Hon. H. Winter Davis, and earnestly recommend its perusal to all who desire sound doctrine in regard to the issues which divide the Democratic from the Black Republican party.—It seeks to convince the judgment, to enlighten the mind by fact and argument, not to please the fancy or tickle the ear, by the incoherent declamation of a diseased and unbridled imagination. It is the effort of a powerful mind, using the sword of truth as its only weapon, and whilst it is solid in logic, still it is not devoid of those finer touches, that drapery of oratory, which attest the eloquence, as well as the reasoning abilities of the speaker. It is patriotic, because it does justice to all sections of the confederacy, loyal to the South in maintaing the equality of the States, consistent with the Constitution in asserting those great principles of civil and religious liberty, repudiated by the *anti American* doctrines of the Know-Nothing faction.

Col. John C. Groome.

The Harford *Democrat* recommends this gentleman as a suitable candidate to be run by the Anti-Know-Nothing party for Governor this fall. The *Democrat*, in the course of some well-timed remarks upon the subject, says: "It will be observed that our correspondent from Havre de Grace speaks in glowing terms of this "fine *old Cecil* gentleman," and intimates that he would be a proper person for the Democratic party to select as their candidate for Governor. When we come to consider the elements which make up the Democratic party of the present day, we know of no man upon whose shoulders would more gracefully fall the honors of this important station than Col. GROOME; and, among the many distinguished gentlemen named, he appears to be the *man of the times*. Col. G. was an old line Whig, so long as vitality was perceptible in that noble old party, but was not found wanting in opposing an organization which pretended to be built upon its ruins, and aiming a death-blow at one of our dearest privileges—the corner-stone of all republicanism—civil and religious liberty. Let the Democracy select *such* a man as their champion, and the ides of November will tell a tale that will strike terror into the ranks of this bigoted gathering, and once more place our good old commonwealth in a position to be respected by her sister States of the confederacy.

Appointments by the President.

JOHN THOMSON MASON, Collector of the Customs for the district of Baltimore, vice Philip F. Thomas, whose commission expires April 1st, 1857.

LEVI K. BOWEN, Naval Officer for the district of Baltimore, vice John Kettlewell, whose commission will expire on the 12th May, 1857.

GEORGE WASHINGTON FINLEY, Surveyor of the Customs for the district of Baltimore, vice John O. Wharton, whose commission will expire on the 4th of April, 1857.

JOHN W. WATKINS, United States Marshal for the district of Maryland, reappointed.

WM. M. ADDISON, Attorney of the United States for the district of Maryland, reappointed.

JOHN MORRIS, Postmaster at Baltimore, in place of Jacob G. Davies, whose commission expires 1st of April, 1857.

The New Orleans *True Delta* is of opinion that China is a hopelessly sick man, and it is time for somebody to think about administering on his estate. Says the *True Delta*:

It is of very little consequence, then, whether a callous old villian, like Palmerston, or an honest and humane man is made the instrument for rescuing China from the darkness of centuries, the time has come for its accomplishment, and let humanity deplore it as it may, we fear the baptismal regeneration can only be completed in an ocean of blood, and it is better that sanguinary ruffians, steeped in crime, should officiate solely in the performance of the horrid rites.

THE SITES OF THE KANSAS LAND OFFICE.—The Washington *Star*, of Monday evening, says:

We hear that the President has designated the following sites for the land offices in Kansas—Viz: For the Pawnee District, at Lecompton, (as heretofore;) for the Delaware District, at Doniphan; for the Osage District, at Fort Scott; for the Western District, at Ogden.

We learn from the same paper that the President has fixed the penalty on the bonds of the Receivers at these land offices, at $50,000. This is as it should be, though it can hardly fail to lessen the number of applicants for such posts under the Government.

PENNSYLVANIA POLITICS.—A Union Republican and American State Ticket has been formed in Pennsylvania. David Wilmot (of proviso notoriety) is the candidate for Governor, and Wm. Milward, of Philadelphia, the candidate for Canal Commissioner. For Supreme Judges, James Veach, of Fayette, and Joseph J. Lewis, of Chester.

A correspondent of the *Montgomery Sentinel* recommends Hon. WM. LINGAN GAITHER as a suitable candidate for Congress from this District.

Another Boston lady is preparing for the stage—Miss Ellen F. Eberle, daughter of the actor Eberle, who was lost on board the Lexington several years since. Miss Eberle will complete her musical education in Europe.

Attorney General Black has appointed James F. Shunk, of Harrisburg, to a clerkship in the Attorney General's office. Mr. S. is a son of the late Gov. Shunk.

An Interesting Work.

History of the Invasion and Capture of Washington, and of the events which preceded and followed, by JOHN S. WILLIAMS, *Brigade Major and Inspector Columbian Brigade in the War of* 1812.

The volume recently published, of which the above is the title, is one which would appear to be peculiarly interesting in this section of country, as it is a complete history of the progress of the campaign of which this was the seat, and which terminated in the capture of Washington. Of course the chief interest such a work may now possess is purely historical to most readers: but in this region it can hardly fail to have a great local interest, from the fact that here were enacted the stirring scenes which are recorded.—The first merit of the book is that it is the work of one who was an eye-witness to the scenes which he describes, and who, from his intimate official relations with the great personages who figure in the narrative, is of course in possession of sufficient *inside* information to throw much light on what must appear obscure to *outside* observers. He is not in the position of one who would describe past occurrences with the aid of official papers and estimates; but of one who, wishing to do justice to the men with whom he acted, records events in which he himself was an actor side by side with them. This circumstance at once gives his book an authentic character.

It is not a mere narrative. Indeed, although the story itself is told with directness and minuteness sufficient to make it highly interesting, the narrative may be said to be subordinate to the argumentation of the work—its principal design being, not so much to give a mere sketch of the campaign, as to set forth, elucidate and explain the *causes* of its disasters, and to point out where the responsibility should rest. And we may say that we think this has been done with great clearness and ability. Every page of the work gives evidence of the great advantages he possessed for the task from having been concerned in the events described; and the tone is so dignified and calm and the reasoning so fair and dispassionate that it is impossible to resist the impression that the work is prepared in a just and discriminating spirit. The remarkable series of blunders, on the part of the Government, by which the Bladensburg disaster was precipitated, are traced step by step; and we may safely pronounce the work to be the only clear, rational and satisfactory account of that affair which has been ever given to the public. The deductions which it makes may induce us hereafter to speak more particularly of the facts which Major WILLIAMS has disclosed, and we will content ourselves with saying at this time that the book possesses a great and peculiar interest for our Southern Maryland people, who will relish it as a spicy account of events that occurred on their own soil and as a manly vindication of their own people who were the actors therein.

Maryland Politics.

The defeat of the Democratic party in Maryland last fall cannot properly be considered an exclusive victory. Strictly speaking, it was the triumph of an opposition composed of various discordant elements, temporarily united by a common hostility to the Democratic party. Many, very many, who cast their votes for Mr. Fillmore, protested against being thereby identified with Know-Nothingism, utterly repudiating the leading tenets of that faith. It will be remembered that the so-called Whig National Convention, which assembled in Baltimore, recommended the support of Mr. Fillmore, but expressly discarded Know-Nothing doctrines. They based their action upon his antecedents, and by repudiating his Know-Nothingism, intimated that they considered it an objection rather than a recommendation. The action of this Convention determined many votes in his favor, and every Old Line Whig who adopted its recommendation voted for the man, and not for the measures of the party who claimed him as their candidate. Know-Nothingism as a separate and distinct organization never has had a majority in Maryland or elsewhere. Its success at the North, during the first stages of its existence, was the result of a combination with abolitionism in opposition to the Democratic party; and its few boasted victories at the South would never have been heard of, had not a fragment of the old Whig party extended a helping hand.

But the cry for help which took such a deep hold upon Whig sympathies and rallied so many "Fillmore men" to the rescue at the last election, seems now to have lost much of its efficacy. "Old Line Whigs" look upon Know-Nothingism as in its last agony, and hesitate to continue a partership which must eventually end in another political insolvency. The Know-Nothing "Star of Hope" grows less and less bright, more and more obscure; and the dark lantern emits but a faint and flickering light amid the surrounding gloom.—*Maryland Sentinel.*

Maryland Poets.

George D. Prentice, editor of the Louisville Journal, has a lively appreciation of poetic talent, wherever found. He has taken great interest in Miss Emma Alice Browne. Miss Browne is the second Maryland poetess of whom Prentice has become the patron. Mrs. Welby, the well-known "Amelia," who was a native of Talbot county, was the first. Maryland, says the *Cecil County Democrat*, has been prolific in the production of poetic talent, but it has been found chiefly among her daughters. Her sons, if they possess the divine afflatus to an equal extent, have not found time or inclination to cultivate it so highly. We of course allude to the lighter productions of the poets, and do not include Kennedy, Poe, Arthur, and others, whose works have been of a weightier character. Finley Johnson has written much, but his compositions do not compare in merit with the productions of his fellow-citizen Magers, or of our own Scott. Both of the last named gentlemen, however, have hung their harps, if not upon the willows, at least upon the stern realities of the business world, and have abandoned the ideal for the practical.

There are other female writers in Maryland, of rare merit, who have escaped the notice, not only of Prentice, but of the communities in which they have lived. We will mention one—Miss Reese, of Somerset. A distinguished professor in one of our seminaries, who had cultivated a fine taste for such compositions, declared that the productions of her pen were superior to any thing ever written by Mrs. Welby. We remember one—"The Rain"—which we had the pleasure of publishing, which contained some of the finest and most delicate touches of sentiment that ever found expression. Our fair incognita, "Gertrude St. Orme," also, has lately produced some gems of rarest worth, which have challenged the highest admiration of competent judges.

THE TOBACCO CROP IN TENNESSEE.—A tobacco planter in Tennessee gives the following gloomy account of the prospects of the tobacco crop:

SUMNER COUNTY, March 13, 1857.

I write to inform you that our tobacco plants are generally killed by the frost and freezes. We have yet time to sow, but seed were very scarce when we first sowed, and it is now impossible to secure a sufficient quantity to make up for what has been lost. Our prospects for this year are therefore very gloomy. We shall scarcely make half a crop should the weather prove ever so favorable. What is here said applies as well to other sections as Sumner, to wit: Robertson, Todd, Logan, Simpson, Allen and Warren.

ANOTHER DODGE TO INVEIGLE SILLY WOMEN.—The following advertisement appears in a New York morning paper:

$100,000.—I being old, will give my son, a fine young man, aged 24, $100,000, provided some respectable man will give his daughter, a sensible lady, to him in wedlock with $25,000. Mutual affection of course. This is a sincere proposal. His property can be made worth $700,000. Address Junius, Herald office, for explanation. Good reason.

Great Storm at Chicago---Fifteen or Sixteen Lives Lost.

We copy from the Chicago *Democrat*, of April 2d, the following:

It commenced blowing a gale from the north and north east about 12 o'clock on Tuesday night, and continued up to a late hour last evening. As is the case of late, when we have a severe storm from this quarter, a large number of vessels are not able to make the port, and, as a consequence, drift down below the piers, and if not able to hold on with their anchors, they go ashore against the breakwater and are dashed to pieces, or drift down below this and are beached.

During the day we understand that two persons were washed off the railroad breakwater and lost.

But the most melancholy casualty of the day was the loss of the brig David Smart, on the north side of the pier, with her entire crew, consisting of eight persons, and also of the entire of a boat's crew which went to their rescue. The Smart anchored to the north of the pier, but dragged her anchor, and towards evening went ashore. A crew of seven gallant fellows went out in a yawl boat to rescue the parties on board, but were all consigned to a watery grave, an immense billow having upset the boat, which was subsequently washed ashore. The Smart went to pieces in a very short time after she went ashore.

The name of the captain of the Smart is Phelps. The names of the crew, consisting of seven persons, (eight in all,) we have been unable to get. We have also been unable to procure the names of the gallant but unfortunate crew of the boat, consisting of seven persons, who so willingly laid down their lives to save those of others. They appeared to be strangers to all present at the heart-rending scene, which was so harrowing, that when the boat capsized, stout, strong men on the pier and shore were observed to wring their hands and cry like children. The only mementos of the poor fellows so suddenly whelmed in a watery grave, are their coats which they threw down on the pier.

A young gentleman named John B. Stevens was very active in getting the boat out, but jumped ashore as she was about starting, objecting to going as she was not provided with a rudder. He subsequently endeavored to procure another boat with which to save one or two of the crew who still continued to cling to the wreck.

The track of the Michigan Central and Illinois Central Railroads, we understand, is washed away between here and Cleaverville, and we learn that Cleaver's soap factory at Cleaverville is in danger of being carried away also.

Altogether, a more disastrous gale, or one attended with a greater loss of life had never before been experienced at this point.

The Success of Walker--Confirmation of the Victroy--Great Slaughter of the Costa Ricans--Letters Stolen.

NEW YORK, April 5.—Private letters have been received in this city from Gen. Henningsen, in his own hand writing, addressed to persons in this city, dated Rivas, March 19th, confirming every essential fact brought by the steamer Texas, in relation to the recent victory of Walker's troops over the Costa Ricans and their allies.—Gen. H. states that four hundred of the allies were killed and about fifty of his own men.

The battle lasted ten hours and was desperately fought on both sides. It ended in the utter defeat and route of the enemy.

Gen. Henningsen writes further that he is confident that in a few weeks Walker will entirely clear the country of the Costa Ricans, who are greatly discomfitted and depressed by their defeat.

This intelligence was brought by express from Rivas to San Juan del Sur to meet the Orizaba, by which vessel it came via Panama to New York. Several other letters and dispatches addressed to persons in this city have been stolen or abstracted during the passage, either on land or at sea. A clue has been discovered as to the depredators, and the police are on the track of the perpetrators.

The news received via Wilmington was manufactured in that city, and of course is totally untrue.

Connecticut Election.

NEW HAVEN, April 6.—In New Haven county, Woodruff, for Congress, has the following majorities: Derby 102; East Haven 28; Meridian 192; Milford 79; Orange 88; North Branford 8. Arnold, Democrat, has in New Haven 200; Hamden 70. The Union State ticket runs behind Woodruff. Arnold, Democrat, is probably elected to Congress in the second district. So far as heard from the Legislature remains as last year.

In Hartford the Democrats will elect Senator and carry a majority of Representatives to the Legislature. Clark, American, probably elected to Congress in the first district. The Democrats make gains in the eastern section of the State.—Ingham, Democrat, running well, but result doubtful. We have no returns from the fourth Congressional district.

Our Relations with China.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Our affairs with China continue to occupy the attention of the administration. Since it has been officially known in Washington that the British Government has appointed Lord Elgin as minister plenipotentiary to China, our own Government has determined to send one thither at an early day.

Owing to the great distance to China, and the time necessarily involved in receiving official communications, the administration is solicitous of selecting a minister in whom the utmost confidence can be placed, and who will be governed by a wise discretion, considering the general interests involved, including our increasing commerce in that part of the world.

A Young and Beautiful Wife Murdered in Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, April 4.—Our community is much excited in consequence of the discovery of a most cruel murder, which appears to have been committed on Thursday night. The name of the person murdered is Mary Travers, a beautiful and accomplished girl of only 24 years of age, who had been married but about eight months. Her husband, who is supposed to have committed the horrid deed, was found lying beside the dead body of his wife in bed. He had attempted to commit suicide by cutting his throat, but his injuries are not believed to be serious.

Still Another Tragedy--A Father and Daughter Shot.

LOUISVILLE, April 4.—Intelligence has been received here of a startling tragedy which occurred at Washington, in this State, yesterday. A man named Baker, a resident of that town, armed himself, and deliberately took the life of his daughter, after which he placed the death-weapon to his own breast and shot himself. No cause has been assigned as yet for this dreadful tragedy.

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Mr. Stanton, Secretary of State for the Territory of Kansas, left here this afternoon for that Territory.

A storm of rain, hail and snow commenced here this morning, about 11 o'clock, continuing until evening, when the weather became clear and cold.

Death of a Pennsylvania State Senator—Judicial Appointment.

HARRISBURG, April 6.—Senator Penrose, of Philadelphia, died here to-day, and both Houses have adjoured in consequence.

The Governor has appointed James M. Armstrong, of Lycoming county, Supreme Judge, in the place of Judge Black.

Steamboat Accident and Loss of Life.

NEW YORK, April 6.—The *Rome* (New York) *Sentinel* gives the particulars of a disaster to the ferry boat running between St. Vincent and Kingston, Canada, by which a number of lives were lost. Out of fifteen or twenty passengers only two were saved. The mails were also lost.

An Entire Family Burnt to Death!

WATERTOWN, New York, April 6.—The dwelling of Mr. Grimshaw, near Cape Vincent, was burnt on Saturday, and Mr. Grimshaw with his wife and children perished in the flames.

Death of James Typonski.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—James Typonski, an eminent Pole, died suddenly in this city last night of disease of the heart. He has been for several years an assistant examiner of patents in the Patent Office.

From the American Farmer.

FARM WORK FOR APRIL.

The time has come when no agriculturist can, without pecuniary loss, put off the operations of his farm from one day to another, as every succeeding day brings with it its own peculiar labors, which should be attended to. Delays in the execution of work now, even for a few days, frequently operate most disastrously, and sometimes blight the very best grounded hopes of success. Unceasing vigilance, therefore, should be observed to do all things at the proper time, and do them well. The utmost care must be taken in the preparation of the ground, and to effect this, we would remark that, in our opinion, the eye of the master is absolutely necessary, no matter how competent may be the overseer or hands; no matter how faithful and willing they may be, the personal inspection of the owner in the working of his force, is equal to 20 per cent. in the quantity of work executed, besides operating in an equal ratio as to the manner of its execution. We say this from personal experience, and believe it our duty to speak with frankness. With these general remarks we would refer to various matters in the present number which we consider should receive immediate attention.

Hauling out Manure.

As there are broad districts of country wherein circumstances may have existed to prevent attention to this part of the duty of the farm, we enjoin upon all thus situated to proceed once to haul out their manure for their spring crops and plough it in as speedily as possible. Every one who undertakes the labor of accumulating manure—every cultivator of the earth should do so—should consider it a matter of duty, as it is his interest, to preserve its most active and fertilizing principles from deterioration and waste. If at the time of breaking up the manure for hauling out, a bushel of plaster, or 10 bushels of pulverized charcoal, were mixed with every twenty two-horse-loads of it, either of these substances would in a great measure to prevent the escape of those volatile gases which so materially operate to fructify to the land and encourage the growth of the plants grown thereon. A solution made of 10 lbs. of copperas to every load of the manure, if sprinkled thereon would have the same effect; so would 5 lbs. of sulphuric acid diluted with a few gallons of water; and we believe that, if a solution of 5 bushels of salt were made and sprinkled over every 20 two-horse loads of the manure, that the result would be similar. We, however, prefer the use of the two first-named substances, as we believe that their effects would be equally operative and more lasting.

Oats.

In ordinary seasons, a large proportion of land devoted to this crop is usually seeded before this; but owing to the intense severity of the last winter, we fear there are large breadths of land where circumstances have combined to prevent the putting in the oat-crop. To those, then, who have not sown their oats, our advice is, to get them in the ground with the utmost possible expedition, as the earliest sown yield the most as well as the best grain.

Barley.

This crop when grown under favorable circumstances of soil and season, is a profitable one—the grain finds a ready market at fair and remunerating prices, the yield being from 20 to 40 bushels per acre: When short and mixed with cut straw or hay, it makes excellent food for horses; in its nutritive principles it is comparatively rich; all working animals sustain their labor on it in vigor and spirit; hogs fatten kindly on it; its straw is relished by cattle—and what is very important, it is an excellent food for young clover.

Of the Soil.—Barley delights most in a fertile, strong loam. Land that would yield 20 bushels of wheat would produce from 30 to 40 bushels of barley. It is, however, useless to sow barley on poor land without manuring it. If the soil be poor, it must be assisted by manure of some kind or other. Ten two-horse loads of marsh mud, mixed with 5 two-horse loads of stable or barn yard dung per acre, would ensure a good crop of barley, the weather being seasonable; so would 200 lbs. of guano, 10 bushels of bone dust, 5 bushels of ashes and 10 bushels of spent ashes, mixed together. The *first* and *second* manures should be ploughed in, the *third* should be harrowed in. If manured with either of the above kinds of manure, in the prescribed quantities, the product would be remunerative, while the ground would be sufficiently strengthened to bear being set in clover.

Artichokes.

As the *Jerusalem Artichoke* is a crop that we can, with a good conscience recommend to such of our agricultural friends as may raise their own pork, or who may desire to provide succulent food through the winter for their milch cows, we repeat our notice of it that we gave last month, and call attention to it. Any land that will bring 40 bushels of corn per acre, with manure, would, with like treatment in their culture, produce from 500 to 600 bushels of tubers of the Jerusalem Artichoke. A peck of the tubers cut up into small pieces, if given at a meal twice a day, mixed with cut straw and a quart of meal, or a gallon of bran, moistened with water, will make a cow give a full flow of milk.

If the stalks of the Jerusalem Artichoke be cut up as corn-stalks are cut up, in the beginning of October, and carefully dried, an acre would give from 2 to 2 tons of excellent fodder for cattle, which when cut into small, say, inch pieces, sprinkled with salt and moistened with hot water, and permitted to remain till cool, is greatly relished by cattle. If cooked or steamed it is still better. Where hogs may be intended to be fed by them, all the trouble to be sustained, after the stalks and fodder are removed, is simply to turn the hogs into the lot, where they will do their own digging and eating. When thus feeding they find *sector* enough in the artichokes, so that there is no necessity to give them any: it is, however, always necessary, while thus feeding, to keep them at it times supplied with a trough, wherein there are charcoal, rotten wood, and ashes. Thirty hogs would find plenty of food on an acre of artichokes for a month, not only to subsist them, but to grow fat upon; while they would leave seed enough in the ground to stock it the next year.

Mode of Culture.—Manure the ground with about the same quantity and kind of manure as are given to an acre in corn when *liberally* fed; plough it in 8 inches deep, harrow and roll, then list your land 3 inches wide by 2 feet across, the same depth as for potatoes. Have your tubers cut into sets as are potatoes, plant a set at every intersecting list, and cover the sets up; in the culture treat them as a well cultivated crop of corn should be.

Quantity of Seed per acre.—Fifteen bushels of tubers cut into sets, each set with two eyes, will plant an acre. The sets should be dried in plaster or ashes to stop the bleeding.

Top-Dressing.—After the plants are up a few days give them a top-dressing of the following mixture, to each acre: 5 bushels of ashes, 1 bushel of plaster, and 1 load of rich mould or stable dung.

Soil.—The artichoke delights most in a deep, fertile sandy loam.

Continuance in the Soil.—If the ground be manured and cultivated annually, there will be no necessity for replanting for 7 or 8 years.

Caution.—As the artichoke is a very tenacious plant and remains in the soil for a number of years, the lot selected for its culture should be one that can be spared from other cultivation for several years.

Root Culture.

This, unfortunately, is among the neglected things in our system of agriculture; but it should not be so; for, if properly attended to, it is capable of conducing more towards the comfort of our stock, and to the profit of our system of husbandry, than is almost any other branch now followed. In England the turnip culture alone has added millions of pounds sterling annually to the productive resources of her agriculturists, and have, as a resultant consequence, increased the aggregate value of the landed estates of that kingdom hundreds of millions of pounds sterling. With these well established facts before our people, we have never been able to account for the apathy that prevails as to the root culture. Why such culpable indifference should exist among our agriculturists we have never been able to assign any justifiable cause. It may be, however, traced to that aversion too often existing in the agricultural mind, to change from the old plodding ways of doing things handed down to us by our ancestors—ways that have robbed the soil of its virgin riches, and driven good men and true from their birth-places—from the haunts of their childhood, and from their associates from infancy to manhood—from the graves of their ancestors, and friends, and kindred, to seek new homes, new friends, and new associations in the far-off wildernesses of the West, there to meet and endure privations, dangers, and diseases that they "never dreamt of in philosophy"—or, perhaps, it may be traced to another aversion—a dislike for anything like minute and accurate culture. But, be the cause whatever it may, we feel ourselves compelled by a sense of duty, to us high and imposing, by that desire that is in us to see American agriculturists rising superior to the antiquated prejudices of by-gone times, and to see them arming themselves with the enlightened resolution to promote their interests through the aid afforded by the lights of the experience which surrounds them. We say that, influenced by these considerations, we shall be urged by duty to hold up the *advantages of the root culture* to the consideration of our agricultural patrons and friends until we shall have rallied around us a host of advocates. Humanity as well as national and individual wealth all combine to enforce the propriety of adopting the root culture to a greater or less extent as an important branch of our husbandry. We are conscientiously impressed with the belief that, in whatever light it may be viewed, it is right and proper that it should be fostered. The more stock we can *feed well*, the more manure will there be made, and, as a consequence, the more our lands will be fertilized, the more will they produce, and the greater the profit accruing to the culturist. When, then, all these considerations so forcibly appeal to the heart and the understanding in favor of the root culture, it certainly must be conceded to be the business and the duty of patriotism to favor its adoption.

Kinds of Roots to be cultivated.—The kinds of roots that we recommend are the following, viz: *Parsnips, Carrots, Mangel Wurtzel, Sugar Beet, Ruta Baga*, and the *Common Turnip*.

Time of Seeding.—Parsnips, Carrots, Mangel Wurtzel, and Sugar Beet, should be drilled in any time after the frost is out of the ground, up to the beginning of *May*; the sooner, however, the better, after the frost is out of the ground, where largeness of roots is desirable—and, as largeness gives quantity, that is no mean consideration as cattle food.

The *Ruta Baga* turnip should be drilled in about the middle of June—from the 15th to the 20th of that month.

The *Common Turnip* should be drilled in, or sown broadcast, from the 20th of *July* till the 10th of *August*, the nearer the first named period the better.

As to Product.—Each of the above roots, under good condition of soil, as manuring, ploughing, harrowing, rolling, and culture, would yield from 500 to 600 bushels per acre. More than 1300 bushels of beets have been grown on an acre under favorable circumstances, but as we do not wish to encourage extravagant hopes, or to excite over sanguine anticipations, we have estimated the product per acre at from 500 to 600 bushels, and those quantities we can vouch for where the season is congenial and justice has been done the several crops in their culture.

Of Manures.—All manure for roots of every kind are the better for being well rotted or broken down by decomposition.

Composts may be formed of equal portions of decomposed stable or barn-yard manure, road-scrapings, marsh mud, the earth from head-lands, or wood's mould; that is, one-half of the quantity to consist of the manure, the other half of any one or all of the other named substances. The compost should be thrown into mass and lie two weeks before being used, and to be thoroughly mixed; for every 20 two-horse loads of the compost 15 to 20 bushels of ashes, 2 of salt, and 1 of plaster, should be added and mixed in a mass as that is being mixed. Ten two-horse loads of the above will manure an acre.

Local and Personal.

The Circuit Court.

The regular spring term of the Circuit Court for this County commenced on Monday morning, His Honor Judge CRAIN on the bench. At the opening of Court the grand jury were sworn as usual, and His Honor briefly addressed them in reference to their duties, felicitating them upon the respectability and intelligence which composed their body, and remarking upon the paucity of criminal business as a credit to the county.—The appearance docket was called on Monday and the Trial docket begun yesterday. The case of Wallis *vs.* Mitchell, action for slander, was commenced, but, upon leave to amend the pleadings, was suspended until this morning, when it will be resumed. The only other case tried as yet was No. 118, Thomas W. Robinson *vs.* Thomas I. Marshall, Berry for plaintiff, Digges and Causin for defendant: verdict for defendant. The following are the names of the jurors summoned to this term of the Court:

GRAND JURY.

John Hodges, foreman, Richard L. Ogle, John E. Berry, Jr., Basil T. Duckett, Wm. Pinkney Brooke, William Clark, Bennett F. Gwynn, Benedict Edelen, Horatio C. Scott, Richard S. Hill, Thomas S. Beall, Richard O. Mullikin.

Joshua T. Clarke, Clement Hill, Wm. F. Berry, Robert W. Hunter, Jr., Henry Jones, Richard G. Breshear, John R. Baden, Peter Bogert, George W. Hilleary, Robert Wright, Joseph K. Roberts.

PETIT JURY—*First Week.*

George T. Suit, Osborn Sprigg, Peter Wood, Thomas J. Barclay, Alfred M. Berry, John T. Eversfield, Ethan A. Jones, John Henry Waring, Samuel T. Belt, Nathaniel M. Marden, James H. Waring, John B. Magruder, James H. Duvall.

Charles R. Bealle, Charles C. Hill, John A. Coe, O. Sullivan Wood, Richard B. Mullikin, Presley N. Athey, Henry B. Bird, Richard W. W. Bowie, Richard H. Bowling, John T. Hardesty, James H. S. Gibbons, Henry A. Williams.

PETIT JURY—*Second Week.*

Thos. M. D. Baden, William McKnew, James D. Morrison, John R. Sasscer, Samuel Ford, John L. Townshend, Geo. W. Newman, Wm. W. Elliott, Augustus D. Brooke, James P. Kerby, Lewis Magruder, John Parker, John B. Harris.

John W. Webster, James G. Pumphrey, William B. Bayne, Ignatius B. Gwynn, Henry L. Carlton, Wm. A. Quynn, Wm. B. Jones, Basil E. Ryon, John T. Naylor, Randolph White, Thomas B. Cracroft, James J. Jarboe.

We take pleasure in announcing to our readers that his Honor Judge CRAIN has intimated that he will adjourn the Court, now in session, on FRIDAY, sufficiently long to enable all who may desire it, to attend their respective places of worship;—an example which, we sincerely trust, will be followed BY ALL ENGAGED IN BUSINESS, so that all may thus show that respect for the day which a proper sense of Christian duty demands.

Body Found.—The body of SAMUEL WOOD, who was drowned in the neighborhood of Nottingham Ferry, on the second of January last, was found a few days ago by some boys, while fishing, about a mile above where he was supposed to have been drowned. The body was in excellent preservation. Some of the humane citizens of Nottingham had his body removed to the village, where an inquest was held over it by THOMAS M. D. BADEN, Esq., acting coroner. It was then decently buried.

Sale of Land.—To-morrow (Thursday) S. B. HANCE, Esq., attorney for O. C. HARRIS, Esq., will expose to public sale, at the Court House Door, a valuable piece of meadow land, near this village. See advertisement in another column.

Trotting Match.—The trotting match which came off last Saturday over the Long Old Fields course between "James Buchanan" and "Hickory Pole"—single dash of three miles—resulted in favor of "Hickory Pole." Time, 10:30.

The Commissioners are in session for the purpose of hearing appeals and noting transfers of the assessed property of the county.

There will be meetings of the Orphans' Court to-day and to-morrow.

A HAPPY REPLY.—One of the largest property holders of our city—now a temporary resident of Washington—has been importuned repeatedly to