

ER Cooper  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY  
TUESDAY MORNING,  
By George W. Sherwood.

TERMS:—Two dollars and fifty cents per  
annum payable within the year. No sub-  
scription will be discontinued until all arrear-  
ages are settled, without the approbation of the  
publisher.

POET'S CORNER.

**FLIGHT OF TIME.**  
The following lines, on the flight of Time,  
are full of truth and poetic beauty:—  
Time speeds away—away—away;  
Another hour—another day—  
Another month—another year—  
Drop from us like the leaflets rear;  
Drop like the life blood from our hearts;  
The crimson drops the cheeks depart;  
The transient light the organs fall,  
The eyes grow dim and strange to all.

Time speeds away—away—away;  
Like the torrents in a stormy day;  
He undermines the stately tower,  
Uproots the tree, and snaps the flower;  
And sweeps from our distracted breast  
The friends that loved, the friends that blessed;  
And leaves us weeping on the shore,  
To watch the cany return no more.

THE POOR.

I do not mourn my friends are false,  
I dare not grieve for sins of mine,  
I weep for those who pine to death,  
Great God! in this rich world of thine.

MISCELLANY.

From the Ladies' National Magazine.  
**The Indian Trail.**  
BY F. H. SELTON.

"The Indians have attacked Mr. Stuart's house, burnt it, carried his family into captivity"—were the first words of a breathless woodsman, as he rushed into the block house of a village in the Western part of New York, during one of the early border wars. "Up, up—a dozen men should have been on the trail two hours ago."

# Caston Star.

DEVOTED TO POLITICS, GENERAL NEWS, ADVERTISING, ETC.

Volume 3—No. 35. EASTON, MD.—TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1843. Whole No. 139.

cy of their grief, turned their faces away with that instinctive delicacy which is no where more often than among those who are thought to be merely rude borderers; but they heard sobs, and they knew the heart of the usually collected Mr. Stuart must be fearfully agitated.

advisedly above a whisper, should attract the attention of the savages. Suddenly, before all was arranged, one of them sprung to his feet and looked suspiciously in the direction of our little party. At the same instant another sprang towards the prisoners, and with his eyes fixed on the thickets where the pursuers lay, held his tomahawk above the startled girl, as if to strike, the instant any demonstration of hostility should appear.

to duty for the support of the proprietary and defence of the province: continued in 1674 and 1676 and 1717, it expired in 1732—in 1739 it began to be loudly complained of, and in 1750 the controversy revived with much warmth. The Revolution put an end to this controversy.

direct taxation had at last to be resorted to. In 1536, a radical change was made in the Constitution by a new organization of the Senate and an election of Governor by the people—and by the abolition of the Council to the Governor.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

If any people ever had cause to render up thanks to the Supreme Being for parental care and protection extended to them in all the trials and difficulties to which they have been from time to time exposed, we certainly are that people. From the first settlement of our forefathers on this continent—through the dangers attendant upon the occupation of a savage wilderness—through a long period of colonial dependence—through the war of the Revolution—in the wisdom which led to the adoption of the existing republican form of government—in the hazards incident to a war subsequently waged with one of the most powerful nations of the earth—in the increase of our population—in the spread of the arts and sciences, and in the strength and durability conferred on political institutions emanating from the people and sustained by their will the superintending of an overruling Providence has been plainly visible.

der and more extensive spread to the principles of civil and religious liberty.

I am happy to inform you that the cases which have arisen, from time to time, of the detention of American vessels by British cruisers on the coast of Africa, under pretence of being engaged in the slave trade, have been placed in a fair train of adjustment. In the case of William and Francis, full satisfaction will be allowed. In the case of the Tygris and Semew, the British Government admits that satisfaction is due. In the case of the Jones, the sum accruing from the sale of the vessel and cargo will be paid to the owners, while I cannot but flatter myself that full indemnification will be allowed for all damages sustained by the detention of the vessel; and in the case of the Douglass, her Majesty's Government has expressed its determination to make indemnification.—Strong hopes are therefore entertained that most, if not all of these cases, will be speedily adjusted. No new cases have arisen since the ratification of the treaty of Washington; and it is confidently anticipated that the eighth article, under the operation of the eighth article of that treaty, will be altogether suppressed.

The occasional interruption experienced by our fellow-citizens engaged in the fisheries on the neighboring coast of Nova Scotia, has not failed to claim the attention of the Executive. Representations upon this subject have been made; but, as yet, no definitive answer to those representations has been received from the British Government.

Two other subjects of comparatively minor importance, but nevertheless of too much consequence to be neglected, remain still to be adjusted between the two countries. By the treaty between the United States and Great Britain of July, 1815, it is provided that no higher duties shall be levied in either country on articles imported from the other, than on the same articles imported from any other place. In 1836, rough rice, by act of Parliament, was admitted from the coast of Africa into Great Britain on the payment of a duty of one penny a quarter, while the same article from all other countries, including the United States, was subjected to the payment of a duty of twenty shillings a quarter. Our Minister at London has, from time to time, brought this subject to the consideration of the British Government, but, so far, without success. He is instructed to renew his representations upon the subject.

Some years since, a claim was preferred against the British Government on the part of certain American merchants, for the return of export duties paid by them on shipments of woollen goods to the United States, after the duty on similar articles to other countries had been repealed, and consequently in contravention of the commercial convention between the two nations, securing us equality in such cases. The principle upon which the claim rests has long since been virtually admitted by Great Britain; but obstacles to a settlement have been from time to time interposed, so that a large portion of the amount claimed has not yet been refunded. Our Minister is now engaged in the prosecution of the claim, and I cannot but persuade myself that the British Government will no longer delay its adjustment.

I am happy to be able to say that nothing has occurred to diminish in any degree the relations of amity which exist between the United States and France, Austria, and Russia, as well as with the other powers of Europe, since the adjournment of Congress. Spain has been agitated with internal convulsions for many years, from the effects of which it is to be hoped she is destined to recover; when under a more liberal system of commercial policy on her part, our trade with her may again fill its old, and, so far as her continental possessions are concerned, its almost forsaken channels; thereby adding to the mutual prosperity of the two countries.

The Germanic Association of Customs and Commerce, which, since its establishment in 1833, has been steadily growing in power and importance, and consists at this time of more than twenty German States, and embraces a population of 27,000,000 of people united for all the purposes of commercial intercourse with each other and with foreign States, offers to the latter the most valuable exchanges on principle more liberal than are offered in the fiscal system of any other European power. From its origin, the importance of the German Union has never been lost sight of by the United States. The industry, morality, and other valuable qualities of the German nation, have always been well known and appreciated. On this subject I invite the attention of Congress to the report of the Secretary of State, from which it will be seen that, while our cotton is admitted free of duty, and the duty on rice has been much reduced, (which has already led to a greatly increased consumption,) a strong disposition has been recently evinced that great body to reduce, upon certain conditions, their present duty upon tobacco. This being the first intimation ever made by any European power, I cannot but regard it as well calculated to remove the only impediment which has so far existed to the most liberal commercial intercourse between us and them. In this view, our Minister at Berlin, who has heretofore industriously pursued the subject, has been instructed to enter upon the negotiation of a commercial treaty, which, while it will open new advantages to the agricultural interests of the United States, and a more free and expanded field for commercial operations, will affect injuriously no existing interest of the Union.—Should the negotiation be crowned with success, its results will be communicated to both Houses of Congress.

### Historical.

#### LEGISLATION IN MARYLAND.

It is sometimes useful to recur back to the past, and to note the various subjects of interest which have from time to time agitated the public mind, and see how one question gives place to another and the violent disputes and controversies of one generation, upon which, according to the conventionalists would seem to hang the fate of all posterity, are almost forgotten in the succeeding age. Still, however, their influence is felt in moulding the character and forming the habits of the people, who are affected by them. In Maryland, many of these questions which at times have threatened to convulse the state to its very foundation are now known to the antiquarian or the historian, and many subjects of the warmest and most angry controversy, once much debated, have been swept away with the Revolution. Let us take a glance at some of the subjects which have occupied the minds of the people of Maryland.

In the first Assembly which convened in the Province of Maryland in the year 1637, a question arose, as to the laws by which the colony should be governed, and this was for a long time a leading subject of discussion and of violent controversy in the Legislature and among the people, and there are few, we should suppose, who would be disposed to question its importance. In the year 1638, the body of laws, transmitted by the Proprietary for the government of the Province were rejected by the Legislature, which preferred the making of their own laws. In the year 1644 Clayborne and Ingle got possession of the colony and held it until 1646 during which time all the early records of the Province were lost, which leaves a considerable hiatus in the legislative history of Maryland.

In 1646, the port or tonnage duty originated, and subsequently afforded some most acrid and violent controversies in the province: in 1648 they were exchanged for a duty upon tobacco exported in Dutch vessels: in 1661, 1676, and 1692 the subject of these duties were again and again discussed, and in 1739 the complaints against them as oppressive and onerous, arose to a high pitch, and no doubt contributed much to the dissatisfaction which prevailed against the system of government which then existed.

About the year 1671, the amount of the Proprietary's quit rents and commutation money began to occupy much attention, which was again directed to the same subject in 1717 and 1735, at which time great efforts were made to have it commuted.—The same subject also continued to be discussed in 1737, 1742 and 1744. In 1671, ch. 11, commenced the Tobacco