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THE KENT NEWS.
A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,
DEVOTED TO
AGRICULTURE, POLITICS AND GENERAL NEWS.
Is Published every Saturday.
EDWARD MANSFIELD,
PROPRIETOR.

TERMS:
Cash payable in advance or $2 50 at the expiration of the first six months. No subscription received for a shorter period than six months, and no paper will be discontinued until all arrears are paid. Single copies 6 1-4 cents.
Advertisements, not exceeding 12 lines will be inserted three times for $1, and 25 cents for each subsequent insertion thereafter. Larger one in proportion.—A liberal deduction will be made to yearly advertisers. Advertisement must have the number of times marked, or they will published till forbid and charged accordingly.
All communications must be postpaid.

THE STEAMER
Cecil
Will leave her wharf on PRATT ST., between Calvert and Light streets, for TURNERS CREEK, FREDERICKTOWN and GEORGETOWN, Kent county, on every TUESDAY and SATURDAY MORNING at 10 o'clk. Returning she will leave Georgetown for Baltimore every WEDNESDAY and MONDAY MORNINGS at 8 o'clock, stopping at the different landings. Will leave same wharf every THURSDAY MORNING at 9 o'clock for CORSICA RIVER, STERTOWN, SPRINGS, CROMPTON'S FERRY and KIRBY'S WHARF.—Returning she will leave Kirby's wharf every FRIDAY MORNING at 8 o'clock for Baltimore, stopping at the different landings on the route.
E. G. SURGEON, Captain.
Oct. 19, 1850.

$200 REWARD.
RAN AWAY from the subscriber, on the 24th of October last, a negro man named JOE WRIGHT. Said negro is about 21 or 22 years of age, dark skin, about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, well made and regular features. He took with him a fine black cloth coat and pantaloons, a drab coat, a new pair of grey kersey pantaloons, a chesnut round about, well worn fur hat and cap.
I will give the above reward for the apprehension of said negro, if taken out of the State of Maryland; $100 if taken out of the county, and $50 if taken in the county—in any case to be lodged in the jail at Chester Town.
JAS. H GALE Still Pond,
Kent county, Md
Nov. 16, 1850—4w
The Cecil Whig and Smyrna Herald copy the above four times, and send bills to this office for collection.

FOR SALE
THE HOUSES on HILL STREET, with Lots, occupied by Mr. B. F. Calder and Mr E Carty.
G. VICKERS,
Agent for T. L. McLean.
Nov. 16, 1850.—3w

ATTENTION!
The undersigned offer our services to the public as HOUSE CARPENTERS and COFFIN MAKERS. We may be found at the corner of High & Water streets, where we will do work in a neat manner, and by shortest notice.
B. F. CALDER,
S. W. RAWLEIGH.

FOR RENT
THE HOUSE on QUEEN STREET now occupied by Rev. C. F. Jones. Apply to
JOHN B. ECCLESTON.
Nov. '50.—tf

FOR SALE
A FARM near St. Paul's Church, containing 282 Acres, 50 of which is Timber. It is occupied by Mr. A. Herbert, a tenant. The Terms will be made accommodating.
G. VICKERS, Agent for
B. F. WEBSTER.
October 2, '50.—3w

FALL GOODS.—Handsome Thibets, Lustres, Delanes; and other goods just open and for sale very low by
T. W. ELIASON.
Nov. 1859.

GLOVES at $1.50 to $5 per pair,
T. W. ELIASON.
Nov. '50.

SHAWLS, SHAWLS.—T. W. Eliason has just opened a handsome assortment of Shawls, which he is selling very low.
Nov. '50.

FLOUR
On hand and for sale by the barrel, half barrel and retail.
WM. BACCHUS,
Nov. 1850.

Scythes and cradles, and grass scythes, a good article, on hand and for sale low by
W N E WICKES.
Nov. 1850.

THE KENT NEWS.

Frustra laborat, quiomnibus, placere studet: —"He labors vainly, who endeavors to please every one."

VOL. 11. CHESTER TOWN, MD., DECEMBER 7, 1850. NO. 32.

Poetry.

[From the Louisville Journal.]

TO AN ABSENT HUSBAND.

Dearest, come home! I cannot bear
Thy long protracted stay,
So sad and lonely is my heart
When thou art gone away.
I've tried, alas! how vainly tried,
Thine absence to forget,
Yet still I can but think of thee
With fondness and regret.

As mourns the gentle, cooing dove,
In accents desolate,
When forced by some unkindly hand
Far from her loving mate—
So through the chambers of my heart
Echoes a mournful tone,
Whilst every pulse affection beats,
Re-echoes, "I'm alone."

Things that are bright when thou art here,
Look dark and gloomy now,
And nature seems to share my grief
With clouds upon her brow.
The bird sings now a sadder song
Than ever he sang before,
And flowers have lost the sunny hue
They once so sweetly wore.

To while the weary hours away,
That lag with leaden feet,
I read thy favorite authors o'er,
Their choicest parts repeat;
But even books, those voiceless friends,
Have lost all charm for me,
And fail to cheer my heart, unless
I read them, love with thee.

And music, with her voice so sweet,
I've called her to my aid,
And soft, and low, with trembling hand,
Thy favorite air I've play'd.
But ah! those tender notes have stirred
Affection's fountains deep,
And sadly have I left my song,
To think of thee and weep.

Thus gloomy thoughts their dismal shade
O'er brightest objects fling,
How true it is a saddened heart
Can sadden every thing!
Then, dearest, come—thy wife's fond heart
Still warmly beats for you—
A heart whose every throbbing pulse
Is faithful, kind and true.

BARDSTOWN, Oct. 18, 1850.

THE STARS.

Look through the open window!
The day is scarcely done,
Yet the silver stars are peering
From the blue sky one by one,
Stealing gradually towards us,
With their still and pleasant light,
Like ships that from the ocean
Slowly lift their sails of white.

Or they come to us like strangers
From a far-off land unknown,
From beyond a mighty desert
Which untravelled is and lone.—
Come, like modest stranger maidens,
Trembling with a secret fear,
Lest some evil thing await them
In the new land which they near.

Fairy stars! forever lovely,
Ever welcome to our sight,
Be it on a summer evening
Or a chill October night,—
O! we hail with joy your advent,
Your presence sweet we love,
For ye lift our pensive spirits
To the dreamy world above.

And ye seem placed there to cheer us,
As below we toil and weep,
Like the steadfast lights that glimmer
For the seamen o'er the deep.

Our love for things around us
May change with every hour,—
May perish with the objects,
May wither like the flower,—
But we look for you forever,
With the same unchanged desires,—
With the earnest, quiet longing,—
With the love that ne'er expires.

Meth. Protestant.

From the Easton Gazette.

SENTENCE OF THOS. GRINNUM.

THOS. GRINNUM charged with the wilful murder of Capt. Thomas Hemmons, in Vienna, Dorchester county, on the 2d of October last, was tried in Talbot county Court, on Tuesday last. It was proven on trial that G. and H had a difficulty at a camp-meeting in August, and that Grinnum afterwards remarked, "God damn him, he had better watch me." They met on the day previous to the murder, however, drank together, and appeared to be good friends. They were also together on the day of the murder and with several others went into a store to get something to drink—Grinnum did not drink, but it came out on trial that he had been drunk for three or four days previous. All left except Grinnum and Hemmons and in a few minutes, without any quarrel or angry words, Grinnum was seen by the merchant and his son, to strike Hemmons several times, and H. exclaimed that "he was ruined." Upon examination he was found to be cut in several places, from the effects of which he died in a few minutes. No altercation was heard, nor resistance on the part of H., although a pistol was found in his pocket. After the arrest of G. while being searched, he threw something at a gentleman and told him "to take care of it." It proved to be a knife precisely similar to one which he bought only two or three hours previous. The Jury after about an hour's deliberation, rendered a verdict of *guilty of murder in the first degree.* H. H. Goldsborough, Deputy Attorney General, appeared on the part of the State, J. L. Martin, E R. Hooper and J. M. Frazier, in behal of the prisoner.

On Wednesday, Grinnum was brought into court, and asked if he had any thing to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him; he replied that he had not much to say, and asked if the punishment could not be changed to something besides hanging. Judge Hopper then pronounced the sentence of the Court in the following words:

THOMAS GRINNUM—After an impartial and patient investigation of your case—and after you were ingeniously defended by able counsel, a jury of your own selection has pronounced you guilty of murder in the first degree, committed in Dorchester county, on the body of Thomas Hemmons, and removed at your instance to this county for trial Upon a calm and full review of all the facts and the law in the case, the Court are compelled to say that the verdict of the jury in their judgment, was a correct and righteous one.—The evidence showed that in the month of August last, you had a fight with the deceased victor—that soon afterwards you uttered a threat against him; and from your conduct on the fatal day of the murder, and from your confessions afterwards in the jail, the court are convinced that from August until October, when the horrid deed was perpetrated, you indulged towards the deceased a feeling of animosity. It appears, on the day upon which the fatal strokes were given, you being in the town of Vienna, and seeing there the object of your malace, you went deliberately to two stores, and examined there the knives for sale, and that you purchased a large one well calculated to carry out your malignant designs—that afterwards having sought, or accidentally fallen in with the deceased, you talked over with him the camp-meeting rencontre, and proposed to drink friends, to which he assented, and which was accordingly done.—From thence in the most friendly manner, you walked with him and another man to the store of Mr. Webb, and after being there a short time, in the presence of Mr. Webb and his little son, you walked up to the unfortunate and unsuspecting Hemmons, who was then intoxicated, and without provocation on his part you gave him several brutal stabs, when after an exclamation that he was ruined, and something in regard to his poor wife and children, he died, and was thus hurried out of time with all his sins upon his head.—Unhappy and awful as is your case, it is more desirable than his was after you had stabbed him. You will have a space allowed to you for reflection and repentance, and according to the promises in the Holy Bible, you may receive forgiveness by sincere repentance and faith in the Saviour.—The Court would most earnestly advise you to lose no time in preparing for the solemn doom which hangs over you.—Seek at some spiritual adviser or advisers, who may teach you the truths of the gospel. In your case we have another striking example of the disastrous effects of intemperance. Had you always been a sober man, in all probability you would have escaped the untimely death which awaits you, for it is a notable fact that nine-twentieths of the murders and other homicides in our State are traceable to the use of intoxicating drinks. In what the Court say to you on this occasion, is not said with any unkind feelings towards you, for they cannot entertain any such. They sincerely pity your distressing condition, and wish it were otherwise. The duty which they have to perform is truly a painful, one but it is one in which they have no discretion. Death is the only penalty prescribed in our act of Assembly for the crime of which you have been found guilty.

The sentence of the law is that you, Thomas Grinnum, be removed from this place, and be detained in close custody in the prison of Talbot county, and thence taken at such time as the Governor of this State by his warrant may appoint, to the place of execution, and there be *hung by the neck until you are dead*, and may God in his boundless clemency have mercy on your soul.

☞ A queer excuse was made a few days ago, by an old lady. The good woman was subpoenaed to appear as witness in a rather delicate case. She did not come, and a bench warrant was issued for her appearance, on which she was brought into court. The presiding judge thought it his duty to reprimand her:

"Madam, why were you not here before?"

"I couldn't come, sir."

"Were you not subpoenaed madam?"

"Yes sir, but I was sick."

"What was the matter, madam?"

"I had an awful big bile, sir."

After a pause—"Upon your honor, madam?"

"No, sir; upon my—arm!"

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM CONVENTION.

ANNAPOLIS; Nov. 29. 1850.

The Convention, after a recess to enjoy Thanksgiving day, met this morning.—President Chapman in the chair. After prayer, the journal was read.

The chair presented a letter from D. H. Diglon, asking permission within the bar of the Convention as reporter of the Baltimore Sun; which was read. Mr. John Dennis thereupon offered a resolution authorising the President to assign appropriate seats, within the bar for the press; adopted.

Then came an avalanche of resolutions instructing appropriate committees to inquire into the propriety of reporting various subjects to be engrafted upon the new constitution, which were admitted; among which were the following:

By Mr. McLane, for abolishing the office of Chancellor; electing Judges, magistrates clerks, and registers by the people; making salaries fixed and adequate to the command of the best talent; regulating fees and charges for legal service, &c.

By Mr. Dent, restricting future foreign immigrants from the right of sufferage until ten years residence of the State, after they shall have given notice of intention to become citizens of the United States; and forbidding the privilege of voting, for ten years, to any person convicted of selling their vote, and forever from holding any office.

Mr. Sherwood, of Baltimore city, moved to lay it on the table—which was negatived by a vote of 31 to 31.

By Mr. Tuck, empowering County Courts to appoint Justices of the Peace, Justices of Magistrates' Courts, Constables and Coroners.

By Mr. Dent, for abolishing special pleading in the Courts.

By Mr Webber, for making ineligible to office any persons sending a challenge or fighting a duel.

By Mr. Stephenson, prohibiting the passage of any law making the State part owner in any incorporated company.

By Mr. Bell, for electing by the people a general superintendent of public schools, and four commissioners for each county, &c.

By Mr. Mitchell, for abolishing voting by ballot, and substituting the viva voce mode in all State elections.

By Mr. Dashiell, preserving their power in representation—maintaining the present apportionment.

Judge Chambers offered a resolution authorising the president to appoint a committee of twenty one, (one from each county and Baltimore city,) to inquire into the propriety of an expression of opinion, by the convention, on behalf of the people of Maryland, in sustaining the action of Congress in reference to the question of slavery, and the enactment of the fugitive slave law. He made some suggestions in favor of such action.

Mr. Dirrickson spoke in favor of the proposition.

Mr. Tuck thought it would be better to pass, at present, and without debate, a resolution in favor of the measure.

Mr. Phelps made some suggestions in reference to the matter.

Mr. McLane offered some eloquent remarks upon the subject, and in favor of sustaining the General Government.

The resolution was unanimously adopted. Adjourned.

ANNAPOLIS, Nov. 30, 1850.

The Convention met. President Chapman in the chair. Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Griffith. Roll called. Journal read.

The President announced the names of the following gentlemen, under resolutions passed yesterday, authorising the appointment of a committee of twenty one, "to consider the propriety of expressing the sense of this Convention upon the adjustment measures passed at the last session of Congres, and the absolute necessity of maintaining and enforcing them in their integrity:" Messrs. E F. Chambers, Hopewell, Randall, Weems, Merrick, Buchanan, Lloyd, John Dennis, Goldsborough, M. Lane, Tuck, Grason, Dirrickson, Gathier, Magraw, Carter, R J Brent, Fiery, Waters, Holliday, and Shower.

The President laid before the Convention a statement from the Treasurer, in answer to an order, showing the sources of revenue appropriated to purposes of education. Ordered to be printed.

Mr Randal offered a resolution directing that the committee on tenure of office &c., "be instructed to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting any member of this Convention from holding or being elected to any office of trust or profit in this State, after the adoption of the new Constitution, either entirely or for a term of years; and, that they also inquire into the expediency of excepting from the operation of this disqualification any member of this convention who may, at the time of adoption of this new Constitution, hold any office of trust or profit in this State, under the now existing Constitution."—It was adopted by a vote of 31 to 28.

Mr. Stephenson offered an order directing the appropriate committee to inquire into the propriety of prohibiting any person from holding a seat in the Legislature who may be a public defaulter, until the same shall have been settled. Adopted.

Mr. Lee offered a resolution directing inquiry into the propriety of laying a capitation tax on each voter; which was rejected.

Mr. Gwinn offered a resolution directing inquiry into the propriety of establishing some mode of creating corporate bodies, for any purpose, independent of the Legislature. Adopted.

Mr. Carter offered a resolution, which was adopted, directing inquiry into the propriety of prohibiting the foreclosure of mortgages where the annual rents of the proprietp may be sufficient to liquidate the debt in seven years.

Mr Randall offered an order directing the Judiciary Committee to inquire into the expediency of appointing judges by a college of electors. Adopted.

Mr. Gwinn, stating that he desired to read for information, and have placed upon the journal, the following preamble and resolutions, which he should call up on Monday, when the reports should come up respecting the eligibility of certain members to seats in the Convention:

Whereas, doubts have arisen concerning the right of certain officers of the State government to hold seats in this convention; by reason of prohibitions contained in the constitution of the State and bill of rights; and whereas, it is proper that this convention, as the sole judge of the qualification of its members, should express its sense upon the questions so occurring, therefore,

Resolved, That the Legislature, in passing the act to take the sense of the people of the State as to the expediency of calling a convention, exercised a power heretofore acknowledged in the adoption of the constitution of the United States by the State of Maryland; and pursued the only practicable mode of ascertaining the opinion of the people of the State as to a necessity of a change in the organic law.

Resolved, that the Legislature of the State, in prescribing the number of delegates to the said convention, and in regulating the manner and time of their election, acted, in the ordinary exercise of their legislative powers, as trustees of the public good, in order to ensure a regular and undisturbed expression of the popular will; and that the members thereof do not hold any office created by the said Legislature, but occupy their places by virtue of the assent of the people of this State to the calling of said convention, by virtue of the trust in them reposed by the constituencies which they severally represent.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this convention the constitution and bill of rights are not in any wise applicable to persons holding seats in this body, otherwise than as the same may have been, by general laws of reference, incorporated in the act under the provisions of which this convention was elected.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this convention the people of the State possess an inalienable right to reform their organic law whenever they shall see fit to exercise the power; and that it is right and proper that opportunity should be afforded, from time to time, by legislative provision, for ascertaining their will upon this subject.

Mr. Stephenson offered a resolution directing inquiry into the propriety of prohibiting the legislature from granting a charter to any bank or other corporation, that may issue notes, failing to make specie payments. Adopted.

Mr John Newcomer submitted an order directing the appropriate committee to inqure into the propriety of fixing the pay of members of the legislature at four dollars per day. Adopted.

The convention then adjourned.

LUDICROUS.

A young intelligent preacher, in the constant habit of declaiming a great deal about the Creator, and especially about the first getting up of man, whenever he wished to display his native eloquence to a good advantage, was one day holding forth to a mixed congregation in a country schoolhouse Becoming warm and enthusiastic as he proceeded, it was not long before he reached his favorite theme, and started off in a something like the following styles:

"And when the world was created, and the beasts of the field, and fowls of the air were pronounced very good; God said: "Let us make man." And he formed man after his own likeness, and declared dim the noblest of all the works of his hands. And he made woman also, with a little variation—

"Thank the Lord for the variation!" shouted an old sinner, who sat over in the amen corner of the room, at this interesting juncture of the discourse.

The effect was perfectly ludicrous and irrisible. The preacher dropped the subject where he was interrupted, and was never heard to allude to it during a subsequent ministry of forty years.

What avails all pomp and parade of life which appears abroad if, when we shift the gaudy, flattering scenes, the man is unhappy, when happiness, like charity, must begin at home!

A clear spring reflects all objects that are upon its shore, but it is unsullied by them; so it should be with our hearts—they should show the effect of all objects and yet remain unharmed by any.

Agricultural.

Transplanting Fruit Trees.

THE MOST APPROVED METHOD AS ADOPTED AT TAYLOR'S NURSERY.

It matters not as to the time, (after the first frost in the fall, and before the buds open in the Spring,) if the work is well done. Having obtained the trees, keep their roots moist until proper holes can be prepared; dig them not less than 18 inches deep and four feet square, place the soil and the subsoil separate, using only the top soil, to which if not good, add well rotted manure or leaf mould sufficient so make it of good tilth. Fill the whole until the tree will stand no deeper than formerly; after this place the roots in their natural position, and pock the fine mould close among them; and then proceed to fill in the earth until the hole is nearly full; now pour a gallon or two of water in to settle the earth still closer about the roots; and finally fill up until a mound is raised three or four inches around the tree, so that when the earth settles there may be no hollow left. If the mould is filled closely among the roots, and well watered, there will be little need of treading down with the foot. Place a stake some five feet long, (which is best done as the tree is set) to which tie the tree, remembering to cross the band that the tree may not run against the stake; remove any litter that may induce mice to harbor near and knaw the bark during the winter.—When the frost is out in the spring, mulch the trees well by placing as much litter as one can carry, around each tree, which secure by spreading some soil thinly over it. This is very necessary to guard against our frequent droughts. Trim your trees till there remains not more than one third of a season's growth, and for after pruning we should advise to give but little, and the first season none, that the side shoots may strengthen the stock. Keep the ground cultivated between the trees on summer crops, and permit no grass to grow near them.

Persons doubting the necessity of our method of transplanting, have only to give it a fair trial in the contrast with any other, and we feel assured they will find it in the end, much the cheapest. Large holes we consider indispensible to secure a quick return for the outlay.

Thirty three feet is considered a suitable distance to plant apple trees, but when there is much room we would advise forty feet for apple, and place peach trees in the centre. Pears and cherries may be planted twenty or twenty-five feet apart.

To secure the life and health of the peach trees, shorten them in, every spring, by cutting off at least one half of the previous year's growth; while the trees are young it makes them form good heads and prevents their overgrowths and premature decay. If this is rigidly done, it will doutless prevent the yellows, which is the disease and not the worm that kills so many of our peach trees. Where the worm is present, they should be taken out and ashes applied liberally.—*London Chronicle.*

Health.

Children under seven years of age should not be confined over six or seven hours in the house—and that time should be broken by frequent recesses.

From one to one pound and a half of solid food is sufficient for a person in ordinary vocation of business. Persons in sedentary employments should drop one third of their food, and they will escape dyspepsia.

Young persons should walk at least two hours a day in the open air.

Young ladies should be prevented from, bandaging the chest. We have known three cases of insanity, terminating in death which began in this practice.

Reading aloud is conductive to health.

The more clothing we wear, over things being equal, the less food we need.

Sleeping rooms should have a fire-place or some other mode of ventillation, besides the widows.

Young people and others cannot studdy much by lamp light with impunity.

TO AVOID DANGER FROM WET CLOTHES.—Keep if possible in motion, and take care not to go near a fire or into any very warm place, so as to occasion sudden heat, till some time after you have been able to produce dry clothes.

COURTING SCENE.—"Jonathan, does you love boiled beef and dumpling?"

"Darned if I dont, Sooky—but a hot dumpling ain't nothin' to your sweet, tarnal nice, red lips, Sook."

"Oh, law, now Jonathan, do hush.—Jonathan did you read that story about a man who was hugged to death by a bar?"

"Guess I did, Sooky—and it made me feel all overish."

"Why how did you feel, Jonathan?"

"Kinder sorter as if I'd like to hug you enamost to death too, you tarnal nice, plump, elegant little critter, you."

"O, law, now, go away, you Jonathan."

"Ah, Sooky, you are such a slick gal!"

"Law—ain't you ashamed, Jonathan?"

"I wish I was a nice little ribbin, Sook."

"What for?"

"Cos maybe you'd tie me around that nice little neck of yours, and I should like to be tied that, darned if I shouldn't."

"Oh, law! there comes mother, Jonathan—run."