the use of lime in unlimited indefinite quantities, will be highly injurious.

Our resources for lime and other calcareous matters, are unfortunately small. We have found in Dorchester *no marl*; nor have we limestone: yet we have many banks of shells, perhaps sufficient to supply the *small* demands which, from my experiments, satisfactory at least to myself, our lands may require.

With respect to marl, hope should not vanish: our exertions to discover this hidden treasure, should not be abandoned. In Talbot, beds of this substance have been found, only within a few years, and new discoveries since, frequently made, where it was not conjectured to exist, have added considerably to the wealth of that county. I earnestly conjure you to devote a small portion of your time to this important subject—with a view to it myself, I have constructed an instrument, (an auger with a long shaft,) to bore for marl, which I confess I have, as yet, used without success—I have now lengthened the shaft, by additional bars to be attached, by screws, *ad libitum et infinitum*, and I have no doubt will succeed in future attempts—though at the points of discovery, the marl may be deposited too deep in the earth for convenient use; yet it may thence be traced to more superficial and accessible strata.

In regard to the application of farmyard manures; whether in a recent or rotted state, I presume that, in due decorum and respect for the worthy advocates of the latter doctrine, it must still be classed among the moot points of agriculture; yet in a country like ours, where the fallow crop possesses sturdy powers of digestion, with a capacity to assimilate the coarser food for its nutriment, and to leave the finely elaborated and more delicate articles for the repast of a more tender and more luxurious family, I do not hesitate to adopt the doctrine and practice of *recent* manures, whereby the medium and process of preparation becomes an object of profit; the work is as well done, the ultimate and timely preparation of the manure, for wheat, or other small grain, is as well accomplished and you receive for your trouble an immediate and valuable compensation, which is otherwise totally lost. In support of this doctrine, which I have long espoused, *chemistry* offers her strong and helping hand; but I will not, upon this subject at present, trespass longer on your patience.

Auxiliary to those of a calcarious nature, and the large class of decomposing animal and vegetable matters, are many others, which the enterprising farmer may discover perhaps in the *vicinity* of his fields. The rich black loam of swamps, marshes and bottoms, abounding in carbonaceous matter, whose strong affinity for the oxigen of the atmosphere, results in a solution, (carbonic acid,) the most powerful agent of vegetation; the heads of coves, and the mud bottoms of ponds, which have served as receptacles of the richest principles of the neighboring lands for ages past, are invaluable sources of manure; yet from experiment I can assure you, that these are frequently vitiated by the presence of sulphuric acid, which must be neutralized, in compost, with the saline oil of the farm yard; or, by lime, or other salifiable bases, blended with the heaps, which latter method will be found equally effectual, and more convenient.

The muriate of soda (common salt) has had its encomiasts; with what propriety, my experience has not instructed me, or rather contradicts it; from four to eight bushels per acre is said to have produced fine effects, and particularly on grasses; it is highly septic, in small quantities, and may operate, by converting coarse vegetable matter into digestible food; so small are the mouths of the absorbent vessels of plants, that they can imbibe no nutriment, except it be in a state of solution; the *particles* of *impalpable* powder are too large to be admitted by them; salt in many instances promotes this solution; salt is also, deliquescent; it attracts the moisture of the atmosphere, which property may be easily conceived as contributive to the growth of vegetables; to this substance (salt) may perhaps, chiefly, be referred the benefits derived by some from sea-weed, which by the experiment of Dr. Davy, give about four fifths of its weight of water, and should therefore be spread & ploughed, in a recent state.

Vegetable substances of a ligneous nature applied to the purposes of manure, require before use a partial decomposition, which may be produced speedily by quick lime, or, more slowly, but equally well, in compost; but animal substances are converted by lime, into an insoluble mass, therefore lime will prove pernicious to a compost containing much animal matter.

Next in order, as a feeble disciple of the Mantuan farmer, who is worthy of our studies and imitation, and an accomplished prototype, the planting of fruit trees should occupy a share of our attention; our orchards are neglected; the fruit propagated in the country, is generally so infamous, as to demand extermination, and the substitution of new trees of choice sorts, *or*, the *budding* and *engrafting* of the best fruits of our climate, upon the *old* stalks of worthless kinds; in three years the transformation may be effected, by the latter method.—In place of the present growth of the sickly, insipid fruits of our country, we may, with little exertion, find ourselves, *as if magically*, possessed of delicious fruits, a source of health, luxury and profit.

In regard to the condition of our flocks, I am conscious I shall receive the undivided assent of my audience; our local necessities most imperiously demand relief in this important and neglected article. We should procure new breeds and improve their progeny by careful and generous treatment; fallacious and narrow is the judgement which would exclude from premium a high blooded animal of fine points and valuable character, because it has been imported; because it has been obtained for the benefit of the the country at great cost and trouble.—The end in view is not individual gratification, but the public good; and this end is better attained by the importation of superior (*if* RESIDENT) than by our own inferior breeds; and therefore it should be encouraged by the utmost abilities of the Society.

While on this subject, I must advert to a seemingly interesting question, agitated for some years, and still unsettled, viz the comparative value of the horse & ox for the plough & wagon. The question may be one of interest to other climes; but in ours, I fancy, no doubt can exist; the ox may perform a portion of tardy and rugged labour in *cool* weather; but in our long and hot summers, the farmer will, from my experience, find himself compelled to resort to horses. The ox is not designed by nature for *violent* exercise in *hot* weather; he is deficient in that "*vis medicatrix naturæ*," that "*heat counteracting power*," of *sweating*, which horses possess in an eminent degree; his skin is not constructed for this refrigerant action. When overheated, he lolls out his tongue and slavers, and shortly succumbs to the overpowering effects of heat. The ox, too is classed naturally among the slow-footed animals. The horse has a quick step, and will perform more work at the plough than the ox at any season, and vastly more in hot and sultry weather; and where labor is dear, and time precious, the *surplus* of his performance above that of the ox, will be found to be much more than equal to the value of the meat and hide of the antiquated beef, and will fairly justify his master, to allow him in his old age, the "*otium cum dignitate*,"

"In peace, t'enjoy his former *palms* and *pains*;
And *gratefully* be kind to his remains."

The mule, I conceive, to be totally unworthy of notice, except for detestation. He is with few exceptions, vicious & comparatively worthless; in the plough he is unable to compete with the horse, and in the shambles with the ox; he is neither fit for the one purpose, nor the other.

The subject of *crops*, the great object of our inquiries and our labours, is too copious to be embraced within the narrow limits of a short address, and too important to remain wholly unnoticed.—The many disasters incident to our wheat crop, the *great staple* of our country, the *reliance* of the landlord and the tenant; and moreover its reduced value, when by chance it may have escaped those disasters; the insignificant value of Indian corn, as an article of sale, and in fact, the general *absence* or *paucity* of *monetary means*, indicate the obvious necessity of adding, or substituting, a new series of crops, which may be less precarious, and more profitable.

After as full an inquiry, and research into the subject, as perhaps it admits of, without experience, I have determined to make the ensuing year, a large experimental crop of fifty acres of cotton, which from my small experiment the present season, will afford an abundant and profitable crop, before the accession of frost; which period is becoming, annually, later, from the *draining*, *clearing*, and other physical causes operating a vast revolution in the general climate of our country—having made a difference, of at least three weeks, within the last ten years; and thereby affording fair prospects of a successful growth of cotton.

Palma Christi will form another member of the new series of crops, which I contemplate an experiment upon, the next season, and will, I anticipate, be a productive and profitable one.

Independent of other advantages, which the introduction of these and other crops may possess over the limited number that we now cultivate, that of *multiplying* the *varieties*, is one of considerable importance; by these means, the principles of rotation, the most unequivocally essential discovery, grown out of the science of modern agriculture, will, necessarily be more extensively and usefully applied; the selection of soils and subsoils in reference to their peculiar adaptations to their favorite plants, will be proportionally facilitated.

The boundless growth of vegetables designed for the use of man, and other animals, are comprised in two opposite and distinctly characterized families—the one having small leaves and few in number, which dry and wither before the crop is matured, derive their nourishment chiefly from the soil, and render it hard and dry—these are called *culmiferous*, and are great exhausters of the soil; to this family, belong wheat, rye, oats, Indian corn, &c.: the other having broad and abundant leaves, which continue green, succulent, and growing, till the crop is cut down, and bespeak the continued agency, of the foliage, in the sustenance of the plant, renders the soil *soft*, *mellow* and *open*—these are called leguminous, and operate to correct the hard, compact and cohesive soils. Of these two families, the members, though possessing the *generical* character, may be presumed to vary in their respective powers, and in many important and specific points; *some* delighting in clay, *others* in sandy soils; *some* in upland; *others* to be immersed in water;

"Fluminibus salices, crassis que paludibus alni:"

Hence inevitably, the advantages accruing to the agricultural community, from the introduction, of as many new and valuable crops, as our climate and soil may be found capable of producing.

From the established principles, upon which *rotation* is founded, it must be inferred that each plant has its respective pabulum; that though this may be constituted of the same elements, yet it must consist of different proportions of those elements, and of different chemical arrangements; otherwise the different products would be totally unaccountable—the *acidulous* plant, for instance, must abound in *oxygen*, the acidifying principle; the *oleaginous* will claim an excess of *hydrogen*; the *saccahrine* of *carbon*, &c.; *because*, these elements are, respectively, the chief agents in the production of those results which those plants are known to afford; and, *a posteriori*, the pabulum requisite for their physiological functions must have been constituted of a large proportion of these respective elements

It is repugnant to reason and analogy, to suppose that the deadly Upas, and the fragrant Magnolia, the poisonous Lobelia, and the healthful Cabbage, should derive from the same food such opposite qualities; the conclusion is irresistable, that they have respectively their favorite elements, on which they more heavily draw for their sustenanec, and from a continued annual demand, by the same plant, of the same element, from the same soil, exhaustion, *quoad hoc*, must be the inevitable consequence; whereas, other plants, needing other elements, may find an ample supply; hence the necessity of *rotation*; of a *varied succession* of crops, beyond the contracted sphere of our present practice.

One other subject demands our serious attention; the *reclamation* of our marshes and cripples, capable of becoming the most valuable lands we possess.

An example has been offered us by those enterprising gentlemen of South Carolina, who have commenced this meritorious and inestimable work, on the Nanticoke. On a late visit to one of those gentlemen, who has built his dwelling house in the midst of an infinite marsh, late the dwelling of muscrats and otters; where rushes, reeds, flags, & other *worthless marsh* grasses only grew, I found him comfortably established in the centre of two hundred and thirty acres of reclaimed marsh, dry and firm; growing a crop of indian corn which is estimated at forty bushels per acre; a garden of many fine and luxuriant vegetables, cabbages, tomatoes, and roots of most of the usual kinds, and a small parcel of cotton, which looked well; the wheat in his corn ground had a fine appearance; his rye field was preparing by a drag, with nine heavy incisive teeth, without previous ploughing. The whole plat was not in cultivation, yet there was not a vestige of *marsh growth* to be seen any where upon it; the parts not in crop were richly clothed with the *anthemis cotula*, *hypericum*, and other *upland* weeds; indicating a thorough physical revoluton in the constitution of the soil, and the *mystic* conversion of worthless mire and bog, the haunt of noxious animals, into the *alma mater* of man; a noble example, which if adopted in regard to our marshes on the *Black-water* and *Transquakin rivers*, would render the interior of Dorchester the *most beautiful* the *most healthful* & the *most valuable* portion of the county.

Finally, a subject remains but little regarded, yet closely connected with that of crops; and deeply interesting to the farmer; because the knowledge of it may be essential to their preservation, when his labor and money have been expended on their production; I mean the hazard of their destruction by *spontaneous combustion*, when housed or stacked, too recently, in a green and succulent state; an instance this season has occurred in my farm-yard, where many large stacks of top-fodder were discovered by accident to be strongly heated; upon examination, I found in the centre of each of them, and near the earth, bushels of carbonated stalks and blades, in different grades of ignition, which, when exposed to the atmosphere, was with difficulty prevented, by the active efforts of all the laborers on the farm, who happened to be near at hand, from bursting into a furious inflammation. A majority of these stacks had received no rain in the curing, yet were as much affected as those which had been wet; a strong instance of the fallacy of the opinion, "that water more than the juices of plants, promotes spontaneous combustion;" the oxygen of either is copiously and readily separated and absorbed by the carbonaceous matter of the plant; heat and hydrogen are developed; and the consequences are *fatal* and the *same*; which I truly hope, gentlemen, none of you may ever experience.

LEXINGTON, Dec. 19—The Legislature did not adjourn on Saturday. Wednesday next is now fixed upon as the day—Mr. Pope's plan of compromise, namely SIX Judges, new and old we presume, has passed the Senate.—The committee on the LOADED MUSKETS reported the facts and the evidence, which shew that preparation had been made to SLAY THE PEOPLE. A resolution has been adopted in the House admonishing all good citizens to abstain from aiding and abetting F. P. Blair and his associates.

Legislature of Maryland.

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Tuesday, Dec. 27.

This morning seventy-three members appeared in the house, qualified and took their seats.—After which, the house proceeded to ballot for a speaker. *Dr. Benedict J. Semmes*, was put in nomination by Mr. Merrick; and *J. Edelen*, Esq. was put in nomination by Dr. Wilson, of Montgomery.

The votes stood for

Dr. Semmes,	43
J. Edelen,	21

Upon being conducted to the chair, *Dr. Semmes* addressed the house to the following effect:

GENTLEMEN.—Selected by your partiality to preside over your deliberations, I should do injustice to my own feelings, and prove ungrateful to you, if I did not avail myself of the opportunity to express my sincere and unfeigned thanks, for the honor so handsomely conferred upon me, and a diffidence of my abilities, so to discharge the duties of my station, as to leave it with the same popularity that brought me to it. Having for a time voluntarily retired from the councils of the state, it is most pleasing, most grateful to my feelings, to be thus kindly greeted on my return amongst you, and to find that I was not forgotten in my retirement.

The present is likely to prove no ordinary session of the legislature. Many important subjects, deeply involving the best interest of our constituents, and identified with the honor and welfare of the state, are to be discussed and decided upon by us; under these circumstances, conflicting interests and opinions must and will arise, producing that excitement, so inimical to wise and prudent legislation; hence the propriety, nay the imperious necessity, for calm and dignified deliberation, and that mutual spirit of forbearance and conciliation, that goes so far to smooth the asperities and sweeten the toils of public life.

The duties of presiding officer in the popular branch of a legislative assembly, are at all times arduous and important, requiring for their prompt and successful performance, much talent and great experience, neither of which I can devote to your service, therefore I have only zeal and fidelity to offer in return for your good opinion, to solicit your kindest indulgence for my errors, and to assure you, that the best energies of my body and mind shall be devoted to the faithful performance of my duty."

Upon motion, the house proceeded to ballot for a Chief Clerk.

The votes stood for

Mr. Brewer,	53
Mr. Gassaway,	19

Mr. Gideon Pearce, was elected Reading Clerk by a handsome majority.

Upon motion, the house proceeded to the choice of a Sergeant-at-Arms.

The votes were for

Grammer	28,
Williams	23,
Powder	18,
Collins	3,

Mr. John Quinn was named as door keeper, without opposition.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, Ordered that the members of this house, in respect to the memory of the late Levin R. King, Esq. deceased, a delegate elect and returned for Somerset county, wear a scarf on their left arm for thirty days.

On motion by Mr. Teacle, Ordered, that the speaker be requested to issue a warrant for an election to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of Levin Rufus King, Esquire, a delegate returned for Somerset county.

Isaac Hines, William H. Emory, Alexander McIlhenny, and James M. Raden, were by ballot chosen Committee Clerks Messrs Johns and Smith having each an equal vote as the fifth clerk, the house adjourned without determining between them.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28.

Messages were interchanged between the senate and house apprising each oth- of their having organized.

Upon balloting for the fifth committee clerk, Walter H. Mitchell was elected.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

On motion by Mr. Maxcy, the following resolutions were read:

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That for the purpose of electing the President and Vice-President of the United States, the constitution ought to be so amended, that an uniform system of voting by districts shall be established in all the States; and that the people in those districts shall have the right of voting directly for those officers.

Resolved, That the constitution ought to be further amended, in such a manner as will prevent the election of the aforesaid officers, from devolving upon the respective houses of Congress.

Resolved, That the Senators and Representatives of this state in Congress, be requested to use their exertions for obtaining the amendments of the constitution, proposed in the foregoing resolutions.

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to communicate a copy of these resolutions to each of the Senators, and Representatives of the State in congress.

Ordered, that they have a second reading on Wednesday next.

On motion by Mr. Williams the following resolution was read.

Whereas, The interest and dignity of the State of Maryland, do not require that the costly establishment commonly called the "Government House," situate at the City of Annapolis, should any longer be set apart and kept up for the residence and accommodation of the Governor, for the time being, at the public charge; Therefore:

Be it Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Governor and Council be, and they are hereby authorized and directed, to advertise and offer for sale, the House and Lot, Furniture, and all the appertenances belonging to the said establishment commonly called "The Government House," and to sell the same for the highest price, that can be obtained therefor, not less than $ for the whole property; and until such sale can be effected, to let the premises aforesaid for a term not to exceed one year, from the last day of Dec. 1825, and at a rate not less than $ per annum.

A debate of some length arose upon the manner of wording an order for apprising the Governor that the Legislature was in session, and prepared to receive any communication he might have to make. The question made, was, whether he was the *Governor* or *Ex-Governor*, and involved the constitutionality of a law of the last session, requiring the executive to continue their functions for the *interregnum* occasioned by the change of the constitution, as to the time of the meeting of the legislature and choosing the Governor and Council.

Mr. Millard, Mr. Goldsborough, Mr. McCulloch and Mr. Edelen, were of opinion, that he could not properly be styled Governor. Mr. Semmes, (Speaker) Mr. Sudler, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Merrick maintained that it was not necessary to deviate from the usual form.—The question was determined by a close vote 35 to 34 in favor of the latter position.

The same constitutional question was again agitated upon a resolution offered by Mr. Kennedy to direct the payment to the governor and members of the executive council of the proportion of salary which would be due to them for the period of the interregnum.

Mr. Perry offered an order calling upon the Clerk of the Council for the record of their proceedings, to shew what they had done. The call was opposed by Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Duvall and Mr. Merrick. The latter had no objection to a call provided it was not designed to influence the decision of this particular question. It was admitted to be a usual and useful proceeding to investigate those proceedings, but it was resisted that the record whatever it might show, should have a bearing upon the question of compensating those gentlemen for services which the legislature by law had called upon them to perform, and which it was known they were then in attendance in the act of performing. Mr. Perry's motion was negatived and the resolution for payment passed.

Mr. Kilgour obtained leave to bring in a bill entitled, An act to alter the time of the meeting of the general assembly of this state and for other purposes.

On motion by Mr. Ridout, the following resolution was read and ordered to have a second reading on Friday next.

Whereas the Thirty-seventh Article of the constitution of Maryland ordains that no Senator, Delegate of the Assembly, or Member of the Council, if he shall qualify as such, shall hold or execute any office of profit during the time for which he shall be elected; and the station of Governor is considered by this General Assembly an office of profit within the meaning of the Constitution; therefore.

Resolved, That no Senator, Delegate of the Assembly, or Member of the Council, after having qualified as such, is, in the opinion of this General Assembly, eligible as governor, until after the expiration of the term for which he was elected Senator, Delegate, or member of the Council.

Adjourned.

THURSDAY, 29th

The speaker announced the following standing Committees.

Committee of Ways and Means.

Messrs. Maxcy, Kennedy, Worthington, Howard, Goldsborough, Teackle, & Williams.

Committee of Claims.

Messrs. Estep, Edelen, Stevens, Dalrymple, Saulsbury, Barnes & Douglass.

Committee of Grievances and Courts of Justice.

Messrs. Merrick, Tyson, Speed, Ridout, McCulloch, Perry, and Ridgaway.

Committee of Elections & Privileges.

Messrs. Gantt, Garner, Lee, Kershner, Boon, Landsdale, and Jones.

Committee on Special Acts of Insolvency.

Messrs. Chapman, Eccleston, Brookes, Montgomery, Hooper, Gough, and Mitchell

Committee on the Militia.

Messrs. Duvall, Beall, Cockey, Beckett, Hall, Sudler, and Gilpin.

Committee on Pensions and Revolutionary Claims.

Messrs. Potter, Rogerson, Farquhar, Hughes, Wickes, Hawkins and Armstrong.

Committee on Divorces.

Messrs. Millard, Banning, Spencer, Harlan, Sappington, Hopper and Toomas.

Cambridge Chronicle

AND
Eastern Shore Advertiser.

CAMBRIDGE, SATURDAY, Jan'y. 7th 1826.

Printed and Published by
LUTHER MARTIN SCOTT,
N. E. corner of High and Poplar streets.

TERMS:

The Cambridge Chronicle is published at 2 dolls. and 50 cents per annum, payable half yearly in advance.

No Subscription will be received for less than Six Months, and a failure to notify a discontinuance shall be considered as a new engagement.

Advertisements not exceeding a square inserted 3 times for 1 dollar, and 25 cents for every subsequent insertion.

In all cases where the number of insertions is not limited, advertisements will be continued until forbid, and charged accordingly.

All Communications addressed to the Editor must come POST PAID, otherwise they will not be attended to.

☞ No paper will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have received a well written *critique* upon the essay signed "Philanthrope," in our last—Its publication would create a controversy, which could not interest the generality of our readers—it is therefore declined.

Anselmo's communication is too carelessly written to appear in its present form.

We hope to hear soon again from our esteemed correspondent *Selina*.

We insert to day, the Oration delivered on the 10th of November last, before the Dorchester Agricultural Society, by the President, Dr. *Joseph E. Muse*.

It was published a short time since, in a pamphlet form, and distributed among the members of the society, throughout the county. But we find that a great many farmers who are not, *(but who ought to be)* members, have not had an opportunity of reading it.—We therefore lay it before them entire.—It can but be perused with interest by all who have the welfare of our county at heart.

Communicated.

Well done!—On Thursday last, a company of a few gentlemen, in Meekins' neck, shot eighteen rabbits in *three* hours. What is rather singular, is that every rabbit seen by the company was killed.

ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 3, 1826.

On Saturday, the debate upon the eligibility of Senators and Delegates to the office of Governor was resumed in the house of delegates, and maintained with distinguished ability for several hours.—Messrs. Merrick, Sudler, Kennedy, Ridout, and Tyson, partook. The question was finally taken by yeas and nays upon adopting the resolution, expressing an opinion of their ineligibility as follows:—

Affirmative,	47
Negative,	26

This decision had the effect to place out of the question, Mr. *Robert W. Bowie*, the candidate who had heretofore been supposed most prominent in the public eye, and to introduce Dr. *Kent* as a candidate, who had not been contemplated, at least since the meeting of the Legislature, it having been understood that he declined being considered as such.

ELECTION OF GOVERNOR.

Yesterday being the day designated by the Constitution of Maryland for choosing a Governor of the State for the ensuing year, at 12 o'clock the Senate and House of Delegates proceeded to ballot for the same. Dr. *Tyler*, of Frederick county, was put in nomination by Mr. Barnes, and Dr. *Joseph Kent*, of Prince George's county, was nominated by Mr. Duvall—no other person was nominated. The ballots stood

For Dr. Kent,	59
For Dr. Tyler,	30

Dr. Kent, was thereupon declared to be duly elected.

The executive council of the state were chosen on Tuesday.

It having been understood that Doctor Kent will accept the situation of Governor, a vacancy will occur of a member of congress, for the district which the Doctor has ably represented for many years.—The election will doubtless be ordered in a few days.

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc6044_1_61-0284.jpg