

determine upon the propriety and expediency of disseminating that information extensively among the people of this State. That the climate and soil of Maryland, are well adapted to the growth of the mulberry is a fact within the knowledge and observation of us all, and we think there is every reason to believe, that suitably encouraged, and guided by a proper intelligence on the subject, our people may soon become eminently successful in the culture of silk.

On looking over the manual now before us, we have been forcibly struck with many of the facts presented, and which seem to be sustained by unquestionable authority, and we perceived, with the highest satisfaction, that in most of the States north of Maryland, and particularly in Connecticut, and Massachusetts, the silk business has been prosecuted on an extensive scale for several years past, and with uniform success. The people of many other States have also lately turned their attention to this important subject, and it is confidently believed by those who are best acquainted with it, that the period is not far distant, when silk will constitute a staple article in some of the States of the Union. This anticipation is founded on the admitted adaptation of our soil and climate to its profitable cultivation, and the high price of the article itself, a pound of raw silk being worth from three and a half to four dollars.

In illustration of this, we may cite as facts, on the authority of the honourable Ambrose Spencer, of New York, that in 1831, raw silk to the amount of over \$60,000 was produced in the town of Mansfield, Connecticut, and that the county of Windham, in the same State, produces annually five tons of silk, valued at \$500,000, which if reeled, would be worth double that sum. Many other equally interesting and important facts are disclosed in the 'manual,' the authentication of which is equally strong. With such evidence as this before us, and much more that might be adduced from the work alluded to, it seems to us that there can be little doubt of the commanding importance of this subject, to the people of Maryland, and we would therefore respectfully suggest to you the propriety of ordering the procurement, from Mr. Edwards, who has secured the copy right of the work, such a number of copies as in your judgment may be deemed sufficient to enlighten the public mind on a matter so deeply affecting the welfare and prosperity of the people.

The price per copy, we have been informed by Mr. Neil-