CENTREVILLE OBSERVER.

Centreville, Maryland.

Tuesday Morning, April 29, 1873.

The Situation.

In the political arena things are remarkably quiet. Men pass the seekers for office by with a knowing nod, which seems to say, "wait until we are ready to hear you," and go on attending to their business, their farms, their shops, offices &c. The people, it seems, are tired of being buttonholed from election to election, about offices, friends, emoluments and fat things. The candidates, however, are none the less anxious and industrious, all pass on to the next, seeking audience and a hearing from ears either willing or unwilling. The people attend to their own business, pitching their crops and preparing for the payment of their debts and the comfort of their families. They know, as soon as they hear the names of the aspirants, who they are going to support, and there they wish to rest, and there they ought to rest. This continual buttonholing; this perpetual convassing; this stirring up of the slumbering coals, only tends to create divisions in the party ranks; only makes friends forsake each other and join with those they would not otherwise have supported. It creates an animosity among men [illegible] subject, a feeling of distinctiveness, and runs as far in many cases as party divisions. Men dislike others because they do not prefer the same man for some position; they shun each other; look at each other with jealous and revengeful feelings. All of this is wrong, and if the office seekers and their immediate friends would only let the campaign open when the proper times arrives much of that trouble in the party we hear so much about might be obviated. If there should be trouble (that is a split) the responsibility of the matter may be laid at the door of those who are continually agitating the public mind. The great Democratic masses are sound in their loyalty to they old party; they deprecate divisions as much as anybody else, and are least disposed to create them, but men are sometimes wrought up to a state of reckless desperation and they do not care who goes in or who comes out, if their own friends fail.—Often have we heard men say, "It don't make any difference to me, Mr. So-and-so could not get it, and I don't care who does." Now these men, in ninety nine cases out of every hundred, were earnest in their advocacy of the Democratic cause, and had they been let alone by the agitators and permitted to select their own candidates uninfluenced would have no doubt chosen good ones and been earnest in their advocacy of them and the principles they enunciated. The great trouble after all lies in the fact that men forget the principles of the party and seek more the advancement of some of its members. That is a mistaken course and should be corrected as speedily as possible. Let us ever keep the party and her principles before us, and fill the offices when the proper time comes, with good men whether they be the ones who want the offices most or not. If such a course be [illegible]

Sunday School Convention.

A Sunday School Convention, for this county, under the auspices of the Maryland S. S. Union, will be held in this town on the 22d and 23d days of May, commencing on the 22d at 7½ P. M. in the M. P. Church.—Rev. Mr. Smeltz, supt. will be present and have charge of the convention. He will be accompanied, as we learn, by some distinguished S. S. speakers from Baltimore, who will give tone and zest to the meetings.—Prof. Harry Sanders will also be here, with one of his famous Estey Organs, and will bring with him some of the best music performers of the city, who will participate in the exercises.

The Maryland S. S. Union has been doing a great work in the past, but much more remains to be done.

Last year the twelve Missionaries of the Society as we have seen by the report, visited 16,500 families, urging upon them the necessity of bringing up their children in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord." They distributed to poor and destitute Sunday Schools about 20,000 Sunday School Papers, Tracts, Pamphlets, and 1613 Bibles and Testaments. Besides this they organized 173 new Sunday Schools, (65 of these were for colored children,) thus gathering into Sunday Schools about 10,000 children heretofore not provided with Sunday School instruction.

The great mission of the M. S. S. Union is to bring into the Sunday Schools destitute and neglected children. We most cordially commend this noble enterprise to the attention of our readers and trust the convention now to be held in our midst, may be a success, and that the friends who have had control of it may feel assured their labors in this county have not been in vain.

The Modoc War.

There is very little news from the Modoc war. Notwithstanding the threat that not one of Captain Jack's band should live to boast of the slaughter of General Canby the the greater number of Indians have escaped from the lava beds, and that the probabilities are rather against their capture. Some few, including Scar-faced Charley, have been captured, and their scalps taken by our Indian allies, but for the rest they have scattered, and it is feared will wreak their vengeance on the settlers in the Shasta Valley. The epizootic which prevails among the horses in that region adds to the difficulty of pursuing them. As to the mode of their escape, whether it arose from the insufficient number or inefficient handling of our forces, or was, unavoidable on account of the difficulty of the country, too little is yet known to pronounce a decided judgment. Certain it is, however, that Captain Jack has proved himself not only a good fighter, but at strategic manœuvrer.

The Delaware Legislature divorced twenty-seven unhappy married couples, and granted over ninety acts of incorporation. It passed about forty amendments to the Revised Code and forty-seven joint resolutions.

Local and General News.

The sale of the Granary Property, advertised by Lloyd Tilghman, Esq., will take place on Tuesday the 13th of May next.

George C. Adkinson, Bailiff of Chestertown, fell from a ladder last week and hurt himself very seriously, though not dangerously.

Onions are worth $10 per barrel in New York. Sweet potatoes, $4. Round potatoes $8. Cabbage, $10 per hundred heads.

The jury in the case of John L. Scott, tried at Denton last week for bigamy rendered a verdict of "not guilty."

John H. Barwick, for the murder of Arringdale, was sentenced in the Caroline county Court on Wednesday, to confinement in the penitentiary for fifteen years.

Messrs. Wm. McKenney, John R. Emory and Washington Finley were last week appointed State Directors of the Queen Anne's and Kent Rail Road.

The Cecil *Democrat* urges the name of S. Teagle Walls for the United States Senate, in the place of Hon. W. T. Hamilton, whose term expires on the 4th of March, 1875.

The May Term of the Circuit Court for this county will commence on Monday next. A full bench is expected to be present. Court will last about two weeks, it is thought.

Mr. John W. Perry has commenced the construction of a new store and dwelling on Water street, between the property of Messrs Wm. T. McClyments and Wm. S. Connolly.

Some of our farmers are just cleverly under way breaking ground, others are planting corn, and one (Mr. Wm. Gould) has corn up, having finished planting his crop some two or three weeks ago.

As Mr. Wm. Watson, Jr., was driving out of town in his carriage on Sunday night, he was run into by a carriage, which frightened Mr. Watson's horse and he ran away and kicked, breaking both shafts and one of the wheels, besides injuring the harness.

The Building Committee of the Wye M. P. Church are desirous of receiving proposals for the construction of a frame church. Parties desirous of making proposals will please address Mr. John Dodd, Secretary of the Board, who will furnish full particulars.

The dwelling house of John Coleman, in Rich Neck, Kent county, was destroyed by fire on Saturday night week, by reason of a defective flue. The family narrowly escaped, with their lives, being asleep when the fire was discovered.

We see by notices posted up in the corners, and by advertisement in the *Citizen* that a concert is to be given in this town on this (Tuesday) night by graduates of the Blind Institute. We attended a concert given by these gentlemen some years ago in Easton, and can testify to their ability.

The Maryland Editors Excursion this year commences on the 12th of June. They are to proceed from Baltimore to Richmond, thence to Huntington; thence to Cincinnati; thence to Louisville; thence to St. Louis; thence to Chicago; and thence to Baltimore. This trip will be a long one and must be a very pleasant one.

Quite an excitement was created among the oyster dredgers last week by the arrest of Capt. Jas. C. Michaels, where Justice Haddaway, a man of pluck and back bone, had the daring to impose heavy fines upon them. If Justices were all like Haddaway short work would be made of the dredging business. As soon as the dredgers find the thing likely to become expensive they will perhaps have more respect for the law.

The Town Commissioners at their meeting last week passed ordinances prohibiting the leaving of horses in the streets (unhitched) prohibiting the hitching of horses to the shade trees on the streets and in the Court House green; prohibiting the hauling of dirt from the town dirt back without permission; prohibiting the obstruction of the sidewalks or gutters with boxes, etc.; prohibiting the breaking of lamps by throwing stones or other missiles; prohibiting the driving against the lamp posts; and prohibiting the hitching of horses to the lamp posts. They ordered the Bailiff to have the mill bridge repaired at once, and resolved to consult with the owners of property adjoining the dirt back, and make arrangements satisfactory to both sides in regard to digging.

Ladies Suits.—It is estimated that 10,000 persons are employed in New York in the manufacture of ladies ready-made suits.—This branch of trade has been in existence on a scale of some magnitude for the last three years when the large uptown stores took the lead in the business, and the wholesale men soon followed suit. Some of the reception rooms of the leading stores are not only elegantly but sumptuously furnished with the perfection of house furniture, but are provided with pianos, libraries and other attractions. The material used in the ready-made suits manufactured are of so varied a nature that calculation of the invested capital in this direction is an impossibility, but it must amount to many million dollars annually.

Fence Laws.—The fence law of Texas has hitherto been a very curious one. Every man was required to fence against his neighbors stock. In other words, it was required to fence out stock instead of fencing them in. A bill introduced in the Texas Legislature proposes to change this, and make a farmer fence in his cattle instead of fencing out those of his neighbor. Georgia, also has just passed a law in this subject, one very important to an agricultural community. Under the statute, the boundary lines of each lot or parcel of land is to be considered a lawful fence, and no animal used or fit for food and labor, will be allowed to run at large beyond the limits of the land of the owner. It is a local option law, however, and many of the counties will, it is said oppose it, though it is probable that in most of them it will be adopted.

It is expected that the new postal cards will be a success. They are both cheap and convenient. They will cost but one cent and are so small that twenty-five of them can be carried in one envelope. They certainly will be a convenience to all who have communications to transmit in which there is no demand for secrecy. The mere mechanical manipulation of an envelope is considerable of a task to those who have a large correspondence. The putting on the stamp, sealing the letter, folding the papers, are matters that tax both time and patience.

Kent County Democratic Convention. The Democratic Conservative Convention of Kent county, consisting of twenty-five members, five from each election district, met at the court-house in Chestertown, on Monday, to determine the manner of making nominations for the fall election. The convention decided, after considerable discussion, by a vote of 14 to 11, to adhere to the old district system of nominating candidates for office.—The minority were in favor of running the candidates through, the highest for each office to be the nominee. A resolution was adopted requiring the Democratic State Central Committee of Kent county to issue a call making the nominations not later than the first week in June.

Winter Wheat.—*Washington*, April 24, 1873.—The summary of the condition of winter wheat, just issued from the Agricultural Department, shows that on the first of April a considerable portion of the northern belt of the winter wheat area was covered with snow. The condition of that which was visible gave promise of general exemption from winter injury, leaving the crop subject to the meteorical vicissitudes of April. In the Middle States a great improvement upon the showing of last spring is everywhere conceded, especially in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.—The prospect in the States south of Maryland is less favorable than last year; and there are indications of diminishing area in the cotton States.

Another New York Horror.—*Children Killed by an Insane Mother.*—New York, April 25.—Mrs Annie Hennessey, aged 26 years, wife of Geo Hennessey, a respectable shoemaker, during a fit of insanity killed her two children, George, aged three years, and Francis, aged five months. On returning home from work the husband found the door of the room locked, and after considerable trouble gained admission, when he found a tub standing in the centre of the room, in which the bodies of the children were lying.

On inquiry the woman said it was all right. The mother, who for some time, has been afflicted with a religious mania, had choked the children and then roasted their bodies on a stove. She was sent to the hospital.

Serious Accident.—Between 7 and 8 o'clock last night a small boy (eight years of age, named Benjamin Lewis Miller, was run over by a street cattle Park avenue, between Campbell alley and Preston street. He was crossing the street on an errand, when he was knocked down by the horses, and one wheel of the car passed over his left thigh, crushing it badly and injuring him internally. Drs. Alan P. Smith, Tiffany and Hanks did all that was necessary but pronounced his case hopeless. Thomas Rodham, the driver of the car, was arrested and taken to the Western Police Station about half after eleven o'clock last night. The wounded boy's parents reside at No. 9 Park avenue.—*Baltimore Gazette, Saturday.*

The Earthquake at San Salvador.—Further particulars of the earthquake at San Salvador show that the loss of life was less than at first reported, the number of both killed and injured being estimated at 500.—The shock began on the 4th of April, and continued until the 12th, when the city was destroyed by one strong shock. It was owing to the warning received that the loss of life was so small. Only two buildings, the Government palace and the Hotel del Plaque, were left standing. The loss of property is estimated at $12,000,000. Every town around San Salvador, for a distance of twenty miles, was damaged by the earthquake.

The Atlantic Disaster.—The judgment in the Court of Inquiry into the Atlantic disaster was given on Friday at Halifax by Captain Kennedy. Mallory, the officer who struck, but condemned the management from the time she came up for Halifax, at 11 o'clock, P. M. on the 31st of March, especially the conduct of her captain in leaving the deck at midnight. The captain's certificate might be cancelled, but in consideration of his efforts to save life, it should only be revoked for two years. John Brown, the fourth officer, is to be suspended for three months.

The Confederate Green.—A correspondent sends us the following:

The latest accounts from Mr. Green, dated Baltimore 19th inst., stated the medical authorities of the Baltimore University Hospital were still continuing the same plan of treatment which had been pursued in Millington, by which he had been saved from bleeding to death while the wounds were fresh and open, namely: compression of the main trunk of the carotid artery. They desire thus to avoid the serious and dangerous operation of cutting down and ligaturing the same artery in that place. The wounds are perfectly healed. The disease from which he is now suffering is called aneurism.—*Kent News.*

A Singular Fatal Accident.—The Salisbury *Bachelor* says: "We have intelligence of a fatal accident occurring near Frankford, Sussex county, 19th, last week to a gentleman whose name our informant had forgotten. It seems that after supper he went out of the house to separate two dogs that were fighting, and as he stooped down to pick up a stick, his foot hooked under something in the ground which tripped him as he attempted to straighten up and caused him to fall against a house, near which he was, in such a manner and with so much force that his neck was broken by the shock. He died almost instantly.

Prospects of a Large Peach Crop.—The peach crop, which some time ago was believed to be seriously injured by the severe cold of the winter, now promises to be the largest that has been grown for several years. In the central and lower portions of the peninsula the trees have bloomed, and are literally covered with rose-tinted blossoms. The crop, however, is not beyond possible injury, for it is attended with enemies even up to maturity still the indications are that the crop will be an unusually large one in the districts named.—*Wilmington, (Del.) Commercial.*

The New York *Tribune* in speaking of the folly of George Francis Train's imprisonment, says *apropos* of his early and inevitable release, that he has not made a speech for four months "and has consequently over a hundred orations accumulated in his system, which must all be made before his moral equilibrium is restored." This seems probable, but frightful.

Whipping in School.—The New York *Tribune* says that "corporal punishment is rarely inflicted in the schools of Russia and Germany. In France it is prohibited. In Switzerland school-whippings are left to the regulation of the separate cantons. In England there is constant and vigorous whipping, and in America the custom is dying out.

J. B. Brown, a postal clerk, was arrested at Winona, Minn., last Friday, and taken to La Crosse, Wis., charged with burning mail matter to save the labor of distribution. Lazy scamp.

"Lady Kate," claimed to be the fastest trotter in the Eastern Sharp, and owned by Wm. F. Howard, of Elkton, has been sold for $5,500 to a man living in Milwaukie, Wisconsin.

A New Line to the West.

For considerable time past the affairs of the New Jersey Southern Railroad Company have been the subject of very general discussion in railroad and financial circles. The officers of the company have not been very communicative; but it is officially announced that it is now on the point of complete organization.—When all arrangements and consolidations are perfected the New Jersey Southern will embrace the following roads:

The Long Branch and Seashore, the New Egypt and Farmingdale, the Tim's River and Waretown, the Pembelton and New York, the Vineland, the Smyrna and Delaware Bay, the Kent County, the Maryland and Delaware, with power to consolidate and amalgamate with other railroads in the States of New Jersey, Maryland and Delaware, as may be requisite to make a continuous line to Baltimore, Maryland, and Norfolk, Virginia.

The road owns and controls the ferry from Bayside, New Jersey, to Brooklyn Hook, Delaware, and the steamers between its termini at Port Monmouth and Sandy Hook and New York. For the purpose of facilitating its business the company is now having constructed a number of large boats, one of which will be completed by the middle of June. This boat will be named the Metropolis, and will be used exclusively for the transportation of freight between Sandy Hook and New York. It will be 340 feet long and 80 feet wide, and will be fitted with tracks so that the train of 36 loaded freight cars which it is intended to transport, can be [illegible] land, and to this city unloaded [illegible] P. M. [illegible] to Sandy Hook [illegible] This boat will cost $200,000, and will make the trip in two hours. Another boat that will ply between Bayside and Brooklyn Hook will transport 24 loaded freight cars, and cost $150,000.

Two vessels now in course of construction are intended for the Chesapeake Bay. The passenger vessels of the company are intended to rival those of the Fall River line in luxury and express.

The officials of the road say that it will be completed about July 1 (the contracts specifying that date as the limit), and that it will be a trunk line extending from New York to St. Louis by means of a connection which will be made with the Baltimore and Ohio railroad near Baltimore. The new line, they claim, will be seven twelve miles shorter than the Erie railway, and will all run through the most fruitful regions of New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. The capital stock of the road will be $7,000,000, and the bonded debt $6,000,000.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

The Case of McVeigh Against Underwood.—A dispatch from Richmond, Va., says that the Supreme Court of Appeals have rendered a decision in the case of Underwood vs. McVeigh, affirming the judgment of the Corporation Court of Alexandria, which directed writs to issue ejecting Judge Underwood, of the United States District Court, from the possession of a handsome residence in Alexandria, purchased by him at a confiscation sale ordered by himself in 1864. McVeigh, owner of the property, and who went to Richmond during the war, introduced testimony to show that Oakes Ames, John B. Alley, Samuel Hooper and Underwood had combined organized to cause confiscation proceedings to be instituted. The Supreme Court, in giving its decision, according to the dispatch, declared that in its opinion Underwood's conduct had been such as to shock the moral sense of every honest man.

The sale of the McVeigh property in Alexandria, Va., was made under an agreement of the attachment creditors of McVeigh, who had obtained judgments in bankruptcy to the confiscation decree of United States and Oakes Ames, Alley and Hooper and Underwood [illegible] the day of [illegible] tion. The house and lot purchased by Underwood for his wife for the sum of $700, was worth between $10,000 and $12,000. Judge Underwood had contended, in the court, that and effect property of McVeigh of the value of $10,000 or $75,000, the whole of which brought only $18,000 or $20,000.

Carrying Coal to the World.—The coal business of the Reading Railroad Company has so vastly increased that it has been determined to build forty colliers, to be employed in the shipping trade from the Port Richmond Philadelphia, wharves. The Company are now having constructed two steam colliers at Chester. These vessels are being built on an improved plan, and if they are successful will be immediately followed by others. These craft are to be of two classes, and to cost $200,000 and $120,000 respectively. They are build from models made by Samuel Archbold, the well-known marine architect. The company intend to establish a historical ship-building yard at Port Richmond and depot, where they will build their own vessels in the future. The yard will be completed and in operation in about eighteen months. The tools for this establishment are now under contract, and are being manufactured by Wm. Sellers & Co. and Wm. Bement & Sons, of Philadelphia. They will be made of the best material obtainable.—*Reading Eagle.*

Another Railroad Horror.—By mail and telegraph we have details of the latest railway slaughter, which occurred on Saturday morning, when the steamboat train conveying the New York passengers from Providence to Boston, was plunged into the Pawtuck River, and several of the cars burned.—At the scene of the accident the track crosses the river on a small bridge just below a large dam. The dam gave way, carrying the ruins against the bridge and thus forming another dam. The force of the water undermined the abutments, and the bridge fell.—There appears to have been no watchman to give warning and the train rushed into the chasm at express speed. The scene was terrible not only in the loss of life and maiming of those not killed outright, but also in its features of peculiar sufferings. Immediately on the train making the leap the flames burst out of the forward car, and it with two others were burned. Accounts of the loss of life vary, one making it seven and another fifteen.

Caroline County.—Early vegetables are up.

Kemp's Fishery, just below Denton, was sold at public sale, last week, for $180. T. F. Garey purchaser.

James W. Salisbury left at the *Union* office the other day, a stalk of wheat measuring 24 inches.

A strychnined dog was mistaken for mad in Denton, last week and, oh jolly! what a fuss it made. Men turned out with pistols and guns; women with broom sticks, fire-tongs and pan-handles, while the boys—well they just went off. It was a gorgeous sight—better than a circus.

The Congregationalists are building a church at Potter's Landing.

The steamer to Denton is promised with certainty by the 5th of May.

Superintendent Morrison, of the Maryland Institution for the instruction of the Blind, proposes to visit the county, this Spring, taking with him several of his pupils.

Commodore Stoudg, of the Light House Board, acquits the light keeper at Tybigg's Point of blame for the disaster to the steamer Elm City. The Commodore says the keeper rang the fog bell as required.

Sharp Practice of a New York Bank Teller.

ATTEMPT TO SWINDLE THE TREASURY.

Several weeks ago a letter was received at the Treasury Department from a party in New York, who requested that five hundred dollars in new money be sent him in place of an old five hundred dollar bill which he enclosed. On examining the enclosed bill it was discovered that it was considerably shorter than the ordinary bills, and a further investigation revealed the fact that it was a piece of mosaic ingenuity, it being wholly constructed, with the exception of one corner, of small strips of other bills of the denomination of $500. These strips were all neatly pasted on tissue paper, through which, however, the back of the note could be plainly seen. There were twelve or fifteen strips in all, forming apparently a complete bill.—The pieces taken from the other bills to form it did not impair their value, as under a rule established by Secretary Boutwell any bill from which less than one-half has been taken will be redeemed by the Treasury Department at the full value of the original bill.

The writer requested the new money to be sent him at a certain station in New York, and a treasury detective was instructed to watch the station and ascertain who called for the answer of the Treasury Department to the request. This was done, and a young man about twenty years of age, a bank teller, was arrested on the charge of attempting to defraud the government. He made a full confession, but begged so piteously for mercy that the detectives and a number of influential parties in New York unite in asking Geo. Spinner to forbear prosecuting him, as he was the only support of an aged mother and sister, and that was his first offence. The young man also wrote a letter to Geo. Spinner, imploring him for mercy, and considering all the circumstances, Mr. Spinner concluded to take no action in the case.—*Washington Star.*

Ben Butler's Three Cent Letter.

The story of Ben Butler's three cent letter all know, but there is one consequence of the epistle which does not seem to have occurred to the ingenious member. In response to a letter upbraiding him for his share in the salary steal, Ben says this:

Before you read that argument of oppressive taxation because of raising the salaries of Congressmen it would have been well for you to have taken your pencil and computed exactly how much that oppression would be upon each inhabitant of the United States, and you would have found the whole amount for two years to be something less than three cents. Feeling keenly how much you are oppressed by this "burden" I enclose herewith a three cent postage stamp, which will make you good and relieve all complaint on your part personally in that behalf.

Ben here commits himself to two propositions. First, that the three cents per head ought to be paid back, and secondly, that he Ben will upon application make the disbursement. Having sworn to the burden of refunding the steal pay rata, in one opportunity, there is no reason why he should not refund pro rata to another, and we accordingly suggest that drafts numerously signed be at once presented him. As most form of document this might be found useful:

[Date.]

At sight pay bearer three cents ($0.03), for each and every signature hereunto affixed, charging to estate steal account, respectively of same.

To B. F. Butler. [Signature.]

Colfax would be an excellent agent to collect to. On receiving the money he would swear he had not received it, and thus Ben would be the loser.—*N. Y. Herald.*

[illegible]—A company from Mobile, Ala., to the New York Herald, says that Brigadier General W. N. Pendleton, of the Army of Northern Virginia, and now pastor of the Episcopal Church at Lexington, Va., during his lecture on Gen. R. E. Lee, in that city made a charge of inefficiency, and attributed the loss of the battle of Gettysburg to the Confederates to General Longstreet. General Pendleton said that, to his personal knowledge, derived from Lee's own lips, Longstreet had the night before the battle received from the generalissimo in order to advance at the dawn of the next morning, that he (General Pendleton) had made a reconnoissance in person, and declared to Gen. Lee the perfect practicability of immediate assault upon the foes unprepared to stay. Now he has waited impatiently till twelve o'clock, but Longstreet at that hour rode up to his only and at upon his horse, weeping and inactive, until 4 o'clock P. M., when the head of his column did go in, his soldiers were fatigue against the now massed and concentrated enemy; and still Robert E. Lee, General Pendleton said, refused to lay the blame upon the shoulders of the man who had fought so often and so well for him.

New York Bridges.—With the magnificent project of a bridge between New York and Brooklyn now about being realized, there is connected two or three smaller avenues of communication with the neighboring shores that are attracting attention. The bridging of the East river over to Long Island is the most promising of these. One company has already obtained a charter to span the river directly across from Fortieth street. The bridge will be a long span on a new principle, and will be a link between the straight girder or tube and the suspension. Another project is to bridge the river, using Blackwell's Island as an intermediate station. This last will be nine thousand five hundred feet in length, and the spans of the East and West channels will be seven hundred and twenty feet. The whole structure will be one hundred and thirty-five feet above high water.—It will consist of a double track railway, a carriage way of twenty-four feet and three foot ways of twenty feet each. The cost of these bridges will not be less than five millions of dollars each.

Railroads and Timber.—It may rely upon the accuracy of recently published statements the question of the supply of timber for the construction and use of railroads is likely to become a very serious one. It is estimated that the number of railroad ties in present use in the United States are 150,000,000. A cut of two hundred ties to the acre is above rather than under the average, and it therefore has required the product of 750,000 acres of well timbered land to furnish the supply. Railroad ties last about five years, consequently 30,000,000 ties are used annually for repairs, taking the timber from 150,000 acres. The manufacture of rolling stock disposes of the entire yield of 350,000 acres, and a fuel supply of nearly 500,000 acres more every year. It appears, then, that our railroads are stripping the country at the rate of 1,000,000 acres per annum, and their demands are rapidly increasing.

The City of Trenton Claimed.—A strip of sand, now part of the land on which Trenton, N. J., is built, was thought to be of so little value, in 1805, that its owner in selling out his property, did not think it worth while to mention it in the deed. As Trenton grew this sandy strip was covered with buildings, and the heirs of the original owner now claim possession, with so fair a prospect of getting it, that a liberal offer has been made to buy their claim. The land which was valueless in 1805, is now valued at $4,000,000.

Prisoners' Aid Association.

We have received the fourth annual report of the Maryland Prisoners' Aid Association. The Rev. Mr. Mussey, the agent, gives the following account of his recent visit to our county:

Queen Anne's County.

The Almshouse in Ruthsburg is an old mansion house, built in the English style, commodious and comfortable rooms well separated. The colored inmates occupy the back building. 110 acres of land attached. The number of inmates were 40, when I found to be comfortable in their rooms, well fed and contented; provided with Bible and Testaments, but with no religious services, except in case of death, when they are buried with Christian rites. This is not the case with other Almshouses that I have visited even this New Asylum not excepted. I found no persons sick in bed; the rooms are well ventilated, and the whole building is heated by furnaces with registers. After passing in the Board Room, which is 20 feet square, to a very attentive audience, I distributed tracts and papers. The Overseer, Mr. Lucas, kept me over night, treated me hospitably and sent me next morning on my way to Centreville.

I was received with great kindness by the Sheriff, Mr. W. C. Dudley, who took me through the Jail. This building is immediately opposite the Court House. It is built of brick, is strong, clean, and well kept in all respects. It contains 10 cells, 4 in the basement, 4 in the second story, and 2 in the attic for female prisoners. There is a good yard, with a pump of excellent water. The location of the building is by fairness.

It is supposed to report that this jail, though containing 6 prisoners, (4 colored men, 1 colored woman, and 1 white boy of 14) has not been visited for years by any minister, nor is it supplied with Bibles, Hymn Books, tracts, or other religious reading, only through the Association. We had conversation, reading and prayer with the inmates, and left a supply of reading matter, and secured the promise of religious attention in the future from Rev. R. O. Sappard, M. P. C., Rev. S. T. Graham M. P. C., Mr. Emory, druggist, and Mr. Pratt, dry goods merchant, to whom I was introduced by the Deputy Sheriff, Mr. T. C. Bailey.

Terrible Snowstorm in Nebraska.—*Men Frozen—Cattle Perishing.*—Sioux City, Iowa, April 22.—The Democratic prints a special despatch from Lincoln, Nebraska, dated April 21, which says that reports of the late storm in Nebraska show it to have been the most severe ever known. The men were frozen to death within two miles of their homes, while trying to get to the stock to feed them. Near Bradford, a man named Keeler attempted to reach a neighbor's house, scarcely a half mile away, accompanied by his wife and child, and the two latter were frozen to death. Mr. Marshall, of Hastings, perished while trying to reach his stock in his house.—The wife and child of Mr. Pratt, living near Red Cloud, were frozen while attempting to reach a neighbor's after the house had been rendered uninhabitable. Four bodies were found on Friday on roads in the town. Families were compelled to take refuge in cellars to keep their beds for three days.—Houses were blown down or filled with snow. The destruction of cattle and horses was great. Some farmers lost all they had. One party lost a whole herd of seventy five head. The gorges on the railroads were filled with snow as hard as ice, and snow plows were useless.

View of a Democratic and Southern Apologist.—Washington, April 22.—A prominent republican Senator, who has lately had the opportunity of seeing the South for himself, last remarked since his return that if the general condition of affairs continues, such States as South Carolina and Louisiana for instance, must inevitably be Africanized. The result, of course will be the exodus of the whites, the utter decay of material prosperity, and ultimately the relapsing of those States into a wilderness. These observations apply equally as well to Louisiana as to the States mentioned. It cannot be doubted that personal contact with the people of the South, and personal experience of its condition, will go very far to modify the views of many of the leadingmen of the North, members of Congress and others, who have already gone, or who propose to go, down South now and next winter. It would be well if the knowledge thus gained should lead to such modification of the legislation affecting the South as would restore it to its wonted prosperity, and promote good feeling among all classes of its people, instead of the discussions which now prevail.

The Directors of the Elkton & Massey's Railroad met at Elkton last week and had an interview with Mr. Wingate, the engineer, and instructed him to make survey of a route as nearly direct as possible, and also one to approach as near the village of Cecilton as possible. The directors will determine after these surveys are made whether to select one or the other of these routes and which, or whether a third route shall be surveyed.

MARKETS.

WHEAT—White,	$2 00@2 07
Red,	1 80@1 82
CORN—White,	56@57
Yellow,	62@63
OATS,	60@62
RYE,	95

MARRIED.

On the 11th of April by the Rev. Thos. H. Harding, James Hooker to Miss Ellen Lane, both of Queen Anne's county.

On the 24th of April, by the Rev. Thos. H. Harding, Wm. L. Laehmoker to Miss Mary Horney, both of Queen Anne's county.

DIED.

Cora Lee, infant daughter of Wm. T. and E. H. Spence was taken up in the arms of the Great Shepherd, on Sabbath morning April 20th, aged 4 months and 15 days.

PEYSSON POUDRETTE.

A pure article. A trial the only test.—Cheaper than Phosphates. Farmers should use it to give their corn an early start and get it out of the way of the insect. For sale on accommodating terms, and delivered at any point desired by

WM. McKENNEY,
April 29. 6. Manufacturer's Agt.

CASSIMERS.

I would particularly invite the attention of the gentlemen to my large and varied assortment of French, English, Scotch and American Cassimers, which having been bought direct from importers, I feel confident in saying that they cannot be surpassed by any house on the Shore, *either in Style, Quality or Price.* Call and see them at the New Brick.

BOOTS & GAITERS.

City made, consisting of Alexis Ties, Calf Opera, Sewed Boots, also other styles of the most complete assortment ever before offered in this county, can be found at J. Hersey Hall's.

White Goods.—Jaconet check, Cambric, check and striped Nainsook, Bishop and Victoria Lawn, Swiss, striped and checked, Piquest Lonsdale Cambric, at the New Brick.

1873. SPRING & SUMMER 1873.

GOODS FOR THE MILLION

AT THE

J. HERSEY HALL

HAS JUST RECEIVED AND IS DISPLAYING

A VERY LARGE AND MAGNIFICENT

Stock of Merchandise

AT VERY LOW PRICES,

To an Examination of which he respectfully invites the Public Generally.

Dry Goods House.

Be sure and give us a call before purchasing elsewhere for it is a great pleasure for us to show our goods regardless of trouble.

Public Road Notice.

Notice is hereby given that thirty days after the date of this advertisement, the undersigned, citizens of Queen Anne's county, will petition the honorable County Commissioners for said county, to appoint Examiners to view and report upon the propriety of opening a NEW PUBLIC ROAD from the Crumpton road made by J. Morling Sudler, between the lands of S. S. Tarbutton and Jos. P. Dudley, and thence across wood lot of N. V. Dudley and wife, thence across the land of Emory Chase, (m), thence across the land of J. Morling Sudley and wife, to the gate of B. S. Ford, on the L. B. road on the farm whereon Wm. H. Stevens now resides.

JOHN McFADDEN,
J. MORLING SUDLER,
N. V. DUDLEY,
April 29, 1873-4t. and others.

Notice to Creditors.

Notice is hereby given, that the undersigned has obtained from the Orphans' Court for Queen Anne's county, letters testamentary on the personal estate of

JAMES S. COCKEY,

late of said county, deceased. All persons having claims against the said deceased's estate are warned to exhibit the same, with the proper vouchers thereof, to the undersigned, on or before the 29th of November next, otherwise they may by law be excluded from all benefit of said deceased's personal estate.

Given under my hand and seal this 22d day of April, in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-three.

JAMES E. COCKEY,
April 29, 1873-4t. Executor.

J. B. WEST. J. G. VANNORT.

WEST & VANNORT,

PORT DEPOSIT, MD.,

Will Contract for the Building of all Styles of

Framed Brick and Stone Edifices,

With or without all the Modern Improvements.

Specifications and Drawings Furnished.

Persons wishing to Build will find it to their interest to communicate with them.

They best of references given.

April 29, 1872-3m

TO BUILDERS.

Sealed Proposals for building a double two-story dwelling house—main building 40x28 feet, and kitchen 12x24 feet, with porch 5x12 feet—will be received by the undersigned Building Committee of the Workingmen's Permanent Building and Loan Association of Queen Anne's county, until the 16th of May next. Plan of building and specifications can be seen at the *Observer* office.

WM. W. BUSTEED,
A. H. WRIGHT,
J. HERSEY HALL,
April 29, 1873-2t. Committee.

NOTICE.

All persons having claims against the Dog Tax Fund are hereby notified to appear before the County Commissioners for Queen Anne's county, at their room, on Tuesday, the 6th day of May, 1873, and present the same, at which time a dividend will be made.

By order, R. GOLDSBOROUGH,
April 29, 1873-2t. Clerk.