

MARYLAND GAZETTE

T H U R S D A Y, N O V E M B E R 1, 1804.

WASHINGTON TONTINE.

GEORGE-TOWN, 6th October, 1804.

A NUMBER of proprietors in the city of Washington, with views to convert their property into immediate money, have formed the following PLAN of a TONTINE; and have appointed the following their agent for carrying the same into execution.

A list of the lots embarked in this enterprise precedes the plan of the institution. Plots of the city, in which these lots will be designated, will be lodged at the several taverns in Washington and Georgetown, for public inspection; and books will be opened in the city for receiving subscriptions of shares on the 1st day of December, ensuing. Should books be opened elsewhere, due notice will be given thereof. Payment must be made for the shares at the time of subscribing, but if contrary to reasonable expectation, a sufficient number of shares should not be subscribed for the execution of the scheme, the money shall be faithfully returned to the subscribers, and without any unnecessary delay.

The constitution of the Tontine is too plain to need explanatory remarks. The basis of the institution being a rising property, rated on a very low scale, the advantages must be greater than could result from a more common institution. It seems indeed more than probable, that each stockholder who survives the duration of the company, will find the value of his stock augmented twenty fold or more. If any think that this favors of extravagance, let them advert to the increased value of unimproved property in any of our large towns, during the last 20 years. Let them compare with the prices of the Tontine lots, those of the most indifferent property in any of these towns now. It will not be contended that any town in the United States had, 20 years ago, fairer prospects of rapid increase, than Washington has at this day. The fact will not be disputed, that the Tontine lots are generally amongst the most valuable in Washington.

The feat of government for such a country as the United States, cannot long remain an inconsiderable one. But Washington has an advantage more important than even this. It is the nearest seaport to any country which may be justly denominated the cradle of America.

A plan of this kind formed 20 years ago on the lots of unimproved property in Baltimore, or even in George-town, would have yielded to the surviving adventurers of this day a profit of forty, if not an hundred fold.

In May, 1800, Washington contained 3,200 inhabitants—in May 1803, 4,350. The number now exceeds 5,000. In the same ratio of progressive increase, the population in 1807 will be 6,600—in 1810, 8,800—in 1813, 11,800—in 1816, 15,800—in 1819, 21,000—in 1822, 28,000—and in 1825, 35,000. Men of sense, who examine the situation of the Tontine lots, will perceive that the whole of them must be in demand for improvement before the population arises to 20,000. From the time, however, it will, that our commerce shall principally depend on our own productions, and our own consumption, the increase of the city will be infinitely more rapid. The resources of the country attached to it by nature, are now equal to the maintenance of 60,000 souls in the city. These resources, diverted at this time into different channels, will be confined almost exclusively to Washington, when Europe shall be at peace, and each maritime nation can carry for itself. The usual mode of selling lots in our large towns is by the front foot—in Washington the mode is by the square foot. At the highest price in this plan, a lot 25 feet by 120 will be 240 dollars—the lowest 60 dollars; in squares where there are alleys, a lot more. The whole property leased out at 3s. per front foot, will pay more than 6 per cent. interest on the capital.

BEN. STODDERT.

following lots in the City of Washington are those engaged for the Washington Tontine.
lots number 1 2 in sq. 47, lots 1 6 in 48, lots 6 9 10 11 12 16 17 18 in 67, lots 5 6 7 8 9 10 12 13 14 in 68, lots 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 20 21 22 24 25 26 27 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 in 517, 6 19 in 70, lots 15 19 in 85, lots 21 22 in 86, lots 3 4 5 15 in 247, lots 2 3 19 20 21 in 263, 6 9 10 11 in 264, lots 21 22 in 231, lots 2 7 9 12 13 14 in 317, lots 1 2 8 11 in 318, lots 1 2 in 319, lots 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 in 343, lots 2 3 4 5 344, lots 15 16 17 18 19 20 in 374, lots 1 4 9 12 in 403, lots 3 4 5 6 7 in 404, lot 14 in 427, lots 2 3 4 5 6 in 428, lots 10 11 12 13 14 in 453, lots 18 19 20 21 22 23 in 454, lots 11 13 22 in 455, lots 3 6 8 in 518, 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 37 38 39 40 43 569, lot 2 in 629, lot 8 in 631, lots 1 2 3 4 8 5 in 874, lot 1 in 821, at 3 cents per square foot.

Lots 1 10 11 12 21 in 198, lot 1 in 184, lots 1 2 4 5 6 13 in 286, lots 11 15 in 288, lots 16 19 in 289, lots 6 8 in 320, lot 1 in 409, lot 1 in 455, lots 19 23 in 456, lots 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 in 529, lots 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 in 530, lots 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 in 534, lots 1 2 3 4 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 26 26 27 28 in 538, whole sq. 565, whole sq. 567, lots 1 2 3 4 5 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 in 568, lot 6 in 570, lots 5 6 in 580, lots 2 17 18 in 734, lot 13 in 799, lot 1 in 847, lot 4 in 902, lots 16 18 20 in 978, lot 1 in 994, lots 25 26 27 in 1000, lots 29 30 in 1048, at 4 cents per square foot.

Lots 20 21 in 218, lot 6 in 346, lot 6 in 409, lot 18 in 377, lots 18 22 in 490, lots 5 6 8 9 10 11 12 in 951, at 5 cents per square foot.
Lots 15 16 18 in 253, lots 6 7 in 255, lot 4 in 256, lot 7 in 223, lot 2 in 294, lot 6 in 322, lot 12 in 378, lots 2 4 14 15 31 33 in 24, lots 1 2 3 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 25 26 27 28 in 36, lots 3 4 in 223, lot 2 in 226, lots 2 3 4 in 456, lots 1 16 in 457, lots 5 6 12 13 14 17 21 in 490, lots 1 8 9 10 11 12 in 533, at 6 cents per square foot.

Lot 2 in 223, lot 1 in 226, lot 11 in 254, lots 8 9 10 11 12 in 252, lot 1 in 257, lots 10 11 in 291, lot 1 in 378, lots 13 14 in 406, lots 10 11 in 407, lots 6 10 in 431, at 7 cents per square foot.

Lots 21 23 24 in square 5, lots 7 8 in 6, lots 1 3 in 7, lots 1 2 4 5 6 7 17 18 in square 8, half of sq. 3, lots 3 12 13 14 15 16 in 17, lots 4 5 6 7 8 in 20, lots 1 2 25 26 in 33, lot 4 in 32, lots 1 2 3 in 27, lots 1 2 6 in 30, lots 1 2 8 10 14 15 in 31, lots 3 4 5 6 7 in 37, lots 3 4 5 14 15 16 in 41, lots 1 2 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 in 42, lots 2 3 4 5 in 43, lots 2 3 6 7 8 in 44, lots 1 2 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 in 55, lots 3 4 6 7 8 in 54, lots 1 2 5 6 7 12 in 56, lots 5 6 in 57, lot 4 in 59, lot 1 in 60, lots 4 5 7 in 61, lots 5 7 8 9 10 in 62, lots 1 2 3 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 25 24 in 77, lots 14 15 16 28 in 78, lots 13 14 15 16 in 79, lots 3 4 10 12 in 80, lots 1 2 21 in 81, lots 6 7 in 84, lots 14 15 20 in 86, lots 3 4 5 in sq. east of 87, lots 10 11 15 in 88, lot 14 in sq. east of 88, lots 7 8 9 15 19 in 102, lots 3 4 in 103, lot 1 in 104, lots 1 5 6 in sq. south of 104, lot 3 in 105, lot 6 in 119, lots 6 7 in 120, lots 1 10 in 122, lots 3 7 in 124, whole square 125, whole square north of 128, lots 19 20 in 141, lots 1 2 15 in 142, lot 6 in 144, lots 20 23 in 166, lots 3 4 5 in 170, lots 15 22 23 in 172, lot 2 in 200, lots 2 3 4 in 252, lot 6 in 254, lot 4 in 292 and lot 1 in 459—at 8 cents per square foot:

Amounting in the whole to

288,354 square feet at 2 cents	5,767
845,330	16,907
744,625	14,893
81,998	1,639
343,862	6,877
302,560	6,051
1,402,141	28,043
3,810,870	76,217

Upwards of 1200 lots, equal to 25 feet by 120.

WASHINGTON TONTINE.

Article 1. The capital of the company shall be two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, divided into shares of fifty dollars each; and the same shall be invested in three millions eight hundred and ten thousand eight hundred and seventy square feet of ground in the city of Washington, including privileges of alleys; to consist of the lots, a particular list of which is hereunto annexed, and which their owners have covenanted shall be conveyed by sufficient deeds of general warranty, and free from all incumbrances, unto David Peter and James Morfell, esqs. of the district of Columbia, and to the survivor of them, and to the executors and administrators of such survivor, to be held by them in trust until disposed of as hereafter directed, for the use and benefit of the company. The titles of every proprietor are to be investigated and approved of by John T. Mason and Philip B. Key, esqs. before passing the deeds.

Article 2. Every subscriber may, at the time of subscribing, or at any time before the first day of July, in the year 1805, nominate a person or persons with whose life or lives the shares taken for him shall be commensurate: And any person desirous of making provision beyond the reach of common accident, for persons of tender age, may subscribe in the names of such persons. Subscriptions may be also made by proxy. But until the nomination shall be made as aforesaid, the existence of the shares shall depend upon the lives of the persons in whose names they shall have been subscribed. All nominations on which the shares are to depend, must include a description of the age and place of residence of the persons nominated; and nominations not made at the time of subscribing, may be sent to the directors who shall be first elected to manage the concerns of the company, any time before the first day of July, as aforesaid.

Article 3. Upon the death of any person, with whose life a share or shares shall have been made commensurate, such share or shares shall thereupon be extinct; and all the interest of the owner thereof, in the property of the company, dependent upon such shares, shall cease and determine, and the same shall become the property of the owners of the surviving shares, meaning the shares dependent upon the lives of persons continuing to survive.

Article 4. The affairs of the company shall be managed under the superintendance and direction of five directors, who shall be stockholders, to be chosen in each year by ballot, by the stockholders attending in person, or by proxy, each to have as many votes as shares. The first election shall be held at Stelle's Hotel in the city of Washington, on the first Monday in February, 1805, under the direction of Robert Brent, John P. Van Nels, David Peter, Walter S. Chandler, and John Davidson, Esquires, or any two of them; and each succeeding election shall be held on the first Monday in every January thereafter, under the superintendance of at least two of the directors for the year preceding, at such place in the said city as they shall appoint, giving due notice thereof in one or more newspapers published in the city of Washington.

Article 5. The directors shall have full power to sell in fee-simple, or to lease on ground-rent, renewable for ever, the property belonging to the company; and to manage all the other concerns of the company; but they shall not dispose of more than one sixth part of the lots in any one year, prior to the year 1810; nor sell the same at less than 25 per cent. advance on the original cost; nor shall they lease them at a less rate than 12 and an half cents per front foot, for every cent cost to the company per square foot. But though the limits are thus fixed, below which the property cannot be disposed of, it is not meant that it is to be sold as fast as these rates can be obtained: On the contrary, the directors are at all times to exercise a sound discretion for the best interests of the company; and to keep in view the certainty of rise in the value of the property, from the increasing population of the city.

Article 6. All money arising from the sales of lots, shall be invested in the stock of the United States in the name of the company—the interest arising from which, as well as all money arising from ground-rents, shall also be invested in like stock, until the last day of December, in the year 1807—after which, all interest arising from stock, or sales of lots on time—and all monies arising from ground-rents, and all other profits, shall be divided semi-annually on the 15th day of January, and the 15th day of July in each year, among all the share owners, in proportion to the interest of each, whose shares existed by the continuance of the lives with which they were made commensurate, on the first day of that year.

Article 7. The dividends shall be paid at the office of the company in Washington, to the owners of the shares, in person, to their power of attorney, or to their written order; but before any dividend shall be paid, satisfaction must be afforded to the directors for the time being, that the person, on whose life the shares in question depend, was living on the first day of January in that year.

Article 8. In cases where the dividends are not claimed for six months after the same shall become due, and there is reason to doubt whether the person on whose life the shares depend on which such dividends arise continues to survive, the directors shall invest such dividends in stock of the United States, as if the same belonged to the capital of the company; but if the same shall thereafter be rightfully claimed, payment shall be made therefor out of any funds of the company, not invested in stock.

Article 9. The shares shall be transferrable, and all transfers shall be made on the books of the company, by the owners in person, or by power of attorney, according to the form used for transferring stock of the United States. But in cases where certificates have been issued by the directors to the owner of the shares, such certificate must be returned, and cancelled, before a transfer of the shares expressed therein shall be made.

Article 10. Every record of a transfer of shares; and every certificate issued for shares, shall designate the lives on which such shares depend.

Article 11. No change can be made of the person or persons on whose life or lives the shares shall depend. The life first nominated must for ever remain, the life on which the existence of the shares shall depend.

Article 12. The directors shall cause proper books to be kept of all their proceedings, accessible at all times to the stockholders; and shall particularly cause to be carefully recorded, the nomination of the lives on which the shares depend—and also the deaths of such persons when the same shall be clearly ascertained; and may transfer from time to time, the active duties of their trust, to one of their own body, or to