

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, S E P T E M B E R 26, 1805.

Miscellany.

FROM AN ENGLISH PUBLICATION OF MAY 29, 1805.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.

YESTERDAY this Society celebrated their anniversary. The business was opened, according to custom, by a speech from Ch. Taylor, Esq. the very able and worthy secretary of this society.

The views of this society, from its first institution, observed Mr. Taylor, have been steadily directed to a certain object, by which mankind can be improved or benefitted, and a division of its business into nine classes have been made, for the more methodical transacting thereof.

The worthy secretary next, after mentioning the routine of business in the investigation of matters, submitted to the society, proceeded as follows:

"It forms a part of my duty to state to this very respectable assembly, the rewards which are this day to be conferred in the several classes I have named, and to notice some of the advantages likely to arise from their labours. Permit me strongly to impress upon your minds, that these advantages are intended for the world at large; the members of this society discard the narrow principles of selfish interest; minute accounts of the inventions approved, are given in their annual volume, and the machines rewarded are gratuitously open five days in every week, in the repository of the society for public inspection. Agriculture has been long and deservedly a favourite object with this society, as well as with the more recent establishments of the board of agriculture, and the numerous provincial societies, having for their objects, the making and improving plantations of timber trees, amelioration of land, productive rotations of crops of grain and herbage, the preservation of such products, improvements in agricultural implements, and the means of contributing to the ease of labouring men.

"To the right hon. the earl of Bredalbane, who has lately improved a large tract of land in Scotland, unfit for the plough, by plantations of larch, and Scotch firs, which are now in a flourishing state, the silver medal of the society has been voted as a mark of their approbation.

"To Thomas Johnes, Esq. of Hafod, M. P. for Cardigan, the gold medal has been adjudged for planting 922,000 oaks, besides other valuable trees.

"To John Christian Curwen, Esq. M. P. for Carlisle, the gold medal has been adjudged for his admirable system of culture of beans and wheat. Upon this principle, after a good crop of beans hath been procured in summer, the same land has been sown with wheat in Autumn, and more grain produced than by a previous fallow.

"To William Taylor, of Beamish, the gold medal has been adjudged, for improving 308 acres of land lying waste, and rendering an estate, which cost him in May, 1799, 2,665l. at present of the value of 9,022l. 13s.

"I feel," continued Mr. Taylor, "a particular pleasure in noticing to you, that Capt. John Miller, the nephew to our worthy founder, Mr. Shipley, is entitled to a reward this session, for a pair of sheers for clipping wool, which will prevent the sheep from being wounded in shearing, which has frequently occurred; for which invention he will receive a silver medal.

"The necessity of enclosing land is universally known; hawthorn fences have been found most effectual, but are tedious in their growth; to obviate this inconvenience, Samuel Taylor, Esq. of Morton, has proved, by a variety of accurate experiments, that a greater increase of hawthorn plants may be had from the cuttings of the roots, than by any other mode, and that such plants are stouter and quicker in growth; for these experiments the society have voted him their silver medal.

"A nice discrimination is necessary to ascertain the progressive and comparative value of timber trees in plantations. A communication, received from Mr. John Farey, has shewn the method of making it, and contains many interesting observations relative to a plantation called Brown's Wood, belonging to the duke of Bedford, which has been made more than 26 years, for which he will receive the silver medal.

"The attention of agriculturalists has been much engaged in considering the best means of improving boggy land, and much has been said on the advantages of Mr. Elkington's mode of draining; but Mr. William Smith hath improved a considerable tract of land, where Mr. Elkington's attempt had failed, belonging to his grace the duke of Bedford, called Priley Bog, and by a superficial irrigation of such land, has brought twenty acres into firm land, producing the most valuable herbage. The society, for this communication, have voted him their silver medal.

"Mr. William Watson, of North Middleton, has continued his comparative culture of turnips, and

clearly proved, by experiments, that drill husbandry is much superior to the broad cast for this useful vegetable. The society have therefore voted to him the sum of ten pounds."

Mr. Seth Bull, of Ely, who received a reward in 1802, for planting officers, has been the successful candidate in the same class this session, having planted seven acres of land, for which he was entitled to the gold medal, or thirty guineas, but has preferred the latter.

These finishing the class of agriculture, Mr. Taylor resumed his speech, and entered on the class of chemistry, nearly as follows:—

"The premiums which have been offered in this class have been productive of great improvement in mineralogy, dyeing, printing, varnishing, and other arts; besides discoveries advantageous to the health of our seamen and manufacturers. A valuable discovery has been lately made by Mr. Thomas Vanherman, for making paints with fish-oil; which are more easily prepared, much lower in price, and more durable for out-door work, than those usually made with linseed oil; and are not liable to blister or scale. He has also given a process for a white paint, to be used in the interior of houses, and free from the noxious smell attending common paint. For these inventions the society have awarded to him their silver medal and twenty guineas.

"An easy and efficacious method of cleansing feathers from their animal oil, and foetid smell, by immersion in clear lime-water, had been shewn, for which the society have adjudged to Mrs. Ann Richardson, the premium of twenty guineas.

"A cheap and efficacious means of removing the dirt from dyed silks, printed cottons, carpets and woollen goods, has been discovered by Mrs. Ann Morris. It is effected by the mucilaginous liquor formed by grating raw potatoes into water, and applying the clear liquor, cold, with a sponge. This process removes dirt without injury to the delicate colours of silk or cloth. The society have voted to her the sum of fifteen guineas."

Mr. Taylor proceeded to point out the good effects of the society's premiums and bounties in the class of manufactures; who are

Mr. William Coston, of Ludgate-hill, was presented with the gold medal, for a substitute for Leghorn plait for ladies hats, specimens of which he produced, and also answered several questions put to him by his grace.

Mr. J. Beard, of Coggershall, a poor but very ingenious mechanic, received, what we are sorry to consider as but rather an inadequate reward, in the silver medal and 40 guineas, for his complete machine for forming the wire teeth of cotton and wool-carding machines.

Mr. John Austin, of Glasgow, received a silver medal, for various minor though useful improvements of his to manufacturing machinery.

The worthy secretary then made an excellent speech on the very great advantages which the community has reaped from the former and present labours and rewards of the society in the class of mechanics; and proceeded barely to state that the following premiums were delivered by the noble chairman, viz.

To Mr. George Smart, ordnance-wharf, Westminster bridge, for chimneys cleansed by mechanical means; the gold medal.

To Mr. Gilbert Gilpin, Old Park Iron-Works, Shifnal, for a crane for raising weights; the silver medal and thirty guineas.

To Mr. John Prior, Nestfield, Yorkshire, for a larum for pocket watches; the silver medal and twenty guineas.

To Mr. Robert Salmon, Woburn, for an improvement in canal locks; the silver medal and ten guineas.

To Mr. Joseph Davis, No. 14, Crescent, Kingsland road, for a day and night telegraph; the silver medal and ten guineas.

To Mr. Robert Salmon, Woburn, for a geometrical quadrant and staff; the silver medal and ten guineas.

To Mr. J. J. Hawkins, Dalby Terrace, city road, for a machine for cutting paper and the edges of books; the silver medal.

To Mr. John Antis, Fulneck, near Leeds, for improved door latches; the silver medal.

To Mr. Andrew Flint, for an expanding band wheel; fifty guineas.

To Mr. William Hardy, No. 1, Knowles' Buildings, Ilington, for a compensation balance; thirty guineas.

To Mr. J. Watkins, No. 9, Giltspur-street, West-Smithfield, for an improvement in time-keepers; thirty guineas.

To Mr. John Antis, Fulneck, near Leeds, for a detached escapement of a pendulum clock; twenty guineas.

To Mr. Henry Ward, Blandford, for a new striking clock movement; fifteen guineas.

To Mr. Thomas Parker, No. 6, Blue Cross Street, Leicester Fields; for a machine for shoe-makers; fifteen guineas.

To Mr. Peter Herfert, No. 33, Bow-Street, Covent-Garden, for a book-case bolt; ten guineas.

To Mr. Charles Le Caen, Llanely, for a check to carriage wheels; ten guineas.

From the (N. Y.) Balance.

IMPROVEMENT.

[In December last we published the following description of a close Fire-Place, invented by H. G. Spafford, of Chatham, in this county. Mr. Spafford has now obtained a patent for the invention; and is prepared to sell by states, counties, towns or single rights. He has also applied his improvement to stoves to be used with pipes, according to the description hereunto annexed. Edit: Bal.]

THE FIRE-PLACE.

THESE fire-places are either formed entire of cast-iron, or they are built of common materials, having jambs of cast-iron—the mantel a high arch. The jambs project beyond the front of the mantel so far that a plate of sheet-iron or tin may play up and down by and before the front of the mantel, within a groove in the jambs. This plate fitted carefully in the groove, and to the whole size of the front of the fire-place, plays up and down its entire height behind the casing of the breastwork or fire-piece, suspended by weights so as to form an equilibrium, and is designed to close the whole aperture of the fire-place at pleasure. In this plate, and near the bottom, is a small door for admitting air. This piece forms a moveable mantel, and is the mean for converting the open fire-place into a close stove at pleasure.

The best construction for a fire-place, regarding convenience in the preparation of fuel, culinary purposes, and warming a room, I believe to be a semi-circular mantel, a half mitre jamb, and much higher than they are commonly built in America. This plate effectually guards against smoke, and it is certain that the higher the mantel, the greater the benefit will be derived from the heat.

When wood is laid on which you design to kindle, by letting down the plate to the hearth, and opening the small door at the bottom, the air becomes so concentrated as to press forcibly on the fire, and occasion it to burn very rapidly. When the fire is kindled, raise the plate as high as may be, and yet confine the smoke to the chimney. In dry weather the plate may be raised much higher than common mantels; in windy and damp weather, lower the plate as occasion may require.

At the option of the builder, either stone, brick or iron, may be used in the construction of these fire-places. If of iron, the whole may be set apart from the wall and derive additional benefit from the heat; if of stone or brick, the aperture may be on any construction, only with an arched mantel, and the plate may play up and down in a groove in the jambs formed of those materials. It is evident that a bed of coals will waste as slowly behind this plate when let down, as in the close stove, and it is demonstrable that the heat spends as profitably. The front plate may be painted conformable to the room, and be extremely ornamental, especially in summer, when it may be let down and completely hide the fire-place.

The impulse to action is ever proportionate to the quantity of heat in a heated room, and the consequent current of air through any passage will be according to the chance of escape; thus the benefit we derive from fuel, when applied to the warming of our dwellings, will be in exact proportion to the quantum of heat retained and the continuance of such retention.

THE STOVE.

The ground plot is 19 inches square, (exclusive of a semi-circular projection in the front.) The stove dimensions are—the jambs 12 inches high, connected by a semi-circle, the radius 18 inches. The back 12 inches perpendicular—the jambs at right angles therewith, 6 inches in height; from the front at the top of the jambs, a projection to the back on an angle of 22 1-2 degrees, let fall to the point of intersection by a like angle from the jambs, at the height of 18 inches. The front being continued perpendicular, and the jambs at the top forming a half mitre with the back, also perpendicular. The height behind, 22 inches, shaped to the back, and covered with straight work on the top.

THE corporation of the city of New-York have offered a premium of Five Hundred Dollars for the first quantity of good Pit Coal, (not less than ten chaldrons,) which shall be brought to the city from any pit or mine in the state, within ten miles of the sea shore, or any part of Hudson's river below the village of Waterford.