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of a letter from Joshua Deaplans.

The information you ask on the Plaster of Paris; the best mode of improving exhausted lands; the best mode of making manure; the best mode of preserving stock through the winter, as well as the best mode of sowing wheat, shall be carefully given according to my experience. Your inquiry relates to the best mode of sowing plaster: I would recommend it to all cases to be scattered broadcast in with the grain of wheat; this is more absolutely necessary when the land is exhausted as it aids and nourishes the grain immediately on its coming when it stands most in need; it will roll their grain in plaster; it has been, for one hand to another, while another follows the grain, while another follows the plaster, at the rate of one bushel to the acre; where two or three harrows it requires two hands, but with one harrow a single person is sufficient for all operations, as he would first sow the grain and then the plaster. I would repeat a winter grain I would repeat a summer grain, the last of the first of March: this is not necessary after the first year, or after your lands were plastered, then only sow plaster with the grain. I would recommend harrowing in every kind of soil, and be sure to have your soil harrowed the first time, the soil was ploughed. This will level the soil, and if you have any cross ways; turns up your furrows. It is not necessary to put in deep, as a proof, put in your grain six inches deep, it will come up after two or three weeks, and you will find the main stem from which it took its growth, and new roots near the surface of the earth succeed—it only needs to be covered. Rye is the best crop to improve land and at the same time to raise clover. Rye is the best grain for work, and is valuable to fatten hogs, but upon this suggestion I expect a host of prejudices against me, experience however, has taught me to give way. For example, say you have a pen of hogs with water running thro' it, to which you give every day one barrel of corn; in ten pen you will lose all the manure, which will be carried off by every rain; you have another pen upon dry land, and littered with long rye straw; every rain the hogs will cut the straw and make their beds neat, and have not straw, leaves will be an excellent substitute; let the hogs be equal in both pens; to those in the second pen give only half a barrel of corn and one bushel of chopt rye; have two hogsheads near your pen, into which every day the two bushels of rye and have them filled up with water and stirred; let it stand twenty-four hours before used, give it to the hogs instead of water. Having two hogsheads, by the one is used the other will be kept up the hogs in both pens. When the hogs are killed you will find those in the dry pen will be ten per cent heavier, and if you choose of the pork I should prefer it; besides the manure will be the saving year. You may probably wonder your sheep upon rye fields without the least injury to you sheep—I generally let my sheep run on my rye fields the last of March. I have a

field which contains 20 acres, which ten years ago would not produce more than ten bushels of corn per acre. I ploughed it up and sowed it with rye and one bushel of plaster per acre; in February I sowed it with clover seed and one bushel of plaster; at harvest I cut 16 bushels of rye per acre; the spring following I sowed it again with one bushel of plaster, and mowed that season 2 tons of hay to the acre, and made 33 bushels of clover seed from the second crop; the spring following I sowed it again, with plaster as before, and cut that year 2 1/2 tons of hay—I then ploughed up the second crop and sowed it with wheat, which produced 28 bushels per acre. I then ploughed up the wheat stubble and sowed with rye, which produced me 25 1/2 bushels per acre; the spring following I gave it a dressing of manure, ploughed it up and plauted it in corn, first rolling the seed in plaster, and when it got up about six inches high, I sowed it broadcast with plaster at the rate of one bushel per acre, off of which I gathered 323 barrels of corn, (equal to 30 bushels per acre) the next spring I sowed it with spring barley (oats would equally prosper) which yielded 32 bushels per acre, which I sold in Georgetown at 1 dollar 50 cents per bushel; after cutting the barley I ploughed down the stubble and sowed it with wheat at the rate of 1 1/2 bushels per acre; and 1 bushel of plaster. This crop yielded me 33 1/2 bushels per acre; I then ploughed down my stubble and sowed down in rye, which I cut last summer and is now in the straw, and from which I think I shall get at least 30 bushels per acre; I sowed it last February with clover seed & intend mowing it the ensuing season. I have made this statement to prove that the only sure mode of improving land is by a regular routine of cropping. You will observe I did not sow this field every year with plaster, nor is it necessary; lands once well plastered do not need it, as its virtue will not be lost in less than 7 years; owing to the scarcity and high price of plaster, for the last two years I may say I have used none, and I do not believe I suffered for the want of it. Corn cropping ought to be avoided as much as possible upon exhausted lands, unless they become soddy; then they may be tended with advantage, both to the soil and cultivator.

Plough up the sod completely in April, harrow it well the same way that it is ploughed, then furrow it quite shallow, barely to make a furrow to plant your corn, be sure not to disturb the bottom of your sod, when the corn gets up about six inches, harrow it well and plough quite shallow; your corn will not look so promising at first, until the roots penetrate the sod; it will then grow rapidly and will not suffer from drought; as the sod if left down will retain the moisture: all the work given corn should be before harvest and in no case should corn be followed with winter grain; if you can give your corn ground a dressing of manure, I would sow it with oats, then plough up the oats and sow wheat, plough down the stubble, then sow rye, then clover seed; the clover remain two years, which would be making four crops in six years. If you have not manure to dress your corn ground, follow it the next year for wheat, plough down the stubble, sow rye, then clover seed; be sure never to plough your stubble but once, leaving all covered you possibly can, harrow in all your grain as I have before observed; when you plough down clover for wheat be sure to do it as neatly as possible, the seed turned under will lie the first year without sprouting—this ought to be done between the middle of August and September; after harvest plough down your wheat stubble, sow rye, and the clover seed turned under the year before by being brought to the surface, will come up so thick as to need little seed if any at all. In short when the ground is well set with clover you'll scarcely ever be compelled to sow more seed; my plan has been to raise a crop of wheat & rye, then let it lie one year in clover, then wheat and rye again, that is to make two crops every two years on the same land, except when I put corn and manure, then I generally take four or five crops running

before I give it rest—and would in no case advise land to lie in clover more than one or two years. The best mode of sowing manure when it is scarce and can only be applied to the corn hill, is to keep it in a close heap, to become well rotted; but if you can save enough to give the ground a top-dressing, I would prefer having it out in the raw state, and let it pass through putrefaction where it is to act; in this way your land will receive the whole benefit; if it is left in the barn yard every rain will wash away the beat of the substance.

I have for some years given my fields a top dressing in the poorest places, whenever the grounds were sufficiently frozen to go on them without injury.

Manure may be called the farmers Gold mine, and ought to be saved in every shape and manner. To increase the quantity, your stables should be kept well littered with straw; to have stables for your stock is equally important to preserve them during the winter and to accumulate manure, with such protection good hay will keep them in good order. A farmer should always proportion his stock to his means for subsisting them, and never overstock himself—as one horse well fed will do more work than two badly fed; one cow well fed will give more milk than two badly fed, and one good sheep more wool than two bad ones. In fine, nothing which a farmer keeps upon his farm, from his horse to his dog, should suffer for food—to make his farm profitable he should make a little of every thing to sell; he should not fix his mind upon one object of profit alone—Corn or hay I would not attempt to make for sale upon exhausted lands; after they are restored you may add the sale of corn and hay to a small extent. A farmer should be certain to have his work done in a proper manner, his ploughing finished and grain sowed in due time and season. When a farmer gets his lands in proper cultivation he ought to make 1000 bushels of grain to the hand, taking into calculation every kind he raises; in harvest and hay making he will be compelled to hire hands to save the crop.—During the last seven years I have worked five hands the year round, and my crops (including every kind of grain) have averaged five thousand bushels; this may be doubted; the reader may judge as he pleases, but I am bound to state the truth—our land holders who have most in their power trust too much to others, they should trust to their own judgment, and see that their plans are properly executed. The best ploughs for land clear of stone are made by Chenot of Baltimore, if the land is stoney and rough I would recommend Ogle's. On lands that have not been clovered I would sow one gallon of clover seed per acre, which ought to be done on rye in February—1 1/2 bushels of wheat, the last week in Sept. or the first week in October—one bushel of rye the 2d or 3d week in Sept.—two bushels of barley or oats as soon as the spring will admit. I have been thus full in giving my opinion; you can adopt as you may think advisable; should any thing I have said prove of advantage, I shall feel myself well rewarded.

From the Federal Republican.

A HINT TO THE QUAKERS: We had some time since occasion to lay before our readers the outlines of a plan proposed by Gen. Mason as an amendment to the militia law, and submitted to the Congress for adoption. Gen. Mason may fairly be considered as speaking the sentiments of the cabinet on this important point. This may be inferred from Gen. Mason's known confidence with the cabinet, and more distinctly and emphatically still, by the entire congeniality of his plan to the conscriptive system of Mr. Munroe. These two plans so perfectly agree in all their leading and essential features, that it is difficult not to believe them the productions of the same brain. The members of our cabinet have been notoriously in the habit of framing bills for Congress to register. These bills have been delivered into the hands of some cabinet favourite, who presents them to Congress for their adoption. By

these means it will be seen, that our cabinet avoid the odium and responsibility of their own measures. These measures, obnoxious as they are, and revolting to common sense, are said not to spring from the cabinet, but from the people; & when the executive sanction is added to the law, he pretends only to obey the popular impulse. The constitutional responsibility of the cabinet is thus thrown upon the people. Let those who doubt the accuracy of this statement, turn to the pamphlet of Mr. Robert Smith, and they will find this fact expressly avowed. We all remember what a flow of indignation was excited by the conscriptive system of Mr. Munroe! So strong was the sensation, that, although we were then engaged in a war, in which our enemy threatened to assail us in all assailable points; although the ashes of Washington still retained the embers, so strong we say was, the abhorrence of this measure, that this bill was never passed into a law. It was indignantly rejected.

Now, at a time when all the world is in a state of profound peace, when there is not even a plausible pretext for such high-handed measures, we behold the conscriptive system of Mr. Munroe, with more odious features proposed for adoption. Now is it too much to suspect that our cabinet are themselves the authors of this measure! Would a man high in their confidence, bring forward such a plan without their concurrence, and would he model his project according to Mr. Munroe's conscription bill, if such a project was hostile to the views of our president elect! That Mr. Munroe does entertain these ideas, we have the best of all evidence, his own confession in his own handwriting, and under his own signature, to prove. This rebuked secretary has strong motives now to conceal his opinion on this point—he had formerly experienced nothing but disgrace and defeat, when he urged his conscriptive project on the attention of Congress, and he would not willingly now encounter so much shame and mortification again, while standing as a candidate for the Presidential office, by avowing opinions so unpopular with his own party. We do therefore, considering the scape-grace majority obtained by Mr. Munroe, over his competitor Mr. Crawford, in the democratic caucus, think that our wily secretary with the consequences of his recent defeat full before his eyes, deemed it most prudent to suppress his own opinion, play a Madisonian game, and deliver his own opinions to Congress through the medium of another. We make these preliminary remarks, because we do not believe that Gen. Mason, has brought forward a plan before Congress for adoption, hostile to the opinions of the cabinet. Let us now see how far that plan comports with those ideas of civil and religious liberty, which it has ever been our boast to have enjoyed in such perfection. The following is an extract, from the amendments to the militia bill, submitted by Gen. Mason, to the consideration of Congress.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That every non-commissioned officer, musician, or private of the militia, who shall have been detailed by draft of otherwise, in obedience to this act, for actual service, shall immediately upon receiving orders to rendezvous or join his detachment, be considered as detached, and as in the actual service of the United States; and if he shall refuse or neglect to appear at the place of company or regimental rendezvous, or to march or join his corps when ordered so to do by his superior officer in the detachment, and shall fail to furnish a substitute, as shall hereinafter be provided, to perform his tour of duty, he shall be considered as a deserter, and shall be dealt with accordingly. Provided, nevertheless, that any non-commissioned officer, musician, or private of the militia, who shall be detailed for the service of the United States agreeably to the provisions of this act, shall have a right to furnish, before the detachment marches, or within fifteen days thereafter, an able bodied man, belonging to the militia, as a substitute; if, however, the man detailed who shall offer a substitute, shall be a non-commissioned

officer or musician, his substitute shall not be accepted, unless he shall hold a similar rank in the militia with the non-commissioned officer or musician who shall offer him. And provided also, that whenever any private who shall be detailed under this act shall be either of those religious sects denominated Quakers, Methodists, or Dunkards, or of any other religious sect whose established and known religious tenets render the members thereof conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms, and he shall fail to comply with the requisites of this act, either in person or by furnishing a substitute, it shall be lawful for the officer commanding the detachment, and he is hereby required forthwith to employ a substitute for him on the most reasonable terms that he can, if in his opinion such private hath property sufficient to pay and satisfy the sum contracted for, and provided the amount contracted to be paid shall in no case exceed five hundred dollars. And it shall be lawful for such substitute forthwith to sue for and recover the sum so contracted for, from such private, by motion in any court of record in the State, Territory, or District where he shall reside, provided ten days notice be given of such motions. And in case such private, so being scrupulous of bearing arms, should not, in the opinion of such officer, possess sufficient visible property to hire a substitute, according to the provisions hereof, then such private, if he fail to furnish a substitute, shall be compelled to go in person and to serve in any other capacity than that of a soldier bearing arms.

Here that respectable class of society denominated Friends, are told that if they are drafted to do military duty, they may in the first instance be allowed to furnish a substitute—if they hesitate from religious scruples to do this—the commanding officer shall furnish substitutes for them: by which they may incur forfeitures of five hundred dollars each, if they have so much property in the world. On the other hand if they have not property to that amount, they shall be compelled to march notwithstanding, & to do menial services in the camp. These are some of the promised blessings of democracy—of men who pompously boast of their exclusive regard to freedom of religious opinion. A Quaker oppressed by poverty was to be allowed no alternative but to take his musket and fight, or to become the menial slaves of those who do. When Buonaparte's conscriptive system was broken into fragments by the united majesty of Europe, while that royal monk was compelled for such sins, to perform a pilgrimage to St. Helena, it was reserved for an American Congress—the legislators of a free nation, to see the outlines of a plan formed on the same model proposed for their adoption. This very project of Buonaparte recommended to Americans, has deluged Europe in blood, carried fire and devastation through her fairest provinces, and has finally put the superb and magnificent city of Paris into the hands of her triumphant & victorious masters.

The Quakers it is true are told by Gen. Mason, that they may enjoy religious toleration, provided they will exchange condition with the natives of Africa, and become the slaves of a camp. The lot of the African slave would have been enviable compared with that of the Quakers, if this nefarious project of Gen. Mason had passed into a law. They have been born to servitude, and they have known nothing better. But here, a free born American, one who has always breathed the vital air of liberty, is told that he must either renounce the most awful obligations to his God, or submit to a slavery more intolerant than the servitude of the Africans. He would be then insultingly told—Your religious scruples remain untouched by the government. They enjoin nothing upon you but the slavery of the camp; freedom of opinion you may freely enjoy provided you suffer us to load your bodies with chains & to pinion your limbs with our fetters. Fellow citizens of Maryland, solemnly duty is shortly to devolve upon you, and that is to determine whether you will be

CHARLES RIDGWAY, ESQUIRE, GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND. A PROCLAMATION. Whereas, it has been reported to me, by George A. Smith, Esq. Sheriff of Caroline County, that Smith, of Levin, who had been sentenced by the court of Caroline County at March Term eighteen and sixteen, to seven years confinement in the Penitentiary for horse-stealing, made his escape from the goal of line County on the night of the instant. And whereas, it is the duty of the Executive, in the execution of the laws, to endeavor to bring the delinquents to justice; I have thought proper to issue this my proclamation, and do, by and with the vice and consent of the Council, hereby reward of TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS to any person who shall apprehend and deliver to the Sheriff of line County the said John Smith, Levin. Given under my hand, and Seal of the State of Maryland, twenty-sixth day of March, in the Year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixteen.

O. Ridgely, of How. By His Excellency's command, Ninian Pinkney, Clerk. Of the Council. John Smith, of Levin, is about feet nine or ten inches high, thirty or thirty-five years of age, his clothing is not recollected; would it be necessary to give a description of them, if remembered, he doubts he will change them; he has a downward and austere look, his eyes are very talkative, he is very fond of, and takes liquor, as well as at all other times, is a great braggadoocio, slightly tipsy, and swears without any regard to the grain and then the plaster. Ordered: That the foregoing proclamation be published eight times in the Maryland Gazette, Federal Gazette, Telegraph, Federal Republican, and at Fredericktown, and the Examiner.

Public Sale.

Will be exposed at public sale, order of the vestry of St. James parish, Anne-Arundel County, at the Point, on Tuesday the 7th day of next, at 11 o'clock, THE GLIMPPLANTATION belonging to said parish, containing between 4 and 5 acres of land, adjoining to Pig Pen and bounding on the river Patuxent, of a mile. This land is well adapted to the growth of Indian corn, rye and tobacco. There is on the premises a comfortable frame dwelling kitchen. The terms will be made commodating, and known, on the day of sale. The premises will be sold to any person wishing to view them previous to the day of sale, by Rezin Estep, residing in Pig Pen April 18, 1816.

50 Dollars Reward.

Ranaway from the subscriber, living in Anne-Arundel County, Maryland, near Queen Anne, on the 10th inst. likely, light mulatto lad, called Charles Jackson, about 5 feet, 8 or 9 inches high; had on when he absconded blue round jacket, trimmed with dark blue pantaloons very much worn, white domestic cotton shirt, a new hat, and boots, he has also a new pair of other clothing with him, which is unknown—He is an artful fellow, and he reads and writes very well, doubt will forge a pass to answer purpose. The above reward, will be given, for securing him in any County so that I get him again, or 60 Dollars if brought to me. William G. Sander.

State of Maryland, so

Anne-Arundel County, Orphans Court April 23d, 1816. On application by petition of Philip Hammond, administrator with the will annexed of Joshua Clarke Higgins, late of Anne-Arundel county, deceased, it is ordered by the court that he give the notice required by law for creditors to exhibit their claims against the said deceased, and that the same be published once in each week, for the space of three successive weeks, in the Maryland Gazette, Political Intelligencer, & one of the Baltimore papers. John Garrison, Reg. Wills, A. A. county.

This is to give Notice.

That the subscriber of Anne-Arundel county, in Maryland, who has been appointed administrator of the personal estate of Joshua Clarke Higgins, late of Anne-Arundel county, deceased, has caused persons living claims against the said deceased to exhibit the same to him on or before the first day of November, eight hundred and sixteen, they may either by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate. Given under my hand this twenty-third day of April, 1816. Philip Hammond, Adm. of J. C. Higgins.

The Editor of the Federal Republican in Baltimore, will publish the account of the late war, and transmit the account to the office of the Maryland Gazette for publication.