

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Annapolis, Thursday, Jan. 21.

COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Society Auxiliary to "The American Society for Colonizing the Free People of Colour in the United States," will take place on Thursday the 23rd instant, at 4 o'clock, P. M. in the Room of the House of Delegates.

It is suggested by a gentleman from Baltimore, that the celebrated vo al performer, Mr. BRANNON, who has been so much admired in Dublin, London, New York and Philadelphia, for his musical powers, intends visiting this city the latter end of this week, or beginning of the next, say Monday, for the purpose of giving a Concert.

For the Maryland Gazette. CONVERSATIONS OF MY LANDLADY. No. 4.

Our venerable landlady, in whom we hope our readers begin to take some interest, and to whose occasional observations we have proposed to ask their attention, had been in the course of her life, an admirer of novels; but her excellent sense enabled her to discover what there was in novels entitled to praise, and what was worthy of censure. A conversation of some length, will furnish the number of this day. It will be seen, that the old lady was not one of those who would recommend it to young misses to read novels, in order to pick out of them fine sentimental love speeches for the gentlemen; or indeed, who believe that novels will teach us how to love, or expect to be loved. Perhaps many of the admirers of novels chuse to think otherwise, and will continue to talk wondrous prettily, uttering all the while other people's sentences. Let them not however quarrel with Aunt Nelly because her thoughts were so unlike to their own.

Some people read novels, and plays, and poetry, for the sake of the pretended emotions, and the fine expressions with which they abound. Many of these expressions they will commit to memory, and because they thereby are enabled to talk and write in most rapturous terms, conclude that they have ardent feelings. This too, they may contrive to make others believe. Hence also the strange notion, that novel reading has a tendency to produce in us extravagant feelings. I apprehend that the whole of this is a miserable delusion, and that reading of this description, though it may fill us with extravagant and out of the way notions, rather blunts and runs our feelings; and that the less we indulge in such reading, the more of real feeling we shall possess. It is certain, that when we feel most we are least apt to deal in borrowed phrases—when the heart is full, it can express only its own feelings, and will always express them in its own language. Nobody else can have or imagine exactly our feelings; the language of others, therefore, cannot be altogether suited to the expression of them. When therefore we apply to others for terms in which to give utterance to our emotions, we necessarily go away from ourselves, and in searching for, or endeavouring to recollect, the manner in which others have felt, or talked upon, perhaps a somewhat similar occasion, we must forget ourselves, and our feelings, and the natural & only honest language of them. Our own real natural feelings, therefore, so far from being improved and perfected by this practice, are injured, because they are entirely neglected, and in time we may become utter strangers to our own hearts—the real sensibilities of them—and mistake the feelings of others for our own, just as by long practice of committing to memory, and repeating as our own, the sentences of others, we will in time forget that our conversation and writing are made up of quotations, and that thoughts and phrases, which in truth we have borrowed, are original.

How can such reading add anything to the exquisiteness of our feelings? If the author be incapable of giving just thoughts, and suitable expressions to each of his characters, he must disgust every at all rational reader. If his expressions be suited to the feeling, and the feeling to the character, then neither will suit any character,

not in many respects like that to which they are appropriated. Who would expect to feel, when surrounded by every comfort, like him who is suddenly bereft of friends and support? Yet this would not be more absurd than to suppose, that lovers in real life, exposed to no extraordinary vicissitudes, & forced to encounter no apparently insurmountable obstacles, should experience all the agonies of a heroine, who is made to love, more than woman ever did love, and who, when she is just about to be made the happiest of mortals, after having endured all the trials and doubts, and miseries of love, is deprived of her lover, she knows not how, and is made to spend years of actually insupportable misery, before she can get the slightest intelligence by what unseen hand he has forcibly been torn away from her, and to what section of the globe he is transported, in order to prevent their union?

Again—I apprehend that there is a wide difference, not only in the love of different lovers, but in the sort of love which the same individual would feel for different women. There are unquestionably, some women, and men too, who enslave the hearts of their lovers at first sight—Others may possess as much tenderness, be as worthy of the warmest affections of a lover, and yet have none of these obvious fascinations, which cannot escape the notice even of careless observers. Some women madden the fancy, & steal away the judgments of their devoted admirers, and this before even an acquaintance is formed with them. Others have none of these witcheries, and must be content, not to be loved until they are well known; and only by those who know them intimately, and have been able to discover their more hidden virtues and excellencies. Novels introduce to us almost always characters of the former description; and in my judgment it is the great excellence of a novel writer to be able to make their heroes and heroines just these characters. The author who fails in describing one single feature, or does not make the parties of the right height, the right figure, and in every respect just the sort of people who can love, and who can be loved as soon as they come in contact with the object to be loved, commits a blunder, for which no other excellence can atone. Now, a person who expects to love, and to be loved, exactly as a favourite hero and heroine loved, is most unreasonable, unless placed in the same situation, and unless the hero and heroine be in all respects in height, form, look and expression of countenance, the exact originals of the lovers in real life. The man who would pretend to a lady of the latter description, given above, that he fell in love with her as soon as he saw her, would be a scoundrel, and would be induced to make the declaration by some motive which real love would not acknowledge. Those who wish to have the most devoted admirers before marriage, and cold husbands afterwards, ought to choose to be ladies of the former description. These, on the contrary, who wish to be loved as much after as before marriage, may be contented, altho' it may be thought that their merit is rather of the latter description. It is certain, that after being married two weeks, no man is ever loved by his wife, or woman by her husband, for beauty. Each may be proud or vain of the beauty of the other, and pleased to hear others admire it; but this vanity does not proceed from affection, because it very often exists, and perhaps exists in the greatest degree, when love has given place to feelings somewhat related to disgust. In the commendations of others is found some of that happiness which it was expected the object once beloved would have secured. It has been said, and I believe the remark is just one, that men, after marriage, will love their wives most ardently if they are not handsome. An attachment, which commences in an instant, is not likely to be of long continuance. It can have no root; and hence it is, that the novelist's story always concludes as soon as his characters are married. I would not do attempt to continue the story any longer. There can be little affection among such lovers any length of time after the marriage ceremony.

I admit, that a man and woman may almost at first sight select each other, without possessing these fascinations which lovers in novels have. But in these cases, there is

no real love, and in truth the parties marry expressly to get rid of all the love which distresses them. Rousseau could have accounted for the feelings of such lovers.

No person, I insist upon it, ought to read novels, to find out, either how they ought to love, or when they are in love. Some novels, however, possess considerable merit, but unfortunately the valuable parts of them are not much attended to. Many of them give us just notions of character, and the real characters of those, many of whom may be found in real life, who captivate our fancies, and contrive to get possession of our understandings, as well as affections, though utterly destitute of any thing like real merit. These will serve to shew us, before we have been taught it by bitter experience, what talents, some, who are indeed destitute of every valuable talent, possess for discovering the blind side of the ingenuous and artless, of worming themselves into their confidence, & swindling them out of their affections and understandings. But then we are apt to read such passages, (the most valuable in the book,) without any self-application. We read, in truth, the characters of ourselves, and our most intimate pretended friends, and it does not once occur to us, that we have ourselves been the dupes of those very art fices, which we are perhaps astonished to find, have been practised with so much success upon others. When we read thus, we are blind indeed.

I say nothing of bad, silly novels, nor yet of those parts of good novels to which such violent objections are made, to wit, that they represent degrees of unmixed happiness, or exquisite misery, which can never be met with here, or women with every virtue, in love with men, without any faults. A reader must be silly indeed, who can be injured by such things.

Legislative Proceedings.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Thursday, Jan. 7.

Mr. Brawner delivers a bill to incorporate a company under the name of The Hydrant Company of Port-Tobacco. Read.

The supplement to the law incorporating the Bank of Westminster, was passed—yeas 42, nays 27.

Mr. Saulsbury reported a supplement to the act for building a bridge over Choptank near Denton.

Mr. Kell reported a bill securing to mechanics and others, compensation for erecting houses in the city of Baltimore. Ordered to a second reading on the 15th inst.

On motion of Mr. C. Dorsey, Leave given to bring in a bill to prevent any further expense to the state arising from the power now exercised by the civil authorities of the city of Baltimore of sentencing vagrants taken up in the said city to undergo a confinement in the penitentiary. Messrs. Dorsey, Kell and Breckenridge, were appointed the committee.

The bill incorporating a company to make a turnpike road from the west bank of the Conococheague to intersect the Cumberland road, was passed and sent to the senate.

On motion of Mr. C. Dorsey, Leave given to bring in a bill providing for the registering of free negroes residing in the state.—Messrs. C. Dorsey, Wilson and Murray, were appointed the committee.

Friday, Jan. 8.

Mr. Kennedy reported a resolution, requesting the executive to furnish the secretary of the treasury of the U. S. with a statement of such roads and canals within the state which may be considered worthy of assistance and encouragement from the general government, particularly designating the Potomac river, the roads from Washington and Baltimore to the western county, and the road leading from Baltimore to Elkton.

Mr. Breckenridge delivers a bill to incorporate the Baltimore Friendly Society; also a bill to incorporate the Cape Sable Company for making copperas and allum.

Saturday, Jan. 9.

The resolution relative to internal improvements, was read the second time. On motion of Mr. Harrison, the word "Susquehanna," & the words "and the proposed canal from the Chesapeake to the Delaware Bay," were inserted. On motion of Mr. Maulsby, the words "and the bridge over the same,"

were added to said amendment. On motion of Mr. Washington the word "Washington" was stricken out, and the words "District of Columbia" substituted. The resolution, thus amended, was assented to.

Monday, Jan. 11.

PETITIONS.

From sundry inhabitants of Baltimore and Harford, for the better regulation of weighing hay in the city of Baltimore. From Thomas Stallings, and others of Allegany, securities of Thomas Pollard, to be released from a debt due by Pollard to the state. From sundry inhabitants of Hagerstown, that the vendors of goods at public auction in said town, may be compelled to pay a license. From John R. Magruder, of Prince-George's, that the time for placing his fees in the hands of the sheriff may be extended. From Margaret Hall, for a divorce. From Anna Boyd, of the city of Baltimore. From Jas. Hewitt, a revolutionary soldier. From Thomas Monnett, of Allegany, to remove slaves into the state. From Samuel Griffith, of Montgomery, a revolutionary officer. From Joseph Annals, of Dorchester, to be authorised to mortgage certain property.

Mr. Jenifer reported favourably on the petition of Charles Sewall. Mr. Breckenridge reported a bill to establish a legal rate of interest, and to repeal certain parts of the laws against excessive usury.

Mr. Worthington reported a bill to make a turnpike road from the Frederick and Baltimore road, commencing at the west end of Frederick-town, to Harper's Ferry.

Mr. Kell reported a bill to confirm an act of last session, to alter all such parts of the constitution as relate to appointments to offices of profit and trust by the governor and council.

Mr. Kennedy reported unfavourably on the petition of John Eöbey—concurring with.

The senate returned the supplement to the act to establish a bank to be styled The Bank of Westminster, [proposing the establishment of a branch thereof in Frederick-town] endorsed, "will not pass."

Mr. C. Dorsey reported a bill more effectually to protect the right of property in corn, and in other things adhering to the freeholder.

Tuesday, Jan. 12.

PETITIONS.

From sundry inhabitants of Talbot, for an alteration in the mode of electing the governor and senate of Maryland. From Benj. Pierce, of Cecil, to be remunerated for damages sustained by him by opening a road. From Matthew Cannon, of Somerset, for a divorce. From Henry Aquiton, of the city of Baltimore, for a divorce. From sundry inhabitants of Harford, that the division line between said county and Cecil may be permanently fixed. From John Frey & Thomas Cole, of Cecil, for special acts of insolvency. From Peter Guillet, of Somerset, to hold real property.

The house proceeded to the second reading of the bill to abolish all such parts of the constitution & form of government as relate to the time and manner of electing the senate, and the mode of filling up vacancies in that body. After some time spent, in discussing several amendments proposed, the house adjourned.

Wednesday, Jan. 13.

The senate having refused to pass the resolution of the house of delegates, with respect to the per diem during the "recess," as deficient in appropriate phraseology, and not calculated to produce any practical result, Mr. C. Dorsey, under the direction of the committee of claims, submitted an order, "denying to the members and officers of the house, during the adjournment, any per diem." Mr. Lecompte moved to amend the order, "directing the present committee of claims to adjust the diary in the usual and accustomed manner," also expressing the opinion of the house, "that it would not be considered a violation of any moral or legal obligation, should any member think he is allowed more than he is justly entitled to, to refuse to take the same, and to permit it to remain in the treasury." Upon Mr. L's motion, the house was equally divided—yeas 37, nays 37, and of course, was negatived.

Mr. Stewart then moved, "that low each member such share of a committee of claims should be reasonable, upon consideration of all circumstances." Determined in the negative.

The question was then put on the original proposition, as amended by Mr. C. Dorsey, and was determined in the negative—yeas 41.

The house having refused to pass the instruction, the committee of claims held themselves bound, in the usage of past committees, to unanimously determine to adjourn each member attending on the day of the adjournment, his per diem until the conclusion of the adjournment.

It is understood that several members of both parties will receive the allowance—40, soon after the adjournment. It is intimated that a proposition will be made to have their names inserted on the journals of the house, in perpetual testimony of their interested patriotism!

The other business of the day was not interesting.

Thursday, Jan. 14.

Mr. Kell presented the petition of sundry mechanics of the city of Baltimore, praying that a law be passed prohibiting the manufacture of any articles in the penitentiary at Baltimore; that it interfere with the profits of their business. The petition was read and referred to Messrs. Kell, Maulsby, Dorsey, Kennedy and Lecompte.

On motion of Mr. Lecompte a petition was ordered to be printed.—The bill to regulate the admission of Attorneys, coming from other states to reside in this state, to practice in our courts, was read a second time. It was supported by Messrs. E. S. Thomas, Dorsey, Breckenridge and Kell—and opposed by Messrs. Lecompte and Maulsby. Question on its passage, was determined in the affirmative.—The bill sent to the senate. It was very soon after returned, endorsed "read the first, second and third time, by a majority order, and will not pass."

The bill was mainly directed against a regulation of Baltimore county court, requiring a probationary residence in the state previous to admission to the bar. On motion of Mr. C. Dorsey, the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the bill for changing the mode of electing the Governor, &c. Mr. Wilson in the chair.

Mr. C. Dorsey moved so to amend the bill as that none other than native born citizens of the United States should be eligible to the office of Governor. This motion was opposed by Messrs. Harrison, Worthington, Kell and Breckenridge. It was said to be incorrect in principle, contrary to sound policy, and inconsistent with the liberal feelings of the American people, and the genius of our government—that it made an "odious distinction" between natural born citizens and foreigners.

All these objections were answered in a handsome and satisfactory manner by Mr. C. Dorsey. The debate continued till near 4 o'clock, P. M., when the committee rose, obtained leave to sit again, & the house adjourned.

Friday, Jan. 15.

The house again resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the Executive bill. Mr. Wilson in the chair.

The debate of yesterday, upon the motion of Mr. C. Dorsey for the exclusion of foreigners from the chief magistracy of the state, was renewed. It was supported by Messrs. Forrest, Jenifer and C. Dorsey, and opposed by Messrs. Stephen, Breckenridge, Maulsby & Worthington. The several speakers displayed considerable ability, ingenuity and eloquence, in support of their respective opinions. On the question, it was astonishing to discover that the committee divided precisely according to the strength of parties! Every federalist voting in favour of the proposition, and every democrat against it. Who could have supposed this would have been made a party question? The committee rose, and reported the bill without amendments. The further consideration of it was postponed until to-morrow.

Leave was obtained to bring in a bill supplementary to the laws of last session, providing for the recording of the judicial proceedings of the several courts of this state. The house adjourned.

Saturday, Jan. 16.

The house resumed the consideration of the Executive bill. Mr. Lecompte moved an amendment that there should be a council to the Governor. It was opposed by Mr. Harrison, and determined in the negative.

Mr. C. Dorsey proposed that none but a native citizen of the United States, or a citizen of the United States at the time of the adoption of the constitution of the United States, should be eligible to the office of Governor. It was determined in the negative.

Mr. Harrison moved that the Governor should be elected alternately from the Eastern and Western shore. Determined in the affirmative.

Mr. Forrest moved that the Governor should not be elected often than once in nine years from any county. Determined in the negative.

Mr. C. Dorsey moved, that he should be elected once in nine years from the south side of Patapago river. This Mr. C. Dorsey said, was done with the view to the protection of the Potomac interest. That in the spirit of concession that the particular interests or feelings of the Eastern shore had been protected, he could see no reason why the Potomac interest should not be equally regarded. It was opposed by Messrs. Breckenridge and Kennedy, and supported by the mover and Mr. Forrest. Determined in the negative.

Mr. Forrest moved, "that in the appointment of chancellor, judges, district attorneys, &c. the appointments should be subjected to the revision and ratification of the senate—determined in the negative.

Mr. Lecompte moved, that the Governor should not be permitted to take the command of the militia in person without the request of a resolution of the general assembly. This proposition was supported by Mr. Maulsby, and determined in the affirmative.

Mr. Lecompte moved, "that the appointment of all civil and military officers of the state should be subjected to the revision and ratification of the senate; thereby rendering the constitution of the state similar to that of the United States—determined in the negative.

Mr. Kell moved, that the appointment of all judicial officers, should be subjected to the revision and ratification of the senate.—Determined in the affirmative.

The bill as originally reported vested the entire power of the state without any control in the hands of the person who might be elected as the chief magistrate.

The house adjourned.

SENATE.

Saturday, Jan. 9.

The bill to quiet possession, and prevent suits at law, was read the third time, amended and passed.

Monday, Jan. 11.

A number of bills were this day received from the house of delegates and read.

The supplement to the act to establish a bank, and incorporate a company, to be styled the Bank of Westminster, was read the third time and will not pass.—Returned to the house of delegates.

The bill to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road from the west bank of the Conococheague creek, at William's Port, to intersect the Cumberland turnpike road near Stone Quarry Ridge, was read the third time, passed with amendments, and returned to the house.

Mr. Carmichael reported a bill to regulate the several incorporated banks in this state.—Read.

Tuesday, Jan. 12.

On motion of Mr. Carmichael, leave was given to bring in a bill to authorize the judge of the court of appeals to extend the time of their session in the east shore. Mr. C. reported said bill, which was twice read.

On motion of Mr. Carmichael, leave was given to bring in a bill for the better regulation of appeals of the several orphans courts in this state. The bill for the relief of Robert Dols, was read the third time, and returned to the senate.

Wednesday, Jan. 13.

The bill for the benefit of James P. Boyd, was received from the house, read and passed.

The resolution relative to internal improvements was read the