

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Annapolis, Thursday, March 25.

For the Maryland Gazette. CONVERSATIONS OF MY LANDLADY. No. 12.

From the Port Folio of Henry Selwyn.

TO AN INFIDEL.

Ah! poor old man, the grasp of death Shall shortly stop thy lab'ring breath, And lay thee in the tomb!

And when the body turns to clay, And the freed spirit wings its way, Shall it no more return?

Or Heaven order'd that it must Revert like matter to the dust, And moulder in the urn?

Shall all those restless thoughts that fly Like lightning thro' immensity, No more their functions keep; Shall vice and virtue, right and wrong, Jumbled in one promiscuous throng, Be doom'd alike to sleep?

Shall the keen wish, the fervent sigh For life and immortality, Fit like the passing gale?

Or shall the being who inspired, The hopes by which the breast is fired, Condemn those hopes to fail?

Or is there not a power, whose call The air, the sea, this earthly ball, And all their realms obey?

Or shall death, wresting from his hand The mighty sceptre of command, Annihilate his way?

While the small remnant of thy sand, Now rudely shaken by the hand Of death, runs fast away;

While weakened by disease and pains, Life's blood thro' all thy fluttering veins Is ebbing to decay.

Old man! does no intruding thought Perplex thy mind with anxious doubts About a future state?

Fate soon shall draw the veil aside, And these great truths no longer hide— But then, 'twill be too late.

Oh may that Power, whose high control Directs each movement of the soul, Bid all thy doubts to cease;

And in a dear Redeemer's sake, Give thee to know the things that make For thy eternal peace.

SONNET.

Let infidels their impious scoffings cease, Let sceptics swoll'n with philosophic pride, The humble Christian's faith no more de- ceide,

Which thro' the troubled mind diffuses peace.

Hard is the heart, which represents as vain The Hope that bears us cheerfully along The rugged path of life, when troubles throng

And all their several burdens must sustain.

Weak is the head which slight's Religion's ties, She binds us to our duty; she deters From guilt and turpitude by wholesome fears;

Invigorates the soul; restrains her sighs; Disperses the horrors of this dark abyss, And points to regions of eternal bliss.

SONNET.

Faith pours her balm into the wounded breast That groans beneath th' intolerable load Of evils, which infect this dark abode, She whispers, God has fixed a place of rest.

And never ending happiness above, Where the soul throwing off her "mortal coil"

And soaring from this vale of tears and toil, Basks in the sun-beams of her maker's love.

Inspire me Heaven! with this consoling hope, Which lights with joy the features of des- pair,

From the pale cheek of sorrow wipes the tear, And to frail virtue lends the firmest prop.

Great God! while darkness clouds my sight, display To my "mind's eye" the realms of ever- lasting day.

COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

Extract of a letter from a member of the Colonization Society in George Town, to a friend in this city.

"A committee from our board, composed of Judge Washington, General Mason, and some other gentlemen, have waited on the President and the heads of Department, upon the subject of the execution of this late noble law for the suppression of the slave trade, and its obvious connexion with the views of the society. Every encouragement that we could expect has been given; we are more sanguine than ever; and those who hitherto doubted its success, say it is now settled and certain.

"A ship will soon go to Africa, perhaps very soon, when there will probably be wanted from fifty to sixty free men of colour, of good character and industrious habits, to go on wages for a year; with liberty and means then to return if they chuse.

"May we not hope that Annapolis will afford us some of this description, who will wish to go and judge for themselves, and give a report of the country to their brethren here?"

For the Md. Gazette.

DEMOCRACY DEFINED,

OR

A TOUCH AT THE TIMES.

Well!—as the old woman said, as she crammed the purse her neighbour had just dropped into her pocket "God's will be done." So say I; if black must be white, and white black; if fair must be foul, and foul fair—so be it. I'll chime in, (tho' no gainer by this new fashion of things,) with the good old woman's "God's will be done," with the privilege of a touch at the times in the interim, lest I should forget in this new reign of political finesse, and far-fetched etymology, what was once the literal meaning of democracy and monarchy, aristocracy and republicanism.

Democracy, did once mean, a popular form of government; that is, a government originating with, and controlled and protected by, the people. And aristocracy did once mean, a government of nobles; that is, a government originating with the few; in which the people had no share, in which they had no voice, no power, no rights.

Now, as I am but a plain, undecorating and undecorated man, I look at men and things through a plain good natured glass, that sees every body, and every thing, a little better than they really are. I hear them through a clear and warmly philanthropic ear, that always reports to me the fairest side of their story. If they are doing a praiseworthy act, I hope their motives to it are honest. If they speak of political concerns, I listen to them, as I do to a minister of the Gospel, with a prejudice in their favour. But before I form my opinion of them, as christians indeed, or patriots in fact, I take off this plain good natured glass, that sees men and things a little imperfectly; I stop up this ear, weakened by its warmth of philanthropy; and straddle across my nose, for the good of my mind's eye, a glass of staid criticism; and clap to my ear, for the safety of my heart, a trumpet in love with suspicion, and more than half en-amour'd of jealousy. Thus armed cap-a-pie, with an assurance from a good round experience, that neither my glass or my trumpet, tho'

this stoical and thus suspicious, dare report to me an error in feature of one looked at, or a charge unjust in demeanor of one listened to; I enter upon the Campus Martius of political controversies, determined to give my support but to the deserving. Thus equipped, with the semblance of a heart still hanging loosely on my sleeve, for daws to peck at if they pleased; and one of reality actively awake and working in my bosom, seeking for its equals, that it might enjoy the sweet pleasures of association, I visited a political meeting of my fellow-citizens at Mr. Baldwin's. Its purpose was to get a nomination from the people of such characters as they wished to serve them in the different departments of their new corporation.

The old one, I am told, has been dead in law and service, (except to a few of its elect, and she chose for life,) for some time; but the good people she oppressed, and had oppressed for years, could not bury the corpse until the legislature, for her numberless transgressions, signed her death warrant. This gracious act was done "vi justitia advocans infortunos," during the last session; and on this night it was proposed, (the ex-honourables willing,) to prepare the ceremonies of her funeral. The people were called together to nominate her successors, Democratically, as I understood; but alas! alas! to my astonishment, this right was taken from its legitimate owners, the sovereign people, and vested first in the hands of the honourable chairman, and then left to the discretion of four or five peers appointed by him. My glass instantly presented to me a Monarch surrounded by his Nobility, instead of a chairman surrounded by fellow-citizens, and my trumpet thundered in my ear from this assemblage of Dictatorial Democracy, sic esto perpetuo potestas nobiscum, instead of the popular incantation of "vox populi, vox Dei." And yet this was a democratic meeting phrased. "Can such things be, and overcome us like a summer cloud, without our special wonder?" If this be Democracy, be she thus defined, at least by me, for the future:—

"DEMOCRACY.—A form of government originating with the few; in which the people have no share, in which they have no voice, no power, no rights." ARISTIDES.

For the Maryland Gazette.

No. 1.

To Agriculturalists and scientific Ploughmen.

Mr. Editor, You will probably deem it necessary that I should offer an apology for the hasty essay that follows, on a subject so long known, and so little yet improved, as the Plough.

Aware as I am that your useful columns are much devoted to all subjects, in any manner connected with the welfare and progress of Agriculture, I do not hesitate to offer you my little mite; not that I have the vanity to believe that nothing better on the same subject can be offered by those who have more science, more leisure, and are more capable of doing it justice; but mainly, that this, imperfect as it most surely is, may tend in some small degree, to awaken the attention of good ploughmen, in order to construct the Plough and Harrow on more philosophical principles.

The application of mathematical principles to almost every other subject of improvement has, in this, and in the last century, been very remarkable. And yet we see our harrows with perpendicular tins or teeth, and the plough with almost perpendicular coulters. I would urge, with some very simple and plain reasons, that neither should be so constructed. But it is a common principle among mankind that what is always before their eyes

attract less of their attentive observation. So that, at this moment, we see the harrow a parallelogram, a trapezium, and frequently in shape of a wedge, yoked so, acute angle foremost. When the former figures are hitched or yoked to one of the angles, they are acted on by the earth's surface as the section of a Rhombus.

All those forms contain the least possible areas, under the greatest possible dimensions or outlines; and consequently, are acted upon with the greatest resistance or friction, and therefore, require a proportion- al force to haul them.

Whereas, if harrows were formed in a circle or ellipse, or in any curvilinear outline approaching nearest to the areas of circles, which contain the greatest possible areas under the least possible outline or dimensions, and consequently the least possible resistance opposes the movements of such bodies, in proportion to their respective out- lines.

Upon the same mathematical prin- ciple, the tins or teeth, instead of being formed like inverted quadran- gular pyramids, drawn side foremost in all cases, if they are to retain that form, the angles should be drawn foremost, & no two or more of them should run in the same direct line.

If therefore reason and the pecu- liar nature of things are not to be despised and laid aside, the teeth or tins of a harrow should, in all cases, be formed in the shape of some convenient curvature or segment of a circle, or crooked sabre, edge fore- most, and the hollow back then forming the base of a wedge.

Or if the convex or hollow back must needs be preferred, as having the greatest hold upon the surface of the ground, let it in that case be- come the edge, instead of the other, which then would act in shape of an old English or Saxon billhook, or a modern pruning hook. This shape, it is true, having the greatest possi- ble natural hold, from its shape, upon the ground, would admit of the weight of the harrow to be less than one made with the teeth reverting backwards.

Either of those are much to be preferred to the present forms. A harrow made in this shape might contain nearly 1-3 more area, and might be dragged along with 1-2 the force of the common perpendicular tined harrow. To demonstrate this is almost unnecessary. Every one knows how much farther and deeper any body with a round or circular surface, of the same outlines, & the same weight, would pass or sink, than one of a flat surface. Yes, an iron ball of 1-3 more superficies than a body in a perfect cube, or the shape of a die, acted upon with equal force, would, it is very easily foreseen, sink three times as deep as the latter; simply because the whole surface of one of the sides of the cube would come in contact at once with the opposing body, and but a point of the former. The cube, with but one side, or 1/6 of its superficies, would press or com- press the earth before it; the ball with 1-2 the surface of the whole enters gradually; the earth given way in every point obliquely from the centre; the other compressing in perpendicular lines with the plane of one of the sides.

The reasoning, therefore, would apply here in proportion to force & surface. So it would to the tins or teeth of the harrow, repulsion and force being reduced to the same propor- tion.

Now, the only question to be de- cided is, whether a harrow in the form of a square, or a regular paral- lelogram, with teeth in the form of regular inverted pyramids, descen- ding in perpendicular lines, with one of the square surfaces foremost, is as easily dragged along the surface of ploughed ground as a harrow made in any other form having the same or similar areas? Altho', to men of a common, sound understanding, this question has been already sufficiently solved, yet, were it not for the con- fined and circumscribed columns of a newspaper, further reasons, by mathematical demonstrations, would be given in this essay; but at pre- sent it shall content us with some further observations and general re- marks. And if the forms I have taken the liberty to recommend be not approved, or reduced to prac- tice, let the tins only be formed like coulters, edged in front, and pro- jecting forward at an angle of 45° or less, with the plane of the field or horizon, or indeed any other may be substituted, which may be found to produce less resistance or fric- tion, or force to drag it forward.

A straight edged knife, drawn long the surface of a side of lead with a force equal to the pressure of 100lb weight, will not cut thro' thick seal leather, if held perpen- dicularly in the hand; whereas, held in a slope or acute angle of 30° with the plane of the lead, a force of 50lb weight will cut thro' with the same velocity. And upon that a circular edge, of the same outline, with as much of the per- pendicular edge of the knife as will come in contact with the surface, the leather, would cut thro' with hide with the same pressure, and therefore, require a proportion- al force to haul them.

When a straight edged sword will cut off a man's head or make a deep wound. Those who doubt this operation may make an experiment; if not, in kind, let them place perpendiculary upon the teeth placed perpendiculary upon the old forms as possible; or triangles, with the angle acting in front, and the harrow, in that case yoked or hitched to one of the angles, the square would still be but an improvement upon imperfect forms.

Washington, March 18.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Virginia to his friend in this District.

"I rejoice with you at the passage of the law mentioned in your letter—it does honour to our country—I do not know that any American pride was ever more highly excited. I should have been gratified with any law which reprobated the former acts upon this subject, so loudly and justly complained of, and made any provision for the suppression of the slave trade: Congress have spoken (as I always ought to speak) in the name and spirit of a great people. They are not content with passing laws throwing impediments in the way of this abominable trade and making its further prosecution dan- gerous and difficult; but they have put forth at once, to crush the monster of iniquity at a blow, a statute of limiting the President to a single ship or two to wait on the coast of Africa (whose vigils these rapacious adventurers hope to elude) they place the navy at his command for this purpose, that the ocean may be at once of wrecks who are a disgrace to their country. The policy of the law is as commendable as its spirit. Ineffectual, in- quate, or doubtful measures, gen- rally cost more, always encounter opposition and disobedience, and at last are to be changed by course more prompt and decisive. But let it be seen that what is prohibited, will be certainly detected and punished, and that means unquestionably adequate for this purpose are to be employed, and bare passage of the law and preparations to enforce it, raising the arm of the statute drives off and intimidates every offender.

"But perhaps what I feel most proud about, is the humanity of law. The miserable captives who may be rescued from the Vines that have seized them, are no longer to "be disposed of" but are to be restored and supported—restored to their native country, and are to be there supplied with necessaries till they can subsist selves—and, to enable the President to do this, 100,000 dollars appropriated.

"I trust this great law will be executed in the spirit of its adoption, and that strong and effectual measures will be taken to block- stain upon our country, and to establish an object which history records to our honor.

"Mr. Monroe is fortunate in this record will refer to his ad- ministration, & to him as the in- strument of effecting a truly great, benevolent and patriotic, as ever statesman achiev- ed. Whatever is done, will I be done with a promptness which will prevent the escape of now engaged in the trade.

"Many human beings are now upon the coast of Africa, and of barbarous plunderers, of body and mind beyond repair. The relief to be given them must be immediate, or they will be beyond the reach of human mercy. The hand of justice must be instantly drawn against these violators of the laws of God and man, or they will have escaped their prey to some degraded land, where the robber is welcomed for the sake of participating in his spoil. I know some officers of our distinguished character, who are ready and eager for this service, who will prefer to all the laurels they now wear, those that are to be gained in a contest for the re- surrection of their country's honor, and for the deliverance of the most wretched and the most helpless of our fellow creatures from the power and cruelty of the most aban- doned."

From the Federal Gazette.

An unpleasant disturbance took place yesterday on Spear's wharf, occasioned by a malicious and ab- surd attempt to insult the feelings of the catholic natives of Ireland ridiculing their tutelar saint. A man, better known by the name of Stuffed Paddy, was suspended ear- ly in the morning to the yard of a hooper, nominally in the custody of the law, but which it appears, is not in the care of any person. This exhibition drew a crowd of Irish labourers to the place, who felt insulted as it was intended; and without enquiry as to the real cul- pite, very improperly began to break their vengeance on the ves- sel.

Information of the disturbance being given to Judge McMechen, he proceeded promptly to the place, calling to his aid such citizens and peace officers as he met by the way. Some opposition was at first made by the incensed Irishmen, some of whom assaulted several of the citi- zens, and even the Judge. The Mayor, the Collector of the port, and a number of other citizens were soon at the scene of distur- bance to aid the efforts of the Judge. The rioters were quickly dispersed, several of the most dis- tinguished in acts of violence being apprehended and bound over to answer for their conduct at the next City Court.

Governor Wolcott, of Connec- ticut, has, by proclamation, appoint- ed Friday, the 9th of April next, to be observed throughout that State, as a "Christian Fast."

The Illinois Emigrant, a paper published at Shawaneetown in the State of Illinois, announces that the deaf and dumb brother and the eldest son of Mr. Hunt, (desig- nated in England by the name and title of Orator Hunt,) arrived at the town on the 16th February. The emigrant remarks—"They have brought out with them many useful implements of husbandry, and ap- parently a good stock of persever- ance."

The trials of Jack Hodges, James Teed, David Conkling, Hanna Teed, and David Dunning, for the murder of Richard Jennings, were finished last Thursday at Goshen. They were all found guilty—and all except Hannah Teed sentenced by Judge Van Ness, to be hung on the 16th day of April.

Hannah Teed, was first called upon—The judge stated to her in substance, that in consideration of her sex—of the probability, that the mandates of a stern and inflexible husband, might have influenced her conduct in relation to the murder. In consideration of her peculiar situation, as represented to the court—and also in consideration of the destitute situation of her children, already deprived of a father—that she was now to be their only pro- tector—the only parent to whom they must in future look for sup- port—that these, and a variety of other considerations pressed them- selves upon the minds of the court, who with the advice and consent of the Counsel for the people, had thought proper to extend to her all the mercy the law would allow.— She was therefore sentenced to 30 days confinement in the County Jail. Her crimes the court remark- ed, would justify a severer punish- ment, but they had a greater regard for her children than for her—and would therefore forbear.

James Teed, David Conkling, David Dunning and Jack Hodges, were next called up and addressed with great solemnity, by Judge Van Ness. He stated to them the na- ture and enormity of the crime of

which they had committed. He observed, that in this instance in particular, having been per- sisting. He said of their trials, to cherish a feeling towards all who pronounced the law, that they place where the prison from which—and that thence to the on Friday, the next, and then neck, between the o'clock in the forenoon. An additional sed on Jack's body was to be President of this county of this county formed—but the were—he addressed of a fellow- gueage of a frie a christian—ex- prove the few had to live, in and eternity. lemn and affe- wretched victim before the tri- awful spectacle- vity.

From a Raleigh

STATUE OF We have be- perusal of a le- pleton, our Co- his Excellency the subject of G- ington which legislature. T- extract from t- scription is pla- of the front p- below is repr- wallis deliver- neral Washing- appear about No. 2 repres- signing his c- hands of the F- at the close o- Washington- mous suffrage- the head of t- No. 4 is W- plough drawn- is an humble o- are seen Cer- their suitable- pear to my t- interesting ep- as they are s- able hands, I- your approb- part he men- completed du-

Toward

JAM- A gentleman in this State, the murderer, on the 23d ult. since that time man who was

That when t-

man who was But not so in- It appears t- ertained by- nal was not d- being made, i- coffin, in whi- were bored i- for the purpo-

Accounts

as late as De- the plague at- vages. A l- Charge de A- at Tunis, d- received her- that upward- have died at- tian residen- their houses- trying and d- by a later ac- sincere regre- der, Esq. h- Consul Gen- of great wo- life, had fall- ful malady. reached Tr- doubt, from- Mussemel- that place; Derne and- arrested by- appears, th- on first bro- thence it et- so on across- to the heart-