

From the (Con.) COURANT.
On the Use of Ardent Spirits in Summer Harvest.

Throughout the season of harvest, the careful and industrious farmer eats his bread in the sweat of his face.—At this season especially, he must attend closely to his business and drive it with spirit. If he employs laborers, he finds it necessary to be with them as constantly as possible—directing their work and encouraging them to industry by his own example, and such severe toils as he himself and his laborers endure in the scorching heat of the sun and from the morning to the evening of the longest days, necessarily require a plenty of the most nourishing and strengthening food and drink.

It seems to be a prevailing opinion, of late years, that rum is the staff of life, for laboring people, especially in hot weather; and that they must take into their bowels large draughts of liquid fire, to guard them against the scorching heat of the sun! This is a false and pernicious notion.—Men were strong to labor and could endure hard toils in the hottest weather, when rum was not known in the world.

It is said, that "the ancient Romans and Carthaginians supported the fatigues of laborious marches, in the warmest climates and seasons, and under a load of arms, which in some instances weighed sixty pounds, without any other liquor to allay their thirst, than vinegar and water."

What toils were endured by the first settlers of New-England—toils which could hardly be sustained by their descendants, of the present generation; yet they had neither rum, nor brandy, nor whiskey. They had not even cider; their drink was Adam's ale, or simple water.

As if the people of the present age were under the operation of the hydrophobia, they seem, many of them, terribly afraid of water. A few persons have destroyed their lives by drinking large draughts of cold water, while they were heated; hence the silly conclusion is drawn, that it is dangerous, in hot weather, to drink water, unless it be mixed with spirits: whereas for one life that has been destroyed by drinking water, a thousand in all probability, have been destroyed (latterly in this country) by drinking rum, brandy and whiskey.—Every well person that wishes for the continuance of his health, should make good water his principal drink. It is the wholesome beverage that nature has provided for all her children.

Yet would I not condemn the moderate and reasonable use of spirits: and none surely deserves or need them more than men who labor hard in the field during the summer months. A small quantity of spirits is a cordial to the heated and fatigued laborer; a large quantity enfeebles, and tends to destroy him.

Thirty years ago, half a pint of rum, a day, was thought a plentiful allowance for a reaper or a mower. Now a reaper or a mower often swallows a quart of spirits, a day. This is but little short of downright murder. It leads eventually to the destruction of health and life, as well as morals; and it diminishes the strength of the laborer, and disables him from performing the quantity of labor that he might otherwise easily do.

There is no real nourishment in ardent spirits: they operate as a stimulant, and (if taken plentifully) as soon as their stimulating force is spent, correspondent languor and weakness succeed; so that the system is reduced as much below its ordinary tone, as it had been raised above it. Therefore a plentiful use of spirits, however it may increase the exertions of the laborer, for a very short space; cannot fail to unfit him for a steady and persevering course of hard labor. And it is a well established fact, that the plentiful drinkers of rum, brandy, or whiskey, will not, nor can perform an equal quantity of labor for a whole month, or even a whole week together, to what men of the same strength are able to

perform, who either make no use of those liquors, or use them very moderately.
Would it not be well for the substantial farmers of every town, to form themselves into societies and to establish regulations on this subject—agreeing together not to allow their laborers more than a specified moderate quantity of spiritous liquor, per day—meanwhile providing them liberally with palatable and nourishing drinks, as well as food? Does not the interest of farmers, the interest of morality and of civil society, demand a measure of this nature? A.

TAX ON OLD BACHELORS:
From the TRUE AMERICAN.

MR. EDITOR,
I have long considered the great and increasing number of Bachelors among us, where the means of supporting a family are so plenty and within every man's reach, as a great public evil, and an unpardonable neglect of private duty. And now, that our boundaries are so widely extended, and our territory so vastly enlarged, I think every man who lives in a state of unsocial celibacy, should be made to contribute a portion of his property to the poor and unfortunate who embrace the married state, or to their hapless children. If these selfish beings will prefer whistling a solitary solo to hymning a concert with some of the blooming nymphs who are bounding over our healthful hills, or skipping athwart our fragrant valleys, they ought to "pay for their whistle."

The married man not only fulfils his duty (if he is a good husband, which every married man ought to be) to the fair part of creation, by making one of them happy, and taking her out of the way of others; but every sound and sane child he rears up, adds to the wealth and strength and honor of his country. And as he who has a family to maintain, needs live more frugally and labor more diligently, than he who has none but himself to provide for: it is but just that Government should shew a discrimination between the honest lover of his counterpart and friend of his country and the human race, and the narrow contracted creature who wears out his existence dishonorably to himself and uselessly to the community.

But to come to my project without further preface—I would propose that a Tax be levied upon all Bachelors in something nigh the following proportions:

- 1. Upon those between 25 and 30, from 10 to 100 dollars a year each—according to their respective abilities.
- 2. Upon those between 30 and 40, from 15 to 150 dollars a year each.
- 3. Upon those between 40 and 50, from 20 to 200 dollars a year each.
- 4. And upon those above 50—nothing at all, as they might as well be single as married.

The money thus collected; I would have to constitute a fund to be called "The Poor Lovers, Widows, and Orphans' fund," and placed in proper hands in every county, to be applied,

- 1st. To poor but virtuous people on marrying, to provide them with the necessities for housekeeping, laboring, &c.
- 2d. To Widows left in indigent circumstances with young children.
- 3d. To poor orphans.

The sums which I propose to assess upon the Bachelors, may to some seem extravagant; but when it is considered that these sums are mere cyphers compared with what it costs to maintain a family—that they are to act both as a punishment for not marrying, and a stimulus to marry—and that they have their choice whether to live single and pay it, or marry and avoid it, I trust it will not be thought oppressive.

From this tax I would however exempt those Bachelors who are such from disappointments in their first love, having either been robbed of their intended by Death, or filled by the fair one herself.—Provided it should not appear that they had been too tardy in their approaches, or too timid in their attacks.—But to supply the deficiency on the tax list which this exemption would occasion, I would add widowers of certain ages, who were not blessed with children, and yet refuse to bend their necks a second time to Hymen's silken yoke.

The advantages which I foresee from the general adoption of my plan are many; among others—

This tax would either induce the Bachelors to lead some fair patriot to the altar to get rid of paying it: or should they still obstinately persist in their unso-

cial state, it would punish both the miserly and the spendthrift, by preventing the former from amassing so much money, and restraining the latter in the indulgence of his guilty amours or Bacchanalian canticos.

It would encourage many to marry, by the prospect it holds out of assistance to start in life, who would otherwise perhaps not dare to incur the expence attendant on matrimony; and many an honest couple might be brought together and rendered happy and useful, who would otherwise have been single, useless and wretched. It would render the matrimonial state more respectable and respected. It would enable widows to bring up their fatherless children decently and honorably under their own eyes, who would otherwise have to bind them out perhaps to unfit persons or improper places. It would snatch from indigence and ignorance—may be from ruin—many a hapless orphan, and render them good and useful citizens and citizenesses.—And it would ease the shoulders of married people from contributing to the support of many, who would without and from this fund be chargeable to the community.

It would have another effect, which, if it did not contribute to the wealth, would tend to the peace of society.—As marriages multiplied, Old maids would diminish; and as they are said to be the originators and vehicles of the little tittle tattle and scandal which often set villages and families in a ferment, every old maid transformed into a matron might be supposed to decrease the quantity of mischief made and circulated, and of mischief done—some excepted, who in their maiden state highly useful, respectable, and virtuous Members of society.

Thus, Mr. Editor, I have sketched the outlines of my plan, which legislative wisdom might fill up, and have given some few reasons in support of it. And I cannot but hope that you printers will give it a fair chance—that the public will think favorably of it—and our legislatures carry it into effect—and besides the prayers of poor lovers, widows, and orphans, you will all have the good wishes of one who is

A MARRIED MAN.
HUDSON, July 19.
On Tuesday last, as a daughter of the widow Hamlin, of this city, aged about 20, was rinsing clothes in the river, some mischievous boys on the bank threw stones until one struck her on the head and fractured her skull very badly.—The operation of trepanning was performed on her by the ingenious Dr. White, and it is probable she will recover. What renders the accident the more remarkably calamitous is, a son of Mrs. Hamlin, 15 years old, had his skull beat in by the kick of a horse between four and five weeks ago, and the same operation performed on him by Dr. W.

BREASTING LAUNCH.—On Thursday last the fine ship Remittance, of 350 tons, was launched at Athens, by Mr. John T. Lacy, the builder. She had all her masts in and rigged, and with a display of colors, and her hull painted on the stocks, made a grand appearance. Military music and the Huzzah band on board, with a salute of 17 guns from her quarter deck, added to the attraction of the scene—which was witnessed by hundreds of spectators on the spot and the opposite height at Hudson. She is purchased by Mr. J. Robertson, of New York, and commanded by Capt. B. Law, of the London trade, lately wrecked by the ice in the Jupiter.

FOR SALE,
ONE hundred large brimmed WHITE HATS, green underneath, suitable for the West or East India Market. Apply to
WILLIAM BRANSON,
131, Market-street
July 19

Benj. & Geo. Williams
Have received per sloop Malinda, captain Webb, from New York,

- 100 barrels Prime Pork
- 25 do Mess Pork
- 25 do Navy Mess Pork
- They have on hand,
- 500 pieces Rarens Duck
- 50 do Russia do
- 25 bales India goods, suitable for the West India market, and entitled to drawback.
- 4 boxes Florence silks
- 450 barrels 1 and 2 Boston Beef
- 200 barrels Mackerel
- 150 kegs Hogs' Lard
- 50 do Butter
- 50 boxes Mould Candles
- 50 do Soap
- 80 tierces and half tierces Rice
- 20 pipes Cogniac brandy
- 10 do Bordeaux do
- 10 do Spanish do
- 5 do Holland Gin
- 8 hogheads 4th proof N. E. Rum
- 1 hoghead West India Shrub.

July 19 col6c

TO LET,
THAT large Three Story Brick HOUSE, No. 8, in Water-street, between South and Calvert-streets, with a three story back building, and cellars underneath the whole. Possession to be given on the 5th of August. For further particulars enquire of Ann Mary Fisher on the premises.
July 15 colt

We observe, by the New York papers, that the wreck, mentioned in the Ship News, under the Boston head, in Saturday's American, fallen in with by Capt. Tyler, on the 23d ult. is expected to be the brig Lion, Captain Clark, of that port, which sailed from thence, a short time ago for Bordeaux, the description given by Captain T. answering her, in every particular.

FARMER'S BANK.
On Tuesday last the subscription book for 2000 shares in the Farmer's Bank of Maryland, allotted for Anne Arundel county and the city of Annapolis was opened in this city.—On closing the subscription yesterday afternoon, 1690 shares were subscribed.
[Maryland Gazette.]

A pilot lately from the sea board informs that for many days past, there has been a very thick fog, or mist, off the coast, which may in some manner account for the few arrivals of late.
[Philadelphia True American.]

Captain Ogilvie, from Malaga, informs us that the Cartagena fleet, consisting of eleven sail of the line, had got out of the Mediterranean. An idle rumour prevailed at Malaga, that the British Government had offered terms of peace to Spain and had proposed as a preliminary to restore the frigates and treasure detained before the commencement of the war, and to make restitution for the frigate which had been sunk; but that the Spanish Government, irritated at the wanton sacrifice of its subjects in the action wherein the above vessels were taken, had rejected all overtures for pacification.
[Merc. Adv.]

The Poems of the late eccentric genius, Mr. RICHARD B. DAVIS, are now in the press of Messrs. T. & J. Swords of New York, and will be speedily published in a handsome duodecimo volume.

LIFE OF LEO X.
The Editor of this Gazette has received Mr. Roscoe's Life and Pontificate of Leo X, and is preparing to put it to press. Proposals for this work will be presented to the public in a few days.
[U. S. Gazette.]

Among the new arrangements of the General Post-Office lately adopted, it is with great pleasure we state that a contract has been entered into for a line of stages, to convey the mail weekly, to Frankfort, in Kentucky, to commence on the first day of October next. When this arrangement shall have been carried into effect, the whole seventeen states will be united by a connected line of stages. It is unnecessary to say a word of the vast advantages that will be derived from this measure. It is, however, a merited tribute to the services of the Postmaster General, to remark that his spirited and successful arrangements to extend and accelerate the progress of the mail, are the best and most conclusive replies which can be made to the calumnies with which party animosity assails his conduct.
[Nat. Int.]

On Wednesday last, while the workmen were in the act of heaving down the ship Mary-Ann, captain Burk, at the public dock, Staten-Island, her main and mizen masts were suddenly carried away; and what is very singular, though there was nearly 30 persons at work at her, not one was materially hurt.
[N. Y. Gazette.]

On Monday evening the 8th inst. as captain Joseph Webb, captain David King, and Mr. Thomas Terry, junr. were returning from Sag Harbor, through Gardner's bay, to Southold, where they resided, the boat upset; and, being heavily ballasted, it blowing very strong, she sunk immediately, and the above persons were drowned, all of whom have left families to lament, with their numerous friends, this sudden and melancholy catastrophe. No one being in sight at the time, the fatal accident was not known until the next day, when it was discovered by the mast of the boat being seen just above the surface of the water.

On Thursday the 27th ult. arrived in this town, two Indians belonging to the Chickasaw nation, in search of their horses, which had been stolen from them by some white men, returning from Nat-

chez to this state. Early the next morning, a horse, which they alleged to be their, passed through this place, having been purchased by the gentleman who had him in possession, on Barren river. The Indians claimed their property; but not being able to produce legal proof, were obliged to relinquish him to the possessor, who has taken him to the Eastward. It is much to be lamented that the villains who stole the horses, could not be brought to justice; as a failure may produce serious consequences, by way of retaliation, on our citizens, who may have occasion to pass through the Chickasaw nation. The citizens of Lexington made them a present of about 30 dollars in clothing, with which they appeared well pleased; and it is hoped, other towns through which they may pass will contribute something, as a remuneration for their lost property.
[Lexington paper.]

No discoveries are of more importance than those which are connected with the improvement of Agriculture. Every one who has attended to this subject is acquainted with the sweeping destruction which has been occasioned by the genus of the *Eruca*, or Caterpillar.—Many counties of this kingdom, especially in the western districts, depend, in a great degree, on the annual produce of the orchard; and in these districts, at least, it will be of great utility to circulate the intelligence of an experiment for the protection of fruit trees from the Caterpillar, which has been attended with complete success. A clod of earth is moulded round the top of the trunk of the tree; and this is the whole process. From the hour that this operation is performed, the insects, even in the most remote ramifications, will begin to fall, and the tree will, in a short time, be wholly freed from this destructive incumbrance. It is true, that the animal will afterwards attempt to renew his depredations; but as soon as he arrives at the ring of earth, which should be permitted to remain, he will hasten down the trunk with much more rapidity than he attempted the ascent. We state this fact with confidence, but we leave to the learned Zoologist the explanation of the mystery.
[London paper.]

The *Perkenian Institution*, established in London, about three years since, for the use of Metallic Tractors in the disorders of the poor, has been followed by similar associations in different parts of Great Britain. One of these established at Durham, under the patronage of the Bishop of St. Davids, has lately announced the cure of above two hundred of the poor objects, whose cases claimed its charitable attention. The society in London have made two reports to the public on the result of their trials of this remedy, from which it appears that their success has been so considerable, as to have induced the committee to recommend the discovery to the notice of the British Parliament and to invite that body to take the practice under their patronage and protection.

FROM DEMERARA.—A letter from a respectable gentleman at Demerara, (received via Barbadoes), dated June 4, mentions that the shipping there were embargoed, including about 70 sail homeward bound English merchantmen from Surinam, Berbice, &c. The Americans were only allowed to land fish and timber, but in consequence of the embargo, the Governor had permitted the landing of provisions in small quantities on petitions. The embargo extending to colony boats, the sale of fish was totally prevented for the time; almost every article except fish was selling well.—Sugars, were at 4 1-4 stivers.
[Boston Gazette.]

From Halifax papers to the 23d ult.
HALIFAX, June 11.—On the night of the 8th Jan. last the brig John and Mary, from Grenada for Lunenburg, was wrecked on the south side of the Isle Sable. The captain perished soon after landing:—the people got safe to Mr. Morris' house, where they were kindly treated—remained till the 16th May, when they left that island in a small boat, and arrived at Lunenburg on the 3d inst.—Twelve puncheons of rum were also saved from the wreck.

Camp Meeting.
Notice is hereby given, that a Camp Meeting, for the purpose of religious worship, will be held on THURSDAY, the 25th JULY, and the three following days, near Parsons' Branch, about three miles south of Duck Creek Cross Roads, and ten miles north-west of Dover, in Kent county, state of Delaware.