THE CECIL WHIG.

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The Cecil Whig

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BY E. E. EWING.

SUBSCRIPTION.

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FERTILIZERS, &C.

SEED POTATOES.

EARLY ROSE, CARTER and WHITE PEACH BLOWS.

PLOW CASTINGS of all kinds.

Best Quality of Whitewashing Lime.

For by J. E. ALEXANDER & BRO., mar 21, 1874—3m Elkton, Md.

Lister's Bones

THE CHEAPEST! THE SUREST! THE BEST!

We are EXCLUSIVE AGENTS for these Bones for Cecil county, Md., and offer them

Wholesale and Retail,

RETAIL PRICE $38 PER TON.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR LARGE LOTS to Farmers on accommodating terms.

Solicit the patronage of the Farmers and Merchants of the county.

J. TOME & CO., mar 7, 1874—tf PORT DEPOSIT.

Fertilizers.

DIAMOND STATE, NATIONAL, LISER, TIERS, and BONE MEAL PHOSPHATES, &C.

LIME, SALT,

Seed Oats & Early Rose Potatoes.

Highest Cash Price paid for

GRAIN, HAY and STRAW.

DAVIS, PUGH & CO., mar 28, 1874—tf NORTH EAST, MD.

D. SCOTT & BRO.,

ELKTON, MD.,

DEALERS IN

Grain, Coal, Lime, Salt, Feed, Fish, Plaster and Fertilizers

OF THE FOLLOWING STANDARD BRANDS:

Phosphates.

MORO PHILLIPS, WATSON & CLARK, COE'S & COPE'S.

Bone.

BAUGHS, (guaranteed pure,) TIERS " LISTER'S AND OTHER BRANDS.

GUANOS.

PACIFIC	GUANO,
A. A. MEXICAN	"
ORCHILLA	"
BAHAMA	"
SUN	"

PERUVIAN and all other Brands furnished when ordered, at lowest rates.

April 18, 1874—tf.

DRY GOODS and GROCERIES.

NO EXPERIMENT!

BUY for CASH & SELL for CASH:

CARHART & CO., ZION, MD.

Carpet Chain, Wood and Willow-ware, House Furnishing Goods:

CARHART & CO., ZION, MD.

DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, &C.:

CARHART & CO., ZION, MD.

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

at less than regular prices, on our usual terms, which is Cash on Delivery to every person, without regard to responsibility. Rich and poor enjoy the same advantages. We have tried this system for fourteen years, and ready to prove that "a nimble sixpence is better than a slow shilling."

GAUGE—36 Inches to the yard. 16 Ounces to the pound.

N. B.—"Whitewash"—Baltimore Lime.

NO CHROMO. [May 2, 1874.

Grand CENTRAL STORE.

Just read these few lines, and I think you'll agree, Or at least by inspection will find, How my beautiful Goods, all selected by me, Never fail to impress every mind. Know first, then, that all of my purchasers made, Do exhibit a most wonderful show. Remember, as for all that the cash has been paid, Every purchaser finds prices low. No party departs with a frown on his face; No trouble our Goods to display; Each buyer for Cash always pleased leaves my place; None depart but invariably say—

THAT THE

GRAND CENTRAL STORE

IS THE PLACE TO BUY

CHEAP GOODS,

CONSISTING OF

Dress Goods, Cloths, Cassimeres, Muslins, Linens, Flannels, Hats and Caps, Gents' and Ladies' Shoes and Gaiters.

Also, GROCERIES of all kinds. Tobacco, Coal Oil, &c.

Do not fail to give him a call, and you will always find polite and attentive clerks to wait on you.

May 30, 1874—tf

L. Mauldin & Co.

AT ROCK RUN,

Are receiving almost daily ADDITIONS to their

LARGE STOCK OF GOODS,

WHICH THEY ARE SELLING AT THE

LOWEST Possible PRICE FOR CASH.

Purchasers may rely on getting the worth of their money.

Please call and examine for yourselves.

May 2, 1874—tf

From North East to Baltimore.

SPRING ARRANGEMENT.

THE

Steamer "C. P. SMITH,"

Will on and after MONDAY, the 16th instant,

Leave Pier No. 13 Light Street Wharf, Baltimore, at 10 o'clock A. M., for the following places, viz: Buck Neck, Barnard's, Betterton, Reynold's Wharf, Charlestown and North East; returning on alternate days, stopping at all the Landings

On and after June 1st, will leave North East at 6 o'clock A. M.

For FREIGHT or PASSAGE, apply on board.

mar 7, 1874—tf JOHN H. BROWN, Captain.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

AGENTS WANTED FOR THE **CENTENNIAL GAZETTEER** OF THE UNITED STATES.

No book has ever been published of such interest and interest to the American people. It appeals to no particular class *alone*, but to *all* class; to men and women of all professions, creeds, occupations and political opinions—to Farmers, Lawyers, Business Men, Mechanics, Physicians, Politicians, Teachers, Students, Manufacturers, Salesmen, men of learning and men who can only read, to old and young. All want it as a book of constant reference, and to preserve for their children and children's children as the only complete and reliable work, showing the gigantic results of THE FIRST ONE HUNDRED YEARS of the Greatest Republic the World ever saw. It is not a luxury, but a necessity to every well-informed American citizen. Agents make $100 to $300 per month. Send for circular.

ZIEGLER & McCURDY, Philadelphia, Pa.

THE GREAT AMERICAN TEA POT die-Tills Coffee as clear as amber; extracts all its strength; retains all its nutritious aroma. The best thing ever offered. Price $2, sent to any address. Call and see it in operation, or send for illustrated circular. Territorial rights for sale. DE WITT C. BROWN & CO., 678 Broadway, N. Y.

PSYCHOMANCY, or Soul Charming." How either sex may fascinate and gain the love and affections of any person they choose instantly. This simple mental acquirement all can possess, free, by mail, for 25c., together with a marriage guide, Egyptian Oracle, Dreams, Hints to Ladies, Wedding Night Short, &c. A queer book. Address T. WILLIAM & Co., pubs. Philadelphia.

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AN ELEGANTLY BOUND CAPTIVATING BOOK for the best and cheapest Family Bible ever published, will be sent free of charge to any book agent. It contains Over 700 fine Scripture Illustrations, and agents are meeting with unprecedented success. Address, stating experience, etc., & we will show you what our agents are doing. NATIONAL PUBLISHING CO., Phila., Pa.

For COUGHS, COLDS, HOARSENESS, AND ALL THROAT DISEASES, USE

WELLS' CARBOLIC TABLETS.

PUT UP ONLY IN BLUE BOXES.

A TRIED AND SURE REMEDY.

Sold by Druggists.

1874 LIGHT RUNNING DOMESTIC.

This Sewing Machine gives the best satisfaction to the user, is paid for most readily, and is the best of all to sell. If there is no "Domestic" Agent in your town, apply to DOMESTIC S. M. CO., New York.

SOLAR GAS GENERATOR.

For Lighting Dwelling Houses, Hotels and Factories.

S. CROWTHER, AGENT,

Plumber, Gas Fittr and Dealer in Gasoline, 121 SOUTH 7th STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

SEND FOR CIRCULARS.

HARPER'S or FRANK LESLIE'S OR ANY OTHER MAGAZINE OR PERIODICAL

Presented to every purchaser of my PATENT

VENTILATING MATTRESS.

Warranted of Pure White Hair or Forfeited.

My Moth Destroyer is the Best ever used.

Send for circular to W. H. WOODS, 1709 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

$20 SAVED FLORENCE $20 SAVED

The Long contested Suit of the FLORENCE SEWING Machine Co. against the Singer, Wheeler & Wilson, and Grover & Baker Companies, involving over $250,000, *is finally decided by the Supreme Court of the United States* in favor of the FLORENCE, which alone has Broken the Monoply of High Prices.

THE NEW FLORENCE

Is the ONLY machine that sews backward and forward, or to right and left.

Simplest—Cheapest—Best.

SOLD FOR CASH ONLY. SPECIAL TERMS TO CLUBS and DEALERS.

April, 1874. Florence, Mass.

WATERS' CONCERTO ORGANS

are the most beautiful *in* style *and* perfect *in* tone ever made. *The* CONCERTO STOP *is the* best ever placed in any Organ. *It is produced by an* extra set of reeds, PECULIARLY YOURS, *the* EFFECT *of which is* MOST CHARMING *and* SOUL-STIRRING, *while its* IMITATION *of the* HUMAN VOICE *is* SUPERB. *Terms Liberal.*

Water's Philharmonic, Vesper and Orchestral Organs

in UNIQUE FRENCH CASES, *are among the* BEST MADE, *and* COMBINE PURITY *of* VOICING *with* GREAT VOLUME *of* TONE, SUITABLE *for* Parlor, Church, *or* Music Hall.

Water's New Scale PIANOS

have GREAT POWER *and a* FINE SINGING TONE, *with* ALL MODERN IMPROVEMENTS, *and are the* BEST PIANOS MADE. THESE Organs *and* Pianos *are* WARRANTED *for* 6 YEARS. PRICES EXTREMELY LOW *for* CASH *or* PART CASH, *and* BALANCE *in* MONTHLY *or* QUARTERLY PAYMENT. SECOND-HAND INSTRUMENTS TAKEN *in* EXCHANGE. AGENTS WANTED *in* EVERY COUNTY *in the* U. S. *and* CANADA. A LIBERAL DISCOUNT *to Teachers, Ministers, Churches, Schools, Lodges, etc. Illustrated Catalogues Mailed.*

HORACE WATERS & SON, 481 Broadway, New York. Box 3567.

"ARLINGTON."

This Very High Bred Trotting Stallion

will stand for the Service of Mares, at my farm, three miles west of Newark, Del., the present Season, on the very moderate terms.

$10 SINGLE SERVICE. $15 CHACE, all Comers. $20 TO INSURE, Young Mares.

DESCRIPTION.—Arlington is 13 years old, color black, 16 hands high, and a trotter and sire of trotters. His Colts, now maturing in the vicinity of Washington, D. C., are all very promising and are being sold at very high prices. A 3 year old of his get was sold last Summer, in Montgomery county, Md., for $2,000, to a party in New York, and Mr. A. F. Fawcett, the former owner of Dexter, purchased a 5 years old, in the same county, at $1,000. Hon. Montgomery Blair, of Washington, has one of his colts, for which he could get a high price, but declines to sell. President Grant has two very promising ones; and I am assured that all the colts he sired (the majority are from ordinary mares) are very fine and fast steppers.

PEDIGREE.—Arlington was sired by Kosciusko, by the celebrated Long Island Black Hawk. Arlington's dam was thoroughbred, being sired by Alamodo, out of a May Day mare. Alamode was by the thoroughbred Imported Stallion, Margrave.

Persons having mares to breed are invited to call and see him, and they cannot fail to admire him.

Persons disposing of Insured Mares will be held accountable for the insurance.

Applications and communications addressed to BARNET MOORE, on the farm, and payment to be made to him.

May 23, 1874—4w CHAS. A. MURPHY.

THE TROTTING STALLION

WINFIELD,

Sired by New Jersey, by George M. Patchen. Dam by Long Island Black Hawk, by Andrew Jackson, the sire of Kemble Jackson and grandsire of old Imported Bashaw. New Jersey's dam, Patsey Anthony, was by imported Priam.

WINFIELD is a dark chestnut, 5 years old, of docile temper, perfectly sound, with all the style and finish of a thoroughbred. His colts, now coming one and two years old, are large and blood-like, showing equal in every respect to any produce with which they are compared.

He will make the Season at Elkton, for $25, payable in advance. Mares not proving in foal, can be returned the following season, free of charge, if owned by the same parties.

All communications to receive prompt attention, must be addressed to

WM. A. WRIGHT, Agent, Howard House, Elkton.

T. POOLE, Proprietor. [may 9, 1874—3m

THE GEM

MICROSCOPE

is the most wonderful scientific production of the nineteenth century. It furnishes the power of a high-priced instrument for a mere trifle, and exceeds in usefulness any microscope ever invented. It reveals the hidden wonders of God's minute creation—as Eels in Vinegar, Animals in Water, Butterflies' Feathers, the Golden Marrow of a Hair, etc., etc. *It also shows TRICHINA SPIRALIS or Pork Worm, wherever it exists in pork.* IT IS JUST THE THING FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG FOLKS, and grown folks too. Price, $1.50. Sent by mail, postpaid, on receipt of price. A GREAT CHANCE FOR AGENTS. Agents Wanted Everywhere. Men and Women, Boys and Girls; whole or spare time, day or evening. COMPLETE OUTFIT mailed, postpaid, on receipt of price. Address THE BEVERLY COMPANY, 224 Wabash Avenue, Chicago.

May 23, 1874—5w

Mutual Building Association

OF CECIL COUNTY.

Issues Semi-Annual Series in January and July—Premiums paid in Monthly Instalments. Loans can be repaid at any time. Stockholders can withdraw at any time, with legal interest. Series "G" will be issued the last Saturday in July, 1874.

President—DAVID SCOTT. *Treasurer*—R. HAINES. *Secretary*—R. G. REESE. *Counsel*—C. McCULLOUGH.

May 3, 1873—1y

Meetings of County Commissioners.

THE regular meetings of the County Commissioners will be held on the second TUESDAY of every month.

Persons having claims against the County, will please file the same in the Commissioners' Office, with a legal voucher; as no account will be allowed not properly chargeable to the same.

Collectors and others having accounts to be stated or settled will apply to the Clerk during the recess of the Board. By Order

J. F. VANARSDALE, Clerk Commissioners of Cecil County.

De 14, 1867—y

BALTIMORE.

F. E. MARINE,

General Commission Merchant,

45 WEST PRATT STREET,

FOR THE SALE OF

Flour, Grain, Clover and Flax Seed, Potatoes, Lumber, Staves, Sheep, Calves, Eggs, Poultry, Wool, Rags, Furs, Dry Fruits, &c.

Persons having any of these articles, can have them well sold at the Highest Price in Baltimore, by forwarding them to the Commission House for Country Produce, of

F. E. MARINE,

No. 45 W. PRATT STREET, BALTIMORE, MD.

BY CONSENT I REFER TO THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATES:

Having known Mr. Fletcher E. Marine for many years past, we take pleasure in stating that we know him to be a gentleman in whom the utmost confidence may be placed, in the transaction of business. He is prompt, attentive, obliging and reliable:—

Thomas Kelso, Esq., Director in 1st National Bank.
John W. Randolph, Esq., Cashier 2d National Bank.
R. Cornelius, Cashier Farmers & Planters Nat. Bank.
Robert Turner, Director in Franklin Bank.
Mr. John Partridge, Elkton, Cecil county.
Mr. Wm. D. Alexander, North East, Cecil county.
Mr. S. Rowland Carson, Port Deposit.
Ellis P. Passmore, Bay View, Cecil county.
G. Watson Gifford, Brick Meeting House, Cecil co.
Job Haines, Rising Sun, Cecil county.
J. C. Crothers, Zion, Cecil county.
Benjamin Gifford, Principio, Cecil county.
Samuel Foster, Woodlawn, Cecil county.
Mr. Amos Spencer, Havre de Grace, Md.

Jan 24, 1874—tf

The Cecil County

COMMISSION HOUSE,

FOR THE SALE OF ALL KINDS OF

FARMERS' PRODUCE,

CORNER OF PRATT & MILL STREETS, AND

No. 25 W. Pratt Street, Baltimore.

The subscribers having established themselves in the Commission business in the city of Baltimore, wish to call the attention of their friends in Cecil county, and Farmers and Grain dealers generally to the fact that they can secure the

HIGHEST MARKET PRICES,

and receive prompt returns by sending to

BONSAL & CALDWELL

C. Vincent Bonsal. John W. Caldwell. No. 25 W. Pratt Street, BALTIMORE, MD.

April 11, 1874—y

PHILADELPHIA.

JOE GLADING,

No. 906 Arch St., Philadelphia,

Sells 36-inch Solid (French) HAIR BRAIDS, $6; Side Curls, $1; Combings made up, 50 cents an ounce.

April 11, 1874—3m

HILT & LUNING,

IMPORTERS OF AND DEALERS IN

WALL PAPERS,

WINDOW SHADES,

Lambrequins, Cornices, Curtain & Picture Loops, Tassels, Bands, &c.,

406 and 408 ARCH STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

Paper and Shades hung by competent workmen in city or country.

N. B.—Store Shades made to order. [april 11—3m

CHAS. CAMBLOS & CO.,

BANKERS AND BROKERS,

No. 38 SOUTH THIRD STREET,

PHILADELPHIA.

Dealers in Government Securities, Gold, Silver, &c.

STOCKS AND BONDS BOUGHT AND SOLD ON COMMISSION.

Particular attention given to investments.

dec. 20, 1873.—1y

Send for ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE and examine our prices before **purchasing**, as we claim to sell **lower than other establishment in the City.**

REMEMBER the NUMBER.

1236 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia.

June 14, 1873—1y

BLATCHLEY'S

TRADE MARK Patented.

Improved CUCUMBER WOOD PUMP. Tasteless, Durable, Efficient and Cheap. The best Pump for the least money. Attention is especially invited to Batchley's Patent Improved Bracket and New Drop Check Valve, which can be withdrawn without removing the Pump, or disturbing the joints. Also, the Copper Chamber, which never cracks or scales, and will outlast any other. For sale by Dealers and the Trade generally. Inquire for Blatchley's Pump, and if not for sale in your town, send direct to

CHAS. G. BLATCHLEY, Manufacturer, 509 Commerce Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

mar 14, 1874—8m

LADIES' SPRING and SUMMER SUITS, JACKETS, AND COSTUMES.

AGNEW & ENGLISH,

NO. 920 CHESTNUT ST., PHILA.

Invite attention to their Large and Elegant Stock of SILK, HERNANI, CASHMERE, POPLIN, ALPACA, MOHAIR, LINENS and LAWN SUITS.

Cloth and Cashmere Jackets, Embroidered Linen, and Lawn Polonaise, Lace Polonaise, Sacques and Shawls.

Best Black Silk for Dresses, by the yard. Umbrellas, Fans, Embroidered Sashes, Pockets, &c. Fancy Goods. Also, a full line of Ladies' Under Garments. (The only house on Chestnut street devoted exclusively to this class of Goods.)

[may 9, 1874—2m

ALLEN'S

STANDARD MANURES

FOR ALL CROPS.

Reputation Established.

Send for Circulars, and see that our name is on the Bags.

Dried & Ground Fish Guano.

Super-Phosphate of Lime and Ammoniated Fertilizer,

(Formerly manufactured by T. H. Gray.)

FINE GROUND PRAIRIE BONE.

Rich in Ammonia and Phosphates.

No. 1 Peruvian Guano,

Received direct from the Government.

JOSIAH J. ALLEN'S SONS,

No. 4 South Delaware Avenue,

mar 7, 1874—3m&inf PHILADELPHIA.

THE SHORTEST WAY HOME.

"The shortest way by half a mile—
I come so often by it—
Is up the road, across the stile,
And through the meadow; Shall we try it?"

The days were not without a charm
When, talking soft and looking silly,
My love and I walked arm-in-arm,
And lanes were lone and fields were stilly.

We found so many things to say
That always, in shiny weather,
We took the—well, the *shorter* way,
To be a longer time together.
We spoke about (but goodness knows
Our topics of confabulation)—
About the weather, I suppose,
The crops, the harvest, and the nation.

At all events, although the talk
Was neither very wise nor witty,
We ended each successive walk
With "Home already—what a pity?"
We might have lost a little ground
Through coming by the road selected,
But both agreed that we had found
The journey shorter than expected.

Can Life's experiment support
The paradox that love proposes?
Does *any* path seem very short,
Unless it be the path of roses?
We seldom find the nearer way:
And if we hit upon and take it,
By creeping on from day to day
It seems as long as length can make it.

The road to fame is never brief,
The way to wealth is dull and dreary:
All earthly routes, in my belief,
Are very long and very weary.
Nay—*one* that leads through care and strife
Is short when mortals once begin it;
We take the "near cut" *out* of life,
Although we take the longest *in* it.

Tinsley's Magazine.

THE REPEAL OF THE USURY LAW.

Any law which attempts to regulate the rate of the loan of money infringes upon the personal rights of the citizen, injuriously affects commerce, and directly solicits illegality and fraud.

The Constitution of the United States, in limiting the powers of the several States, denies to them the right to enact laws, "impairing the obligation of contracts." But does not a usury law—indirectly, it is true, but substantially—effect this? Does it not deprive the citizen, partially at least, of his right to bargain as he pleases with his own property? It is true there are some laws now in force deemed perfectly just which seem equally to conflict with the right of making contracts, such, for example, as the statute of frauds, which requires certain contracts to be expressed in writing, signed by the party to be charged therewith. But this law operates upon different principles, and produces different and far more salutary effects. This law concerns so much the terms of the contract as the evidence that any contract was made at all. It affects the courts more in enabling them to decide upon the existence of contracts than it protects individuals from injudicious bargains. In fact, it never was intended to protect individuals from contracts, however injudicious, so long as they were not induced by fraud and had some consideration to support them, but rather to establish a rule of evidence, which the weakness of memory or the perjery of witnesses could neither gainsay nor destroy. Such laws, therefore, are sanctioned by the broadest interests of society and the soundest principles of government. But it is far otherwise with a usury law. Such a law, instead of leaving the parties free to make their own conditions, concerns itself directly with the terms of the contract, and arbitrarily sets a price upon another man's property, beyond which it is criminal to go. But why should a law thus concern itself with the terms of our contracts? In anything else than money this interference would be deemed intolerable. If I enter a picture-gallery to make a few selections, have I not a constitutional right to offer as much as I please for them? And has not the vendor an equal constitutional right to accept the price so offered? It may be that I have offered twice or thrice the value of the picture, but does this impair the legality of the contract? It may be that I deem myself a better judge of such matters than the dealer. I may think that in the bold expression and perfect shading of the painting I can detect the touch of a Raphael or a Michael Angelo. A thousand fancies may distort the real value of the picture to my admiring eyes, and induce the extravagant price I offer. But as long as no deception is used by the seller, and fraud is absent from the contract, the law wisely judges the contract to be a fair one, and will not make it void for mere inadequacy of consideration. But why is such a contract less criminal or any more to be enforced than one for the use of money at any rate of interest the parties may stipulate? All the essential elements inhere in the latter as well as in the former contract, namely, the want and the assent of the contracting parties.

But it is said that the public welfare demands the continuance of the usury laws. Then why did England, year after year, exempt from their operation certain classes of contracts and finally abolish them entirely? Nothing can be more instructive than the history of England's usury laws and the effect which their repeal produced upon her business relations. Usury laws were in force there from the reign of Queen Anne to that of William the Fourth. The statute of 12th Anne, chapter 16, which was the chief usury act in England, provided that all loans of money at a higher rate of interest than five per cent should be void. This law was rigidly enforced. Every effort was made to evade its prohibitions; sometimes by substituting one contract for another; sometimes by giving a commission or a discount; sometimes by a transfer of stock. But the courts invariably stripped these contracts of their disguises, and whenever it was found that the real object of the parties was to give and take more than five per cent, whatever the form of the contract might be, it was held null and void. If ever a usury law was well tested it was this old statute of 12 Anne. But gradually its severities were relaxed. The act of 3 and 4 William 4, c. 98, made the first innovation, which provided, among other things, that all bills of exchange and promissory notes not having more than three months to run should be exempt from the usury laws. Here was a relaxation of those laws which we are told are so vital to the welfare of society. But was society injured or commercial affairs injuriously affected? Far otherwise. The change was so decidedly beneficial that a subsequent act, that of 1 Victoria, c. 80, extended the time of such bills and notes twelve months, and by a still later statute, that of 2 and 3 Victoria, c. 37, it was enacted that "No bill or note not having more than twelve months to run, nor any contract for the loan or forbearance of not more than £10 sterling, shall be void by reason of the usury laws; provided that the act shall not extend to the loan or forbearance of money on the security of any lands, tenements, or hereditaments, or any estate or interest therein." This act was to expire by its own limitation, January 1, 1842; but it was revived year after year, and kept in force till 1850; until finally, by act of 17 and 18 Victoria, c. 90, the usury laws were totally abolished, and contracts for the use of money, like all others, were left to the discretion of the parties.

Now, what stronger argument can be urged in favor of the repeal of our usury laws than is furnished here? If these laws are so necessary and their repeal so disastrous to the public welfare, why did England, year after year, exempt from their operation certain classes of contracts, constantly expanding her exemptions until at last they were totally repealed? Surely, if the effect of repeal, either partial or total, had been prejudicial to British interests no such acts would have been enacted. For no statesmen watch more keenly the public prosperity, and labor more assiduously for its promotion, than the British Statesmen. Neither can it be said that the social and commercial wants of our country are so different from those of England that a different effect would be experienced here from what was felt in that country. The laws of supply and demand in every country are the same and are affected by the same conditions as other business relation. But why this shameful inconsistency? Principles can work only legitimate results. Caprice alone is dangerous. But with so just a principle to regulate the price of money caprice could not display her trickery. It is only when elements are displaced that they are properly discordant. But when things work by their natural bias, whether commerce, or manufactures, or money or anything else, they preserve their proper relations to their surroundings, and so help to keep up the equilibrium of all.

But aside from these considerations a usury law creates needless and profitless inconsistency. Every *useless* inconsistency ought to be indicated. Such a one we are about to consider. By a rule of universal application a contract in respect to its nature, validity, obligation, and interpretation is to be governed by the law of the place where it is to be executed. And this, it is said, because "it is in conformity to the presumed intention of the parties." Thus a contract made in Pennsylvania, but to be performed in France, is to be governed by the laws of France. If made in Pennsylvania but to be performed in California, it is to be governed by the laws of California. Accordingly, a note drawn in Pennsylvania, where the rate of interest is fixed at 6 per made payable in California where the rate is 10 per cent if no particular rate be specified, draws interest at the latter rate; and if, upon present ment made at the place where payable, payment is refused, suit can be brought in the courts of Pennsylvania, and a recovery enforced for the 10 per cent interest, despite our 6 per cent usury law. Is not here a glaring inconsistenay? The State will enforce *foreign* law against its own citizens and give validity to their contracts, because such is the "presumed intention of the parties;" but will not enforce the same contracts, made with the same intentions, by the same parties, and just as binding in point of moral obligation, by virtue of her own law. It is true it can be said that in the former instance the relations of States, commerce, and national comity demand the application of the principle, and that the rule pertains not to interest only, but to every class of contract.

But there is another view which deserves especial prominence. The repeal of usury laws would inevitably cheapen loans. Not at first, indeed, for avarice, like the untamed horse, plunges most fircely when at first set free. No great reformation or change in any extensive system at first produces those broad and permanent results which later experience only can evolve. But though avarice might run to wanton lengths of riot in the first moments of its freedom, it would soon be restrained to moderation by natural causes. Ultimately its chances for extortion would be largely diminished, and active competition would effect the change. The legitimate effect of usury laws is to tie up money in the hands of the more honorable capitalists, or at least to restrict the loaning of it to their less conscientious brethren. But reverse these restrictions and lenders will rapidly multiply, and in proportion as they multiply rates will be reduced by the laws of competition, which are as invariable in their effects as the laws of gravitation.

THE MARVELS OF MECHANICS.

During the last siege of Paris, the inhabitants from time to time effected communication with their friends beyond the German investing lines by means of carrier pigeons. In fact, a regular pigeon post was organized, having one of its receiving stations in London. Here the written messages for Paris were received, and, by photography, reduced to microscopic size, each letter being reduced so small as to be invisible to the eye except as a speck.—Some two thousand of these specks were then printed on bits of tissue paper about an inch and a half square, which was rolled and carefully attached to one of the tall feathers of the pigeon. On the arrival of the bird in Paris, the postal officials placed the paper under the microscope, which enlarged the several specks into readable communications, which were duly copied in writing and delivered to the persons to whom they were addressed. The total postage received for the transmission of one of those tiny bits of paper frequently amounted to two thousand dollars.

Small as this photo writing seems, it has been surpassed by mechanism. In a recent number of the *Lens*, Dr. J. J. Woodward, U. S. A., gives an enlarged photograph of microscopic writing done by machinery on glass, by means of a diamond, executed by Mr. William Webb, of London. The writing consists of the Lord's Prayer, which is written upon glass, within a space equal to one two hundred and ninety fourth part of an inch in length by one four hundred and fortieth part of an inch in width, or a space perhaps equal to a letter i. The photograph given by Dr. Woodward shows this dot of writing enlarged so as to occupy a space of about two inches long by one and ahalf inches broad. All the words are brought legibly out on the photograph, the total number of letters being 227; and such is the exceeding fineness of the original writing that 29,431,458 letters written in the same would only cover one square inch of glass surface. The combined Bible and New Testament contain in all 3,566,480 letters; hence it would be possible for Mr. Webb to write the entire contents of more than eight bibles within the space of one square inch. Two specimen plates containing the microscopic writing above alluded to have been supplied by Mr. Webb for the United States Museum at Washington. Their cost was fifty dollars each.

The Webbs machine, however, does not equal, in the fineness of its writing or perfection, the prior instrument of Mr. N. Peters, a wealthy banker of London, who, as long ago as 1855, was able to write nearly three times finer than Webb. So perfect was the Peters machine that it was competent to engrave the entire contents of the Bible and New Testament twenty-two times over within the space of a single square inch.

For The Cecil Whig.

FRETFULNESS.

BY SOCRATES.

I would I were an uncaged bird,
To find my home in greenwood wild,
Where noises rude are never heard,
But nature whispers to her child.

And there upon the topmost spray
Which gently bends, light zephyrs greeting,
To welcome the first blush of day,
A cheerful song its welcome breathing.

I weary of this daily strife;
Now but the shadow of to-morrow.
Oh, give me freedom, give me life!
Which neither dullness knows, nor sorrow.

Peace, son of toil! thy life was lent
Some glorious purpose to fulfill;
Be faithful, and when life is spent,
Then shalt thou have thy will.

Ah woman! thy highest honor is to mature and rear earth's men and women, and to breath over the homes where you rear them, something of the atmosphere of that *home* yours should typify. Exorcise, I entreat you, this foul spirit, this demon fretfulness, from your domain. Let its shadow never darken your threshold; let its breath never blight the spirits where it is your province to ward and watch.—Would you have your's—your own dear ones—large of soul, loving and beloved in their lives, living in sunshine and scattering sunshine? Would you be to them while you live, and live in their memories after you are dead, as one of those sent of God and manifesting Him in their lives? Then never let your brow be clouded, your tones sharpened, the loving beaming of your eye never quenched by this foul spirit, that gathers its venom and blight from discontent and unholy unrest.

A truly noble man, a loving, innocent child, might find a better home in a den of stinging reptiles, than with "a brawling," or fretful "woman in a wide house." If you are sick and cannot give to your house service and care, give them the smile of a calm, unruffled soul, the sunshine of peace and love, *and trust in God.* If you are burthened with care and toil, add not to the load you must needs carry, one you need not, by fretfulness of spirit, but let cheerfulness and hope buoy you. And if difficulties, dark and frowning, meet you, or your path lay over an intricate or thorny way, let the light of a calm, quiet spirit lighten it, and the music of gentle, loving tones thrill along its tangled mazes.—Listen for them, and you shall catch, ever and anon, strains of poetry and measures of melody, even on the dreariest road. Have you the greatest blessing a true woman's heart craves, affectionate friends, a pleasant home, a loving and noble man for a companion, and dear promising children? Let your gratitude for these gifts keep you always from the lowering frown of impatience, and the harsh, grating tones of complaint and fretfulness at the little ills, the little disappointments, the physical taxations, and the nervous discomforts and ailments that every mother of a family, however blessed and favored, must at times encounter. Let each strive, in her own sphere and in her own home, to make that home as perfect, that sphere as ennobled as it can become. If this is the aim and ambition, surely from such a home and sphere will be banished, with much else that belittles it, degrades it, and mars it, the demon—*fretfulness.*

"*Home on the Hill,*" *Md.*, 1874.

THE BEST SEWING MACHINE.

There was Hubbard. He drove up to the door, unloaded a sewing machine, and said if we wanted a machine which would do all kinds of work, run easily, hem, tuck, ruffle, gather, and be a thing of joy forever and forty days more, we shouldn't fail to buy the "Lightning Slinger." I bought it, and when after a week, he wanted a certificate, I cheerfully wrote one:

"This is to certify that I have had a 'Lightning Slinger' in my house for some time past, and I wouldn't be without it for twice its cost. It hadn't been in my house half a day before my son recovered from the whooping cough, and my wife found a ten dollar bill on the sidewalk. I think it is the best machine ever made—I can't bear to go to bed and leave it."

He said he was ever so many times obliged, and he hadn't got out of sight before Kilroy drove up with the "Thunder & Blazes" machine. He began to snuff at the other machine; said we'd been terribly humbugged, and that his machine was the only first-class machine in the market.

My wife began to cry, and he soothed her by offering to trade his machine for the other, which he could sell for old iron, and $30 to boot. We made the trade. He said the "Thunder & Blazes" would make any kind of a stitch, sew any kind of fabric, and outrun anything but a locomotive. He came around the next week with a certificate all written out, and I signed it:

"This is to certify that I have gained ten pounds of flesh per day since purchasing your machine, and that my wife hadn't run it half an hour when her uncle died and left her two hundred thousand dollars. Not one of the children has had a cold since the day the 'Thunder & Blazes' came through the gate. It plays easily, the strings are not liable to snap, the stops are easy to manage; and it is the only machine in the world which can be operated by a red-headed woman with a cork leg. I can stay out till eleven o'clock at night now, and my wife hasn't a word to say. Formerly she used up four rolling-pins, costing two shillings each, per week."

Then McManus came. I told him that I had the best machine in the market, and he asked to look at it. He hadn't fairly got his eyes on the "Thunder & Blazes" before he commenced to laugh.

"Ho-ho-ho!" he shouted, as he dropped on a chair—"it will kill me—did you ever—oh! ho-ho!"

I sternly asked the cause of his hilarity, and he replied that Kilroy had swindled us—taken us in—cheated us stone blind. The "Thunder & Blazes" wasn't worth a dum, he said—was an old machine invented by a blind man and patented by a fool.

My wife began to weep.

"But," said McManus, "there was *his* machine, the 'Chained Earthquake.' It was *the* machine, and all others were base imitations. We might try it, and if we didn't like it he would cut his throat with a brick-saw. We tried it, and when he came with his certificate I signed it:

"This is to certify that your sewing machine has saved me ten per cent in fuel and twenty per cent in hay and corn since we purchased it. I licked an alderman, pulled a schoolmaster's nose, and kicked a member of the legislature the second day after we got the machine, and we hadn't owned it a week when I found where I could get trusted for meat and wood, and discovered a flour shed unlocked. It will sew any thing, from a leg of mutton to a New Hampshire mountain. There hasn't been a cloudy day since the machine first started, and the moon now rises two hours earlier and lasts all night. No one should be without it."

He took the certificate with a triumphant smile, and——

But I must leave off here. Farnsworth has just called with "The Five-Jeweled Duplex High Low" machine—the only leading machine in the market, and he is telling my wife how we got swindled by McManus.

THE CAUSE OF LONDON FOGS.

"What is the cause of these dense fogs?" asks *The Builder*, which says:—"Those who have studied the question reply: A fog is formed by the mingling together of masses of air of different temperatures, and may properly be termed an earth cloud, because it is formed at the surface of the earth, and seldom rises many feet above it. A London fog does not in general extend much beyond the height of the houses. During its prevalence one may, by ascending St. Paul's Cathedral, obtain a clear atmosphere, while underneath the dark vapor is rolling like a sea, through which the spires and steeples rise like the masts of stranded wrecks. London fog is not equal in density in all places; a long, depressed line marks the course of the Thames, and the deepest darkness hangs over the most crowded neighborhoods. Before the act of Parliament was passed requiring the London factories to consume their smoke, the fog was particularly dense in the localities of the great breweries. The height of the fog is greatly determined by the nature of the subsoil. If it is clayey it stands high, and low if it be of sand or gravel. Defrance states, in his *Treatise on Vapor*, that fog is occasioned by a descending current of air, which beats down the smoke and rolls it over the surface of the earth. At this time a current of air may be observed to descend through the chimneys which have no fire, producing a strong odor of soot; thus proving the existepce of descending currents in the atmosphere. Therefore, if the smoke of tens of thousands of chimneys be disc