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REPORT.

From the Philadelphia Saturday Courier.

Departure of the Israelites.

See still they come, a countless host,
Israel's twelve tribes, what treasures lost
To Egypt's power! Their bondage o'er,
With lighter steps and hearts they pour
From every avenue. The east
Is rudely with canals' welcome greet,
The glimmering, what we're before
Look'd on each scene from morning's door.

That foremost camel waits the while
For him, whose cradle on the Nile
Floated in safety—see him stand,
With flowing robe; his outstretch'd hand
Marshall the host, and by his side
Israel's high priest—lo! Israel's pride.

That feather'd canopy would shade
Stern Pharaoh's face. His court array'd
In eastern richness, round him stand
"Nay, move not, prince, for thy hand
Would smite once more the chosen race,
Thy tomb shall be without a trace;
Not in you pyramid thy grave,
But deep beneath the Red Sea's wave!"

Yon princess of the veil and tress,
That shadows e'er her crimson dress,
Would gently bid thy anger cease,
That Israel may depart in peace.

Full many a sad and broken heart
Spends from the eyes that wildly dart
Their anguish'd looks from terraced walls,
They dare not leave their native halls,
To seek amid the crowded street
Lod' forms they never seen will greet.
And she whose locks are turban'd o'er,
Both locks and turban seek the floor
Of that stone pavement;—there she lies,
Nor raises thence her weeping eyes;
Happy for thee, Egyptian maid,
Had thy young heart ne'er left its shade,
For to whom its love is given,
Thinks but of Canaan and of Heaven;
Pierces the desert to thy land,
To seek afar the promised land.

But wilt that land have Egypt's skies,
With their soft roes and azure dyes?
Bright faith and hope full every fear,
Canaan has treasures far more dear;
'Tis there a home of freedom lies,
And Heaven's own smile will light its skies.

—Moses.

REPORT.

OF THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS, UPON A RESOLUTION FROM THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, RELATIVE TO THE CURRENCY.

The committee on judicial proceedings to which was referred a resolution transmitted by the House of Delegates to the Senate on the 20th Jan. declaring certain acts to be "in contravention of the laws," and certain articles to be a "currency not recognized by the State," submits the following as its report thereon:

It will be taken for granted, that this resolution is not designed to abridge the privileges, or to curtail the powers of the State, although if the matters stated in it, and to be taken into consideration, the State itself has unquestionably been the greatest of all offenders against what is now supposed to be its own true policy. Others, no doubt, have been ready to follow the example of Maryland;—and recently we have learned that some of our corporate bodies—even to our rail-road and canal companies—having the power to use money and contract debts, have in the exercise of such powers, put into circulation notes, or certificates, or tickets.

If it be designed, by this resolution, to abridge (provided the legislative act) any of these powers, which some of our incorporated companies have been exercising, and even to a disposition to persist in the exercise of it, it would become the General Assembly explicitly to declare such to be its intent. The inquiry would then arise, whether the State as a holder, and using, as has been the case, its bonds and notes (to be "divided and subdivided") in payment of its shares, or to furnish the means of continuing important works, would not be essentially benefited, by the method, of complying with their contracts, which two of the companies seem to have determined upon. It will scarcely be pretended by any citizen of Maryland, that the bonds, and with them the credit of the State, ought to be sacrificed, if in the mode which has been suggested for continuing these works, a rate of the State bonds may be postponed until a fair price can be obtained for them. The State surely ought not to suffer in order to maintain any theory, and that theory, perhaps, a very absurd and pernicious one.

The resolution speaks of associations, and corporations but unless it be grossly misapprehended, it designs to deprive individuals of every privilege which it would forbid associations and corporations to exercise. It seems to forbid (if, indeed, it can be said to forbid any thing), the circulation of notes of almost, if not quite, every description; and even make it unlawful for a man holding the notes of his debtor to make use of the same, or of any subdivided part of the same, as money, whereupon to pay his debts, or to purchase any thing which could be obtained for them.

The resolution seems to assume that there exists in Maryland some law, of which the good people of the State must be ignorant, and that some of their acts are in contravention of this law. If this be really true, it would be wise in the General Assembly to inquire whether such laws being, it may be, at war with the usages, convenience and necessities of the people, ought to exist.

It may have been the business and among the evils of past legislation, to tell us what we ought not to do for the purposes of money or a circulating medium in our dealings with each other. It is equally certain that for some reason or other, these laws have not been obeyed. The lawgivers themselves, as well as the humble citizen, who is not chargeable with the folly of such legislation, have at all times, and seemingly without hazard, been in the practice of violating them. It would seem from this to follow that if there be no limits to the power of legislation, there are limits to the power of enforcing obedience to legislative enactment—that in short, there may be laws as bad as those which are made, and that although the legislature has intro-

duced them in the statute book, the people will not obey them; and possibly the laws alluded to in the resolution belong to one or the other of these classes.

After all that can be said upon the subject, it seems impossible to convince a people born free and determined to remain so, that it is not as much their right, (and a right of which the legislature need not attempt to deprive them,) to take what they please in satisfaction of a debt, or in exchange for what they are willing to dispose of, as to determine for themselves what they shall eat or with what to clothe themselves.

Surely the thing thus taken, whether it be tobacco, notes, the notes of individuals, or corporations, or treasury notes, is, when thus parted with and received, made to answer the purpose of money. Many of the things thus taken in place of gold or silver, the committee must admit constitute "a currency not recognized by this State." It is true also, that, until about the year 1812, the gold and silver and the cents coined at the national mint had not been recognized as any part of our currency.

The notion cannot be too soon abandoned by our politicians, that it is the business of the legislature to decide for the people what shall answer the purposes of currency. Our citizens must be left to determine each one for himself when they shall insist upon gold and silver, and when they shall take other things, and what things in lieu of them; and a more despotic government cannot well be imagined than the one which would attempt to force the people, in all their negotiations, to use only such articles as it chose to prescribe; or which would deny to the citizens the same rights to dispose of his own notes, or the notes of others, (of course with the consent of the person with whom he is dealing,) as to dispose of any other of his own property, or to sleep in his own house. It is too much to require of us to believe that which our creditors will most gladly receive of us, (at its nominal value too,) and for which we can get the articles we need, ought to be regarded but as worthless trash. With quite as much reason some have endeavored to induce a belief that gold and silver coin are "little white pieces of white and yellow metal," and it is owing to such reasoning and such reasons that "many are as much puzzled to understand what money is, as others are puzzled in being without it." Government need take quite too much care—us, when it would take from us the right to judge in these matters for ourselves.

Some strange misapprehensions we know to exist touching some of the provisions of our constitution, and to these misapprehensions, in all probability, these extravagant notions of the powers of the legislature may be traced; some really seem to entertain the opinion, that the framers of our constitution in that instrument framed a currency to be the only currency of this land, as long as the constitution itself, or rather a particular provision of it, shall last. Accordingly we sometimes hear from our newspaper politicians that gold and silver coin are the constitutional currency.

Now it is true, the federal constitution says: "no State shall make any thing but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts." Of the reasons for this, none of us ought to be ignorant. But this clause (which imposes no restriction upon the federal government) leaves to each one of the States full liberty to refuse to make gold, or (if it prefers gold, to refuse to make silver a legal tender in payment of debts, at the same time, it leaves the creditors at full liberty to receive in satisfaction of his debts any thing which he chooses to take, "although it be corporation notes, devices or tokens."

Men must be unreasonably silly to be deceived, if they can be persuaded to believe that a clause, introduced with the sole design of preventing the States from passing a description of laws, "starting at once to our morals, to our patriotism, and to our sense of justice" was designed to fix the only currency. By tender laws we mean one thing; but a currency is something quite different. The former may be regulated by the legislature, or the constitution; the latter the people ought to be allowed to regulate, and in regulating it, to consult their own convenience and interests, and even their own whims.

The national government furnishes us, it is true, with gold and silver coin, but it also coins for us cents and half cents, which although neither gold or silver, are certainly a part of our currency. Treasury notes coin title just now its favorite coin, and it may be, that in a little time our currency, or circulating medium, will consist principally of treasury drafts and certificates, which it may be thought are more convenient than bank notes, and therefore ought to supersede them.

In times gone by, we heard much of Virginia currency, and Maryland currency, of the currency of New York, Pennsylvania and other States—almost every State having a different currency; but when the federal constitution was framed, one supposed that thereby was created a constitutional currency, or that thereafter, none other currency than gold and silver was to exist.

We are indebted to our own State for the law, "that the species of coin struck at the mint of the United States, and the rates of foreign coins, as severally regulated and established by Congress shall be adjudged, and taken, and recognized as the current monies of this State." To the State Legislature, and not to the federal constitution we owe it, that a judgment rendered by our courts, can be satisfied by the tender of American eagles, "that the species of coin struck at the mint of the United States, and the rates of foreign coins, as severally regulated and established by Congress shall be adjudged, and taken, and recognized as the current monies of this State."

Government, it may be added, performs all that in this respect its citizens can require of it, when it compels the debtor to pay (if the creditor insists upon it) either gold or silver coin. It would claim a power, which no free people would be willing that its legislature should exercise, when it would refuse to the citizens to take whatever article or specie of value he is willing to take, and the creditor is willing to give in payment of a debt, or in exchange for that which belongs to him. The public functionaries in every department of the government are the agents of the people—their trustees, or, if the words be more admired, their servants, but never, in no sense, under no circumstances, for no purpose whatever, are they the people's masters, as unquestionably they would be, if they had an absolute control over their persons, their property or their actions.

Perhaps the evil will be discovered, upon a careful investigation of the subject, that in regard to the currency, as well as other matters, there has been already *overmuch* legislation. It cannot be right that the legislature (its members, it may be, feel too ignorant of such matters even to judge what is good for themselves) should undertake to judge for all, how all should act for themselves, in and in other respects, not injurious to others. It cannot be dissimulated, that such legislation assumes all wisdom to be in the legislature, and that this department of power has the same right to

take care or dispose of the property, and to regulate the dealings of the whole community, that it exercises in these respects, in the case of infants, idiots and lunatics. Of all such misdoings, it may with truth be said that they are miserable and abortive efforts to correct the blunders of former legislation, by committing more egregious blunders than those of former legislation. As our trust is in the wisdom of the legislatures, its traveling committee, and committees of inquiry, instead of being placed in the caution and good sense of the community, it is scarcely to be doubted that we shall continue to blunder and to suffer.

It is respectfully submitted, whether much of what has been said, is not also just, in reference to associations and corporations, provided they do not attempt by force or fraud, to take what is justly reserved to the individual, or to establish a circulating medium, is neither gold nor silver.

There are, indeed, objections to this resolution, which might seem to render unnecessary, much that has been introduced into this report. This resolution does not profess to create any new office, or to subject those who transgress any existing law, to the new or existing penalty. Surely it never was the design of legislative resolves, to make known to the community existing laws. If, for any purpose, it is thought proper to give to them such knowledge, a publication of the law itself, or a proclamation issued by the executive department, is the usual form in which such purpose is to be executed.

A still further reason, why the committee cannot recommend the adoption of this resolution, is, that it professes to be an exposition of existing laws, and the judgment of the General Assembly, that certain acts are forbidden by laws now in force. Now, besides that this may be like interpreting the law, a business which belongs to the judiciary, than the enactment of it, which is the province of the legislature, the committee has been unable to find in the statute books, any laws which, by the most tortured construction, can be made to forbid all the acts recited in the resolution. Believing otherwise, the committee cannot venture to advise the Senate to declare that such is the law.

For the reasons suggested above, and others, which upon an examination of the resolution, will at once suggest themselves to the Senate, the committee are of opinion that the resolution referred to it as amended, should be returned to the House of Delegates, "disentitled from."

A. C. MAGRUDER, Chairman.

From the Philadelphia Saturday Courier.

The Value of Contentment.

BY M. JACKSON.

The great secret of human happiness lies in the word—Contentment. It possesses these attributes which give us influence, pleasure and respect. It is the halo that settles around the head of a good man, beaming upon every countenance, and reflecting light upon his household. With that plenty assumes a new character; she lends her name to scarcity, even to want. It makes the little much, or at least sufficient; it gives elasticity to the heart, and throws the rays of a ceaseless sun upon the injury; it lends beauty to the most homely; it finds pleasure in watching the formation of the bud, and the development of the flower; it learns wisdom from the ant, and industry from the bee; it pictures desolation in the pencil of a dream; its past is the recollection of an autumnal eve, all quietness and peace; its present is the morning of the spring, all sweetness and life; and its future is a combination of the whole.

In the faculty of earthly pleasures and worldly gifts, it will be gratifying if we can find ours not entirely dependent upon the generosity of friends, or the caprice of fortune, but that they are fixed within the boundaries of our own thresholds, and are supplied by an uncomplaining heart, and an unobscured conscience. It is a mistaken idea that supposes comfort to be the result of superfluity. He that has least, feels the least want, and it is only when he has acquired more, that he finds he has lost what he struggled to preserve. It is too much our desire to be equal with our neighbor in worldly wealth; and to see a man rise so toweringly above us, appears to argue a disadvantage in him, or a disadvantage in the same advantages—repulsive stupidity. It is not so much for the gold, as for the fame of possessing it—not for the comfort it bestows, but for the illu-

sion it bestows, that we are so anxious to possess it. The ambition thus fired, we are not scrupulous of the means that may enable us to ascend the rays of another's glory by the superior radiance of our own.

Bliss, to be permanent, must be permanently founded, and that foundation must be reason. It is not to be found in a vulgar reputation for wealth, nor an ostentatious display of a heartless benevolence. This, however, is a mistake which is frequently to crime, and the idea that happiness is the effect of the circumstances that surround us, and not of our own disposition and good sense. The envious glances, the jealous leer or the admiring gaze of a neighbor, does not address itself to the soul, to cheer it in its dependency, or to repay the mind for its labor and solicitude. It speaks of our pride; and not till we refer to that State of bitterness and self-reproach, do we find its impotency and coldness. Like a lady compressed into the circumference of a ring, who lives in misery though the day, and at night hastens past the farmers have to appearance, bend vying with the merchants in dress. They have neglected to manufacture their own wearing apparel; because, say they, our own manufactures are not so handsome as foreign, neither are they so durable or cheap. By this means they have reduced themselves to poverty, and now fondly complain of the hardness of the times. A different line of conduct must be adopted; industry and frugality must be the stability of our own and all other times.

In a free and independent state, where republican principles and sentiments are adopted by the people at large, the idea of equality breathes through the whole, and every individual feels ambitious to be in a situation not inferior to his neighbor. Among us the idea of inferiority, as of pursuing a mean employment, or occupying a low position, mortifies the feelings, and sours the minds of those who feel themselves inferior; and consequently the poor to their great injury, strive to be equal to the rich in dress, in the furniture of their houses, in the laboring in the field, as a sufficed shirt, a velvet coat, and a superb broadcloth.

As *Ingenious Scoundrel*.—A rogue in Georgia Pontiac, who passed for and was treated as a "Red," lately contrived to make his escape. He made a man of straw by stuffing his clothes with that material, and just before the hour for looking up arrived, he took out the straw, and put in a bundle of cotton, so that when the keeper came round, he was deceived by the appearance of the figure, and looked it in the morning line the mounted hunter himself in one of the pursuers, and at night effected his escape over the walls. The "clerk was discovered" the next morning, when he kept exhibited the roll and found that the owner of straw did not obey his order to turn out.—*Balt. Amer.*

"All hail to the brave and free," as the leader said when he escaped from the constable.



AGRICULTURAL.

Culture of Indian Corn.

Mr. James Thurston.—As I have been a constant reader of the Cultivator, I often find the interesting and valuable information, respecting the best method of raising a crop of corn. I therefore send you a statement of the soil, management and profits of one acre planted by me with corn in the present season. The soil, two-thirds of it, was warm gravel; the other third was low, wet, and covered with rushes and wild grass, with a very tough soil; but I was careful to put two good manure drains through it, which left it a rich black mold. About the first of May I drew twenty-two loads of unfertilized manure, each load containing thirty-five bushels of manure, and spread it evenly over the acre. I then ploughed before the manure had time to dry; the dragged lengthways of the furrows; planted six rows of May, with Dutton corn, the hills three feet apart each way, making 48,000 hills, with six kernels to the hill. It was attacked by the grub as soon as it came its appearance above the ground, at which time I spread twelve bushels of unleached ashes upon each row, which I did, but they succeeded in killing 70 hills, leaving only 4700. The corn was hoed and thinned to four stalks in each row, June 6th; then I sowed two bushels of plaster on the hills, and hoed again July 2d; put no more earth to the hills, but weeded away; was through with the cultivator both ways, four times. —June 1st and 6th July 1st and 12th. On the 14th September, I cut up, and shocked the corn, and the 28th of the same month, I threshed it. Upon one square rod, of twenty hills, and one-fourth of a hill, of the best of the low ground, grew seventy pounds of ears, equal to one hundred and twenty-eight bushels per acre. The whole product was one hundred and twenty bushels.

COST OF CULTIVATION.

One day ploughing,	\$3 00
Harrowing half a day,	1 00
22 loads of manure,	11 00
Planting, 2 days,	1 00
Seed corn,	50
Hoe and cultivator, two days,	2 00
Hoeing, four days,	3 00
2 bushels ashes and 2 bushels plaster,	1 00
Spreading ashes and plaster,	1 00
Cutting and shocking,	1 50
Husking and housing, seven days,	5 25
Carting stalks,	2 00
Thrashing, three days,	3 00
Interest on land,	3 36
Total cost,	\$37 06

PROFIT.

115 bushels of first rate corn,

Five bushels of second rate,

Stalks, four loads.

WILLIAM INGELL.

Palmy, Oswego co. N. Y. Dec. 9, 1832.

I hereby certify, that I am personally acquainted with the above named William Ingell, and believe him to be a person of truth and veracity; and that his statements may be depended on.

R. D. HUBBARD, Justice of the Peace.

GOOD vs. BAD BUTTER.—Two farmers in a township in the centre of a neighbouring county carried about three hundred weight of butter to market, not long since for sale. The farmer joined each other, sold the same, pasture and number of cows equal, yet the one sold his butter in a short time at twenty two and a half cents, (wholesale) and the other after waiting a day with the butter merchant, obtained six and a half for his lot. The difference between lots of butter [look to it ye farmers' wives and daughters] was simply this—the wife and daughters of the one "knew" their duty and did it well making good butter; while the other, either through ignorance or neglect of attending to the necessary discharge of the duties of the dairy, produced butter badly made, and of an inferior quality. The loss of the latter was eighteen dollars.—*S. Chron.*

COAL ASHES.—Among the many good uses of making meadows plough, perhaps none is more than to apply the ashes of coal at the rate of from three to five wagon loads to the acre; and it is applied early in the spring, the last of March or the first of April. Its beneficial effects are, that it keeps the soil for five or six years; it is a better than the best manure; it may be applied with great advantage on any bed of the garden which roots are to be raised, especially on the soil of the house. Farmers would do well to collect the ashes from their clearings where brushwood and logs are burned, and when the beneficial effects of the ashes are all lost, scatter them on the meadows or put about a pint on each hill of the corn, once in the first hoeing, and the good result will reward them more than ten per cent.—*N. Chron.*

LUCERNE.—Those who may feel disposed try their fortunes with this valuable grass, should be advised, as the ground is elevated, to be sown in the dampness. It should be sown on a dry rich soil which had been previously well cleaned. It should be sown in the spring, and should be cut sixteen to twenty quarts of seed should be sown. It may be put in with the spring barley and clover. In England and Scotland it is frequently cut times in the season.—*S. Chron.*

EXPERIMENTS.—There is no way of improving their farming, but by experiment. The farmer is informed of, or has conceived of, a new or better method of culture, or management in any branch of his farming, he is to test the truth of that method by experiments; and to prove successful, he must be successful in his experiments. Having performed an act which is serviceable to country and honorable to himself.—*S. Chron.*

SILK CULTURE.—The National Silk Society have offered a premium of \$1000, for the best specimens of raw silk to be produced during the coming season. The whole amount of the bounty is \$10,000. The prospect is that the silk culture will be prominent and settled part of our domestic industry, and that silk, either raw or manufactured, constitute, within a few years, a valuable staple home production.—*Balt. Amer.*

A farmer at Gayport, Pa., raised last year 800 bushels of potatoes from an acre and a half of land.