July 31, 1880

become a part of the United States. As Gen. Grant said in Mexico the other day our people are not anxious to extend their territory, but as a favor to our cousins across the border they might consent to admit Canada to the republic.

THE EARTH STILL EXISTS.

Disguise the fact as we may, yet there is far more superstition lingering among intelligent people than they are willing to admit. Science may wear itself out in demonstrating the folly of astrology, and fortune-telling, and spirit-rapping, but a great many people of healthy and well regulated minds and of average natural ability and intelligence secretly believe "there is something in it." In spite of his assumed indifference Cæsar was sorely troubled by the soothsayer's remark: "Beware the ides of March." That the modern prophet should come so near the time of the disaster to the Russian emperor will be cited as evidence of foreknowledge, that will outweigh fifty failures. We have no doubt that to-day there are thousands of intelligent people all over this country who really believe in planetary influences, and who but for the shame of being ridiculed would freely acknowledge their faith. The world was not destroyed on Sunday last, as predicted, and our planet has successfully withstood the recent conjunctions, of which such disastrous and terrible predictions were made. Still, superstitious people are not fully satisfied that something still more terrible may not yet happen, and that the grand planetary catastrophe is still to come. In the meantime let us possess our souls in peace, piety and patience.

SOME UGLY TRUTHS COMING OUT.

All is not serene in the Democratic camp in Howard county, judging from a card from John R. Clark, a member of the State Central Committee for that county, published in last week's Ellicott City *Times*. It appears that the other two members of the committee are ringsters and ignored Mr. Clark when arranging for the primary meetings, &c., which, it is well known, were fixed at an unusually early date in order to circumvent the friends of Gov. Hamilton. Mr. Clark says:

"Most positively I would have refused my signature to the paper, as it is a radical innovation upon a long established usage and was never done but once in the history of our party, and that was in 1875 when the several bosses on our ticket came near being beaten, on the account, running, as usual, several hundred votes behind the ticket. The idea of holding primaries for county officers in the middle of harvest is an outrage upon the agricultural and business community and only suits professional politicians whose sole trade and occupation in life consists in seeking fat offices. The people surely do not intend to stand this hocus pocus any longer. Forbearance has ceased to be a virtue. Reform they will have—inside the party if they can but reform anyhow. This is rather an unlucky season for the bosses all over the country. Is not the doom of our Maryland bosses near at hand—Gorman, Colton, Free Rahin, Eugene Higgins—the latter the champion bulldozer in Clarksville district, at the last local election, who under a rowdy alias, with pistol and whiskey-bottle in hand, bulldozed the quiet citizens and voted negroes and others brought from outside with the assistance of the district register and other conspirators. "Whom the

the Act of 1880, more than one lawyer of respectability maintaining that the law itself is wholly inoperative by reason of its uncertainty and ambiguity, and others that the legal interpretation of the word "contract" means in the case of a public official competition and award to the lowest bidder, *yet all are agreed that the* first section of the Act of 1880, chapter 110, clearly contemplates the publication of the annual statement of expenses notices of registration and of election in two newspapers. Such is the plain meaning of the section, especially when we consider the fact that it provides for the printing of other items in only one paper. If there were any doubt about the true construction of the *words* of the statute, still it would be manifestly illegal for the County Commissioners to disregard the provisions of the code in regard to election notices and the annual statement of expenses, both of which are required to be published in two newspapers. The Act of 1880 nowhere expressly repeals these provisions of the code. It is simply a law relating to the expenses of the county, not for regulating the holding of elections or the manner or extent of making known to the people of the county the disbursements made by the County Commissioners; hence there is no repeal by implication or construction. It is unquestionably the duty of the County Commissioners to have the public printing done as economically as possible; but this does not relieve them from the obligation imposed by law to publish the election notices and the annual statement of expenses in two newspapers. In regard to election notices the sheriff is required to publish them in two newspapers under a penalty of fifty dollars. Will any one contend that the sheriff could shield himself in a prosecution for this violation of law by saying that the County Commissioners were only allowed to expend seven hundred and fifty dollars for all the public printing? If the printing, which the law requires to be done, can be done for seven hundred and fifty dollars, well enough; and as before stated, it is manifestly the duty of the Commissioners to do it as economically as possible; but it is certain that they have no right to violate the law requiring certain publications to be made in two newspapers, if such publication shall cost twice seven hundred and fifty dollars.

The Crops of 1870-1880—Official Report

The report of the Hon. J. R. Dodge, special agent for the collection of agricultural statistics, has just been published by the census bureau of the Department of the Interior. The report gives by States and in the aggregate a comparative statement of the crops of cereals raised in the United States in 1869 and 1879, as tabulated in 1870 and 1880. Nothing could show more clearly the remarkable increase in agricultural products during the last decade, amounting to nearly one hundred per cent for all kinds put together, while the increase for the ten years preceding was, as Mr. Dodge states, but twelve per cent. To illustrate this matter more clearly, we put side by side the total production of wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye and buckwheat, as enumerated in 1870 and 1880. Total wheat crop of 1870 was 287,745,626 bushels; of 1880, [illegible] bushels. Indian corn, 1870, 760,944,549 bushels; 1880, 1,772,909,846 bushels. Oats, 1870, 282,107,157 bushels. Barley, 1870, 29,761,305 bushels; 1880, 41,159,450 bushels. Rye, 1870, 16,918,795 bushels; 1880, 19,831,612 bushels. Buckwheat, 1870, 9,821,721 bushels; 1880, 11,837,783 bushels. It will be observed that the heaviest increase is in Indian corn. Wheat naturally follows next, the production of both cereals being, as might naturally be expected, largely stimulated by the foreign

REMINISCENCES.

MEN AND THINGS OF LONG AGO.

NEW ALBANY, *June 18, 1881.*

Once again I write, and of the past. I once was young, but now am old. I wonder how many persons in Elkton remember Jeff Sample? Not many, I presume. I might go through and through Elkton and no one would recognize me. On the 4th of November next, if alive, I will be 81 years old.

My mind is wont to wander back to the war of 1812. I have rather a remarkable faculty of remembering dates and names. Like all boys, I was fond of martial music. There was a recruiting party in Elkton, the drummer of which, named Curtis, was the best drummer I ever heard. Elisha Simmons, a carpenter, was a good drummer too, but he learned his best licks from Curtis. There was also a cavalry recruiting party there whose trumpeter, named French, exceeded any one I ever heard on the trumpet. Oh! I remember with great delight how delectable it was to be awakened at early daybreak by his trumpet notes, as he rode rapidly through the streets, sending forth such strains as he was wont to send forth to arouse us from a sweet sleep. But French and his trumpet are still until the voice of the archangel will awaken us all with the cry, Awake ye dead and come to judgment.

I dwell very much in thought about the old Landing. We lived there for some time. I spent most of school days at the Landing. There were four families there when I lived there. Old Captain Biddle, who sailed a schooner from there, lived at the lower wharf, and had a daughter Milly. Henry Bennett, at the middle wharf, had a daughter Fanny, who, I think, married Lieut. Ed. Wilson after the war. Rudolph Bennett lived at the upper wharf. John Gamble, an Irishman, lived next door to us. His children and ours went to school together. Days of my boyhood, ye are vanished and gone.

During my residence at the Landing, there was a great carrying trade from Baltimore in the article of wheat, brought by water to the Landing, and then hauled from the Landing to the mills at Elkton. I was in Elkton when passenger travel between Philadelphia and New York was carried on by the old style stages. There were three lines—the Pilot, Expedition, and the Mail, each stage carrying from six to nine passengers per day. Then there were post-chaises, each carrying nine passengers, and each making one trip per day. These came in the morning from Wilmington, ran to the Landing, and the passengers were transferred to steamers. There was a period when there was run an opposition line. This led to racing and danger attended it. This state of affairs continued till the railroads changed it. There was much hazard in it. The history of the passenger travel between New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore would be now intensely interesting. It was exciting to see the post-chaises coming in in the morning, all in a line, and filled with passengers, going through to the Landing. Oh, how the times have changed.

I have said that I lived in Elkton during the war of 1812. I cannot think of those days with any good feeling toward England. England is fast losing her prestige among the nations of the world, and she will soon be [illegible] away. I say, let her go. I have no good feeling for her. I esteem Queen Victoria as a good woman, but England as a nation I abhor. She has been weighed in the balance and found wanting. Her conduct at the city of Washington blasted her character among the Christian nations. I repeat, let her go.

Yours truly, T. J. SAMPLE.

A VISIT TO WHEATLAND.—A correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press* thus describes the old homestead of President Buchanan, now owned and occupied by his niece, Harriet Lane Johnston, and her husband, Henry E. Johnston, Esq., of Baltimore:

The old roof tree at Wheatland sits well back from the road and is half hid by the great trees which stand between it and the turnpike. Before the porch stand two towering Norway pines, clad in their richest verdure, from the limbs of which beautiful baskets of plants and flowers hang like gaudy pennants from the ears of a dusky maiden. The grass grows rank on the lawn, and the flowers are grouped together in tasteful array both before and behind the old time streaked mansion. The broad porch at the front holds the present proprietor, Henry Elliott Johnston, the eminent banker of Baltimore and

MARRIED.

SIMPERS—EDER.—On Tuesday, June 21, 1881, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. T. W. Simpers, of Philadelphia, assisted by the Rev. W. E. Avery, of Elkton, Harry H. Simpers, son of the officiating clergyman, to Mary K., daughter of W. H. Eder, Esq., of Elkton.

HOFFMAN—MULLEN.—On June 8th, in Philadelphia, by Rev. E. H. Hoffman, assisted by O. H. Tiffany, D. D., at the residence of the bride's father, the Rev. L. B. Hoffman, of Catasauqua, Pa., and Miss Bella Mullen, of Philadelphia.

CROW—WHEATLY.—On June 13, at New London, Pa., by the Rev. D. R. Workman, William G. Crow and Hannah Wheatly, both of Cooche's Bridge, Del.

THE MARKETS.

Elkton Markets.

REPORTED BY D. SCOTT & BRO.

Fultz Wheat	$1.21@0.00
Red Wheat	1.19@0.00
Corn	58@00
Oats	45@50
Hay	$18@21
Cloverseed	6@7½

Baltimore Markets.

Corrected Weekly by W. H. Michael & Sons, Grain and Produce Commission Merchants, 11 McElderry's Wharf.

BALTIMORE, June 23rd, 1881.

Super Flour	$3.50@4.20
Extra Flour	4.50@5.25
Family Flour	5.50@6.50
White Corn Meal per 100 lbs	1.20@1.25
Yellow Corn Chop per 100 lbs	1.10@1.15
Fultz Wheat	1.22@1.25
Long-Berry Wheat	1.27@1.30
White Corn	59@ 60
Yellow Corn	58@58½
Oats	38@ 41
Rye	1.08@1.00
Clover Seed per lb	6@ 7½
Timothy Seed per bushel	2.75@0.00
Potatoes per bushel	70@ 80
Eggs	11@ 14
Timothy Hay	19.00@22.00
Mixed Hay	13.00@15.00
Clover Hay	10.00@11.00
Rye Straw (for straight)	21.00@22.00
Oat Straw	12.00@12.00
Wheat Straw	9.00@10.00
Wool (unwashed)	26@ 30
Wool (washed)	31@ 39

BALTIMORE LIVE STOCK MARKET.—The market was slow for beef cattle and prices lower. We quote from $3.25@5.50. Milch cows, common to good, $18@50 wholesale. Hogs 7¼@8¼cts. Common to fair Sheep at 3@4c; extra 5c. Lambs 4@6½c.

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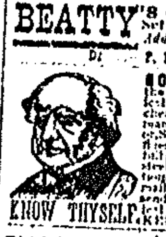

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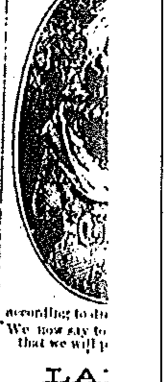
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