BALTIMORE.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1860

THE DAILY EXCHANGE is published every morning (Sundays excepted), price *Two Cents*; served in the city at *twelve and a Half Cents* per week, payable to the carriers; mailed to subscribers out of the city at *six dollars* per annum.

The *Tri-Weekly Edition* is mailed to subscribers at *Four Dollars* per annum *Terms*—invariably cash, in advance.

The *Weekly Edition* is mailed to subscribers at *One Dollar* per annum, payable in advance. Or

6 copies mailed to one address for..... $5.00
12 " " " " 10.00
25 " " " " 20.00

Office of Publication—Northeast corner of Baltimore and North streets, Baltimore

TO ADVERTISERS.

THE DAILY EXCHANGE is printed upon clear white paper, and with bold and distinct type, which is constantly renewed; thus offering to merchants and others making use of it a common, peculiar advantages for the conspicuous and attractive display of their advertisements, while its already large and rapidly increasing circulation, and the admitted superiority of its commercial department over that of any other paper published in the city, make it the best and most desirable medium for advertising, presented to this community.

ADVERTISING RATES.

One square, six lines	one insertion	50
" " "	two insertions	75
" " "	three "	1 00
" " "	one week	1 25
" " "	two weeks	2 25
" " "	three "	3 50
" " "	one month	4 00
" " "	three months	10 00

Longer advertisements at proportionate rates. Yearly contracts to be matters of special agreement

TO CORRESPONDENTS

No notice can be taken of Anonymous Communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as guaranty for his good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected Communications.

Letters to be addressed "TO THE DAILY EXCHANGE Baltimore, Maryland."

Under the general head of "blessings, which a 'bountiful Providence has permitted us to enjoy, "and which at no former period have been more "marked or encouraging," we suppose Mr. SWANN means to include his own restoration to health and usefulness—the complete protection afforded to persons and property everywhere, throughout the city, during the past year—and the opportunity vouchsafed for the free and unrestricted exercise of the right of suffrage at the November Election. We say, we presume that by the comprehensive and appropriate language we have quoted, Mr. SWANN must be understood to refer to these subjects of congratulation—for, otherwise, we shall be at a loss to find any allusion to them in his Message. Albeit, his own claims to the admiration of posterity, and the sympathy and gratitude of this community—the efficiency of his police, and the general peace and good order of this city, as "compared with "other large towns on the Atlantic sea-board," have heretofore been the staple and the burden of Mr. SWANN's annual communications to the public, the present one passes by, absolutely without notice, each and all of these topics. Whether it is, that having exhausted the vocabulary of self-praise, nothing remains to be said; or, that having silenced all cavillers, nothing more needs to be said—we cannot say. Whatever the explanation may be, the fact is as we have stated.

The Message constitutes a pamphlet of twenty-six pages. On the twenty-third page—right-hand side—near the bottom—we find the only reference it contains to the state of our municipal Police. It occurs incidentally, rather—*apropos* of "the reforms in our municipal government, "which have been, of late, so loudly called for by "a large class of our citizens." "In connection "with these," says His Honor, "it is no more "than just to myself that I should refer to a com-"munication made by me to your honorable body "as far back as the 15th of November, 1858." What would be "no more than" strict "justice" to Mr. SWANN, we do not, at this present writing, propose to consider. The portion of his last year's Message, which he quotes, is that in which he laboured to show the causes "which have heretofore "disturbed the successful working of our munici-"pal system." These were—and are—according to His Honor, "the presence of low drinking "houses," over which "the city authorities have "no adequate control"—"the carrying of con-"cealed weapons, which, in the absence of laws, "has become a habit with men of all parties"—and "the defective organization of our criminal "system in the prompt application of suitable "punishment in cases of arrest, coupled "with the total absence of power in the ex-"ecutive arm to deal with notorious disturbers "of the public peace." "The chief and leading "defect, however," continues His Honor, "under "which we labor, is the utter inefficiency of our "criminal system, and the absence of all power in "the Mayor to supply the omissions which both the "Constitution and the laws have failed to meet." This the reader will find in the Message, printed in italics and capitals, which sufficiently serve to mark the several degrees of admiration with which His Honor regards these evidences of his own past wisdom. It is gratifying to learn that these being his sentiments, it will afford Mr. SWANN "pleasure at all "times to give his support to any judicious measure "measure of reform calculated to punish crime and "lawlessness," and that the Mayor of Baltimore "cordially endorses" the recommendation to the Legislature contained in the message of the Governor of the State. It is even more consolatory, however, to know that we are not dependent upon the "pleasure" of Mr. SWANN, for the necessary relief which we hope to obtain, from the evils which his administration has brought upon us, and that the remedy likely to be applied by the Legislature will consist not in adding, as he proposes, to the power of the Mayor, but in taking away from him a portion of that which he now possesses, and which Mr. SWANN has so grossly abused.

Neither the "presence of low drinking houses" nor the "carrying concealed weapons," affords any explanation, directly or remotely, of the wholesale disfranchisement of voters on the day of the last election—of the expulsion of the negro caulkers from the ship-yards—or of the habitual, systematic and almost universal abdication by the police, of their authority and duties. The only other remedy suggested by Mr. SWANN, for existing evils, namely, a grant of additional power to "the "Executive arm to deal with notorious disturbers "of the public peace," is utterly in conflict with the spirit of our institutions, and indeed, of every free government, which imperatively demands the separation of the Judicial and Executive functions. To unite the two in one person—the power to convict and punish, with the power to arrest—would be to place the liberty of every citizen at the disposal of the Mayor. It would only require the addition of legislative powers to constitute a despotism as perfect in theory, as it would be apt to prove formidable and oppressive in practice. It is in vain for Mr. SWANN to attempt to throw upon the "Consti-"tution" or "the laws" the blame of shortcomings which are exclusively his own. It is idle for him to seek by such apologies to cover up the enormity of outrages, which he has not even the manliness and the courage to name. Through the entire length of the Message we look in vain for one syllable of allusion, however slight or remote, to the unparalleled crime of which this community was the victim on Election-Day. JOHN BROWN—Street Railways—the Fire Department—the McDONOGH Bequest—a new City Hall—the SWANN Lake—the House of Refuge—the new Jail—the Almshouse—the Marine Hospital, and the Back-Basin are each severally alluded to, and made the subject of comment more or less extended. With the exception of the vague and pitiful generalities we have quoted, and which, themselves, are a quotation from "former messages" of His Honor, we have not one word in reference to those things about which this community is most exercised and interested. JOHN BROWN's foray into Virginia is characterized as "an invasion of the homes and "firesides of a people united to us by ties of social "and commercial brotherhood, by a band of ruf-"fians." The invasion of many "homes and fire-"sides" in this city, and of the civil and political rights of thousands of citizens, by "bands of "ruffians," a thousand-fold more desperate and abandoned, than those whom BROWN led to slaughter and a scaffold in Virginia—is nowhere referred to. Mr. SWANN turns his back upon this people, as people are beginning to turn their backs upon him. Unable to face the consequences of his own misconduct, he prefers to be silent about the occasions on which the hollowness of his profession, and the worthlessness of his pledges were most conclusively and effectually tested.

The death of Dr. Rich. H. Thomas, which was announced yesterday, will be a cause of deep and lasting regret to his warm and numerous friends elsewhere, as well as in this city. He was a native of Anne Arundel county, and came to Baltimore about the year 1828, from which time until very recently he enjoyed a large and lucrative practice. He was for a long period Professor of Obstetrics in the University of Maryland, which chair he filled ably and satisfactorily. He retired a few years ago from the active pursuits of his profession, and his health has since gradually failed him. He died on Sunday last at his residence, beyond the western limits of the city. Dr. Thomas was a member of the Society of Friends, among whom he exercised great influence, and the affectionate esteem with which he was regarded was not confined to those of any one persuasion. His blameless life, kindly manners and unostentatious charities will be long remembered, and his loss will be deplored by the public as sincerely as by his own social circle.

THE LAKE TRADE has of late years become perfectly enormous, the increase of the Western navigation being unprecedented. For example, three thousand and sixty-five steamers passed up from Lake Erie to Lakes Huron and Superior, by Detroit, in 1859, and three thousand one hundred and twenty-one passed down. The greatest number up in a single day was eighty-five; down, seventy-three.

Mayor's Message.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, CITY HALL, Baltimore, Jan. 16, 1860.

To the Honorable the Members of the First and Second Branches of the City Council:

GENTLEMEN: The commencement of a new year again opens upon you with its duties and responsibilities. The original grant of incorporation conferring the chartered powers under which you act, dates from a period when our entire population little exceeded twenty thousand inhabitants; it now finds you the representatives of more than a quarter of a Million of people. The commercial relations extending to every part of the civilized world. The auspices under which you assemble to day impose renewed obligations of thankfulness to a bountiful Providence for the blessings which he has permitted us to enjoy, and which at no former period have been more marked or encouraging.

The general trade of our city during the past year has been well maintained, notwithstanding the drawbacks which have been experienced in several important items, owing to causes which have operated with equal force in other cities. The total aggregate is estimated at the large sum of one hundred and fifty millions of dollars.

The statistics of the health department continue to show a marked improvement, and I take pleasure in commending them to your particular notice. No city in the Union has been more exempt from the ravages of disease. But while much is due to climate and position, I cannot withhold my acknowledgment of the important services which have been rendered by the Board of Health. The sanitary discipline introduced by that department, and the promptness with which they anticipate and guard against every probable approach of danger, have largely contributed to the results which have attended their labors from year to year.

While, however, we have had so many causes for thankfulness and gratitude, events have occurred, I regret to say, almost at our own gates, which have greatly excited the feelings of a large class of the citizens of our own and adjoining States. The invasion of the homes and firesides of a people united to us by ties of social and commercial brotherhood, by a band of ruffians led on by influences which I could hope were less irritating to conservative and Union-loving men, could not be lightly regarded here. It is with unfeigned pleasure that I hear witness to the alacrity with which the people of this city volunteered their support, and held themselves in readiness with their capital and facilities of transportation, to give protection to a community sharing with them common institutions, and bound to them by a common destiny.

Baltimore is a southern city. The great lines of internal improvement upon which she places her chief reliance, have been projected across southern soil. Her harbor must always furnish the favorite outlet for southern commerce on the Atlantic sea-board. It can never happen that she will be found a passive spectator in the midst of events, which if permitted to remain without action should be steadily persevered in; and that the rate of taxation should be kept at the smallest possible amount compatible with the public interest.

It may be proper for me to state further in this connection that the only obligations for which the city is liable after the present year, will be the balance due to the Police and Fire Alarm Telegraph and the Paid Fire Department for equipment, amounting in all to $24,333.99—falling due in 1861, 1862 and 1863. This will be somewhat increased by the construction account of the Paid Fire Department, not fully settled for notes.

On the 22d of March last, I made a communication to your honorable body in reference to the ordinance providing for a system of Passenger Railways through the leading thoroughfares of this city. This ordinance, with certain modifications proposed by me, was subsequently passed by both Branches of the Council. Before the commencement of the work, it became my duty, owing to rumors which had been prevailing in this community, touching the transfer by the original grantees to a company of gentlemen in another city, and the intention of the new company to commence operations without regard to what I deemed the most important feature of this ordinance, viz: that which invited our own citizens to a participation in the capital proposed to be created, and the consequent profits of the enterprise—that I should distinctly understand the relation in which the city stood towards these parties.

The 7th section of the ordinance provides:

Sec. 7. "And be it enacted and ordained, That the said association shall, after the passage of this ordinance, cause a book to be opened in this city, for the purpose of receiving subscriptions to the capital stock of the said City Railways, and the subscriptions to the same from such persons as may wish to place their own right to become stockholders therein; and said books shall be opened for the purpose within ninety days from the passage of the ordinance, and its approval by the Mayor, and shall be kept open for five days; and the said association shall give notice of the time and place of opening said books, in all the daily newspapers of the city, ten days previous thereto, and in the event of more stock being subscribed for than said Company are authorized to issue, the same shall be divided *pro rata* to each subscriber."

This section, I regret to say, has been entirely disregarded by the assignees in possession; although books were duly opened by the original grantees. If complied with in the spirit in which I was induced to give my sanction to this measure, it would have placed the control and management of these works, notwithstanding the transfer of the franchise to a foreign company, in the hands of our own citizens. It is needless to say that without such a provision it could never that have my counte nance or cooperation.

The correspondence which took place in furtherance of my object, was duly submitted to your honorable body on the 16th of June last.

The disregard of this ordinance in its most important feature, and the conclusion to which I was reluctantly forced that the city was absolved from all legal or equitable obligation to recognize further the claims of these parties, induced me to recommend to your honorable body, the submission of the subject to a select committee, with power to consult counsel, in order that if sustained, prompt and decided measures might be taken to compel a strict compliance with the terms of the contract with the city.

The positions assumed in my communication to your honorable body, were re-affirmed by the decision of the select committee, under the advice of counsel, after the fullest investigation, and I refer to them here for the better understanding of the course which I deemed it my duty to pursue, and as part of the history of this transaction.

1. "That the ordinance approved March 28th, is in the nature of an equitable agreement resting upon mutual obligations, and the good will of the people of this city.

2. That the absolute transfer, by the original grantees, before the commencement of the work, to an association in Philadelphia, is contrary to the spirit and intention of the ordinance.

3. That the original grantees have no power to open books, having transferred all their rights and powers under the ordinance to a Philadelphia association.

4. That the Philadelphia association took the deed of transfer, with its risks and responsibilities; and by a refusal to open books, have forfeited all claim upon the city."

As an application is proposed to be made to the Legislature at its present session for an act of incorporation, it is sincerely to be hoped that the subject may receive the fullest investigation by that body—and that the amplest justice may be done to all concerned. The parties now in possession of the grant, although failing to comply with their contract, according to my construction of its terms, have incurred a heavy outlay, and should be protected to the full extent of their legitimate expenditures—the rights of our citizens to a fair participation in the profits of the enterprise, should be fully guaranteed, as provided for in the ordinance—and the measure of the capital stock authorized to be subscribed under any new arrangement, should be graduated with a strict eye to the actual capital required in the construction and successful development of these important works.

On the 4th of November last, the proprietors of the City Railway reported, as the city's one-fifth of the result of their earnings upon one half the Baltimore street line alone, for three months, $2,556.05.

It will thus appear that the plan of a Public Park, and connected with it, the prompt construction of the Boundary avenue, both included in the ordinance approved March 28, 1859, can no longer be considered matters of mere speculation. In less than twelve months, we have good reason to assume, that the receipts into the City Treasury, from the source above named, will reach an amount equivalent, or nearly so, to the interest upon the cost of both these improvements.

As some legislation, looking to the extension of our corporate limits, will be necessary, in order to enable the city to prosecute these works, when the proper time shall have arrived, I would recommend the appointment of a joint special committee, to determine upon the steps proper to be taken in advance. The receipts from these roads must increase daily with our population, and the experience of one year may always be expected to show a safe and reduced basis for the estimates of another.

The Boundary Avenue was marked out by Commissioners appointed by your honorable body in 1853. It occupies a space of 250 feet in width, commencing at Canton and terminating at Fort McHenry—a circuit around the whole city of 14½ miles. It was intended to and covering the bed of this avenue, would willingly and without cost, cede to the city the right to make this improvement, and thus lend their aid towards facilitating the necessary legislation. The experience of other cities has demonstrated that it must add a largely enhanced value to property, which may offset otherwise comparatively unproductive for years. Much, of course, will depend, in the effort to construct this work, upon the liberal spirit which may be manifested by those immediately interested; and the city should in no wise incur responsibilities, or take decided action, until this is clearly ascertained.

The character of the improvements contemplated in the plan of this magnificent thoroughfare, within convenient access to every part of the city, would present a feature at once imposing and attractive; nor would its proportions, gigantic as they may seem, swell beyond the measure of our rapidly increasing wealth, or the prospective wants of our large population. Should the bed of this Boundary Avenue be ceded without cost to the city, the outlay in grading and planting might be regulated, for a time, by the receipts from these Railways, and without resort to any more active strings for the present.

The location of a Public Park, at some convenient point contiguous to, or intersected by the Boundary Avenue, is a not less important provision in the ordinance to which I have referred. The working classes of this city are without the means of recreation so amply provided for in many other cities. New York is now constructing a Park at a cost of $10,000,000, and there is no measure of her municipal legislation which has united more strongly the support of all classes of her citizens. Philadelphia is moving in the same direction. The meagre appropriations of ground which have been heretofore reserved in many parts of the city, are in no respect suited to the public use and enjoyment. Our city requires a Park of at least four or five hundred acres, which at some convenient point, would be readily accessible by cheap transportation to the humblest of our citizens, and furnish an occasional retreat to those whose engrossing pursuits, or straightened circumstances, confine them at all seasons of the year within the limits of a crowded city.

I earnestly commend both these important and useful measures to your timely consideration.

It is with no small degree of pleasure that I announce the complete success of the Paid Fire Department, which has been fully organized since my last annual communication. It is needless to do more than point to the results of its operations for the past year. Its effect upon the morals of the youth of our city, not the least of the benefits resulting from its introduction, is already proclaimed by the experience of many a cheerful fireside. The testimony of those who have been the most severely tried in the work cannot be considered as complete until additional accommodations are provided, and the necessary facilities placed within reach. The business of the city is becoming every day more more extended, and the experience has shown that the greatest benefit must continue to result from a concentration, as far as practicable, of the various municipal offices under one roof, and within easy communication of each other.

Baltimore is no longer a city of secondary importance She has rapidly increased in wealth and population, scarcely pausing in her onward career even in the most startling of those commercial and financial crises which have occasionally marked our history, until our future has become less a subject of vague speculation than of established reality. With a commanding position on the seaboard, with expanded railroad facilities, scarcely in advance of a trade which time alone can sufficiently estimate in its future development; with a population holding its relative position with the first and most prosperous of her sister cities; with an aggregate trade, amounting already to more than one hundred and fifty millions annually, the time has come when she may well feel justified in making such improvement arrangements, in furtherance of her municipal organization and the successful working of her system, as would seem to be called for not less by the rank which she has already attained, than by the demands of a sound and wholesome economy.

The private dwelling now occupied as a City Hall, is wholly unsuited to the purpose, and the city officers are not only badly accommodated, but great anxiety must always be felt in reference to the safe keeping of the public records and valuable papers connected with the different bureaus, owing to their present exposed condition.

A building adapted to the wants of the Corporation should provide—

1 A Mayor's Office, with apartments for Secretary, &c.

2. Apartments for City Counsellor, with Library rooms, for records appertaining to the business of the Corporation.

3. Apartments for a Mayor's Court, with receiving-room for persons awaiting trial.

4. Apartments for City Comptroller and his clerks, with fire-proof room for the safe keeping of the deeds and records pertaining to said office.

5. Apartments for City Register and his clerks, comprising a transfer office, and a fire-proof room for the safe keeping of the records of said office.

6. Apartments for City Collector and his clerks and bailiffs, with fire-proof room for the safe-keeping of the books and papers pertaining to said office.

7. Apartments for the Appeal Tax Court and Board of Arbitration, with a room for the safe-keeping of the papers appertaining to said office.

8. Apartments for the City Commissioner and his Clerks, with sufficient accommodation for the display of the Maps and Charts deposited in that office.

9. Apartments for Commissioners for Opening Streets and their clerks.

10. Apartments for the Board of Health.

11. Apartments for the Port Warden and his clerk.

12. Apartments for City Surveyor and his assistants.

13. Apartments for the Trustees of the McDonogh Institute and Educational Fund.

14. Apartments for the Commissioners of Public Schools.

15. Apartments for the Inspector of Weights and Measures, and Inspector of long and dry measures.

16. Apartments for the Marshal of Police and his clerk, and the Police and Fire Alarm Telegraph with its officers.

17. Apartments for the First and Second Branches of the City Council and the requisite Committee-rooms for the transaction of the public business.

18. Apartments for the Commissioners of the Water Board, with accommodations for the Water Engineer, Registrar, Clerks, &c., &c.

19. Apartments for the Commissioners of the Paid Fire Department, with their Chief Engineer, clerk, &c., &c.

20. A general armory in the second story of said building, with enlarged accommodations for Town meetings, on important occasions.

A glance at the offices above enumerated, with the space requisite for their accommodation, will show at a glance how imperfectly the wants of the City have been heretofore supplied.

A plan of a City Hall judiciously arranged—with the entire basement appropriated to stores and offices—in the most central and commanding position in our city—might in time, not only provide a large rental, and contribute in no small measure towards a sinking fund for the speedy liquidation of the cost of the contemplated improvement.

If it be our purpose at any time hereafter to perfect this improvement, the question arises when it can be undertaken, and upon what plan calculated to impose the least burthen upon the finances of the city.

The payment of the whole amount of the McDonogh bequest, I have reason to believe, will be made into the Treasury in less than three years from this time. Of the sum so received, $500,000, as I have before stated, has been reserved, as a fund to be secured in perpetuity, for the endowment of the Institute to be erected upon this basis. This amount is required by the ordinance, to be invested in securities of the State or city. Can it be more amply protected than by a mortgage upon the proposed City Hall? with the additional guaranty of the city for the prompt payment of the accruing interest, or so much thereof as may represent the cost of this improvement? There is no financial arrangement which has occurred to me, which could be more acceptable to the people of this city, and certainly none that offers greater security, in carrying out the bequest of the late John McDonogh.

The operations upon the new Water Works have progressed steadily and without interruption.

The value of the work done up to 1st of January, 1860, was $778,378.

The graduation and masonry of the lake were contracted for early in 1859—and, in November last, a contract was made for the lower receiving-reservoir. A contract was also made for more than one half of the large cast iron mains required to complete the line of works outside the city limits.

The lower reservoir has been located on the high grounds above the first toll gate on the Falls road. This will be connected with the high service reservoir, (the terminus of the Aqueduct proper,) by a double line of cast iron mains, about a mile and a quarter in length, forming a continuous line of aqueduct, from the dam to the city limits, about five miles in length.

The Chief Engineer, Mr. Manning, reports the progress of the work as follows:

Two-thirds of the graduation and masonry of the lake are done.

Two-fifths of the masonry of the Dam are built.

The entire line of the aqueduct proper is finished except a few feet at each end, which cannot be done till the dam and high service reservoir shall have been nearly completed.

Nearly all the excavation, and the major portion of the embankment of the high service reservoir are done, and a considerable part of the botton is already puddled and covered with a pavement of stone.

All the cast iron mains contracted for have been delivered—proved and accepted; and the graduation of the low service reservoir is being prosecuted as rapidly as the service will permit.

The engineer expresses his opinion, that with a favorable season, and with no unforeseen accidents, the new works may be made available before the close of 1860.

The value of the work remaining to be done outside the city limits has been estimated as follows:

To finish the Lake	$21,116
" " " Dam	72,299
" " " Aqueduct	6,623
" " " 1st Reservoir	80,464
" " " 2d Reservoir	89,315
Additional Cast Iron Pipes and laying the same	97,405
Contingencies	15,000
Total	$381,622

There is also due to contractors $39,361.20, making in all $420,988.20 still to be provided. Against this estimate there is still on hand an unexpended balance in bonds amounting to upwards of $200,000.

The property belonging originally to the old Water Company and now held by the city, applicable to these works, is also undisposed of, amounting to not less than $250,000 in value, which it is proposed to bring into the market early in the ensuing spring. The Water Board have used their best efforts to complete this great improvement with the means at their disposal, and they have every ground to hope, that with reasonable success, this will be accomplished.

There is no cause for just apprehension that the city will ever be taxed for the support of these works when completed and in full operation. The gross annual revenue from rents and other sources has already reached a limit of $164,013 00, and will make a return with the new supplies fully equal to the interest upon the whole cost of the investment. It will be the duty of the Board at a future day, after providing an adequate sinking fund, to distribute the supply of water *at the actual cost to the city.*

In my notice of the various important measures which I have brought to the consideration of your Honorable Body, it will be perceived that I contemplate no increase of the funded indebtedness of the city. These enterprises should be made to stand upon their own vitality and probable resources. Important as they are admitted to be, I should be slow to recommend the adoption of any plan which, after the most deliberate and practical examination, would seem to threaten embarrassment to the finances of the city.

It gives me pleasure to call your attention to the report of the Commissioners of Public Schools. The indefatigable efforts of the officers connected with that department of the city government, entitle them to great credit for the many valuable improvements which they have introduced into our system. The annual exercises of these schools have been attended with marked success, and it is doubted whether the results already accomplished have been surpassed in any other city. Thousands of destitute children are now reaping the benefits of this great Institution, and its influence upon the moral and social condition of our people is becoming every year more and more manifest.

According to the great relief which has been experienced by this Department in the prompt payment, by the Register, of estimates for the year, the Commissioners say in their report:

"The arrangement referred to has rendered a most agreeable relief to the Commissioners, placing them in a position where they know exactly what they can and what they cannot do; thus enabling them to conform their expenditures to a standard agreed upon at the opening of the year. Consequent upon this happy consummation, and the release from financial irregularities, the Board has been enabled to make other arrangements, which render its operations more thorough in their character, and the large amount of money spent in the schools more satisfactorily effective in its application."

The House of Refuge, so intimately connected with the work of Christian philanthropy now going forward in this community, is about to enlarge its accommodations, by the addition of a department devoted exclusively to females. It is with pain that I refer to the loss which has been sustained by our city in the death of its venerable President, the late George Brown. Distinguished for the last half century by a career of public spirit and expanded benevolence, he has signalized his departure from a field of usefulness in which he had so long and successfully labored, by a liberal bequest to this noble institution. I cannot end it as heretofore to the fostering aid of your honorable body.

The site of the new Almshouse has not yet been adopted. In the division of property connected with the late institution, that part which contained the improvements, as your honorable body will remember, passed into the hands of the County Commissioners, by purchase, and is still the property of Baltimore county. An effort was made, some time ago, to ascertain whether an arrangement could not be effected to exchange, at a fair valuation, a portion of the property assigned to the city, for the lot, containing about 60 acres, on which the buildings are situated. It cannot be doubted, that such an arrangement could be made mutually advantageous to the county and city; and I would strongly urge that steps be taken to ascertain whether it be practicable to effect this object. In the location of the buildings, it is to be hoped that the city will not involve herself in the purchase of a farm, for agricultural purposes, at an inconvenient distance—where both the expenses of building and maintenance would be greatly increased.

Experience has shown that the cultivation of the soil, beyond the requirements of a suitable vegetable garden, should not be made a feature in the plan of such an institution. In the event of a failure to procure, by an equitable exchange, the site held by the county, I would recommend the selection of the lot assigned to the city on the south side of Franklin street, to which your attention has been directed—and with a view to which the plans heretofore adopted by your honorable body have been projected. The presence of an inexhaustible stone quarry, and an abundant supply of water, together with the still more important recommendation of undoubted healthfulness, are attractions not to be overlooked in your estimate of what the city may require.

The jail has been completed and is now occupied, the prisoners having been transferred from the old building at the commencement of the present year. It cannot fail to conduce largely to the public convenience, ensuring the most perfect security at all times, besides affording facilities for a more vigilant supervision over the morals of its unfortunate inmates. The building is not surpassed by any in this country, embracing every improvement which could be introduced as appropriate to such an institution. The plan of the building was due to Messrs. T. W. & J. M. Dixon, architects. The work has been executed in a most faithful and skilful manner, and I will add, in a spirit of becoming liberality towards the city. It is but just that I should bear my testimony to the exemplary conduct of the excellent contractors, Messrs. J. W. Maxwell & Sons. The keeper's house still remains to be completed.

Some months since, at the earnest recommendation of the Board of Health, with the informal concurrence of a majority of the Council, I ordered the purchase of a point of land, comprising about thirty acres, situated at the mouth of Curtis Creek, as a site for a new Marine Hospital, at some future day. The close proximity of the old settlement to the city limits, and the apprehension of danger to our people in the event of the presence of yellow fever, or other epidemics, and the experience of scenes which have taken place, during the past year on Staten Island, in New York, growing out of causes likely to occur here in a similar contingency, induced me to assume the responsibility of this purchase, subject to your approval.—Since then an ordinance ratifying what had been done by my direction, has been passed by your honorable body, and the new site—in opinion of the Board of Health, of the City Register for the uses of a Marine Hospital—has become the property of the city at the small cost of $2,500. This acquisition in the face of the steadily increasing value of property upon our bay shores, and the occupation of almost every point heretofore available for such a purpose, is likely to prove both well-timed and judicious.

The Port Warden reports a large amount of work done during the year. The depth of water has been much improved in the channel, from the mouth of the falls to Light street wharf on the north side of the river, and from that point to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad quay on the South side opposite to Maltby's wharf. This channel is about 40 feet wide, and the average depth of the water about 18 feet. The depth of water has also been improved in the Back Basin, however, it is of a temporary duration, and will require constant attention to prevent the accumulation of sediment, to which it is always exposed.

The consideration of the improvement of our harbor I would again refer to as a measure of the first importance. I stated in my last annual communication that a small appropriation on the part of Congress in continuation of what had been already commenced in the construction of a suitable channel for ships of the heaviest burthen, would be of incalculable value to our national as well as local interests. I hope to see this work commanded the attention of our representatives in Congress at its last session, and a strong hope entertained that the work which has been so auspiciously commenced would be carried to a close, by the small appropriation asked for at that time. Fraught as it is with benefits to our Naval marine, the establishment of a permanent market for the supply of the best coals on our eastern seaboard, could only have been consequence of the employment of then exhausted state of the public Treasury.

It is earnestly to be hoped that your honorable body will not permit this subject to sleep—and that your influence may be exerted to impress upon our representatives in Congress, the claims of our State and city to this great improvement. It affords me pleasure to acknowledge in this place, the valuable aid which has been rendered to the city, by the gentlemanly Chief of the Land Mortgage Records of Baltimore county, in Liber G. H. C., No. 10, folio 550, &c.—subject to an annual ground rent of $18.88, payable half yearly, on the 14 day of January and July in each and every year.

The improvements are a good STONE HOUSE, and other out-buildings.

Terms of sale—cash.

RICHARD GRASON,
Attorney for Caroline Wright.

ja17-2awts

WESTERN BEEF.—Mess, No. 1 and Prime, received and for sale by A. L. WEBB & BRO., corner Pratt and Commerce sts. It

HAMS.—A few fierces Thomas' Family Sugar Cured Hams, just received and for sale by A. L. WEBB & BRO. It

WHISKEY.—300 bbls. Pure Old Rye and Bourbon Whiskey part very old, for sale by A. L. WEBB & BRO. It

CHEESE.—25 boxes L. M. Norton & Son's choice Pine Apple Cheese for sale by A. L. WEBB & BRO. It

YELLOW METAL.—Boston Revere Copper Company's Yellow Sheathing Metal and Bolts and Composition Nails, constantly for sale by STICKNEY & CO., Exchange Place. ja17-1w

NOTICE.

FOR THE FALL AND WINTER
NOAH WALKER & CO.,
WASHINGTON BUILDING,
BALTIMORE STREET,
GENTLEMEN'S AND YOUTHS'
FALL AND WINTER CLOTHING,
LATEST STYLES AND PATTERNS,
READY MADE AND MADE TO ORDER.
n16-tfr

ROSEWOOD, MAHOGANY AND WALNUT PLANK AND VENEERS.
PINE, POPLAR, CHERRY, ASH,
VARNISH, IRISH GLUE,
And all materials for
PIANO AND CABINET MAKERS,
at lowest rates.
JNO. & JAS. WILLIAMS & CO.,
d17-6mr No. 130 South Charles street.

PAGE'S VENUS
IS NOW ON EXHIBITION AT MESSRS. SAMSON CARISS & CO.'S, No. 140 BALTIMORE STREET,
FOR ONE WEEK ONLY
Admittance 25 cents. ja14.5t

THOMAS WHELAN, JR.,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
AND COMMISSIONER OF DEEDS FOR CALIFORNIA,
8 ST. PAUL STREET,
3d door south of Fayette street,
Will give prompt attention to the Collection of Claims and all professional business confided to him. d16 3aw6m

BUTTER, SEED, BEEF, &c.—250 bbls. Mess, No. 1 and Beef Rounds 100 bbls. Mess Pork 40 bbls. Rumps and Necks; 25 bbls. head Pork; 20 bbls extra Roll Butter, and 150 bushels Ohio Cloverseed for sale by MEIXSEL & GRAFTON, 149 Pratt street. ja16 6t 3tr

DANIEL C. BRUCE,
SHIPPER AND DEALER IN
ANTHRACITE AND CUMBERLAND COAL,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
s23 eo6m OFFICE—CORNER OF SOUTH AND LOMBARD STS

TREASURY NOTES, bearing 5⅝ per cent. interest, for sale by
d17 tfr THOS J CARSON

VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA BANK NOTES wanted by
d17 tfr THOS. J. CARSON.

UNCURRENT BANK NOTES
BOUGHT AND SOLD
AT LOWEST RATES BY
n9 tfr PURVIS & CO.

LAND WARRANTS WANTED BY
d17-tfr THOS. J. CARSON

BOLTING CLOTHS.—Of superior quality Anchor brand, for sale at reduced prices by
o15 tfr B F STARR & CO (23 North) st

DIARIES FOR 1860.
Just received and for sale by A FIRST RATE ASSORTMENT
SAML. E. TURNER,
n1-tf No. 3 South Charles street.

DRAFTS on ALEXANDRIA, FREDERICKSBURG, Norfolk, Richmond, Petersburg, and on all other Virginia cities, wanted by
d17-tfr THOS. J. CARSON.

THE LARGEST FURNITURE AND CHAIR MANUFACTORY IN THIS CITY, AT
E. MOUNT'S,
No. 31 NORTH GAY STREET, Baltimore,
Opposite the Odd Fellows' Hall,
Where can be found the largest stock of Baltimore made Furniture in this city. Citizens and strangers are requested to examine this stock of Furniture before purchasing, as there can be found always on hand and made to order:
TETE-A-TETES, in Brocatelle, Plush or Hair Cloth; SOFAS, Walnut and Mahogany, in Plush, Hair Cloth, or covered in any goods to order; Full French Parlor, Half French, Arm, Rocking, and easy CHAIRS, of various patterns in Brocatelle, Plush, or Hair Cloth, CHAMBER SUITS, in Walnut and Mahogany, various styles; from $30 to $200; a large assortment of Cane-Seat Rocking, Chamber, Dining and Reception Chairs, in Walnut, Oak, &c; EXTENSION TABLES, SIDE BOARDS, and WHAT-NOTS, of all patterns; Hair, Husk and Spring MATTRESSES on hand and made to order. All goods carefully packed.
E. MOUNT,
m17 1t No. 31 N. Gay st., opp. Odd Fellows' Hall.

COAL UNDER COVER.
Every variety of HARD AND SOFT COALS from the most approved mines, kept clean and dry from RAIN and SNOW, at the lowest cash prices. Full weight guaranteed.
L. W. LEISENRING,
s16-4m No 120 North Howard street.

THE BEST SEWING MACHINE.
The only First Premium on Sewing Machines for Family and General Manufacturing Purposes was awarded to
LISTER'S SEWING MACHINES,
At the Int. Fair of the Maryland Institute for their superiority over all others. Price $50 and upwards.
SALES ROOMS,
n14-tf 163 Baltimore street.

IMPORTANT TO HOUSEKEEPERS.
To know that they can save money by purchasing Wood already Sawed and Split, at the Corporation Wood Mill,
No. 3 NORTH STREET.
JAMES H. JOHNSON

MANN'S HOTEL AND DINING ROOMS.
124 W. BALTIMORE STREET
ON THE EUROPEAN PLAN.
We still continue to serve up Meals at our very moderate charges, with the DELICACIES, GAME, FISH and FOWL. Parties, large or small, accommodated in our large and private Dining Rooms, on second floor. Thankful for the very liberal patronage received, we respectfully ask a continuance of the same.
Our Chambers have recently been refurnished, and will compare favorably with any other Hotel. Single Rooms, 50 cents.
☞ MANN'S CONGRESS HALL BOWLING SALOON is in the rear of this house. No. 50 FAYETTE STREET.
n24-tf C. H. MANN, Proprietor.

FINE TABLE CLARET.—Another supply received by GREEN & YOE, 83 Baltimore street j27-tf

HAVANA SWEET ORANGES.
MALAGA GRAPES.
For sale by W. H. MCLEAN,
ja3-tf 52 N. Charles street.

OLD RAPP WHISKEY.—Direct from Economy, for sale by GREEN & YOE, 83 Baltimore street

COAL AND WOOD.
FAMILY COAL OFFICE.
J. HENRY GIESE & CO.,
d21 2m No. 9 SOUTH STREET.

LESTER'S IMPROVED
SHUTTLE SEWING MACHINES,
At Prices from $50 to $150, in Cabinets or plain styles, warranted to do every kind of CLOTH or LEATHER WORK that requires a shuttle.
☞ Salesroom 163 Baltimore street,
m27-tf L. D. CHASE, Agent.

ORDER No. 4.
HEADQUARTERS BATT LION BALTIMORE CITY GUARD, Baltimore, January 16th, 1859.
The Battalion will PARADE at Headquarters on WEDNESDAY, 18th inst., at 7½ o'clock, in fatigue uniform, with overcoats. By order,
JOS P. WARNER,
E. R. DORSEY, Adjutant. Major Commanding.
☞ The Life and Honorary Members are requested to attend. It

I. O. O. F.—OFFICE OF GRAND SECRETARY R. W. GRAND LODGE OF MARYLAND. An adjourned meeting of the Grand Lodge will be held at the HALL THIS EVENING, ELECTION OF OFFICERS for the present year will take place at 8 o'clock.
By order, JOS. B. ESCAVAILLE,
It P.R. Grand Secretary.

A FREE LECTURE ON "POPULAR PREACHERS AND POPULAR PREACHING" will be delivered THIS (Tuesday) EVENING, in the Lecture Room of Christ's Church, Hanover street, by Rev. Dr. JOHN C. McCABE, of this church. Admission free. ADMISSION AND SEATS FREE. All are cordially invited to attend. It

NOTICE.—THE L