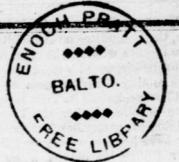


Port Tobacco Times

AND CHARLES COUNTY ADVERTISER.



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NO. 31.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY,
BY E. WELLS,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Original Poetry.

O, THERE'S A JOY.

O, there's a joy more sweetly fair,
More beautiful and bright,
Than fortune's gilded treasures are,
Or fame's entrancing light!

When o'er life's calm and tranquil stream
The rays of gladness shine,
And beauty's bloom and fortune's beam
Their fairest wreaths entwine,
This, herald of a sweeter peace
Than earth or time bestows,
Inspires the heart to seek its bliss
Where heavenly pleasures glow.

But, oh! when waves of sorrow roll
Their inky folds o'er life,
And grief o'erwhelms the burden'd soul,
With restless care and strife,
When adverse storms and lurid gleams
Of dread misfortune come,
And brightest hopes and fondest dreams
Sink sadly in the gloom:

This, offering of a deathless trust
In the Almighty arm,
That lifts the soul from gloom and dust,
And soothes its wild alarm,—
Doth glow with sweet and cheering power,
Unchang'd by earthly ill,
And say, though dark afflictions low'r,
"He doeth all things well."

Then seek this joy more sweetly fair,
More beautiful and bright,
Than fortune's gilded treasures are,
Or fame's entrancing light.
Pomonkey, November 21, 1861. W.

Selected Miscellany.

DOWN HILL!

A STORY WITH A GOOD MORAL.
Not long since I had occasion to visit one of our courts, and while conversing with a legal friend, heard the name of John Anderson called.
"There is a hard case," remarked my friend.
I looked upon the man in the prisoner's dock. He was standing up, and plead guilty to the crime of theft. He was a man, but bent and infirm, though not old. His garb was torn, spare and filthy, his face was all bloated and bloodshot; his hair matted with dirt, and his bowed form quivered with delirium. Certainly, I never saw a more pitiable object. Surely that man was not born a villain. I moved my place. He saw my movement, and he turned his head. He gazed upon me a single instant, and then, covering his face with his hands, he sunk powerless in his seat. "Good God!" I involuntarily ejaculated, starting forward, "Will—"
I had half spoken his name, when he quickly raised his head, and cast upon me a look of such imploring agony that my tongue was tied at once. Then he covered his face again. I asked my legal companion if the prisoner had counsel. He said no. I then told him to do all in his power for the poor fellow's benefit, and I would remain to see him tried. Tears came to my eyes as I gazed upon him, and it was not until I gained the street and walked some distance that I could breathe freely.
John Anderson! Alas! he was ashamed to be known as his mother's own son.—That was not his real name; but you shall know him by no other. I will call him by the name that stands upon the records of the court.
John Anderson was my schoolmate, and it was not many years ago—not over twenty—that we left our academy together;—I to return to the house of wealthy parents—I to sit down for a few years in the dingy sanctum of a newspaper office, and then wander off across the ocean. I was gone for some four years, and when I returned I found John a married man. His father was dead, and had left his only son a princely fortune.
"Ah, C—," he said to me, as he met me at a railway station, "you shall see what a bird I have caged. My Ellen is a lark, a robin, a very princess of all birds that ever looked beautifully or sang sweetly."
He was enthusiastic, but not mistaken, for I found his wife all he had said, simply omitting the poetry.
She was one of the most beautiful women I ever saw. And so good, too—so loving and kind. Aye, she so loved John that she really loved all his friends.
What a lucky fellow to find such a wife, and what a lucky woman to find such a husband! For John Anderson was as handsome a man as she—tall, straight, manly, high-browed, with chestnut curls, and his face as faultlessly noble and beautiful as artists ever copied. And he was good, too, and kind, generous and true.
I spent a week with them, and I was happy all the while. John's mother lived with them—a fine old lady as ever breathed, and making herself constant joy by doating

on her "darling boy," as she always called him. I gave her an account of many adventures by sea and land in foreign climes, and she kissed me because I loved her darling.

I did not see John again for four years. In the evening I reached his home. He was not in, but his wife and mother were there to receive me, and two curly-headed boys were at play upon Ellen's chair. I knew at once they were my friend's children. Everything seemed pleasant until the little ones were abed and asleep, and then I could see that Ellen was troubled. She tried to hide it, but a face so used to the sunshine of smiles could not conceal a cloud.

At length John came. His face was flushed and his eyes looked inflamed. He grasped my hand with a happy laugh, and called me "old fellow," "old dog," said I know you spoke the truth five years ago. I was going down hill. But I have gone as far as I can—here I stop at the foot. I have sworn to be happy now."

The poor fellow burst into tears; Ellen followed suit, and I kept the company. I could not help crying like a child. My God, what a sight! The once noble, true man, so fallen—become a mere broken glass—the last fragment brightly reflecting the image it bore; a poor suppliant at the foot of hope, begging a grain of warmth for the hearts of himself and wife! How I honored and loved that man, and how I loved him still! Oh how I hoped—aye, more than hoped, I believed—he would be saved. And as I gazed upon his wife—so trusting, so loving, so true, and hopeful, even in the midst of living death—I prayed more fervently than I ever did before that God would hold him up and lead him back to the top of the hill.

In the morning I saw the children—grown up to be intelligent boys; and, though they looked pale and wan, yet they smiled and seemed happy when their father kissed them. When I went from there John took me by the hand, and the last words he said were: "Trust me. Believe me, now, I will be a man henceforth, while life lasts."

A little over two years had passed when I read in a newspaper the death of Ellen Anderson. I started for the town where they had lived as soon as possible, thinking I might help some one. A fearful presentiment possessed my mind.

"Where is John Anderson?" I asked.
"Don't know, I'm sure. He's been gone these three months. His wife died in the madhouse last week."

"And the children?"
"Oh, they died before she did."

I staggered back and hurried from the place, hardly knowing which way I went, but instinct led me to the church yard. I found four graves, which had been made in three years. The mother, wife and two children slept in them.

"And what has done this?" I asked myself. And a voice answered from the lowly sleeping place:
"The demon of the wine-table."

But this was not all the work. No, no. The next I saw—oh, God—was far more terrible. I saw it in the court-room. But that was not the last—not the last.

I saw my legal friend on the day following the trial. He said John Anderson was in prison. I hastened to see him. The turnkey conducted me to his cell; the key turned in the large lock on the ponderous door, with a sharp creak, swung upon its hinges, and I saw a dead body suspended by the neck from a grating in the window. I looked at the horrible face; I could see nothing of John Anderson there; but the face I had seen in the court room was sufficient to connect the two, and I knew that this was all that remained of him I loved so well.

And this was the last of the demon's work, and the last act of the terrible drama. Ah! from the first sparkle of the red wine it had been down, down, down, until the foot of the hill had been finally reached.

When I turned away from the cell and once more walked amid the flashing saloons and revel halls, I wished that my voice had power to thunder the life story of which I had been a witness into the ears of all living men.

"But his wife," I asked.
"Her heavenly love has held her up this far, but she is only the shadow of the wife she was six years ago," he returned.

My informant was deeply affected, and was I; consequently I asked no more.—During the remainder of the afternoon I debated with myself whether to call on John at all. But finally I resolved to go, though I waited till after tea. I found John and his wife alone. They had both been weeping, though I could see at a glance that Ellen was beaming with hope and love.—But, oh! they were changed, sadly, painfully so. They were glad to see me, and my hand was taken warmly. "Dear C—, don't say a word of the past," John urged, shaking my hand the second time. "I know you spoke the truth five years ago. I was going down hill. But I have gone as far as I can—here I stop at the foot. I have sworn to be happy now."

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Anecdote of Edmund Kean.
Mr. Howard Paul, the London correspondent of the New York Illustrated News, relates, in a recent letter, the following anecdote:

Mr. Lewis, who has been connected with Drury Lane for many years, told me a characteristic anecdote of Edmund Kean, which has never appeared in print, and which you shall have. It seems that the great tragedian, and Charles Inceledon, the popular singer, were one day walking in Bond street, when they were met by Lord Essex, who bowed distinctly to Kean, albeit they were on terms of intimate friendship. The next day Kean found a note at the theatre from my lord, desiring him to call at his house. He went, and, contrary to the usual custom, was ushered into the library, where Lord Essex received him. The usual formalities over, the nobleman said to the tragedian, "My dear Kean, you will pardon me. You know how greatly I admire your genius, but I was startled yesterday to find you on promenade, arm in arm with that singing man, Inceledon."

"My lord—" Kean began, with flashing eye.
"Pray don't excite yourself—now don't, my dear Kean," pursued my lord; "but the respect—I may say reverence—I bear for your wonderful genius prompts me to this explanation."

"Lord Essex" cried Kean, rising, drawing himself up, and casting a withering glance at his noble patron, "twelve years ago my family were in want of bread; Charles Inceledon, my friend, supplied the

means to procure it; and when Edmund Kean forgets his friends, may God forget him!"

From that hour the two men never exchanged courtesies. When one remembers the magnificent voice and impassioned power of eye of the great Edmund, this little episode must long have lived in the memory of the lordly Essex. Kean, by the way, afterward married an heiress—Miss Stevens, if I remember aright.

A good story is told of the late W. P. Burton, which we have never seen in print. While travelling on a steambot down the Hudson, he seated himself at the table and called for some beefsteak. The waiter furnished him with a small strip of the article, such as travellers are usually put off with. Taking it upon his fork, and turning it over and examining it with one of his peculiar serious looks, the comedian golly remarked, "Yes, that's it; bring me some."

When you doubt between two words, choose the plainest, the commonest, the most idiomatic. Eschew fine words as you would a rogue; love simple ones as you would native roses on your cheek. Let us use the plainest and shortest words that will grammatically and gracefully express our meaning.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.

Special Session.

Monday, Dec. 9.—SENATE.—A message was received from the Governor transmitting a communication from the United States State Department, enclosing a letter from Dr. A. A. Lynch, Senator from Baltimore county, dated Fort Warren, Boston harbor, explaining why he is not in his seat.

The communication states that on the thirteenth of September last he was arrested by a band of armed men, and that he was conveyed to Fort Monroe, and afterwards to Fort Monroe, Lafayette and Warren, where he now is, deprived of his liberty.

The communication was referred to the Committee on Federal Relations, and was also entered on the journal.

COMMUNICATION OF DR. LYNCH.
To the Honorable the President of the Senate of Maryland:

I transmit, through you, to the Senate, a statement of the reasons why my chair in the Senate is vacant, and why the wealthy and populous county of Baltimore is without a representative in one branch of our State Legislature.

On the 13th of September last I was arrested at my residence in Baltimore county by an armed force; no warrant exhibited, and without color of law. After I was taken into custody, in company with other gentlemen who were at that time members of the Legislature, but whose official existence terminated with the election last month, I was taken to Fort Lafayette, thence to Fort Monroe, thence to Fort Lafayette, and afterwards to Fort Warren, in Boston Harbor, at which last place I am now confined. I do not think the annals of free government present a parallel case, and I am still more certain that no Senator could ever present reasons more strange for his non-attendance and non-performance of his official duties.

What reasons exist for my arrest, and my detention, I have been unable, after the most earnest inquiry, to ascertain. Since my arrest, up to the present period of my detention, no legal process has been served on me advising me that I am charged with the violation of any law of my native State or of the United States. I have always been advised that the only legal mode of proceeding against a violator of the laws either of the United States or of the State of Maryland, was by presentment and indictment by a grand jury. I have been further advised that the accused has a right at least to a copy of the indictment, which is a specification of his bail. If I have misconceived the usual steps taken against offenders, and the rights which even they possess, the legal members of the Senate, and the high legal talent of the other Legislative Branch, will correct the false impressions of legal rights under which I and many other citizens of Maryland, in common with myself, have heretofore labored.

I have now been imprisoned for near three months, to the injury of my business at home and the neglect of my private affairs, which have been greatly deranged by my forced and constrained absence. In a word, I cannot be accused of harshness of expression when I say I have been deprived, and am still deprived of my liberty by what must be a misconception of the part of the Government of my true position as a citizen and public man, the result, I believe, of the wilful and egregious misrepresentations of my enemies; for I had never done an act or had a thought unfriendly to the maintenance of the Constitutional Government of the United States, or in any way contributed to the severance of the bonds of the Federal Union, but have at all times labored for their preservation. I am sure that I cannot be accused of egotism, or that it will be out of place in this statement to briefly advert to my public career.

I was in the Legislature of Maryland in the years 1844, 1858, 1860 and 1861, and during those years I cannot reproach myself for any act that I have done, nor do I regret any vote that I have ever given. I have been guided and governed in every vote by a strict regard to the requirements of the Constitution, which I have repeatedly sworn to support, and which, though illegally and undeservedly imprisoned, I challenge the most critical and malignant of my enemies to prove that I ever violated. If I have violated my oath, or been in word or deed traitorous to the obligations which I assumed when I became a member of your body, confront me with my accusers—let me be judged by your honorable body, who are my peers, and who are authorized by the Constitution of Maryland to say whether I have done aught unbefitting a Senator of Maryland, or aught that would disqualify me from a seat in your honorable body. This I do not ask as a favor, but demand as a right.

I have endeavored to present to you a plain, succinct and unvarnished statement of my arrest and imprisonment. The statement I have thus given explains why the chair of the Senator from Baltimore county is without an occupant, and why the county of Baltimore is voiceless and unrepresented in a co-ordinate branch of the Legislature.

It remains, therefore, with the Senate of Maryland to take such action in the premises as it may deem due to its own dignity, to the rights of one of its members, to the constituency he is commissioned to represent, to the cause of free, constitutional government, and to an injured and suffering citizen of the State.

With sentiments of respect, I remain,
Your obedient servant,
ANDREW A. LYNCH.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.—The Speaker announced the Standing Committees:

Leave was given to the Judiciary Committee to report a bill amending the law of appeals.

Mr. Alexander reported a bill authorizing the Court of Appeals to hear and determine at its ensuing term the appeal of the State from an order passed in the Superior Court, in the cause of the State against the Northern Central Railway Company and others.

Mr. Alexander explained the bill. The Company owed the State \$117,000, the payment of which they resist on the ground of damages sustained in the 19th of April riots, and recently in a suit before the Superior Court the case was decided in favor of the company, the counsel for the State taking an appeal. This bill was for the purpose of having the cause determined at the earliest possible moment.

The bill was read a second time and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Dec. 10.—SENATE.—Mr. Bayne, of Prince George's, submitted the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, Maryland, in her recent election, has expelled the incumbent which has been impending for some months past, and by her verdict through the ballot-box has defined her political status beyond controversy, and has placed herself in a prominent position among her sister States; we therefore deem the present an appropriate time to adopt some legislative action indicating the popular sentiment in reference to the subject of fugitive slaves. Some parts of Maryland, and particularly the western border counties, in close proximity to the grand army located along the Potomac river, have sustained severe losses in consequence of escapes into the line of said army. We believe this fratricidal contest in which we are now engaged is for the vindication of the Constitution and the restoration of the integrity of the Union; an adverse policy would, we believe, not be in accordance with the dictates of military prudence or political expediency. A war waged for the extinction of slavery would lead to the annihilation of the Union party in the Border Slave States and add to the catalogue of deplorable events.

Resolved, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That a Joint Committee, to consist of three members of the House, be appointed by the presiding officers of the respective Houses, and that the said Committee proceed to Headquarters at Washington and request an interview with Major General McClellan on this momentous question, and solicit the adoption of some plan to prevent the admission of fugitive slaves within the lines of the army.

Resolved, That the present position of Maryland entitles her to protection of property in slaves; also,
Resolved, That said committee on their return report to both Houses the result of their conference.

The resolutions were referred to the Committee on Federal Relations on motion of Mr. Briscoe.

An order was adopted requesting the Governor to transmit returns of the election of Senators.

Leave was given to the Judiciary Committee to report a bill to ratify an amendment to the Constitution of the United States. The Senate at 1 o'clock adjourned.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.—A petition was received from the constables of Charles county asking an increase of fees, which was referred to the delegation from that county.

Mr. Davis, of Montgomery, offered an order that the Committee on Judiciary inquire whether the fees and perquisites of the Clerk of Court of Appeals exceed the amount fixed by the Constitution, and if so, whether the fees should not be reduced.

Mr. Donaldson offered an order asking for the Report of Comptroller of the receipts and expenditures of the State for the year ending the 30th of September last, and the balance to the credit of the State at the present time, which was adopted.

Mr. Matthews asked that a special Committee of five be appointed to report the cost of the extra session of the Legislature at Frederick.

Mr. Matthews wished the people of the State to know where the large leak was and to see the little streams running out of that leak. Messrs. Matthews, Reese, Cresswell, Thomas and White were appointed on the committee.

Leave was given to the Judiciary Committee to report a bill amending the "Stay Law."

Mr. Alexander obtained leave for the Committee on the Judiciary to introduce a bill to amend the 54th article of the Code, so as to defend and protect the rights of owners of lands bounding on the navigable waters of this State, and to prohibit the issuing of patents for lands covered by navigable waters in this State.

Dec. 11.—SENATE.—The Committee on Judicial Proceedings had leave to report a bill providing for taking the sense of the people on the expediency of calling a convention to form a new Constitution and to provide for the election of delegates.

Mr. Smith, from the Committee on Militia, reported a bill repealing certain sections of the Code in reference to militia, which was read the first time.

The Committee on Judiciary were directed to take testimony in the case of Coleman Yellott, Esq., Senator from Baltimore city. A message was received from the Governor transmitting returns of election.

Mr. Smith reported a resolution in relation to the Senatorship of Baltimore city, which was read twice.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.—Mr. Hugg submitted an order that the Speaker be requested to have the National Flag displayed daily from the State House, from eight o'clock to sun down.

The order was amended by making it read "the flag shall be lowered on the adjournment of the Legislature" and passed.

Leave was given to the Judiciary Committee to report a bill amending the law of appeals.

Leave was given to the Judiciary Committee to report a bill to facilitate the despatch of business in the courts.

Leave was given to the Committee on Inspections to report a bill repealing certain portions of the Code relating to the measurement of manures.

Mr. Cresswell, from the Committee on Elections, reported that they had examined the returns of the election and found the various members of the House returned as elected, which was adopted.

Mr. Harris, of St. Mary's, asked for the years and days on the adoption of the report so as to have the privilege of recording his name in the negative. Mr. Harris said he had no proof now, but if the report was recommended and if persons and papers were sent for proof could be obtained that all the members had not been fairly elected.

Mr. Magruder reminded Mr. Harris that if he voted against the report he would vote against his own election.

Mr. Matthews moved that he might have the privilege of recording his vote on the adoption of the report, which motion prevailed.

The name of Mr. Harris was then called, and he voted "No."

Mr. Price, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported a bill amending the thirtieth article of the Code relating to the competency of witnesses which was on motion, ordered to be printed and recommitted to the committee.

Dec. 12.—SENATE.—The bill repealing portions of the Militia law was read a second time.

The bill authorizing the Governor to issue commissions to the Justices of the Peace in Prince George's county was read the third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Goldsborough, of Dorchester, the following preamble was attached to the resolution declaring the seat of Hon. Coleman Yellott vacant:

Whereas, The Hon. Coleman Yellott, Senator from Baltimore city, has, during three successive sessions of this body absented himself from his seat therein, without assigning any reason therefor; and whereas, it is a matter of public notoriety, established also by testimony before the Committee on Judicial Proceedings, that the said Senator from Baltimore city has gone to Virginia and has no intention of resuming his seat in the Senate; and whereas, it is right and proper in these times of public peril the large and populous city of Baltimore should be represented; here; and whereas, the Constitution of Maryland provides that in the event of the removal of a Senator from the county or city for which he is elected, the President of the Senate shall issue his warrant for the election of another person in his place; therefore, &c.

Quite an animated discussion then ensued between several of the members on the preamble and resolutions.

The vote was taken, and the resolution declaring the seat vacant was passed by yeas and nays.

Yeas—Messrs. Bayne, Eichelberger, Everett, Fiery, Goldsborough, Harrison, Heckart, Lanckford, Sellman, Smith, Waters and Willis—12.
Nays—Billingsley, Briscoe, Jenkins, Watkins and Whitaker—5.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.—Leave was given to the Militia Committee to report a bill amending the Militia laws.

A message was received from the Governor, enclosing a letter from J. B. Brooke, who contests the right of F. Sasser to act as Clerk of the Circuit Court of Prince George's county; and a letter from R. Keer, contesting the right of J. Thomas Adams to act as Clerk of the Circuit Court of Baltimore city, which were referred to the Committee on Elections.

Mr. Price reported a bill amending the law in relation to the insurance of the husband for the benefit of the wife, which was read the first time.

Mr. Smith, of Worcester, offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, First, That the General Assembly of Maryland, that this General Assembly hereby expresses its gratification at the Proclamation of Major General John A. Dix to the people of the Eastern Shore of Virginia, and of Brigadier General Thomas W. Sherman to the people of South Carolina, as declaring the object and intention of the Government, and embodying the true constitutional principles upon which the present war is to be conducted.

Resolved, Second, That in the opinion of this General Assembly an unwavering allegiance on the part of the Government to the line of policy announced in those proclamations will greatly contribute to reconcile the people of the so-called Seceded States to the re-establishment of the Government of the Union on its ancient basis within their borders, and give assurance to the people of these States that the Government has no purpose to invade their constitutional rights, but to protect and defend them.

Resolved, Third, That copies of these resolutions be duly attested and sent to our Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States, and to Major General Dix and Brigadier General Sherman.

The resolutions were read and referred to the Committee on Federal Relations, together with a set of similar resolutions offered by Mr. Price.

Mr. Reese, from the Committee on Claims, made a report, which was laid on the table. The House adjourned at half-past one o'clock.