

# The Port Tobacco Times

AND CHARLES COUNTY ADVERTISER.



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**THE PORT TOBACCO TIMES,**  
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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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## Poetry.

### A WOMAN'S ANSWER.

I will not let you say a woman's part  
Must be to give exclusive love alone;  
Dearest, although I love you so, my heart  
Answers a thousand claims besides your own.  
I love—what do I love? Earth and air  
And space within my heart, and myriad things  
You would not deign to heed are cherished there,  
And vibrate on its very inmost strings.  
I love the Summer with her ebb and flow  
Of light, and warmth, and music, that have  
Auras and odors, and a soft perfume  
Her tender buds to blossom, and you know  
I was in Summer that I saw you first.  
I love the Winter dear, too, but I  
Owe it so much; on a Winter's day,  
Blank, cold and stormy you returned again,  
When you had been those weary months  
away.  
I love the stars like friends; so many nights  
I gazed at them when you were far from me,  
Till I grew blind with tears—so my heart  
Could watch you, whom I longed in vain to see.  
I love the flowers; happy hours lie  
Shut up within their petals close and fast;  
You have forgotten, dear, but they and I  
Keep every fragment of the golden past.  
I love, too, to be loved; all loving praise  
Seems like a crown upon my life,—to make  
Hasten on the giving, and to raise  
Still nearer to your own the heart you take.  
I love all good and noble souls—I heard  
One speak of you but lately, a few days,  
Only to think of it, my soul was stirred  
In tender memory of such generous praise.  
I love all those who love you; all who owe  
Comfort to you; and I can find regret  
Even for those poorer hearts who once could  
know  
And once could love you, and can now forget.  
Well, is my heart so narrow,—I, who spare  
Love for all these? Do I not even hold  
My favorite books in special tender care,  
And prize them as a miser does his gold?  
The poets that you used to read to me  
While Summer twilight's fumed in the sky;  
But most of all I think Aurora Leigh,  
Because—because—do you remember why?  
Will you be jealous? Did you guess before  
I loved so many things? Still you the best—  
Dearest, remember that I love you more,  
O more a thousand times than all the rest!

## Selected Miscellany.

### ONLY A FARMER'S WIFE.

Two women sat together at sunset in the porch door of a white cottage that stood under its "ancestral tree," among its fields of wheat and corn, like a poet's vision of a quiet resting place for some weary human soul.  
And one of these two women had eyes to see, ears to hear, and a heart to feel and appreciate it all. She was a tall and stately lady, apparently some thirty years of age—not exactly handsome, but with a grace of air and manner peculiarly her own. The careful toilet, the nameless air of elegance and luxury, the pale cheek, the soft white hands betrayed the city dame, while the weary glance in her dark blue eyes, which even the quiet of that sunset hour could not drive away, showed that time had not dealt gently with her and her heart's idol but had thrown them, scattered and ruined, at her feet.  
Her companion was some five years her junior, and many times prettier—a little round faced, apple cheeked woman, with dark blue eyes and dark brown hair, and a rounded figure that was set off to the best advantage by the afternoon dress of tinted muslin that she wore.  
At present the pretty face was almost spoiled by a querulous discontented expression. She was contrasting her own hand, plump and small, but certainly rather brown, with the slender white fingers of her city friend, all glittering with rings. "Just look at the two!" she exclaimed.  
"That comes of making butter and cheese, and sweeping, and dusting, and washing dishes, and making beds all the time.—That man told the truth that said that woman's work was never done. I know mine never is. Oh! dear, dear! To think that you, Margaret, should have married a city merchant, and be as rich as a princess in a fair tale, and here I am planted for life, plain Mrs. Hiram Parke, and nothing in the world to compare with you. I am sick of being only a farmer's wife." Margaret Von Howth

looked down at her grumbling little friend with a sad smile.  
"Jenny, it seems to me, as we sit here in this quiet place and look out over all these pleasant fields that are your own—it seems to me that you are almost wicked to talk like that."  
"I dare say you would never like it, Margaret. You would never wish to change places with me."  
"Perhaps not. Would you not like to change places with me?"  
"Yes."  
"And be Mrs. Von Howth instead of Mrs. Hiram Parke?"  
Jenny hesitated. She dearly loved her handsome husband!  
"Well, I don't mean that I want to give up Hiram. I only mean that I wish he was a city merchant instead of a farmer, and as rich as your husband is, that is all."  
"And that is a great deal. Jenny, if your wish could be granted, do you know what your life would be?" said Mrs. Von Howth, coldly.  
"What yours is, I suppose. What any lady's is in your position."  
"But what is that life? Do you know?"  
"How should I?"  
"It is a weary one, Jenny, with more genuine hard work in it than all your making of butter and cheese."  
"Oh, Margaret!"  
"Now, oh, Jenny! believe me, my dear there are no people on earth who work harder than the fashionables who only have their own amusements to provide for. A long, long life of mere amusements is a dog's life, Jenny, at the best."  
"I should like to be convinced of it by actual experience," said Jenny, doubtfully.  
"So I said and thought once. I have been so convinced. And it is all vanity and vexation of spirit, my dear."  
"But how?" persisted Jenny.  
"How? Indeed, ten thousand ways. If you live in the fashionable world you must do as the fashionable world does.—You must rise and dress, and hop and lunch, and dress again and drive, and dress again and appear at certain balls, parties, concerts exactly as your friends do, or be voted a *disgrace*, and out of the world altogether. You, my poor Jenny, who are by no means fond of dress, what would you do at a fashionable watering place in the hottest days of August, with five changes of toilet between morning and night, and a French lady's maid to tyrannize over you all the time into the bargain?"  
"Horrors!" ejaculated Jenny.  
"Balls that you must go to in spite of fatigue, parties that you must go to in spite of the heat, calls that you must detest. Oh, Jenny, I would far rather be at home with the butter and cheese if I were you."  
Jenny was silent. Here was the side of the bright picture which she had never seen or dreamed of before.  
"You love your husband, Jenny?" said her friend after a time.  
Jenny opened her eyes wide.  
"Love him! Why isn't he my husband?" was her reply.  
Mrs. Von Howth laughed.  
"Some women in society might think that a reason why you shouldn't love him!" she said dryly. "And he loves you also?"  
"I should die to-morrow if I thought I did not."  
"Tut, child! People leave this world when God wills it, not before. I dare say you would survive his infidelity.—Many women before you have lived through such things."  
"Don't talk of it, Margaret; I could not bear it. Why, he is all the world to me! How could I bear to lose him?"  
"Then don't wish him to be a city merchant, my dear. I dare say there are many good men in the city—men who love their wives—but, on the other hand there are so many temptations, especially in society, that I sometimes wonder, not that so many go astray, but that so many remain true to themselves and their duty."  
She spoke absently, and her eyes had a far away glance as if they dwelt on other things.  
Jenny ventured a question.  
"Margaret, is yours a happy marriage? Do you love your husband? And does he love you?"  
Mrs. Von Howth started and turned pale.  
"Jenny, I would have loved him, I would have been a good wife to him, but he never loved me. He brought me to the place at the head of his house because he thought me ladylike and interesting, that was all. He told me once, though not so plainly as this. And since then we have each taken our own way, independent of the other. I seldom see him at our house in town. I have my carriage, my diamonds and my opera box. In the season I go to Saratoga or Newport, while he favors Long Branch with his presence. We are perfect strangers to each other; we never quarrel, and I suppose if I were to die to-morrow he'd be an inconsolable widower for a week. Jenny, you will not wish to change places with me again. Your husband might change as mine has done, exposed to the same temptation.—Thank Heaven, you have him as he is, a good true man, who loves you, and never mind the butter and cheese, Jenny, so

long as your happiness and his is made up with them."  
She rose from her seat and strolled up the garden path.  
Jenny did not follow. She sat on the step lost in thought. The riddle of her friend's life was at last made clear to her. She had often wondered why Margaret, in the midst of all her wealth and luxury, should seem so sad; she wondered no longer now.  
To be the wife of a man who had no love for you. What "lower deep" can there be than this for a proud and sensible woman?  
Jenny turned with tears in her eyes to meet the stalwart husband as he came from the field.  
"Well, little woman," he cried and then she got the hearty kiss for which she was looking.  
Yes, Margaret was right. The butter and cheese were of little consequence while love like this made her task easy to endure.  
And the rosy cheeked little woman bent fondly down over her "Hiram" as he flung himself down on the porch seat and fanned him, brought him lemonade, and made him thoroughly happy and at rest.  
Poor Margaret! Happy Jennie! Never again would she wish to be more—a only a farmer's wife.

## Domestic Wine Making from Grapes.

I send you, for the information of beginners, a few simple directions for making wine from the grape:  
After the bunches are gathered, pick off all the rotten (but not the green) berries, wash the bunches in clean water, to get rid of dust and insects, and throw them in a tub, or box, with a hole in the bottom for the water to drip off and escape. Mash them in an *oaken* tub, with an oak crusher, or pestle, taking care to break as few seeds as possible. But few grapes can be mashed at a time, on account of the juice. Have an empty oak, or oaken barrel, well soaked for several days, place a spile near the bottom to draw off the grape juice; place the oak or barrel in a cool place, upon a platform, and as the grapes are mashed put into the barrel, within six or eight inches of top; cover to keep out insects; allow it to ferment twenty-four hours; the longer it is allowed to ferment on the skins the more coloring matter will be extracted, and of course the redder the wine will be. (Nearly a white wine can be made of dark grapes by pressing as soon as mashed.) Draw off all the clear juice by the spile, which, if kept separate, will make a more delicious flavored wine; press out the juice, and add the best quality of sugar until an egg will float and show above the juice the size of a dime; put in jugs, kegs or barrels, filling full, so that impurities can work out; reserve some of the juice to fill up with. For the first two or three days fermentation will be very rapid, and the vessel must be filled up three or four times, then for a few days twice, then once until fermentation subsides to a simmer, at which time make a hole through the stopper, or bung, put in a peg loosely to allow the gas to escape. When the fermentation is over bung tight. Watch the barrel and stop leaks. A slight fermentation will take place the next spring; when the weather becomes cool in the fall it will generally be safe to bottle.  
The wine-maker must keep all vessels perfectly clean—pine or cypress barrels or tubs will impart the flavor of the wood to the wine. Use oak.  
Persons making large quantities of wine may make it in a more scientific manner, but may not make a better wine.  
Hoping the above may be of benefit to some one, I am, very respectfully, yours,  
H. W. L. Lewis.

## REMARKS.—To the above excellent article from the largest and one of the best practical wine makers in this section, we will add that although it is desirable, it is not indispensable that the grapes should be perfectly ripe in order to make good wine.—Rural South Land.

## Work.

Employment makes people happy. It is the duty of everyone to be industrious and to make a good use of his time, and we can always find something to do if we are only willing to do it. We should all study to find what station in life we are best fitted to fill.  
Employment makes us happy, for if we are employed, we forget our troubles in the thinking of our work. We should not be as happy, if we were idle all our lives, as we should be if we tried to help ourselves and others.  
Many people imagine that if they were only rich and not obliged to work they should be happy; but I think we were created to employ our time in some useful way.  
It is well, too, that we are not all fitted for the same work; for if we were, we should need a great many things which we could not make, and should receive but little pay for our work; but as it is, we have a plenty of everything.

The difference between a Christian and a cannibal was described by a Sunday-school boy as follows: "One enjoys his self, and 'other enjoys other people."

## Acknowledged the Corn.

In an article on the late Mr. Andrew Stewart, the *Pittsburg Commercial* tells the following story relating to one of his speeches in Congress:  
In a speech delivered in 1828, when Mr. Stewart first undertook to demonstrate to the American farmers and laboring men that they were every year saving millions of dollars in coin to Europe to pay for foreign agricultural produce, he said: "To say that a lady carries six dollars' worth of bacon and beans, cabbage and krait, round her neck, converted into lace, may seem strange, and it would be equally strange to say that Western farmers in Ohio and Kentucky send their hay, grass, corn, and other grain to New York and Philadelphia to pay for foreign agricultural produce converted into goods." (Here Mr. Wyckliffe, of Kentucky, interposed, and said: "There never was a ton of hay or a bushel of corn, or grain of any other kind, sent from Kentucky to Philadelphia or New York.") "Will the gentleman then tell us," said Mr. Stewart, "what they do send?" Mr. W. replied: "They send horses, cattle, hogs." "Very well, then; how much grass, grain, hay, and other produce does the farmer put into the skin of a horse worth \$100? Just \$100 worth, which, thus situated with life and legs, carries this \$100 worth of produce to New York, with the owner on top of it. [A laugh.] And how much of like produce does a fat ox, worth \$50, carry to the Eastern market? Just \$50 worth. And how much does a fat hog, worth \$10, carry? Just \$10 worth of corn." Here Mr. Wickliffe sprang to his feet and exclaimed, amid much laughter, "Mr. Speaker, I acknowledge the corn." "This went into the papers, and, it is said, gave rise to the common saying, 'I acknowledge the corn.'"  
"Sam Hopeful!"  
A Yankee calling himself "Sam Hopeful," who has written some very good things right out in "Gleanings" why he never married after three attempts. He says:  
I once courted a girl, the name of Deb Hawkins. I made up my mind to get married. Well, when we were going to the deacon's I stepped on a mud-puddle and splattered the deacon's new gown made out of her grandmother's old chintz petticoat. When we got to the deacon's he asked Deb if she would take me for her lawful wedded husband. "No!" says she. "Reason," says I. "Why," says she, "I have taken a mislikin' to you."  
Well, it was all up then, but I gave her a string of beads, a few kisses and some other notions, and made it all up with her. So we went up to the deacon's a second time. I was bound to get even with her this time, so when the deacon asked me if I would take her for my wedded wife, "No, I should do no such a thing," "Why," says Deb, "what on airth is the matter now?" "Why," says I, "I have taken a mislikin' to you."  
Well, it was all over again, but I gave her a new apron and a few other trinkets, and we went up again to get married.—We expected that we would be tied so fast that all nature couldn't separate us; but when we asked the deacon if he would marry us he said, "No, I shan't do no such a thing." "Why, what on the airth is the reason?" says we. "Why," says he, "I've taken a mislikin' to both of you."  
Deb burst out crying, the deacon burst out sobbing, and I burst out laughing, and such a set of busters you never did see, and that is the reason I never got married.  
My chance has gone.

## Crows and Men.

Henry Ward Beecher speaks of the crow as follows:  
Aside from the special question of profit and loss, we have a warm side toward the crow; he is so much like one of ourselves.  
He is lazy, and that is human; he is cunning, and that is human. He takes advantage of those weaker than himself, and that is manlike. He is shy, and hides for to-morrow what he can't eat to-day, showing a real human providence. He learns tricks much faster than he learns useful things, showing a true boy-nature. He thinks his own color the best, and loves to hear his own voice, which are evident traits of humanity. He will never work when he can get another to work for him—a genuine human trait. He eats whatever he can get with a belly full than when hungry, and that is like man. He is at war with all living things except his own kind, and with them when he has nothing else to do. No wonder men despise crows. They are too much like men.  
Take off his wings, and put him in breeches, and the crow would make a fair average man. Give him wings and reduce their smartness a little, and many of them would be almost good enough to be crows.  
"Why," asked a disconsolate widow, "is venison like my late and deeply lamented husband?" Everybody giving it up, the widow says, "because it is the deer departed."  
From those who support me in the South I

## Political.

### JUSTICE—RECONCILIATION.

#### Mr. Greeley's Speech at Portland, Me.

At a public reception given Mr. Greeley at Portland, Maine, on the 14th inst., he made the following speech:  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:  
It is certainly true that throughout the course of my life, as far as I have been connected with public affairs, I have struggled with such capacity as God has given me for, first, impartial and universal liberty; second, for the unity and greatness of our common country; third, and by no means least, when the former end was attained, for early and hearty reconciliation and peace among our countrymen. For these great ends I have struggled, and I hope the issue of the third is not doubtful. I thoroughly comprehend that no personal consideration has drawn together this vast assembly. Other, higher, and grander considerations have collected you around me to-day. [Cheers.]  
Mr. Chairman, it is a part of the unwritten law of our country that a candidate for President may not make speeches in vindication and commendation of the principles whereupon he is supported, nor the measures which his election is intended to promote, though a candidate for Vice President is under no such inhibition. I not merely acquiesce in the restriction, I recognize and affirm its propriety. The temptation to misreport and misrepresent a candidate for the higher post is so great, the means of circulating such pervasions among the people who will never see a word of their refutation are so vast, that a candidate has no moral right to subject his friends to the perils he must brave, if not invite, by taking a part in the canvass. [Cheers.] Yet there is a truth to be uttered in behalf of those who have placed me before the American people in my present attitude, which does them such honor that I claim the privilege of stating it here, and now.  
This is that truth: No person has ever yet made the fact that he purposed to support, or actually did support, my nomination, whether at Cincinnati, at Baltimore, or in the action which resulted in sending delegates to either Convention, the basis of a claim to office at my hand. No one who favored my nomination before either Convention, or at either Convention has sought office at my hands either for himself or any one else; nor has any one suggested to me that I might strengthen myself as a candidate by promising to appoint any one to any important office whatever. [Loud cheers.] In a very few instances—less than a dozen, I am sure—certain of the smaller fry of politicians have, since my double nomination, hinted to me by letter that I might increase my chance of election by promising a post office or some other place to my volunteer correspondents, respectively. I have not usually responded to these overtures, but I now give a general notice that, should I be elected, I will consider the claims of these untimely aspirants after those of the more modest and reticent shall have been fully satisfied. [Loud cheers.]  
In two or three instances I have been asked to say whether I would or would not, if elected, confine my appointments to Republicans. I answer these by pointing to that plank of the Cincinnati platform wherein all who concur in the principles therein set forth are cordially invited to participate in their establishment and vindication. I never yet heard of a man who invited his neighbors, to help him raise a house and proceeded to kick them out of it so soon as the roof was fairly over his head. For my own part I recognize every honest man who approves and adheres to the Cincinnati platform as my political brother, and as such fully entitled to my confidence and friendly regard. [Cheers.]  
One other point demands a word. Those adverse to me ask what pledges I have given to those lately hostile to the Union to secure their support. I answer: No man or woman in all the South ever asked of me, whether directly or through another, any other pledge than is given in all my acts and words from the hour of Lee's surrender down to this moment. No Southern man has ever hinted to me an expectation, hope, or wish that the rebel debt, whether Confederate or State, should be assumed or paid by the Union, and no Southern man who could be elected to a Legislature or made colonel of a militia regiment ever suggested the pensioning of rebel soldiers, or any of them, even as a remote possibility.—All who nominated me are perfectly aware that I had upheld and justified Federal legislation to suppress the Ku-Klux conspiracy and outrages, though I had long ago insisted as strenuously as I now do that complete amnesty and a genuine oblivion of the bloody, hateful past would do more for the suppression and utter extinction of such outrages than all the force bills and suspension of *habeas corpus* ever devised by man. Wrong and crime must be suppressed and punished, but far wiser and nobler is the legislation, the policy, by which they are prevented. [Loud cheering.]  
From those who support me in the South I

have heard but one demand—justice; one desire—reconciliation. They wish to be heartily reunited and at peace with the North, on any terms which do not involve a surrender of their manhood. They ask that they shall be regarded and treated by the Federal authorities as citizens, not culprits, so long as they obey and uphold every law consistent with equity and right. They desire a rule which, alike for white and black, shall encourage industry and thrift, and discourage rapacity and villany. They cherish a joyful hope, in which I fully concur, that between the 6th of November and the 4th of March next quite a number of the Governors and other dignitaries who, in the abused names of Republicanism and loyalty, have for years been piling debts and taxes upon their war-wasted States, will follow the wholesome example of Bullock, of Georgia, and seek the shades of private life. The darker and denser those shades the better for themselves and for mankind. And the hope that my election may hasten this much desired hegira of the thieving carpet-baggers has reconciled to the necessity of supporting me many who would otherwise have hesitated and probably refused. [Loud cheering.]  
Fellow-citizens, the deposed and partially exiled Tammany Ring has stolen about thirty millions of dollars from the city of New York. That was a most gigantic robbery, and hurled its contrivers and abettors from power and splendor to impotency and infamy; but the thieving carpet-baggers have stolen at least three times this amount—stolen it from the already impoverished and needy, and they still flaunt their prosperous villany in the high places of the land, and are addressed as honorable and excellency. I think I hear a voice from the honest people of all the States declaring that this iniquity shall be gainful and insolent no longer, at farthest, than to the 4th of March next. By that time these criminals will have heard a national verdict pronounced that will cause them to "fold their tents, like Arabs, and silently steal away; and that, I trust, will be the end of their stealing at the cost of the good name of our country and the well-being of her people.

## Washington City and Point Lookout Railroad.

We find the following letter from Gen. Duncan S. Walker on peninsula railroad matters in a late issue of the *Washington Capital*. It will be seen that it is a reply to a letter of H. G. Fant published in our last issue. The letter is supplemented by the following explanation from the editor of the *Capital*:  
"The following communication from Mr. Duncan S. Walker of the proposed Washington and Point Lookout Railroad only confirms in the opinion already stated. While Mr. Fant may have over-estimated some of the expenditures attending the work of getting the Baltimore and Potomac Railway into Washington, he under-estimates others. No two millions cleared the way for the road through our park to the avenue, and we are forced to admit that the project having the backing the Southern Maryland has, proves to us it is the one that will speedily be in running order."  
WASHINGTON, D. C.,  
August 2, 1872.

## To the Editors of the Capital.

My attention has been called to a communication in your issue of July 28, 1872, signed H. G. Fant, which contains statements in relation to the Washington City and Point Lookout Railroad Company.  
Mr. Fant is not an officer of that company, and yet he assumes to tell the public our plans and to estimate the cost of our road. We beg to be excused from accepting his brilliant estimates, having several competent engineers employed.  
Let us examine his estimates.  
Fant—A bridge over Eastern Branch..... \$100,000  
Company—A bridge over Eastern Branch..... \$25,000  
Fant—Right of way thro' city..... 200,000  
Company—Right of way through city..... 100,000  
Fant—Construction, Tunneling through city..... 700,000  
Company—Construction (no tunnel)..... 100,000  
Fant—Engines, Cars, &c..... 300,000  
Company—No estimate, because it will require no additional number of engines and cars to "enter the city." We are obliged to have the engines and cars, or borrow and pay for it. 1,500,000  
Company's estimate..... 375,000  
Difference..... 1,125,000  
This is about as brilliant as Fant's statement in the same article that it is twenty-five miles from Eastern Branch to Brandywine Junction, whereas by our survey it is only fourteen miles—an error of eleven miles in twenty-five!

Mr. Fant further states that "it will require more time and money to build the road from Eastern Branch of the Potomac to Brandywine (say twenty-five miles) than it will to build from that point to Point Lookout, a distance of fifty-five to sixty miles."—Here is another error. The principal cost of the road from terminus to terminus is the superstructure, (iron, ties, &c.)

14 miles of superstructure at \$12,000 per mile.....	\$168,000
14 miles of graduation at \$10,000 per mile.....	140,000
	\$308,000
60 miles of superstructure at \$12,000 per mile.....	\$720,000
60 miles of graduation at \$4,000 per mile.....	240,000
	\$960,000

A difference in \$652,000 in cost, or more than twice as much as the 14 miles to Eastern Branch. These estimates are exclusive of culverts, bridges, &c.—and the estimate for grading 14 miles to Eastern Branch is very liberal.  
The people of St. Mary's county, through their Commissioners, weighed the question, and (the efforts of a rival company to the contrary notwithstanding) have granted us the fund of \$163,000, appropriated by the State of Maryland for a railroad in that county, to be paid our company, in certain instalments, on the completion of our road within a specified time.  
At the proper time we will lay our plans before the public. This is an important matter to the District of Columbia, and we confidently trust that our people will not be swayed by rumors or undigested estimates.  
Respectfully,  
DUNCAN S. WALKER,  
Secretary.

## LONGEVITY.

We find in the *Alexandria Gazette* the following interesting article—a contribution by one who writes over the signature of "Index":  
The term of human life does not in general exceed 80 years, but instances occasionally occur of persons living to the age of 100 years, and upwards. Such instances, however, have not excited that general attention, which from the nature of the subject might be expected, and it is only of late years that any extensive collection of them has been formed, or attempts made to ascertain the circumstances and situations in which the different individuals preserved their lives to an age so much beyond the usual lot of man.  
"About seventy years ago an author by the name of Easton published a catalogue, which, though defective, contained the names and some particulars of 1,712 persons who had attained to a century and upwards, having died at the following ages:  
From 100 to 110 years.....1,310  
" 110 to 120 ".....277  
" 120 to 130 ".....84  
" 130 to 140 ".....28  
" 140 to 150 ".....7  
" 150 to 160 ".....3  
" 160 to 170 ".....2  
" 170 to 185 ".....3  
1,712

The circumstances which chiefly tend to promote longevity may be reduced to the following heads:  
1. Climate. A large majority of this record of great age were inhabitants of Great Britain, Ireland, France, Germany and North of Europe; from which it appears that moderate or even cold climates are the most favorable to long life. Heat relaxes and enfeebles, while cold consolidates and strengthens the human frame. The diet also of hot countries is less nourishing than that of cold ones, and there is a greater disposition and greater opportunities to indulge in excesses in the former than in the latter.  
2. Parentage. Being born of healthy parents and exempt from hereditary disease, are circumstances favorable to the duration of life, and numerous instances warrant the opinion that longevity prevails in some families more than in others, or that descent from long lived ancestors is one of the circumstances which give the greatest probability of attaining to extreme old age.  
3. Form and size. It is generally admitted that persons of a compact shape, and of a moderate stature, are most likely to live long. Tall persons frequently acquire a habit of stooping which contracts the chest, and is a great impediment to free respiration, while the short sized find little difficulty in keeping themselves erect, and are naturally much more active, and the animal functions are retained in a state of greater perfection. One disadvantage attending a short stature is, that it is frequently accompanied with corpulence, which is rather unfavorable to long life.  
4. The other day a little boy who had cut his finger ran to his mother and cried: "The it up, ma; tie it up quick, for the juice is all running out!" The same urchin, on one of the late excessively hot days, appealed to his mother for help, saying: "Ma, do fix me, for I'm leaking all over."  
5. It is said that a green tarlatan dress contains arsenic enough to kill a man, and yet men do not seem to be afraid to go near green tarlatan dresses.  
6. We see by the paper that an hotel-keeper is in need of experienced servants—he must mean inn-experienced.

another error. The principal cost of the road from terminus to terminus is the superstructure, (iron, ties, &c.)

14 miles of superstructure at \$12,000 per mile.....	\$168,000
14 miles of graduation at \$10,000 per mile.....	140,000
	\$308,000
60 miles of superstructure at \$12,000 per mile.....	\$720,000
60 miles of graduation at \$4,000 per mile.....	240,000
	\$960,000

A difference in \$652,000 in cost, or more than twice as much as the 14 miles to Eastern Branch. These estimates are exclusive of culverts, bridges, &c.—and the estimate for grading 14 miles to Eastern Branch is very liberal.  
The people of St. Mary's county, through their Commissioners, weighed the question, and (the efforts of a rival company to the contrary notwithstanding) have granted us the fund of \$163,000, appropriated by the State of Maryland for a railroad in that county, to be paid our company, in certain instalments, on the completion of our road within a specified time.  
At the proper time we will lay our plans before the public. This is an important matter to the District of Columbia, and we confidently trust that our people will not be swayed by rumors or undigested estimates.  
Respectfully,  
DUNCAN S. WALKER,  
Secretary.

## LONGEVITY.

We find in the *Alexandria Gazette* the following interesting article—a contribution by one who writes over the signature of "Index":  
The term of human life does not in general exceed 80 years, but instances occasionally occur of persons living to the age of 100 years, and upwards. Such instances, however, have not excited that general attention, which from the nature of the subject might be expected, and it is only of late years that any extensive collection of them has been formed, or attempts made to ascertain the circumstances and situations in which the different individuals preserved their lives to an age so much beyond the usual lot of man.  
"About seventy years ago an author by the name of Easton published a catalogue, which, though defective, contained the names and some particulars of 1,712 persons who had attained to a century and upwards, having died at the following ages:  
From 100 to 110 years.....1,310  
" 110 to 120 ".....277  
" 120 to 130 ".....84  
" 130 to 140 ".....28  
" 140 to 150 ".....7  
" 150 to 160 ".....3  
" 160 to 170 ".....2  
" 170 to 185 ".....3  
1,712

The circumstances which chiefly tend to promote longevity may be reduced to the following heads:  
1. Climate. A large majority of this record of great age were inhabitants of Great Britain, Ireland, France, Germany and North of Europe; from which it appears that moderate or even cold climates are the most favorable to long life. Heat relaxes and enfeebles, while cold consolidates and strengthens the human frame. The diet also of hot countries is less nourishing than that of cold ones, and there is a greater disposition and greater opportunities to indulge in excesses in the former than in the latter.  
2. Parentage. Being born of healthy parents and exempt from hereditary disease, are circumstances favorable to the duration of life, and numerous instances warrant the opinion that longevity prevails in some families more than in others, or that descent from long lived ancestors is one of the circumstances which give the greatest probability of attaining to extreme old age.  
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