Anne Arundel Advertiser.

ANNAPOLIS, MD.,
THURSDAY, JUNE 11TH, 1885.

REGARDING COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS

The Port Tobacco *Times* last week contained quite a lengthy article on the subject of commercial fertilizers from which we make some extracts, as the subject is one of great importance to our farming industry. The *Times* says: "When we consider the very extensive and almost universal consumption among farmers at the present day of commercial fertilizers in the growth of all kinds of crops, the importance of a judicious and intelligent selection of these manures becomes apparent. We suppose it is a safe estimate to say that fully one-fourth of the value of the whole yearly agricultural production of this county is annually invested in commercial manures. When the large amounts annually invested in these mixtures is considered, and the fact that the purchasers and consumers are entirely incapable of judging of the quality and value of what they buy, except by the result upon the crop, which is not always by any means a reliable test, the great importance of adopting some reliable measures for the protection of the farmers from imposition at the hands of those who manipulate their manures becomes very strongly apparent.

"It has been said, we believe with truth, that nine-tenths of the farmers who in recent years have met with failure, owe their ruin to an injudicious investment of money in commercial manures. No intelligent person denies the utility and necessity of these manures, but the farmer who buys them relies so absolutely upon the integrity of them that compound them, that it affords the greatest temptation imaginable to the manipulators of these goods to impose on their customers, and one that we feel no doubt many of them are not able to resist. No one knows what these manures contain, except the men who compound them, or the competent analytical chemist who subjects the compound to chemical tests to the discovery of the ingredients it contains. The farmer who buys manipulated manures, buys "a pig in the bag" as to speak; and when he pays $40 of his hard-earned funds for a ton of manure he has practically no possible means of knowing whether its value equals or exceeds $20, except from the representation of the seller; and this the seller well knows. The only hypothesis, therefore, upon which we can believe that the farmer is not largely victimized in these extensive and annually growing transactions, is the absolute and unexceptional honor of all the different men and companies engaged in the composition of these goods.

The *Times* then quotes some of the sections of the act of 1870, which provides that all fertilizers brought or manufactured in this State, and offered for sale, shall have permanently affixed to every sack, barrel, &c., a stamped or printed label, specifying the name of the manufacturer &c. their place of business, the net weight of each sack, &c., and the component parts of such fertilizer, and percentage by weight which it contains of different constituents, enumerating the same, and then prescribes the penalty in case of violation, which is a fine of fifty dollars for the first offence and seventy-five dollars for the second and each subsequent offence. The law also provides that the purchaser who is injured by the contents of a sack so labeled not conforming to the analysis thereon, may recover back the price from the seller, and says "these provisions of the law impress us as thorough and perhaps ample, as far as the Legislature can intervene, except that the fine for fraud should be made greater."

The *Times* then goes on to say that the great and important question is, do all the manufacturers comply honestly with the requirements of this law enacted for the protection of farmers. We fear that this is not the case, otherwise it could not be said with any show of truth that any intelligent farmer had ever been brought to ruin by

COOPER'S CASE.

The Baltimore county *Union*, speaking of the negro Cooper's case, in which he recently argued in the Court of Appeals here, says: "Since the commission of the fiendishly act of the brutal negro Cooper in this county last April there seems to have been a wave of this species of crime passing over the State, no less than four deeds of the kind having been reported since then. The last one, only a few days ago, occurred at Mount Airy, on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, and was almost as brutal as that perpetrated by the Baltimore county fiend, but in this latter instance the people summarily disposed of the villain. We would be slow, at any time, to recommend a violation of law, but in crimes of this kind we think that the sooner the perpetrators are disposed of the better. The delays of the law as instanced in the Cooper case, are most exasperating to the people. There are so many loop-holes open to criminals of all classes that it seems almost impossible to convict one, and, after they are convicted, shrewd lawyers frequently succeed in getting them off. It is the duty of a lawyer to do all he can—to exhaust every possible means for the benefit of his client—but in some instances we think this otherwise commendable persistence is carried just a little too far, and this leads people, who are not familiar with the laws, to believe that they were framed for the protection of scoundrels instead of for their punishment. With a firm determination to uphold the laws of the State, as lawless all good citizens do, yet we do believe that in this particular species of crime the more speedy the punishment the more salutary the lesson. To have those cases carried from one court to another, each report of the proceedings bringing fresh to memory all their horrible details, is not only an outrage upon those who have personally suffered, but the effect upon the community generally is damaging, and should not be tolerated."

CATTLE RAISING.

The Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, in Washington, recently issued a report in regard to the range and ranch cattle business of the United States. The importance of this branch of American industry is emphasized by figures so large that they almost make one's head swim.

The first statement in the report is that the cattle ranch area embraces about 1,500,000 square miles, and therefore constitutes nearly forty-four per cent of the total area of the United States. Our readers can better understand us as to extent when we say that it is equal to Great Britain and Ireland, France, Germany, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Austria, Hungary, Italy, Spain and Portugal, and one-fifth of Russia in Europe.

All this territory is devoted to beef. We feed the world. The roast beef of Old England even comes from the great West.—More than 7,500,000 cattle graze on the green plains east of the Rocky Mountains, and their value reaches the snug little sum of about two hundred millions of dollars.—There is hardly a country on the globe to which these cattle are not sent, either on the hoof or nicely packed in cans or laid on ice. The steaks, the beef soup, the hash of all creation are provided by the picturesque and irrepressible cowboys who roam the prairies.

It is rather a significant fact, however, that nearly 21,000,000 acres of this grazing land, together with the herds thereon, are owned by English syndicates and English noblemen.

EATING LOCUSTS.

Professor Riley, the entomologist of Washington city, recently invited a friend to eat locusts with him at breakfast on the ground that they were a delicacy (at least he regards them as nutritious and highly palatable when fried in butter, and having a flavor peculiar to them, being the quintessence of vegetable juices." As cats and dogs, chickens, birds, hogs, &c., consume them voraciously, it might be strange that they should not prove good human food. The Prof. professes them

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER'S REPORT.

The recent annual report of Insurance Commissioner Hines has just been published. It gives the condition of the insurance companies and associations authorized to do business in Maryland up to the 31st of December, 1884. A preliminary synopsis of the business done in Maryland in 1884, as compared with the year 1883 shows that the gross receipts of premiums in 1884 by the various fire and marine insurance companies amounted to $1,663,929, and the losses paid in Maryland during the same year to $1,058,573, divided among one hundred and fifty-five companies, ninety-eight of which were companies chartered in other States, and twenty-eight foreign, there being an increase of seven companies of other States over the number doing business in Maryland in 1883. The premiums received by the two life insurance companies having Maryland charters and the twenty-six life and accident companies of other States amounted during the year to $1,567,545, and the losses paid in Maryland to $1,011,753. The business done in 1883 in fire and marine insurance was better than in 1884, the premiums being $1,742,620 as against $1,663,929 in 1884, and the losses paid in 1883 but $870,540 as against $1,058,573 in 1884. The premiums received for life insurance in 1884 were larger than in 1883, but they were offset by larger losses paid, making the business of the two years about equal. During the year seven companies of other States drew up their licenses in Maryland and withdrew their agencies, but eight other companies from outside States were admitted. The year 1884 seems to have been a bad one both to the local as well as to the foreign companies doing business in this State. The proportion of losses paid to premiums received by the Maryland fire and marine insurance companies being increased from forty-five per cent. in 1883 to nearly seventy-five per cent. in 1884, but the commissioner states that the losses were not enough to affect their dividend paying capacity. The heaviest proportion of losses to premiums was sustained by the foreign companies, exceeding as they did eighty per cent. The commissioner refers to the enormous increase of losses by fire throughout the United States, and calls attention to the success of a New York company organized on the mutual plan, and guarding against losses by frequent inspection of risks, by suggestions for decreasing the fire hazard in it localized cases, and, when necessary, by decisions for alterations."

The commissioner makes several valuable suggestions, and in conclusion says that the whole of the State law regulating insurance ought to be greatly simplified and made more efficient by a judicious and careful revision."

☞ The Chestertown *News* in a recent issue, speaking of the proposed memorial arch to be erected in this city to the memory of Reverdy Johnson, says: "If eminent talents and public service entitle a man to a monument, Reverdy Johnson deserves one. He was one of the greatest lawyers that Maryland has produced—indeed no State has produced greater. He served creditably in the Senate of the United States, in the cabinets of two presidents, and he was minister to England at a time when a man of great ability was needed there. It is the intention to invite the Bar of Maryland to contribute to this monument, and doubtless many of its members will gladly do so."

The Coming of the Cholera

[Easton *Ledger*.]

"There is no cholera scare in the country at present, but Boards of Health are expecting that disease to cross the Atlantic this summer and to be developed here.—Whether it ravages the country, or any section of it, or is stamped out when it first lifts its head depends very much upon the precautions taken in advance, and upon the promptness and courage with which it is met wherever and wherever it does appear. Physicians and newspapers are urging upon urban communities the duty of taking extraordinary measures to put their cities, towns and villages in the best hygienic condition possible.

Emigrants from the [illegible]

Pay What You Owe.

The Baltimore *Bulletin* very wisely suggests that in times when business is so depressed that all who are engaged in trade wear gloomy countenances and uneasy motions as men who catch straws and live for to-day hoping the morrow may bring them some relief, it is the duty of the people to do all they can to restore confidence and to encourage and sustain the credit of the community. Banks should not make matters worse by refusing credit to depositors who can present fair endorsements. We do not mean to say that banks or individuals should recklessly throw their money away, but we do say that banking institutions are incorporated for public accommodation, and that instead of adding to the distress of hard times and increasing the trouble of the community, they in times like the present they should not lock up the money they have in their vaults, where it can do no good; but should let it out when equally good security is offered as they accept in more prosperous times. Banks should help the people, and men who have money should pay their debts. Every dollar kept in circulation benefits the whole community, and every dollar hoarded helps to pull down the business of the community and ruin the man of small means. Men thoughtlessly take advantage of hard times to put off paying their debts. The duty of every honest man is to pay if he has it more promptly when there is a dearth of money than at any other time.—The business community will admit that money is hard to collect and that times are "tighter" than since 1877. Much of this depression in trade and scarcity of money would be obviated if people would try to pay their debts.

Kissing a Snapping-Turtle.

[Baltimore *Sun*, June 4.]

A tall young man giving his name as William Geoghegan walked into the central police station and told Capt. Lamon that he had been beaten by a crowd of men on South Front street. There was a good deal of blood about his face, and his appearance went to verify his story. The captain investigated the story, and the men charged with the assault went to the station in a body. They explained that they were standing on the street when a man came up with a snapping turtle in his possession. He dared any of them to kiss the turtle, but one of the number being a dealer in fish and crabs warned them not to attempt the feat. Geoghegan, who was looking on, boldly said that he would do it, and the turtle was thrust at him. When he got near enough the turtle snapped at him and catching hold of his upper lip bit a piece out. The blood ran over his throat and neck, giving him the appearance of a man assaulted man, when in fact the only wound he had was the one in the lip. When the explanation was made Geoghegan did not deny it, and did not press the charge of assault any further.

PROPOSALS FOR COAL AND WOOD.

WANTED, 50 Tons of No. 2 Coal—to be delivered on shore at Alms House, by SEPTEMBER THE FIRST—and 50 cords of Pine Wood, to be delivered in July or August. Bids to be acted on at our next meeting, JULY SEVENTH.

SPRINGFIELD BALDWIN,
Pres't.
A. K. STARLINGS, Secy. [6.10-3t.]

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Anne Arundel County, in Maryland, letters of administration on the personal estate of

THOMAS E. NICHOLS,

late of Anne Arundel County, deceased. All persons having claims against the said deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, on or before the 11th day of December, 1885. They may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of the said estate. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment.

Given under my hand this 9th day of June, 1885.

JOHN IRELAND,
Administrator.
6.11-4t.

[Also in Record Advt.]

ORDER NISI.

John G. Rogers, Mary [illegible]
vs.
[illegible]

In the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel county. In Equity.

Ordered this first day of June, 1885, by the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel county, that the sale made and reported by John G. Rogers, trustee in the above cause, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary be shown on or before the 7th day of July next; provided a copy of this order be inserted in a newspaper published in Anne Arundel county once a week for the four successive weeks before the 4th day of July, 1885. The report states the amount of sales to be $5,800.

Test: WILLIAM HARWOOD, Clerk.
True copy. Test:
WILLIAM HARWOOD, Clerk.
6.11-4t.

[Also in Record Advt.]

Trustee's Sale.

BY virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel county, sitting as a Court of Equity, passed in the case of [illegible]