THE FARMERS CORNER.

"INDUSTRY THE MEANS—PLENTY THE RESULT."

From the Philadelphia Commercial Herald.

Wheat, Rye, &c.

The holders of grain in the interior continue to send it to this city, as they have been accustomed to do heretofore, not being aware that it bears a higher price at almost any given place this side the Alleghany than it does here. It is well for them to learn that we are not only amply supplied with grain from Europe, but that we are actually sending it into the interior at a profit. A note from one of the largest wheat and flour factors in this city to us, states that most of the Pennsylvania wheat sold lately, is sold to go up the Schuylkill in boats, or is hauled some distance into the interior by wagons. This caused no inconsiderable loss and waste, which fall upon the owners. The same remark, the writer think, will apply to New York and Baltimore—wheat having been shipped from New York to Troy and Albany, which on its way passed wheat coming from those places to New York.

We are informed by the house alluded to that the late importations of wheat from Europe have been of the new crop, which is at the best quality—entirely different from the first cargoes received.

From the Baltimore Farmer.

To Farmers.

The prospects of the growing wheat crop, as far as we have been able to gather information upon the subject, are unsuspicious in the extreme. Indeed, both in Maryland and Virginia, present appearances are of the most forbidding character, offering nothing like well grounded hopes that the farmer will receive any thing like a return for his expenditures in the preparation and seeding of his grounds, to say nothing about profits. This will be the third or fourth year, since an average crop has been made in the wheat growing states, and many husbandmen, we fear, are destined the present season to reap nothing but disappointment, and to find their calculations put to fault by the ravages of the weather, during the past winter, upon their wheat fields. In years past, their most dreaded enemy was the Hessian fly, but superadded to that, they have more recently seen their hopes blighted by the alternations of weather, changing from a comparatively mild temperature to one of the most intense severity in forty eight hours; thus, by sudden transitions opening the bowels of the earth, and leaving the roots of the young grain exposed, in the first instance, to be thrown out of the soil, and in the second, to subsequent destruction from the frost. With all these evils bearing so disastrously upon the interests of wheat growers—evils which scarcely admit of the hope of speedy remedy, necessity would seem to point out the propriety of their turning their attention to some other staple, less precarious in its cultivation, more exempt from casualties, and certain of producing a remunerating crop. What that may be rests with the cultivators themselves, and must depend upon time and circumstances to develope. But in anticipation of such change, it may not be inappropriate to recommend that, with the present unpromising prospects for a wheat crop, it might be well for every agriculturalist to put in more corn, oats, buckwheat, roots generally, as well as pumpkins.

CORN after it has passed the ordeal of the crows and the grub, unless, indeed, the season be one of peculiar unsuitableness, if it be well tended, will always yield a bountiful crop of its cultivation, and although its flour be not so universal a favorite as that manufactured from wheat, it is a most acceptable substitute. Indeed, there are but few persons who, if they could not, by its use, be made to relish it with a most savory appetite, and hence while saving crops of it are made, there is no danger of famine in this our happy land.

OATS, as all do know, is a grain, which, with but an ordinary chance of growing, will repay the labor and expense of culture, and although it be not in this country a grain of common consumption, yet by multiplying its product the present season, it would greatly relieve the demands upon those grains which are.

BUCKWHEAT.—Wherever a failure of the wheat crop may occur, large seedings of this grain should take place, and if sown upon fields previously prepared for wheat, it would afford a very handsome profit.

ROOTS of all kinds should be freely cultivated; they pay well, and contribute largely towards real comfort on all establishments where they are attended to as they ought to be. Carrots and Ruta Baga make excellent food for horses as well as cows.—Potatoes, Parsnips, Mangel Wurtzel, Beets and Turnips, are equally well suited to the purposes of Stock generally.

PUMPKINS, though we name it last, does not stand in that order in our regards, for we hold it that every farmer and planter should cultivate them extensively, as there is scarcely any other product more serviceable on a farm.

Every farmer, (says the Baltimore Farmer,) who has a few acres to spare for such purpose, should devote it to patches of the Palma Christi and Sunflower. The first is in great request for making Castor Oil, and the latter for expressing table and lamp oil, and both bring good prices.

POTATOES-USEFUL RECEIPE.—We every day hear complaints about watery potatoes. Put into the pot a piece of lime as large as a hen's egg; and how watery soever the potatoes may have been, when the water is poured off, the potatoes will be perfectly dry and mealy. Some persons use salt—which only hardens potatoes.

IMPORTANT PUBLIC DOCUMENT.

Report of the Minority of the Committee appointed by the House of Representatives to investigate the affairs of the Canal Commissioners.

The undersigned, members of the committee appointed to examine the public works, and the official conduct of the Canal Commissioners, *with a view to their continuance or removal from office*, explicitly, state, what may appear very extraordinary to honest men, that they were neither consulted as to the principles or directions of the voluminous report of the majority, nor never were they apprised of its contents, until the evening previous to its presentation to the House. At this late period too, they were denied the privilege of retaining and examining the document until the next day, in order to determine upon their course of action, lest, as may be fairly presumed, its contents would not bear the test of a strict scrutiny. They would take pleasure in ascribing conduct so novel to any other more justifiable motive, were it in their power to do so.

The brief interval, therefore, of a day (crowded with other engagements) allowed to the undersigned by the indulgence of the House for the performance of an important a duty, will deprive them of the opportunity of presenting as clearly and satisfactorily as they would otherwise do, the principles which they have been guided, the conclusions to which they have arrived, and the grounds of their dissent from the majority.

In the examination of our complicated system of Internal Improvement, the House of Representatives has repeatedly appointed committees for a similar purpose to that for which we were constituted. In instance, however, we believe has ever occurred before the present one, that the committee was composed of a majority of the political adversaries of the administration. Indeed, such a designation might well have awakened in the public mind suspicions of undue bias and prejudice.—It was reserved, therefore, for the present Congress to have introduced to depart from a precedent so salutary in its consequences, so consistent with parliamentary usage with common sense, and the humane policy of our laws. In ordinary cases the rights of property and personal security, and above all, that dearest and most sacred of reputation, are strictly and tenderly regarded. No man is permitted to enter the jury box whose mind is not equally balanced.

Instead of appointing a majority of the friends of the administration upon the committee, it was, as at first constituted, composed entirely of members decidedly if not bitterly hostile to it. A sense of propriety, however, induced the House afterwards to add two members of a different political party, still leaving them in a small minority. This unprecedented organization of the committee evinced at its origin that spirit which we have expected from it, different from the ordinary investigations of preceding sessions. *Those* investigations, if not strictly impartial were known charitably to lean to the side of the accused. *This* was to be different from those, and which side it was to lean, is not a matter of conjecture.

So marked and unusual a formation of the committee could not be a mere accident. The strong and decided indications of intelligence which characterize every act of the Honorable Speaker, forbid such a supposition.

Being thus prepared and armed with power, to effectuate its design, the committee organized and proceeded to business.

The Canal Commissioners being equally in the anxious desire of their office, asked and were allowed to appear by counsel.—The examination proceeded for some time without disclosing any thing prejudicial to the official conduct of any person connected with the public works. Indeed, if we take into consideration the character of the witnesses that had been hunted up by personal and political enemies, we must be highly creditable to their management.—Any witness who gave different testimony were discarded workmen or agents who had been dismissed for incompetency or dishonesty; or perhaps, here and there by some old life officer of the late administration, who in consideration of his long services, had been unwillingly relieved from the cares and responsibilities of state.

The committee not satisfied with the evidence thus furnished them by their patriotic friends along the public works whose vigilance is sharpened by hunger and thirst of office, determined even at the "inclement season of the year," to go forth in person to the uttermost parts of the state, in search of corruption. They divided themselves into three sub committees, each of which was to travel into a distant quarter of the Commonwealth. This arrangement effectually prevented the Canal Commissioners from attending the examination in person, or by counsel, unless they should employ as many different counsellors as there were sub committees, and pay them for travelling in different quarters. This would have involved an expense burthensome and oppressive to the Commissioners, which their own humble means and the scanty pay which they received, would not enable them to sustain. It must be remembered that their expenses must have been borne by themselves, while all the travelling expenses of these subcommittees came out of the treasury of the state, in addition to their daily pay as Members. Against this unexampled and cruel exercise of the power of the committee, the Commissioners protested, and appealed to the House to correct it. The House, however, not only sanctioned the proceedings, but passed a resolution in the following words: Resolved, "That the sub-committees have power to administer oaths." This was not a joint resolution, but passed by the House of Representatives alone. If any thing had been wanting to cap the climax of anomalies with regard to the committee, this resolution furnished it. No power to administer oaths is possessed by any tribunal or office or branch of the government, unless conferred on them by law. The Speaker of the Senate or House possessed no such power, until a law was passed granting it. The same act, dated 16th March, also gave the same power to the "Chairman of every committee in examination before a committee." But no members of the committee except the Chairman *could or can* administer an oath. Nor can a committee or either branch of the Legislature separately grant such power. Oaths are deemed sacred and solemn things, and it requires a Sovereign power, a law of the land to authorize them. But no enactment be comes a law unless passed by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly met, and receives the constitutional sanction of the Executive. The House in passing the resolution referred to assumed the whole power of all the Legislative branches of this Government. The resolution, therefore was clearly a nullity, and furnishes no authority for administering oaths; consequently all the oaths administered by the sub-committees were illegal, extrajudicial, and in a legal point of view, how ever they may be in morality, are no better than profane swearing. Perjury however rank, committed under such void oaths, is not indictable nor in any way punishable by law. This perhaps is fortunate for some of those witnesses who have joined in this crusade against honest men? Thus in an unprecedented manner, have the Canal Commissioners been deprived of the power of cross examining the witnesses, or of punishing them when guilty of wilful and slanderous falsehoods.

No part of proceedings of the majority have appeared more strange or more fatal in the manner and kind of proof first reported to. Heretofore, when the condition of the public works and the conduct of the State agents connected with them, were under investigation by legislative committees, it was the practice to hold open sessions, at one place convenient to the public officers and records—and from day to day to inform the public and the officers concerned of the names of the persons subpaenaed for examination.

No similar degree of fairness is to be found in the operations of the majority.—After adjourning from Harrisburgh to places remote and altogether inconvenient to the boards,—after subjecting themselves into secret conclaves, and clothed with the full power of the whole;—after meeting in secret and refusing access to the persons expressly accused, or their agent, it perhaps will not appear strange that not only were the names of the witnesses for the prosecution not furnished, but that those witnesses were generally of the most suspicious description.

It is a remarkable fact also, that the first jaunt taken by the committee, by the will of the majority, and expressly for the purpose of personally inspecting that portion of the public works between this place and Philadelphia, was performed with the haste of ordinary travellers, so as to entirely preclude the accomplishment of any other object than that of being speedily carried to the midst of what was known to be an enraged and disappointed set of discharged public servants; and that on return, the principal part of the journey having been made on the Sabbath, and that therefore, neither going or returning, was there any careful examination given to the Inclined Plane at Columbia—the establishment at Parkes Ferry, or any other of the ordinary subjects of inquiry and information connected with the operations of the public works. Yet, forsooth, this sudden and hurried visit, made in the midst of what was known to be an enraged and disappointed set of discharged public servants; and that on return, the principal part of the journey having been made on the *Sabbath*