

The Employment of Freed Slaves in Maryland,

On the 15th instant the citizens of Charles county, Md., held a large meeting at Port Tobacco, to take into consideration the necessary measures to be adopted in relation to the employment of freed slaves. F. B. F. Burgess was appointed president, J. F. Gardiner and Dr. F. R. Willis vice-presidents, and Samuel N. Cox and James F. Matthews secretaries. Gen. Walter Mitchell, in a few remarks, declared the purposes of the meeting. Hon. Geo. Brent then submitted the following resolutions, which, after a spirited discussion by Messrs. Thos. R. Halley, George W. Carpenter and George Brent were unanimously adopted:

Whereas by the proclamation of the Governor of the State of Maryland, the domestic relation of master and slave has been abolished in this State, and the farmer has been thereby deprived of the labor heretofore employed in agricultural operations, it becomes important, if such operations are to be continued, that some plan should be agreed upon to ensure certain labor, and that the price to be paid therefor should be uniform. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is earnestly recommended to the proprietors and owners of houses and land not to rent or lease any house or land to any free negro or negroes, unless such lease or renting was prior to the 1st of November, unless such house or land is kept under the control and supervision of the proprietor or owner thereof, so as to prevent such house or land from being the resort of the idle, vicious and dishonest of this class.

Resolved, That we agree and recommend that no free negro be hired for ordinary field or farm service unless it be by the year, except during the seasons of hay-time and harvest, or in the event of the sickness or death of some one or more of those employed by the year.

Resolved, That we will not by over-bidding, or by any other means, endeavor to induce any one to quit the service of his present employer.

Resolved, For the purpose of securing ample support to the laborer, and adopting a schedule which will be just and proper for both employer and employee, that the following scale of prices be agreed upon.

1st. For first-class negro men, the wages to be paid not to exceed \$120 per year, with house-room, firewood and food. 2d. For first-class negro women, without children, the wages to be paid not to exceed \$60 per year, with house-room, firewood and food. 3d. For boys under eighteen years, the wages not to exceed \$60 per year, with house-room, firewood and food—this amount however to be graduated down according to age and capacity.—4th. Wherever, in cases above mentioned, it becomes proper to hire by the month, the above scale of prices is recommended as a guide for the amount of wages to be paid.—5th. A first-class woman, with two children incapable of work, is considered worth their clothes and board; if more than two, they should be supported by their parent or parents—this however to be a matter left to the agreement of the parties. 6th. In all cases of hiring, lost time is to be deducted.

Resolved, That it is recommended as a matter of humanity to those who have in their possession any, who from old age or infirmity are incapable of labor, according to the best of their means, to provide for them until provision shall be made by law for their support.

Resolved, That the same be recommended in regard to children too young to work, except in cases where they may have a parent or parents to take charge of them.