styled the Municipal Court of Baltimore; which said court when duly organised, shall have, hold and exercise, all and singular, the powers and jurisdiction now held and exercised by Baltimore City Court; and either of said judges shall be authorised to hold said court, and to hear and decide all cases pending therein; provided, that in cases where there may be a difference of opinion between said judges, the decision of the Chief Judge shall be taken as that of the court.

SEC. 6. And be it enacted, That the salaries to be allowed to the Chief Judges and Associates of the several judicial districts, and to the Chief Judge of the Municipal Court of Baltimore, shall be fixed by the Legislature, at the session when this act may be confirmed, and the salaries so established shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

SEC. 7. And be it enacted, That all and every part of the constitution and form of government of this State, in any manner repugnant to or inconsistent with the provisions of this act, be and the same is hereby repealed, abrogated and annulled, upon the confirmation hereof; provided, that nothing herein contained shall be construed so as to authorise the removal of the clerks of the respective County Courts, or of the Court of Appeals, being in commission at the time of the confirmation of this act, in any other mode or manner than that prescribed by the constitution and form of government.

SEC. 8. And be it enacted, That if this act shall be confirmed by the General Assembly, after the next election of delegates, at the first session after such new election, as the constitution and form of government directs, that in such case this act, and the alterations and amendments of the constitution and form of government therein contained, shall be taken and considered, and shall constitute and be valid, as a part of said constitution and form of government, any thing in said constitution and form of government to the contrary notwithstanding.

[Document II.]

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

March 6, 1844.

Read and ordered to be printed.

R E P O R T

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,

RELATIVE TO THE

BOMMER METHOD OF MAKING MANURE.

IN OBEDIENCE TO

AN ORDER OF 'THE HOUSE OF' 26th JANUARY.

The committee on Agriculture, to which was referred the order submitted by Mr. Calvert, on the 26th January, directing them, to "report to this House, whether the manure manufactured under the system, known as the Bommer process, is a valuable acquisition to the agriculturists of the State." Beg leave to report, that through the politeness of Messrs. Abbett & Co., of the city of Baltimore, they have been favored with a copy, of the new and enlarged edition of the Bommer Manure Method, which they have examined with as much attention, as their time has permitted.

Having no personal knowledge upon the subject, the committee have also resorted to such other sources of information as have come within their reach. Taking into view the materials used in the preparation of the manure, the advantages resulting from the use that may be made of it in various states of decomposition to suit different crops, the certainty of having all obnoxious seeds destroyed by the high degree of heat developed during fermentation, they cannot hesitate in recommending it to the attention of the farmers of Maryland.

The right to use the method, in the preparation of manure, being secured by letters patent, nothing in relation to it beyond an expression of opinion, will be expected from the committee. They have appended hereto an extract from the preface to the book, as also several other extracts and certificates from practical men, upon the subject.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. W. NAILL,
LYDE GRIFFITH,
DANIEL STULL,
ROBT. GHISELIN,
WARFORD MANN,
PHILIP POULTNEY.

APPENDIX.

Extract from the preface to the Bommer Manure Method.

“We make no pretensions to having found any new element for manure; all our merit consists in having better observed facts which have either escaped the attention of other men, or of which they have not fully appreciated all their importance, and in having turned these observations to profit, namely:

1st. “To have combined, in a fecundating alliance, materials which, if employed separately, would not produce the results desired.

2nd. “To have composed a liquid by which we replace with advantage the urine of cattle, and by the use of which we can produce, in the materials employed a fermentation which can be directed at will.

3rd. “To have conceived a process by which we can make masses of manure with but few elements.

4th. “To have decomposed, in a few days, ligneous plants, by the aid of water and inorganic materials.

“In a word, to have created a method which supplies a very important defect in agriculture, and to have resolved, in a satisfactory manner, one of its most important problems.”

Extracts from the report of the committee who at the request of Mr. Bommer, attended the preparation &c., of a heap of manure at the Cattle Show and Fair, of the New York State Agricultural Society, September 1842.

The committee say “they have no hesitation in stating that the materials mentioned in his specification were all used; that the experiment was in every respect fairly made; and that the whole was evidently conducted on the most approved chemical principle. That the thermometer in a heap composed of dry materials rose to 152° on the 12th day—and in a heap composed of green material it rose to 201° on the same day—and that the material furnished

must prove a valuable manure; and the more so, as it employs many articles now worthless or deleterious. In all matters of this nature, experience is of course worth more than mere theory; but it will be a matter of great disappointment if a process combining, as this does, an application of the most correct chemical principles, with the employment of the most efficient agents, does not in due time become a favorite with the farmer."

Signed,

T. R. BECK,

Chairman.

Certificate of Mr. Dudley.

"I hereby certify that having made repeated trials, of Mr. Geo. Bommer's method of making manure by fermentation, and having tested its effects in the rapid decomposition of the mass to which it has been applied, and having also witnessed the influence of the manure made by this process, in promoting the growth of vegetation, I am prepared to regard the invention as an important accession to the farmer's interest; and although having tried other modes of making manure with varied success, I am free to acknowledge that I have never been acquainted with any system of the kind that would compare with this for utility.

ERASTUS DUDLEY.

November 23rd, 1842.

"We are well acquainted with Mr. Dudley, the author of the above certificate, and we know him to be a man of sterling integrity. He is an intelligent farmer, and not likely to be imposed upon by every *new thing*. In as much as he has tried Mr. Bommer's method, and gives his unqualified testimony in its favor, we have no hesitation in commending his statement to the confidence of the public."

Farmers Gazette.

Report of a committee appointed by a company of gentlemen to examine Bommer's method for making manure, on the premises of Gerret Kouwenhoven, Flatlands, Long Island.

"That after careful examination of a heap laid up on the 19th of April, and opened this afternoon, 3rd of May, they most cheerfully acknowledge that the change produced upon the material used, far exceeded the most sanguine expectations, said materials consisting of straw, salt, hay, &c., and presenting when opened the appearance and smell of rich manure.

"The committee farther report, that they also examined the book containing Mr. Bommer's method, and are fully persuaded that

the various ingredients used are all in themselves beneficial, and in their combination must produce the most favorable results.

"The committee most cordially commend the above method to the serious consideration of the farmers of Long Island."

Signed by order of the committee.

ELIAS HUBBARD,

Chairman.

Flatlands, 3rd May, 1843.

Extract of a letter from Gerrit Kouwenhoven, Esq., to the editor of the Cultivator.

Speaking of the heap of manure alluded to in the preceding report, Mr. Kouwenhoven says, "I ploughed in this manure into one half of a field intended for potatoes, and in order to institute a comparison of effects, I put the same quantity of my best stable manure into the other half of the field.

"The effect on the soil was very nearly the same with both these kinds of manure, but the vegetation on that part of the field which had been furnished with Bommer's manure, was more luxurious and the foliage of a deeper verdure, which I attribute to the richness of the saline matter which it contains, and which alone preserved the humidity of the soil during the severe drought of this last season. It is proper to remark also, that in the composition of the "Bommer Manure," I employed simply such doses of the ingredients as were absolutely necessary to insure success in the operation of making it, and if I had increased these quantities, there is not the least doubt that the result of the "Bommer Manure" would have been very far superior to that of any horse manure.

"Perfectly satisfied with my experiment and its results, I have put up fixtures near my barn yard for the purpose of preparing large quantities of this manure; and within the last two months I have made three large heaps, which have yielded me between 200 and 300 loads of excellent manure. The last heap was composed entirely of 100 loads of sedge grass, nearly dry, with which I intermixed 40 loads of swampy matter, such as exists on my farm. All my out lay in purchasing ingredients to form the lye for this last heap, amounted to between \$20 and \$30, and in disbursing this trifling sum, I have made a heap of manure, which I would not dispose of for \$250.

"I have the advantage of producing my manure in the sowing and planting season. I can make it more or less strong, more or less fermented, so as to suit the soil and the kind of crop for which I want it, I spread and plough it in while it is perfectly fresh, and consequently in all its strength. These are some of the results experienced by me in using Bommer's method of manuring land."