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Kent News.

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER: Devoted to General and Local Intelligence and Literature; Agricultural, Horticultural and Mechanical Interests; Politics and Advertising

VOL. 39. CHESTERTOWN, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1878. No. 33.

The Kent News:
PUBLISHED WEEKLY, AT
CHESTERTOWN, KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND.
Office in the Masonic Hall.

JAS. H. PLUMMER. WM. H. USILTON.
PLUMMER & USILTON,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

Terms of Subscription:
TWO DOLLARS per annum in advance; or, if not paid within six months from the time of subscribing, $2.50 may be charged.

LOCAL and other correspondence solicited. ANONYMOUS communications will receive no attention.

ADVERTISING:
Advertisements occupying the space of eight lines brevier type will be inserted three times for one dollar, and 25 cents for each subsequent insertion. Obituaries one-half advertising rates.

No gratuitous advertising. Calls for meetings, concerts, excursions, &c., for charitable, religious or other purposes, must be paid for, the publishers standing on an equal footing with others, ready to contribute toward such objects as they may feel an interest in.

JOB-PRINTING:
HANDBILLS, CARDS,
CIRCULARS, BLANKS, &c.,
executed with neatness and dispatch, and at reasonable prices.

HO! FOR
Christmas!!

Grand Opening of Christmas Goods!

THE FINEST STOCK OF CHRISTMAS GOODS ever seen in CHESTERTOWN, will be OPENED THIS DAY at

C. F. STAM'S

DRUG STORE.

BOHEMIA TOILET SETS,
Ancient and Modern VASES,
FANCY GLASSWARE,
Beautiful Flower Stands,
FERN VASES,
Ladies Work Baskets, Card Receivers, Cigar Cases, Japanese Goods, Jewel Cases,
GOLD PENS—Aiken, Lambert & Co.'s;
GOLD PENCILS;
MAGIC CHARMS;
LADIES' WRITING DESKS of various kinds.

BOOKS! BOOKS!

FOR CHRISTMAS!

THE CHOICEST LITERATURE OF THE PAST AND PRESENT.

Shakspeare Complete,
Dickens Complete,
Scott Complete,
Byron Complete;
Tennyson, Longfellow, Burns Complete, Bryant, Pope and Meredith.

Fiction:—Marian Harland's Works; Mrs. Holme's & Mrs. Evan's Works; Roe's new Book, "A Face Illumined."

Travel:—*STANLEY'S GREAT WORK on AFRICA*, the most interesting work of the age; "Cruise of the Yacht Sunbeam" intensely Fascinating.

Books of Travel and Adventure—For BOYS—Floating Island; Boy Emigrants; Journey to the Sun; Mayne Reid's Books, and others too numerous to mention.

BIBLES! BIBLES!

One Large Family Bible, bound in Turkey of the choicest print and superbly illustrated will be sold at a great sacrifice; other Famly Bibles at low rates.

PRAYER BOOKS and HYMNALS of many styles.

The new Methodist Hymnal set to music; also a number without music, very low.

Children's Books—Chatterbox, cheaper than ever; Little Wide Awake; Fancy Picture Books; Toy Books, and hundreds of others.

Stationery! Stationery!

In bright and beautiful boxes, far surpassing last season's display.

POCKET BOOKS, the finest and cheapest stock ever shown in this town.

PERFUMERY,
FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Fancy Colognes, Extracts in beautiful fancy boxes; Genuine German Farina Cologne in wicker; Pomades & Dressings for the hair; Toilet Waters & Toilet Powders; a large stock of the above offered at very low prices.

HAIR BRUSHES—Celluloid Back inlaid with pearl; Fine Dressing Combs, and English & American Mirrors.

☞All the above goods have been selected with the greatest care and purchased very close, consequently they are offered at the lowest prices.

☞ALL WE ASK is an EXAMINATION of our goods, and feel confident we can please the most fastidious.

COLIN F. STAM,
Corner Drug Store.
Dec. 14, 1878.

New Grocery Store
UP TOWN!

WHEATLEY BROS.
Have opened a New Grocery Store up town, and are prepared to supply all persons wanting goods in their line at prices that will compete with the cheapest in market.

☞We solicit all kinds of COUNTRY PRODUCE in exchange for goods at the highest market price.
Store adjoining Dr. Johnson's office.
☞Give us a call.
Mar. 9. WHEATLEY BROS.

SPECIAL NOTICE to the LADIES!
DRESS MAKING.
Plain and fancy, done in the latest styles and neatest manner.
MISS LUCY PARSONS, having had considerable experience as a Dress maker, is prepared to do work at shortest notice.—Will be found at her home opposite Catholic Church. Prompt attention given to all. oc26-tf.

SEWING.
MISS ANNIE CRADDOCK and MISS MARY M. ZIESEL beg leave to inform the ladies of Chestertown and the public generally, that they have engaged rooms at Miss J. E. Redue's on Water st., where they are prepared to do all kinds of plain and fancy Sewing, promptly and at the lowest prices. A liberal share of the public patronage is respectfully solicited.
Oct. 19, 1878.

MRS. S. C. JOINER continues the MANTUAMAKING business in all its branches. Store on High street, opposite residence of Senator Vickers.
Oct. 19, 1878—tf.

NOTICE!
We have purchased our stock of
FALL & WINTER BOOTS,
at lowest cash prices, and are prepared to offer inducements to buyers. We guarantee every pair of our best Boots. Call and see them at
aug24. J. B. SAPPINGTON'S.

FINE SALT—full weight, best quality save Ashton's, $1.60 per sack. Ground Alum Salt, full weight, $1 per sack, for sale by T. W. ELIASON, JR.

KNOW EVERY ONE
where you can get the Cheapest GROCERIES, Produce and Fruits, in fact
EVERYTHING that is kept in a first-class Grocery. We study to please the wants of our customers.
NEVER before have prices been as low as we are selling the best quality of goods for.
NOW, is it not better to deal with a good, reliable house, one that keeps
A FULL STOCK
AT ALL TIMES, and deals with others as they would be dealt by. We believe that small profits will
RUIN NO ONE, provided that the one attempting it is patronized by those he wishes to benefit.
DON'T THINK that this, like many advertisements, is only intended as a *draw* to attract only to
SELL the purchaser. But call and see for yourselves.
We *invite comparisons* in prices and goods.
dec7. C. W. KENNARD.

New MILLINERY
AND
FANCY GOODS.
THE LATEST FASHIONS! FINEST GOODS! LOWEST PRICES!

MRS. L. J. DAVIS
Has just received and opened
A FRESH and BEAUTIFUL assortment of
Fall and Winter Millinery
embracing HATS and BONNETS of the latest fashions and styles; Ribbons, Flowers, Feathers, Hdk'fs, Hosiery, Gloves.

A Large and Varied Assortment
of every description of goods found in a first class Millinery store.
We can guarantee satisfaction to every customer, both as to price and quality.
Agent for Demorest's reliable Patterns.
"What to Wear and How to Make It"—portfolio fashions, price 15c.
Call at the old stand.
oc26-tf. MRS. L. J. DAVIS.

TO THE LADIES.
NEW MILLINERY
And FANCY GOODS.

LAMBERT SISTERS have just returned from the city and opened a new Stock of
Fall and Winter Millinery
AND FANCY GOODS,
embracing all the LATEST and MOST FASHIONABLE STYLES.
Our Goods have been selected with care and bought at the lowest cash figures, which enable us to guarantee satisfaction both as regards style and prices. Our stock includes a full line of all such goods as are usually found in a first-class Millinery Store, such as *BONNETS, HATS, Laces, Flowers, Ribbons, Kid Gloves, Hosiery, Toilet Articles, &c., &c.*
The Ladies are respectfully invited to call and examine our goods and prices. They will find goods cheaper than heretofore, and we are selling at very small profit for cash.
DRESS MAKING of all kinds done in the best manner and at low prices.
☞Store opposite KENT NEWS Office.
oc26-tf. LAMBERT SISTERS.

1878. *FALL AND WINTER.* **1878**

NEW MILLINERY
And FANCY GOODS,
LATE STYLES! LOW PRICES!

MRS. H. USILTON,
Just below Wickes' Drug Store, has received a well selected stock of new and beautiful MILLINERY and FANCY GOODS for FALL and Winter wear, of the latest and most fashionable styles.

Hats, Bonnets, Ribbons,
LACES, TRIMMINGS,
Neck Ties, Belts, Ruffles, Feathers, Flowers and Ornaments. She is satisfied of her ability to please both in quality and price.
☞STAMPING done in the neatest and most durable manner.
The Ladies are invited to call and examine her goods and prices before purchasing elsewhere. No effort will be spared to give full satisfaction to all who favor her with their patronage.
Nov. 2. MRS. H. USILTON.

Beautiful Millinery
And FANCY GOODS,
FOR
1878. *FALL And WINTER.* **1878.**

MRS. KATE GILL,
Has received her new stock of MILLINERY and FANCY GOODS including the latest Fall and Winter styles.
HATS, BONNETS and RIBBONS,
Feathers, Flowers, &c.
BEAUTIFUL FANCY GOODS
full line of Worsted FRINGES, Single & Split ZEPHYRS of all shades. Zephyr Needles, Mottoes, Canvas Card Board, Handkerchiefs, Scarfs, Hosiery, Gloves, and a full line of Toilet Articles.
☞I am determined to sell at lowest prices and respectfully invite an examination of my goods.
MRS. KATE GILL,
Oct. 26—tf. opp. Voshell House.

To the Ladies!

MISS MARY R. BENJAMIN
Has recently returned from the city with a new and complete assortment of
Fall and Winter Millinery
AND FANCY GOODS,
embracing all the latest styles of HATS, BONNETS, Feathers, Ribbons, Flowers, Silks, Hosiery, Kid Gloves, Hdk'fs, Toilet Articles, &c., &c.
All kinds of
DRESS MAKING
done in the neatest and best manner, at the lowest cash prices. I am determined to sell goods as low as the lowest; guarantee satisfaction in style and price.
All kinds PLAITING done by the yard.
☞Store adjoining T. W. Eliason, Jr.
n16 MARY R. BENJAMIN.

THE BEST 5c. CIGAR IN TOWN. Chewing Tobacco all grades, at low prices, at KENNARD'S.

To Parents and Children.

You are invited before purchasing elsewhere to call and examine
T. W. WICKES'
Varied Stock of
Holiday Goods.
My last season's stock and sales having proved so successful, and feeling sure I can offer you superior inducement both as regards QUALITY, STYLE AND PRICE in our line of Fine Imported Hair and Pocket Combs, Hair and Tooth Brushes.

TOILET POWDERS,
Comprising Pearl, Hunt's, Lubin's, Magnolia Balm, Bloom of Youth, Tooth Powder, Sozodont, Tooth Paste, Rouge, Tooth Soap.
English, French, German and American EXTRACTS and COLOGNES.
A full assortment of Fine Toilet Sets, Vases, Bronze Ornaments, Work Boxes.
Gilt and Bronze LAMPS,
with the latest improved Patent Triumph Burners, which give such a superior light and do not smoke or break the chimney.
Also, a Large Stock of Suitable PRESENTS FOR CHILDREN.
T. W. WICKES'
dec7. DRUG STORE.

Merry Christmas

We shall open during the coming week one of the LARGEST STOCKS and GREATEST VARIETY of
CHRISTMAS GOODS
ever offered in Kent county, consisting in part of CONFECTIONERY and FOREIGN FRUITS of all kinds.
Toys! Toys! Toys!
IN ENDLESS VARIETY, cheaper than old time prices.

Silver Plated Castors
BUTTER DISHES, &c.
FINE SCROLL WORK,
BRACKETS, CLOCKS, WORK BOXES.

Fine Bohemian Glass,
VASES, TOILET SETS, &c.
LARGE STOCK
GLASSWARE,
Lamps of beautiful Styes and very cheap.

JEWELRY! JEWELRY!
CLOCKS! CLOCKS!
and everything you can think of to gratify the appetite or please the eye of the most fastidious. We pledge ourselves to sell any and everything in our line as low, and many things lower, than can be had elsewhere. An examination and comparison of our goods with others in the same line is respectively solicited
At SPARKS'
dec7. *VARIETY STORE.*

Low Prices and Good Goods
OUR MOTTO!
AT THE CASH STORE Cor. of Queen and High Sts., Chestertown,
Great Bargains
IN
Summer Dress Goods!
Prices Reduced Ten Per Cent. to Close them out!
2 Button Kid Gloves, all shades, 50c.
Dr. Warner's HEALTH CORSETS, unequalled for beauty, style and comfort; approved by all physicians. We invite the ladies to call and see them.
NOTIONS as cheap as any.
GROCERIES.
FULL STOCK at BOTTOM PRICES
We carry a fine assortment of Sugars, Coffees, Teas, Soaps, &c.
SHOES! SHOES! SHOES!
At Prices to suit the times.
Kerrey's Everlasting Button Holders, for button shoes, the best thing out. Call and see them.
☞We return our many thanks to the public for their liberal patronage in the past, and will strive by close attention to the wants of the people, to merit a share of their patronage.
J. STAFFORD, JR.
Aug. 10.

1878. **1878**
FALL TRADE.
Dry Goods.
READY-MADE CLOTHING.

WICKES & BROTHER
beg leave to inform their acquaintance that they have just bought and opened an extensive line of Goods in the departments named above, selected with care and at close cash figures, enabling them to sell at prices in keeping with the temper of the times, and encounter successfully the fiercest competition in the Trade.
These purchases form with Goods already on hand, a large and varied stock of merchandise, which they believe worthy the attention of close cash buyers or prompt paying people.
Their stock of Ready Made CLOTHING and RUBBER GOODS will be found unusually attractive.
Chestertown, October 9, 1878.

FRUIT CAKE at 20c. a pound.
HUDGINS' BAKERY.

HOME MADE MINCE MEAT at 10c. lb. at HUDGINS' BAKERY.

VENDUE.

THE undersigned, intending to discontinue farming, will sell at public sale at her residence in Quaker Neck, on
MONDAY, December 23d,
The following property:

Four Head of HORSES
3 MILCH COWS, 2 HEIFERS one and two years old;
1 YOKE of OXEN, 1 DURHAM BULL;
9 HEAD of SHOATS,
TWO SOWS and 11 PIGS.
1 TOP BUGGY and Harness;
2 HORSE CARTS and Harness;
1 OX-CART, 1 Dray, 1 Dearborn;
1 WOODS' REAPER;
1 CHAMPION REAPER and MOWER combined;
1 WHEAT RAKE,
1 GRAIN FAN, 1 Corn Sheller;
2 Scythes and Cradles;
Also, Plows, Harrows, Cultivators, and other
FARMING UTENSILS.
About 3 Tons of Clover Hay, and 3 Tons Corn Blades.
☞Sale to commence at 10½ A. M.
TERMS:—All purchases of $10 and under, cash. All over that amount a credit of nine months, with note and approved security. No property to be removed until the terms are complied with.
ANN R. MASLIN.
U. A. C. GARRETT, Auct'r.
Dec. 14—ts.

VENDUE.

THE undersigned, intending to discontinue farming, will sell at Public Sale at his residence on the T. C. Meginniss farm, near Masseys, on
FRIDAY, Dec. 27th, 1878,
The following property:

8 Good Work Horses,
Among them are some fine young horses;
3 MILCH COWS,
1 FARM WAGON, nearly new; Ox-Cart;
1 Family Carriage, 1 Buckeye Reaper and Mower, nearly new;
1 Bickford & Huffman Drill, nearly new;
1 Two-horse Power, Hyland make, nearly new; 1 Hyland Corn Sheller with Fan attachment, nearly new; 1 Hand Sheller;
1 Grain Fan; about 5 Tons of Hay, Clover and Timothy; 1 set of Wagon Harness;
1 set of Carriage Harness; Plow Gears;
Grind Stone, Plows, Harrows, Cultivators, Shovels, Hoes, Forks, Scyths, and other Farming Implements.
Sale to commence at 10 o'clock A. M.
TERMS OF SALE:—All sums of $10 and under cash; all sums over that amount a credit of twelve months on note with approved security.
WM. T. MILLER, of John.
U. A. C. GARRETT, Auct'r.
Dec. 14, 1878—ts.

BOATING, FREIGHTING.
To the FARMERS
And PUBLIC GENERALLY.
I take this method to inform you that I am in the market BUYING ALL KINDS OF GRAIN, for which I will pay the very highest cash price the market will afford, delivered at my warehouse or on the public landings.
All Grain FREIGHTED at 4c. per bushel, and all other Freights carefully handled & carried at extremely low rates. Give us a call. Resp'y,
oc26. CAPT. JAS. H THOMPSON.

WANTED
TO BUY OR FREIGHT
50,000 or more Bushels of GRAIN!
We are daily in communication with the Baltimore market, and are before the farmers competing with any and all buyers for the PURCHASE OF GRAIN, offering the highest market price—less charges for handling—and paying for same when delivered at our Granary or on board vessel. *We are still soliciting Freights of Grain and General Merchandise.* Charges moderate. Prompt and personal attention given to any business entrusted to our care. Mr. WM. H. PALMER is still at the Wharf, where he or I can always be found to attend to any business in our line. Give us a trial.
n23-tf. J. E. TAYLOR.

C. H. J. SPARKS,
DEALER IN
GRAIN and COAL,
LOCUST GROVE, MD.
HIGHEST price paid for **CORN,** and
COAL furnished
At the very Lowest Prices, at
BLACK'S STATION, on the Kent Co. R. R.
n23-tf.

CHESTER RIVER
PURCHASING AGENCY
And PACKAGE DELIVERY.
The undersigned having been authorised to travel on the Steamer B. S. FORD for the purpose of purchasing goods in the city by order or sample, persons wishing to take advantage of this manner of obtaining goods direct from the city at lowest prices can see me at the different landings on the route, where I will receive orders and execute them with promptness. I will also deliver letters and packages to any part of the city. Charges nominal, from 10c. to 25c. according to service.—The cash must always accompany the order. Very resp'y,
oc19-3m* O. A. GODWIN.

NEW GOODS
ARE BEING RECEIVED WEEKLY
by
R. F. PARKS.
A call from the public solicited.
Nov. 2, 1878.

GLOVES!—Genuine Buck, Dog Skin, Chinchilla, Petersham & Cloth bucks; best assortment of Men's & Boys' Heavy Gloves, and lowest prices, at
n16. J. H. SIMPERS & BRO'S.

FOR THE KENT NEWS.

CHRISTMAS HYMN.

Once again in exultation
We the dear Christ Child adore,
And would offer an oblation,
As the Orient Kings of yore,
Gold untarnished evermore.

Bending lowly o'er the Manger,
Frankincense would strew around,
Gaurd the Infant free from danger,
Where the angel hosts were found,
Worshipping upon the ground.

Holy Jesus in the stable,
Infant in a Mother's arms,
Angel legions fully able,
Guarded Thee from all alarms;
Not a breath the God Child harms.

With new light the stars were shining,
Peopled with celestial forms,
On the ether walls were twining,
Fire that melted all the storms,
Love the Bethlehem stable warms.

Fairest child with love o'erbounding,
Fire celestial fresh from Heaven,
Voices through the ages sounding,
Tell that sins dark chain was riven,
When to earth God's Son was given.

We do hail with exultation,
Christ's Birth Day, as year by year,
Millions bow in adoration,
Worship Him in praise and prayer,
He the Bethlehem infant fair.

Mystery of mysteries ever,
That a Child our God should be,
Wonderful that He the Giver
Came in such humility,
Redeemer from eternity.

MATILDA CANBY.

Wilmington, Del., Dec., 1878.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

"What shall we give?" I hear them ask,
As though selection were a task.
For one, no gift is good to me
Unless the giver gives it free.
A gift is liked by each and all,
Whate'er its value great or small.
It seems a link, a token true,
That some there are who think of you.
The Christmas gift means love or friend;
If not, then let such giving end.

The Christmas-time, of all the year,
Is lonely if no friend is near;
To rise at morn and not to hear
The "Merry Christmas" greet your ear;
To find no gift, no call to dine,
No token that a friend is thine—
This, this is loneliness indeed,
And pride has work to vail such need.
E'en wealth itself is hard to bear
If loving friend may never share.
Some think that splendor, worlds to eat,
The round of human joy complete;
Then paupers may be rich, indeed,
Who feel they have no further need.

What best to give? All things above,
Give faith and friendship—human love;
But if, from out your bounteous store,
You feel like giving something more,
Then give such gifts as you can spare—
Such gifts as friend with friend may share;
Or else give what your friend may lack,
Be it silken gown or sealskin sack,
A cap, a gun, or pair of gloves,
Some autumn leaves, or candy doves,
A set of china, sandal fan,
A carriage, harness, mated span,
While pictures, books, are always right,
And the county News gives delight—
Brings constant gladness every week;
For better gifts no further seek.

Remember this, when gift is made,
It is no swap, or change or trade;
But something saved in friendship's bank,
With interest—love; and pay-day blank.

Train the Hands.

"THE DEVIL TEMPTS ALL MEN: BUT IDLE MEN TEMPT THE DEVIL."—*Proverb.*

The idea is at last begining to find its way into the heads of some of our leading moral reformers, says a cotemporary, that there are other prominent causes of crime than intemperance. It used to be accepted as an almost undisputed fact that indulgence in intoxicating liquors was at the bottom of full nine-tenths of the crimes committed in this country, but one who has been curious and philanthropic enough to make the subject a study learned from a careful examination of the prison reports that there are other influences scarcely less potent as incentives to wrong-doing. He says:

"Seventy-two per cent of the convicts in the Michigan State prison are or were addicted to liquor drinking, but sixty per cent. had no trade. Of 489 prisoners confined in an Iowa penitentiary, 305 are without a trade education. More than fifty per cent. of those in Minnesota prisons never learned a trade, and at the penitentiary of Western Pennsylvania more than three-quarters are without any form of industrial education. It is easy to trace the connection between this industrial ignorance and crime."

We earnestly commend these convincing facts not only to the attention of parents and clergymen, but of those also who have the management of our public schools. They teach that the young man who is not instructed in some useful vocation is at all times in danger of being seduced into the paths of crime, and that it is a matter of the first importance that the studies he pursues while at school shall be such as will not only inspire in him a love for some industrial calling, but in a measure fit him for engaging in it.
—Wilmington Morning Herald.

Before the Duel.

John C. Hamilton, the son of Alexander Hamilton, narrates the following touching incident, which occurred on the day previous to the famous duel with Aaron Burr. The son was then in his twelfth year:

"My father's residence was in the country, towards the north of New York Island. His law office in the city was rather a shabby affair. The day before the duel I was sitting in a room, when, at a slight noise, I turned around and saw my father in the doorway; standing silently there and looking at me with a most sweet and beautiful expression of countenance. It was full of tenderness, and without any of the business pre-occupation he sometimes had.

"'John,' he said, when I had discoved him, "won't you come and sleep with me to-night?"

"His voice was frank, as if he had been my brother instead of my father. That night I went to his bed, and in the morning very early he awakened me, and taking my hands in his palms, all four hands extended, he said, and told me to repeat the Lord's Prayer. Seventy-five years have passed over my head, and I have forgotten many things, but not that tender expression when he stood looking at me in the door, nor the prayer we made together the morning before the duel."

IT is a secret known to but few, yet of no small use in the conduct of life, that when you fall into a man's conversation, the first thing you should consider is whether he has a greater inclination to hear than you, or that you should hear him.

OYSTER DREDGING.

TEN DAYS' EXPERIENCE OF AN "AMERICAN" CORRESPONDENT ON BOARD A PUNGY—HOW THE BIVALVES ARE TAKEN—CIRCUMVENTING THE OYSTER NAVY AND WORKING ON FORBIDDEN GROUNDS—THE WAYS OF OYSTERMEN.

From the Baltimore American.

The amount of money paid for oysters at first hands in the State of Maryland annually exceeds fifteen millions of dollars. There are nearly twenty thousand men engaged in catching oysters in the State, and the annual tax paid into the treasury for license alone is upwards of $200,000. In order to lay before the readers of the *American* a descriptive article upon oyster dredging your correspondent procured passage upon a dredging vessel and remained on board for several days. There are engaged in this business between twelve and fifteen hundred schooners and pungies, with a capacity ranging from five hundred to twenty-five hundred bushels each. The one upon which the writer sailed was a stout schooner of about forty tons, with a carrying capacity of about 1,500 bushels.

THE CREW

of each boat is usually composed of a captain and eight men. One of the latter is known as a foremast hand, and occupies a similar position to that of mate on a trading vessel, while another acts as cook. The captain is seldom owner of the vessel in which he sails, but takes charge of it on shares. He is usually a thorough sailor and well acquainted with the waters in which he works. The crew would impress one at once as being of "genus tramp." Strange to say, they seem to be occupied in the summer time chiefly as brickmakers, and when April closes and the oyster season is over they take up their line of march for the localities where brickmaking flourishes, returning in September and October. From the moment they come on board the boat until the cargo is discharged they must be ready to work day and night if called upon by the captain. In wind, snow, sleet and rain they are either tugging at the windlass or handling oysters, and until they return to port they must be willing at all times to work twenty-four hours per day if ordered to do so. As a class, they are extremely intemperate, and seldom come on board unless in an intoxicated condition. When ashore they spend their time and earnings in low groggeries, and only reship when money and credit are exhausted.

THE CUISINE OF A PUNGY.

The cook who attended to the cuisine of the vessel in which your correspondent was a guest, was not a model of cleanliness, and his bread had a shady tinge near in color to his hands. Having injured his wrist, he applied kerosene as a curative agent, and the flavor imparted to the bread at supper time proved that the efficacy of soap and water had not been tried upon the injury. The captain was on numerous occasions justly indignant at the condition of his cabin and dishes, but was unable to impress upon the cook any of his ideas, and the latter throughout the trip continued to shamble around in a filthy flannel undershirt, half-way out his ragged pants, a living evidence that there was something aboard dirtier than the cabin floor.

The cook, when not engaged in preparing meals, cleaning the cabin, washing dishes or cutting wood, is expected to be at work on the windlass or culling on deck. The only duty he is relieved from which other hands do is that of culling oysters in the hold, and his office is by no means a sinecure. Very few of the oysters caught are eaten by the captain or crew. The cook makes very little use of them, and while no objection is expressed by the captain to their use, the men do not seem to care for them. Generally once every trip a dish termed an oyster pot-pie is served up to the men.

OYSTER DREDGING.

The dredges are bags formed of iron rings held together by S hooks; they are about two feet six inches wide and the same depth; upon the lower edge of the opening there is fastened an iron bar with projecting teeth, which scrapes the bottom of the stream when the dredge is being drawn after the boat, and guides the oysters into its mouth, which is held open by an iron frame with bars projecting from each corner. These bars meet about four feet from the opening, and at their place of contact a chain is fastened which is attached to a rope that goes around the windlass. Each vessel is provided with two of these dredges and two windlasses. These latter are so arranged that four men can work upon each—two on either side. They slide upon an iron rod, and as soon as the dredge is upon deck a rapid motion unships the handles and the cylinder of the windlass can revolve as the dredge goes out, while the handles remain stationery. A number of accidents have happened from neglect to unship the gear before the dredge was thrown out. The handles revolve with frightful velocity, and threaten destruction to everything that comes in their way. About midway on each side of the craft, opposite to where the windlasses are screwed to the deck, the rail is cut down to the deck for a distance of three or four feet, and in the opening an iron roller is inserted, over which the chain and rope run as the dredge is thrown overboard. A second rope is attached to each dredge, at the end of which is a wooden buoy, which serves in case of the hauling rope breaking, to mark the position of the dredge. A dredge will hold in the neighborhood of two and a-half bushels. The length of the dredge line varies from twenty to sixty feet, according to the depth of water in which the dredging is done, which, however, is seldom over fifteen feet.

While dredging the captain invariably occupies a position at the wheel while the crew of eight, including the foremast hand and cook, are at work upon the dredges. When a calm prevails dredging is impossible, but it is done in almost any wind that does not amount to a gale. In addition to prohibiting the catching of oysters on what is known as

FORBIDDEN GROUND,

the law does not allow dredging after sunset nor upon Sundays. Yet by far the greater proportion of oysters brought to Baltimore are caught both at night, Sundays and upon forbidden ground. The oyster police consists of one steamer and seven sloops. No matter how sharply the eyes upon the sloop may watch the dredgers, it is under a much sharper scrutiny itself; its every movement is closely watched, and hundreds of pairs of glasses are directed toward it during all day and night. If a fleet up some creek to the eastward makes sail and acts as if it were about to go to work in unlawful waters, the sloop hoists her sails and sends along in that direction. No sooner is her back turned than the fleets to the north, west and south go to work, and that at the east, seeing her approach, quickly come to anchor and stow their sails, so that as she approaches no sign of dredging is evident. When she leaves dredging is again at once resumed.

Many decoys are used to lure the sloop out of the way of a fleet, and are frequently successful. One captain, according to a prior agreement, will boldly hoist his sails and proceed to some point where dredging is particularly obnoxious to the captain of the police boat—perhaps in sight of his own residence—and make as if to go at once to work, thus luring the police boat into following him out of sight of the fleet, when the latter will crowd on sail and sail to some other forbidden point and dredge in peace all night, assured that the sloop is watching their decoy boat. Again a boat or fleet will sail up some forbidden creek, and, leaving a man with a shot-gun at its mouth, go to work dredging. When the man on watch sees the sloop approaching he will discharge his piece, at which signal the fleet will come to anchor and again disappoint the police. Arrests are seldom, if ever, made unless the vessel is caught in the act of unlawful dredging, and then the captain only is arrested. Should the sloop come unawares upon a vessel, and the captain signifying by his actions an intention of coming on board to arrest the dredgers' captain, the latter quickly takes to his yawl boat and pulls speedily into shallow water, where he cannot be followed, and thence to the shore, where he remains until the sloop's departure. Should the sloop show an intention of remaining, other vessels in the fleet will up anchor and thus decoy him into following them, and enable the dredger to escape from his temporary exile. If the captain thinks he is unknown to the police he may allow the latter to come on board, and then no one will admit that the captain is on board.

FOOLING THE OYSTER NAVY.

The men employed upon dredging vessels can be relied upon at all times not to betray to the police who is their captain, or to give any information which will lead to his detection. They are anxious to make as short a trip as possible, and are willing to work at night upon forbidden ground. They hail with delight the approach of a rainy, or misty night with a high wind, for upon such an occasion a visit from the sloop they know is very improbable. Saturday nights and Sundays the captain of the sloop usually passes with his family ashore, and during this time the dredgers are comparatively unmolested. Three days' work upon some of the forbidden bars will fill the largest oyster dredger which sails out of the harbor of Baltimore, while twenty days upon lawful beds would scarcely supply her with the same quantity, much inferior in quality.

It sometimes happens that a dredger will be overhauled by the police before he has an opportunity to take to his boat. In this case, should he endeavor to get his schooner out of the way, the sloop will fire upon him, and many schooners have bullet-holes in their stern received on such occasions. When one vessel in a fleet discovers the police boat approaching, he invariably signals the others, either with his fog horn, bell or firearms. It is difficult for one or two boats to dredge alone or separate from the fleet, for in the matter of catching oysters the greatest jealousy prevails, and each captain is anxious to get full in advance of the other. When one heaves up his anchor the others do the same, and are apt to follow wherever he goes. The statement made by your correspondent relative to dredging in illegal waters is beyond contradiction. There may be vessels which do not make it a practice, but, if such there be, they are the exceptions.

THE LOG OF A DREDGER.

A brief extract from the writer's note book will tell his experience as follows:

November 29.—Left Canton; sailed as far as the Lazaretto and anchored.

November 30.—Calm all day; got as far as Eastern Bay and anchored. Calm all night.

December 1 (Sunday.)—Captain and crew busy watching the police sloop all the morning. In the afternoon, when a breeze sprang up, the sloop went in one direction, we in another. Dredged on forbidden grounds in company with from forty to fifty other vessels until late at night, when we anchored.

December 2.—Sighted the sloop, and commenced dredging on lawful ground close to the line; crossed it several times. The sloop approached and hailed the captain saying, "You are too high up and must get away." In the afternoon the captain loaded his firearms, consisting of a musket, two breech-loading rifles and a double-barrelled shot gun, and signified his intention of dredging all night upon forbidden ground. Commenced on this ground in company with a large number of vessels at dark; dredged until 10 o'clock when the sloop approached; the alarm was given and in rapid succession followed the orders: "Wind up and hold her! Let go the jib! Get stops on fore-sail! Let go your anchor! Stop that clovelling and get on your hatches! Lay aft here two of you and lower this yawl boat! Get those dredges in! Put out your light!" And none too soon, for the little sloop fairly flew past our stern, showing no disposition to board us, as the captain supposed he would. In less time than it takes to tell it the dredging vessel was lying peacefully at anchor in the midst of twenty-five similar boats in a similar condition.

December 3.—The fleet was watched by the sloop the greater part of the day. Some left in the afternoon, she following. We, in company with three other vessels, all belonging to the same owner, and one being our companion, slipped away at dark and commenced dredging on forbidden ground. At 9 o'clock an alarm was given that the sloop was approaching. The anchor was dropped and the jib hauled down before the alarm was discovered to be a false one, and the vessel an oyster pungy. We soon got under way again, and dredged until nearly midnight, when the wind increased to a gale, and we were compelled to anchor.

December 4.—We were watched all day by the sloop. The wind moderated in the morning. I visited the other vessels in the yawl boat during the day. The men were busy culling oysters. Some went ashore to cut wood. A gale came up at night and we remained at anchor.

December 5.—A gale of wind prevailed all day, but moderated slightly at dark, when the sloop followed another fleet, and we went to work on the same forbidden ground as night before last.—We continued dredging until 3 o'clock in the morning, when a deck load was obtained, which the captain thought would be ample to fill the hatches.

December 6.—The men were busy all day culling oysters on deck. The captain, in company with two or three other captains, went ashore to have "a roast," and shoot ducks.

December 7.—Men busy all day culling oysters in the fore hatch, concluding their labors at dusk, when the captain came on board, and decided to go again to-night on forbidden ground, and get a deck load to complete his cargo. At the same time he informed me that among the fleet lying at anchor was a vessel which would start for Baltimore to-morrow morning. I gladly availed myself of the opportunity and was put aboard the loaded vessel, from the deck of which I saw a number of the fleet depart after dark for forbidden waters.

December 8 (Sunday.)—Started before day-break for Baltimore, with a light head wind. Arrived in the city late at night, having spent just ten days upon a dredger.

Child Marriages.

A number of Hindoo youths have lately united in an expression of opinion which young Americans might adopt with great benefit to themselves and the race. These boys, all students at Calcutta, having noted the evil effects of marriage at the very early age at which it is allowed in India, have publicly declared their intention to defer the contracting of matrimonial relations until maturity. If the young men of America were to make a similar declaration the question would hang upon whatever constitutes maturity, and on this subject there is reason for considerable change in the accepted standard. Maturity certainly implies the possessions of common sense; but how much sense is there in the habit, peculiar to young people in America more than anywhere else, of marrying without any provision for the future? Fully nine-tenths of our newly married couples are dependent upon salried positions which may be lost at any moment, or upon trades which any year may become as languid as many others are at the present time. As for savings, accumulations of previous earnings, upon which to live in case of loss of employment or sickness, our young people know scarcely anything about them. Love in a cottage is doubtless very delightful, but starving in a garret unpaid for is not, and this latter is what a great many loving but rashly married couples are doing at present, according to the visitors of the poor, and, worse still, their misery is being shared by some helpless little beings who had no part in the original blunder. Such ill-considered unions are "child-marriages" in the worst sense of the term, for years and stature are not the correct standards of maturity. Because the law, despairing generally of regulating the relation of the sexes, imposes no material restrictions upon marriage of persons of adult age, it does not follow that the contracting parties have a right to cast prudence to the winds, and make mere inclination the excuse for bringing wretchedness upon themselves and their offspring, and imposing paupers, vulgar or genteel, upon society.
—New York Herald.

DID I ever love any other girl?" repeated a prospective bridegroom, in answer to a fearful inquiry of his intended. "Why no, darling! of course not. Could you ask such a question? You are my first and only love! This heart knew no wakening until the sunshine of your love streamed in and woke it to ecstacy!" And then he kissed her tenderly and went home, and said to himself, "I must hurry those things out of the way right off, or there'll be a row!" and he collected together a great pile of letters, written in all kinds of feminine hands, with lots of faded flowers and photographs, and locks of hair and bits of faded ribbon, and other things; and when the whole collection had been crammed into the kitchen grate he drew a deep sigh and said to himself, "There goes all that is left of fourteen undying loves! Let'em flicker."

EVERY failure is a step to success; every detection of what is false directs us towards what is true; every trial exhausts some tempting form of error. Not only so, but scarcely any attempt is entirely a failure; scarcely any theory, the result of steady thought, is altogether false; no tempting form of error is without some latent charm derived from truth.

COMMON sense is looked upon as a vulgar quality, but nevertheless it is the only talisman to conduct us prosperously through the world. The man of refined sense has been compared to one who carries about him nothing but gold, when he may be every moment in want of smaller change.

EVILS in the journey of life are like the hills which alarm travelers upon their road; they both appear great at a distance, but when we approach them we find that they are far less insurmountable than we had conceived them.

THERE are no little events with the heart. It magnifies everything; it places in the same scale, the fall of an empire of fourteen years and the dropping of a woman's glove, and almost always the glove weighs more than the empire.

TO ENJOY life you should be a little miserable occasionally. Trouble, like cayenne, is not very agreeable in itself, but it gives zest to other things.

THE manner of a vulgar man has freedom without ease, and the manner of the gentleman has ease without fredom.

TRANQUIL pleasures last the longest. We are not fitted to bear long the burden of great joys.

IT is to be feared that they who marry where they do not love will love where they not marry.