

Kent News.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1889

The Oyster War!

ANOTHER VICTORY FOR THE STATE!

The Dredgers Tackle the New Kent Commander and Catch a Tartar!

THREE BOATS WHIPPED—1 CAPTURED!

One Captain Shot and Ten Dredgers Arrested and Lodged in Chesterton Jail!

There was some excitement in Chesterton on Wednesday among those who heard the reports of the fight between the police boat and the dredgers until the facts were learned. About eight o'clock at night a three-horse team containing ten dredgers, in charge of Officers Jewell and Davis of the fifth district, arrived at the jail and Sheriff Casey took them in charge under commitment for court from Justice W. H. Davis.

To show the enterprise of our city contemporaries the dredgers were not comfortably in their cells before a Baltimore Star reporter was interviewing them. The Star reporter was on hand several hours later coming over by steamer (Gratfield) and driving to town from Rock Hall; but before he got there the Star man's full particulars were in that journal's city office.

Capt. Kerr describes the fight as follows: "I came from the mouth of Chester river early this morning and saw three boats, which I followed from Love Point to Swan Point. The boats were not dredging, and I sailed up and saluted them by saying, 'Good morning, Captain,' to which they answered, 'Go to—!' What are you doing out here? You had better get home. We will make it hot for you." I replied, "That is all right." The dredgers immediately opened fire with ball and shot, the sloop R. W. McAllister leading off. Several rounds were fired, the police sloop first using guns and then cannons. The McAllister obeyed. I then put mate William Ashby and one man on board the McAllister, the captured boat, and on going below they found a wounded man, afterward ascertained to be Captain Kerr. He was shot clear through the hip, and the first finger of his right hand was shot off." Kerr, it is said, cursed the officers and called them cowards. The boat was brought to Rock Hall and Dr. S. G. Fisher dressed the captain's wounds, and he was taken to the hospital on the Gratfield Thursday morning.

Justice W. H. Davis held a hearing and committed the dredgers to jail to await court. Mate John McKim, of the captured schooner, who is among those in jail, gives the following account of the fight: "We anchored in Chester river last night and sailed on this morning with the police sloop ahead of us. We, in company with two other vessels, sailed after her with the purpose of going to our dredging grounds to work. When the Banghain sloop was shot, turned back and as she approached us she opened fire on us. We were very close to her. We saw on deck and witnessed the whole fight, and the bullets whizzed over my head and I was scared. As soon as Captain Kerr ordered us to lower our jib we did so. I hallooed to the sloop and told them that we had a man. We had no rifles, cannon or any weapons whatever, and all the shooting was done by the two other puffers." The people in Rock Hall and vicinity are loud in praise of Capt. Kerr, and he is naturally proud of his first battle and victory.

Dredgers Again Defeated.

There was a severe battle in Fishing bay on Thursday last week between seven dredge boats and the State sloop John Hamilton, commanded by Captain Samuel Tyler, of Dorchester county, in which the dredgers, after a determined stand of several hours, sometimes at short range, and at other an exchange of about six hundred leaden messengers, were defeated and compelled to retreat. Three of the dredgers are said to have been wounded. Five of the seven dredgers which are alleged to have fought the Hamilton were subsequently taken by Captain Howard, of the steamer McClane, at Dover, Del., where they were snugly anchored in Capt. Howard's harbor in the custody of a State officer, and twenty-two of their respective crews are peering through bars of the Cambridge jail, where they were lodged on Saturday morning by Captain Howard. The captains of the captured vessels returned to the shore on the approach of the McClane. One of the vessels was deserted by her entire crew. The captured vessels are all said to belong in Somerset county.

How to Plan for Next Year.

Rev. Samuel McLaughlin preached last Sunday night at Lafayette Square Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, on the above topic. He said: "In our plans we are prone to leave God out of our calculations, to choose more worldly ends, measure by external probabilities, and heed means of our own choosing, while in actual service we ignore His providence, upon which success and our very life depends. It is a common fault, and one which is not only a practical atheism—the denial in our life of God's existence and power. We do not simply say 'If the Lord will,' but we ought to cherish and cultivate a deep inner consciousness of God's providential control of our lives, and a spirit of complete resignation to the divine will. In this lies the very essence of true religion, and, as we have it, we will find our own planning, no how to please ourselves, but God. However such plans may seem to fall or be cut short here, in the spirit of them they will always be fulfilled, for, in the intention of our plan, we will be guided by His plan, which never fails. Plan next year, but let your plan be simply the best interpretation which you can give to the evidence of His will concerning you. Plan as though you were to live the whole year, but be ready to go at any moment and be ready when we are doing our appointed work in the wisest way."

Me. PAUL GOINS, son of Mr. Robert C. Goins, of St. Mary's county, one of the Democratic presidential electors, while out sailing after Thursday last, was killed by a shark, and was drowned. The deceased was one of the most promising young men of St. Mary's county, and his untimely death is universally regretted. He was a graduate of the Western Maryland College, and held one of the professorships of the Maryland Agricultural College. The accident occurred in Britton's bay, near the residence of Mr. J. F. Ford.

OL. J. M. JOSS, one of the wealthiest and most influential ranchmen in Cheyenne county, Kansas, was killed on Monday morning by a bull. He was the owner of one of the finest herds of cattle in the State, and while engaged in work about his stables the animal suddenly attacked him from the rear.

EDDSVILLE LOCALS.

Young People's Societies.

At the Young People's Society, which was held at the residence of a constituent and by-laws were formally presented and read by the committee appointed, and were with few exceptions adopted. The literary committee made appointments for the next meeting, which was held last Friday evening at Mrs. James J. Wood's. The social is now in nice working condition and results of much practical good therefrom are entertained. Many of our young men are taking prominent parts assigned them. We mention this simply because it has not been characteristic of our young men to do so. Hope it may continue until they become the peers of our young ladies who excel us along this line.

Wedding.

On Wednesday evening during Christmas week a large number of persons were called together at the church to witness the ceremony of Mr. Charles L. Wheat and Miss Kathi Connelly. Rev. R. F. Benson, the pastor, officiated.

The Parson's Surprise.

Large numbers of people drove to the parsonage Thursday evening, Dec. 27th, to surprise the parson and family, but some one had kindly or unkindly apprised them of the good time coming, and their host met them at the door with smiling faces and greetings. That was not enough however, for the people became known in possession of the household and participated as host, bidding the pastor and family to sit down and make themselves at home, while they basked themselves in the different departments of the dwelling, corn, peas, and other things, for the purpose of paying their respects and making an exhibition of their esteem. Barrels of flour, meat, corn, poultry, potatoes, lard, butter, sugar, coffee, tea and many other things I need not mention, were left to show that somebody had been there and invaded the premises throughout. Old and young had a good good time. Old Swan Point enjoys a joke in the preacher's house as much as elsewhere, but can't beat the doctor. Rev. Mr. Benson, no doubt, has expressed thanks to all the kind friends for their kindness.

Christmas Entertainment.

The Sunday school entertainment at Wesley Chapel was given last Tuesday evening. The appearance of Santa Claus frightened quite a number of little ones. The music consisted of the following pieces: "Hissed is He that Cometh in the Name of the Lord," "The Joyful Tinkling," "Echoed Song" and "Joy to the World." After the distribution of the presents, we were dismissed by singing the doxology and benediction.

Personal.

Miss Belle Coleman, our school marion, is back again in the school-room, putting straight jackets on boys and girls alike; hope she'll not have to put down caps on any of them. Mr. J. W. Sutton has opened his new stock of goods in the Edes storehouse. Mr. S. N. Loring, of Chesapeake City, spent Christmas at Mr. C. C. Wood's. Miss Hettie Greenwood, of Chesterton, is spending a few days at Mr. S. Burgess'. Miss Annie, daughter of Mr. Joel C. Sligher, is visiting at Mr. Wm. Stevens'. Capt. Charles R. Kerr is still fighting the dredgers like an old soldier, bringing the wounded off the field with him. Hit him again captain.

Death of Mr. Jackson Wickes.

Again we are called upon to record the death of one of our venerable citizens, Mr. S. A. Wickes. He was known throughout this section of the county as "Uncle Jack," each was the veneration and kindly feeling of all. He possessed those qualifications that commanded that respect and love. He survived his life-long companion a little more than ten months. Her death was a great shock to him, and evidently hastened his end. A few years ago an old resident minister related to me some instances where he has seen "Uncle Jack," (unless as he supposed) with basket and contents, wending his way to give relief to the sick and lead a helping hand to all that he knew from personal knowledge that Mr. Wickes' charitable disposition in all his endeavors thus to do good, received great consolation; and said the minister, I preach—and their works do follow them! And Jackson will receive his reward. In all his dealings with men he evinced a conscientiousness in everything. At the time of his death he was a trustee at the county almshouse which was the only public position he ever held or would allow his friends to place him into.

DIVORCE LAWS.—The Ministerial Union of Baltimore at its meeting on Monday adopted resolutions designed to check the growing evil of divorce in the United States. The discussion of the subject was interesting, but the most important action of the meeting was the resolution adopted recommending a uniform law of Congress and restricting the legal grounds for divorce. The subject of uniform marriage and divorce laws for all the States of the Union is being widely discussed as a social, moral and religious topic. In this State it is required in order to bind two people in wedlock that there should be mutual agreement, competency and a religious ceremony. In some States mutual agreement is sufficient. The total number of marriages in Baltimore city during the past year was 22,825; during the same period there were 1,660 divorces. In 1887 there were 4,349 divorces and 194 divorces. During the year which has just closed the number were 4,330 and divorces 232.

BALTIMORE'S BUSINESS IN 1888.—Facts as to the business of Baltimore in 1888 show that in some branches there has been an increase, in others a slight decline, but that, upon the whole, the city has made progress. Compared with 1887 the year 1888 was in some parts of the country a decidedly less prosperous year, and Baltimore exemplified the same tendency in maintaining a high average. Our bank clearings were \$200,367,729 in the year just closed, our receipts of cotton 200,612 bales, our inspections of tobacco \$7,331,368 and the immigrants arriving at that port 30,673, and the inter-city collections \$5,677,629. The tons of freight brought to the city show a decrease in the case of some of the railroads and an increase in the case of others.

THE DEATHS AND BURIALS FOR 1888.—The total number of deaths in Baltimore in 1888 were 8,941, of which 412 were in the infantile period, 2,709 were white males, 2,109 were white females, 720 were foreign white males, 985 colored males, 1,954 colored females. The total burials were 8,723, of which 3,854 were white males, 3,646 white females, 642 colored males and 383 colored females.

KICKED OUT OF THE CABRIOLE.—While Justice W. W. Low and Mr. Clinton Cook, of Denton, were driving in the upper part of Caroline county on the 28th ult. their horse became frightened and began running and kicking. Mr. Low was kicked in the face, and both were thrown from the carriage. The carriage was completely demolished. Mr. Low's condition is considered quite serious. Mr. Cook sustained no serious injuries.

BALTIMORE MARRIAGES.—The Baltimore papers yesterday quote as follows: MARRIAGES.—White, 10,000; Colored, 1,000; Total, 11,000. Divorces, 2,000. Deaths, 8,000. Births, 10,000.

FAIRLEE LOCALS.

The Frolic Season Passed.

Christmas has gone by, and now we begin to mind reminiscences of mirth and pleasure during that time. Christmas day was rather quiet in the village. Some enjoyed themselves by shooting at glass missiles thrown into the air. Quite a number entered into the sport, and not one seemed to have attended a libation before the beginning of the shooting, nor after they were through. They were bent on pleasure and they had a good time, innocently, and to the detriment of no one, as the shooting was remote from public thoroughfares. Christmas Eve being such a beautiful day, a number drove into town, thereby cutting out markets in a measure, though we have not heard a single complaint by them, and their sales during the week were good and remunerative.

S. S. Entertainment.

On Friday evening the Salem Sunday School held its annual Christmas celebration in the Fairlee hall. The room was handsomely trimmed with evergreen and two beautiful cedars, glowing as it were under their load of packages of candies, nuts, etc., stood in the back ground. Oranges and loaves, covered with pretty cards, formed a striking relief, and upon the whole the trees were elaborate and unique. The children received a package of candies and nuts, and an orange and a book. There were special presents given to Miss Laura Greenwood, Adelle Hagee and Master Chas. Hagee, for personal attendance, and for the oral recitation of committed scriptural verses. A short address was made by Rev. J. D. Reese. The singing by the children was good, and they were well trained by those having charge. Miss Minnie Smith, organist and Mrs. W. E. Sparks, vocalist. The stockholders of the hall tendered the use of the room without money and without price, and the school takes this method to return their thanks for the same, and to the trustees of Fairlee Grange, grateful acknowledgments for the use of the organ.

Watch-Meeting.

Rev. I. G. Fossollet of the M. E. Church, held a watch-meeting with sermon on the last night of the year, services commenced at 10:30 p. m. At 12 o'clock the bells of the M. E. Church and Chapel rang out the old and rang in the new year.

Fox-Hunting and Farming.

The fox hunters have been in high glee for they have had a chase every day or two for some time back, but I understand they have been stopped from the sport on a certain farm near Galena—a great resort for foxes. The occupant of the farm did not like to have his wheat and young clover ridden over so much where the ground was so soft. Some of the huntmen do not like the idea of being stopped in their sport, but they had to give in, as Mr. ... was determined they should not ride over his crops.

An Acquittal.

We are shortly to have an addition to our medical practitioners here, as I understand Dr. Kelley, from Locust Grove, is to move to this place.

Collector's Sale.

By virtue of authority as collector of taxes, I have levied upon and taken into execution, and will offer at Public Sale at the Court House Door in Chesterton, on TUESDAY, the 29th of January, 1889, at one o'clock p. m., ALL THAT LOT OF LAND WITH IMPROVEMENTS thereon, containing 5 ACRES OF LAND, more or less, adjoining George S. Davis, Bartin J. Wilkins and others situated in Green Lane on Rock Hall Creek and owned to John Boyer, and will be sold for taxes for 1888, and all costs attached hereto. Statement as follows: County taxes on \$1,675.00 at 31 cents ... State taxes on \$1,675.00 at 17 1/2 cents ... TERMS CASH. J. FRANK WHEATLEY, Collector Fifth District.

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GALENA LOCALS.

A Brilliant Social Event.

The social event of the season in Galena was the party given by the young gentlemen of this place on Friday evening last, 28th ult., in the town hall, which was beautifully decorated with evergreens, and resplendent with light. They must have enjoyed themselves very much, for real after-dinner laughter would greet the passers by, which would cause them to stop and ask, what is all this merriment with such dull surroundings on the outside? I noticed several from Sassafras, and the different villages around. About 10 p. m. the company sat down to tables which fairly groined with choice refreshments. Among the prominent young ladies present I noticed Misses E. H. L. J. S. S. R. G. and C. of Sassafras, and many others, all being beautifully arrayed in party dresses, some being gotten up for the occasion. To describe each would be too much for me, not being acquainted with the intricacies of female attire. Prominent among the young gentlemen were Messrs. J. R. Jas. and J. W. H. E. D. and Dr. H. from Sassafras, and many others. There were about fifty invitations sent out, about forty attended. After an evening of much innocent pleasure, the party dispersed about 12 o'clock midnight, all in the best of spirits and good will to all an nothing happened to mar the pleasure of any.

Watch-Meeting.

Rev. I. G. Fossollet of the M. E. Church, held a watch-meeting with sermon on the last night of the year, services commenced at 10:30 p. m. At 12 o'clock the bells of the M. E. Church and Chapel rang out the old and rang in the new year.

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