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FREE LIB

EVERYDAY LOCAL NEWS HAPPENINGS

Events of the Week Boiled Down for the Busy Reader--News notes of Delaware and Maryland Towns.

Howard Regan has purchased the Calvin Reynolds farm at New Bridge.

A movement has been started in Elkton to organize a Business Men's association for Cecil county.

Two wrecks due to a land slide occurance near Alberton, on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, within a few hours.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hartnett have been appointed superintendent and matron of the Cecil County Home of the aged.

Post Office Department detectives are investigating the sending of indecent letters to prominent Cecil county residents.

At a meeting of the official board of the M. E. Church the Rev. W. O. Hurst, of Milton was unanimously invited to return for another year.

At the coming municipal election in Chestertown the voters will be called upon to approve a proposed bond issue of $15,000 for street improvement

P[illegible] Edward Lynch, of North Eas[illegible] dead at his home, and Jo[illegible]strong, also of that t[illegible]nly Wednesday of

[illegible]e for but a [illegible], 86 years old, [illegible] quilt maker, [illegible]nd has dis-

[illegible] daughter [illegible] Miller, of [illegible] found among [illegible] a life insur-[illegible] years ago, on whi[illegible] considerable premium

John [illegible] Wootten, aged 84 years, one of the most respected men in lower Delaware, died at his home in Laurel on Friday night. For over forty years Mr. Wooten was Laurel's leading merchant. Last week he received a fall, from the shock of which he never recovered.

An effort is being made by the members of the Holiness church in Centreville to procure money for the erection of a church of their own. They have been located in several different places during the last few years, and have secured an amount sufficient to insure the possibility of the erection of a neat, new edifice.

The Maryland Steamboat Company will begin operating a line of steamers on April 8th next to all the principal points on the Eastern and Western shores of Maryland and Virginia. The company proposes to give its shippers daily service, so as to encourage them to develop the great resources of the states, at the very door of Baltimore. The capital stock is $1,000,000.

James Jones of Cave Neck, near Milton, whose wife is said to have purchased a farm with the money she made catching muskrats for five years is greatly exercised over the report. He thinks that his wife should not have all the credit. He says he had to cook and tend the babies while she trapped and he thinks he should be given credit for his part in the five years' savings.

A snow white muskrat was shot by Baynard Carroll at his tidewater farm near Bruceville last week, which will be mounted and placed on exhibition in Easton as one of the curiosities of the Eastern Shore. The high tide drove the rare animal up from his pipe in the bank of Mr. Carroll's farm, and getting a gun the curiosity was shot. There is only one colony of white marsh rats known on the Eastern Shore, and that colony is on Mr. Carroll's farm. One of these freaks of the marsh was killed several years ago at the same place and the mounted specimen is now the property of Dr. T. J. Smithers, of Easton.

A Cold, La Grippe, Then Pneumonia.

Is too often the fatal sequence, and coughs that hang on weaken the system and lower the vital resistance. Foley's Honey and Tar Compound is a reliable medicine that stops the cough promptly by healing the cause soothes the inflamed air passages, and checks the cold. Keep always on hand. Refuse substitutes. Sold by C. H. Redden, Denton Md.

The annual missionary tea netted the Elkton Presbyterian Church more than $100.

The Talbot Packing Company, Cordova, is contracting with farmers for tomatoes and corn at $10 per ton and peas at $45 per ton.

The engagement of Miss Elizabeth Wright and James Dixon, two of Easton's most prominent and popular young people, has been announced.

Salisbury Council has decided not to ask the Legislature for authority to issue $50,000 in bonds for municipal improvements, as urged at a citizens meeting.

The old Kent Island wharf, built more than a half century ago, and owned by the Chester River Steamboat Company, was completely destroyed by ice last week. With ice frozen about it to a thickness of more than a foot, its rotten condition could not stand the strain at the first sighn of the moving ice.

The bill bonding the town of Centreville for $20,000 to erect a municipal lighting plant, passed the Senate last week, and will probably be carried before the House within the next few days. No great opposition is anticipated, as Senator Harper carried to Annapolis a petition signed by every tax-payer in Centreville with the exception of less than half a dozen.

William B. Shannahan has on exhibition in store of Shannahan & Wrightson, at Easton, two aligators, which he brought home with him from New Orleans. They are kept in a steel wire covered box, and are quite a curiosity to many people and are attracting much attention. The large one is two years old, and measures over two feet in length, while the other one is but 8 months old, measures 12 inches in length.

W. Irving Walker, member of the House of Delegates from Queen Annes county, has introduced a bill authorizing the Good Roads Commission to take over Chester Bridge, spanning Chester River, and separating Kent and Queen Annes counties at Chestertown. The bridge is a connecting link in the system of roads established by the State, and the commission may decide that it is very necessary for them to obtain control of it, inasmuch as it would be possible for local legislation to greatly hinder the free access on the State route.

Nineteen Miles a Second

without a jar, shock or disturbance, is the awful speed of our earth through space. We wonder at such ease of nature's movement, and so do those who take Dr. King's New Life Pills. No griping, no distress, just thorough work that brings good health and fine feelings. 25 cts at all druggists.

How to Tell the Weather.

The following formula of weather signs was adopted by the Farmers' Club of the American Institute some years ago, and it has been found to give satisfaction:

1. When the temperature falls suddenly there is a storm forming south of you.

2. When the temperature rises suddenly there is a storm forming north of you.

3. The wind always blows from a region of fair weather toward a point where a storm is forming.

4. Cirrus clouds always move from a region where a storm is in progress to one of fair weather.

5. Cumulus clouds always come from a region where a storm is forming.

6. When cirrus clouds are moving rapidly from the north or northeast, no matter how cold it is, there will be no rain within 24 hours.

7. When cirrus clouds are moving rapidly from south or southeast there will be a hailstorm on the morrow, if it be in the summer, and if it be in the winter there will be snow.

8. The wind always blows about a storm in a circle. When it blows from the north, the heaviest rain is east of you; if it blows from the south, the heaviest rain is west of you; if it blows from the east, the heaviest rain is south.

QUIT KICKIN' MY DAWG AROUN'.

Every time I come to town
The boys keep a-kickin' my dawg
aroun'.
Makes no difference if he is a houn',
They gotta quick kickin' my dawg
aroun'.

Sambo, lay that banjo down,
You good fur nothin', triflin' houn'.
Makes no difference if he is a houn',
You gotta quit kickin' my dawg
aroun'.

Every time I go to school
The teacher lams me with a rule.
Makes no difference if I am a fool,
She's gotta quit lammin' me with a
rule.

Sift the meal an' save the bran,
You can't grow taters in sandy lan'.
Makes no difference if he is a houn,'
You gotta quit kickin' my dawg
aroun'.

My dawg Drum is a good ol' houn',
Trails the possum on the driest groun'.
Makes no difference if he is a houn',
You gotta quit kickin' my dawg
aroun'.

(The "Houn' Dawg" song has been adopted by the Missouri Democracy for its own and the supporters of Champ Clark will be singing it lustily when they come to Baltimore in June. It's appeal to the popular taste is sufficient to make other delegates join in).

Backacke Almost Unbearable

Is an almost certain result of kidney trouble. D. Toomey, 803 E. Olive St. Bloomington, Ill., says: "I suffered with backache and pains in my kidneys which were almost unbearable. I gave Foley Kidney Pills a good trial, and they done wonders for me. Today I can do a hard day's work and not feel the effects." Sold by C. H. Redden, Denton Md.

Suffrage Notes.

The Committee on Woman Suffrage of the Ohio Constitutional Convention last week, on Susan B. Anthony's birthday, reported in favor of equal suffrage by a vote of twenty to one. Hon. W. B. Kilpatric of Trumbull Co., chairman of the committee, has for many years been a stanch supporter of votes for women.

The Police Lieutenants' Benevolent Association of New York gave its annual banquet at the Waldorf Astoria on the evening of Feb. 22. Among the speakers who will address the twelve hundred members of the department were Rev. Anna Howard Shaw, president National Woman Suffrage Association, Mrs. Oliver H. P. Belmont, Miss Grace Strachan, president Woman Teachers' Association, Governor Dix of New York, Mayor Fitzgerald of Boston, John Wanamaker, former Postmaster-General, ex-Secretary of the Treasury George B. Cortelyou, William Gillette, the actor-manager, Wm. Barnes, Jr., and John D. Rockfeller, Jr.

The struggle for equal rights which is being made by the women of Germany has aroused genuine interest throughout the country, says a writer in a leading German magazine, and their participation in public affairs is beginning to be regarded as a benefit to the nation.

Sweden's Minisiter of war, Mr. David Bergstroem, addressing the Young People's Liberal Association at Stockholm a few days ago, said: "For the solution of social problems I hold it to be of the highest importance that Swedish women should partake in legislation, and the sooner the better. I feel sure that the country and the people will proffit very largely by our women being granted their share in political life."

The women of Belgium have succeeded in getting a law passed reducing the number of hours in the work day of women employed in factories.

From Syria come reports of unusual activity among supporters of the Feminist movement, and an influential society has been organized whose chief object is the enfranchisement of women. A newspaper owned and published by women has been launched, which contains suffrage news from all parts of the world.

The Grain Growers of Canada, an organization claiming a membership of upwards of 100,000, met in annual convention last month, and passed a resolution favoring votes for women on equal terms with men.

M. Claude Casimir-Perier, an emissary of the French Government, who recently visited California for the purpose of investigating conditions, declares that the intelligence shown in civic matters by the women of the State has made an ardent suffragist of him. He also pays a high tribute to the women of Scandinavia for solving knotty problems.

THE LOST ART OF SPELLING.

The rising and even the risen generations cannot spell. Our school-children cannot spell, our college graduates cannot spell. The dean of a post-graduate department of one of our universities complained a few years ago that the men who came before him to qualify to study a profession could not spell. The trustees of one of our larger institutions, which by its charter requires all its officers to possess the degree of Bachelor of Arts (even that of B. S. not being accepted) find that the aforesaid B. A.'s, when confronted by the severe mental effort of writing necessary reports, cannot spell. So insurmountable is the difficulty, that the advocates of simplified spelling join forces with the advertisers in search of a trade-mark, and both of them affront our eyes and insult our intelligence with their horrid makeshifts.

The fault cannot be entirely that of the English language. Fifty years ago the case was different, as is proved by the survivors from that primitive period. Your grandmother—if you are lucky enough to have one—may not know the difference between the subjective and the objective, but she can spell. Let us see if we can find the reason.

Grandmother, when she was a girl, may have lived in the country. If so, she went to spelling-bees. If she was educated in city schools, she took part in monthly spelling contests, in which team contended against team, class against class, the teachers joining in the game. In those benighted days, even the boarders in summer hotels played spelling games, and are said to have enjoyed them. There was sympathetic drill in what was recognized as a difficult and valuable art.

In the memory of some of us who are not grandmothers, spelling was taught by a graduated system beginning with the spelling-books—we recognize it now—were designed to make learning easy. Long lists of words of similar sound but with different initial letters were given, and possibly with one or two exceptions or variations sandwiched in. The ear and the mind, from frequent repetion, grew accustomed to a certain combination, and, once learned, it was never forgotten.

Today I take up the spelling-book of a child just out of the Kintergarten and attempt to hear him his lesson. What do I see? A list of "Things to Use on the Table." He spells "bread," "salt," and "plates" correctly, and sticks at "knives." He goes back, studies it again, and again sticks at "knives." Why should knives be spelled as it is? He cannot understand. The fact that it is something to use on the table does not help him. I turn to the preface of the book to see if I can find what Rossetti would call "the fundamental brainwork" underlying the system, and learn that spelling, forsooth, should be taught "by an association of ideas!" Now, spelling is not an association of ideas. It is an association of sounds. If you teach it by association of the idea of sounds, well and good. WHY SHOULD THE CHILD BE ROBBED OF THE HELP WHICH ASSOCIATION OF SOUNDS WOULD GIVE HIM? Why should each word be made an exception and have to be learned by a distinct mental process? Why are the theories of Pestolozzi and Groebel thus clumsily misapplied?

The framers of the old-fashioned memory systems depended on the association of ideas, and justly so, for they taught lists of unrelated words. They would have been the last to depend on it for the teaching of English spelling. They would have been the first to claim the help of the linked chain of similar sound.

Let us thank our lucky stars that we were educated before there was an effort to make learning picturesque. Those of us who wept over "Reading without Tears" have reaped one advantage: we can at least write a letter without looking in the dictionary.—MARY ELEANOR ROBERTS, in March Lippencott's.

Repels Attack of Death.

"Five years ago two doctors told me I had only two years to live." This startling statement was made by Stillman Green, Malachite, Col. They told me I would die with consumption. It was up to me then to try the best lung medicine and I began to use Dr. King's New Discovery. It was well I did, for today I am working and believe I owe my life to this great throat and lung cure that has cheated the grave of another victim." Its folly to suffer with coughs, colds or other throat and lung troubles now. Take the cure that's safest. Price 50 cents and $100. Trial bottle free at all druggists.

WICKEDEST OF CITIES

CRIME EASY AND CONVICTS HAPPY IN IRKUTSK, SIBERIA.

Thousands of Russian Felons Visit the City Annually to Revel, Unmolested, in Robbery and Murderous Outrages.

San Francisco.—What San Francisco was in '49 when it flourished as the gilded city of western America, Irkutsk, the largest town in Sibera, metropolis of the Asiatic gold fields, is today, with additional trimmings. Residence in Irkutsk is not quite a rest cure for the nerves. With a population of 120,000, crammed into a picturesque bend on the Angara river, it produces some 100 or more murders or murderous assaults each year, with ten arrests or so, four convictions with sentences of a matter of a few days in the city jail. Those are last year's figures, and with a throb of civic pride the natives tell that 1911 was quite an off year.

Of the tens of thousands of convicts in Sibera, a large proportion visit Irkutsk at the expiration of their terms, anxious to get a few weeks of enjoyment before making plans for the future. Every Russian subject, equally with the foreigner, must have a passport. At the end of their terms dangerous convicts receive a "black passport," which generally prevents their getting employment.

They become beggars by day and cut-throats by night. Their "black passports are just what they need to get on the right side of the police in Irkutsk and soon they are back to their old tricks of robbing and murdering right and left. Finally when they have acquired a little coin they leave for parts unknown, sometimes the victims of the very police who protected them.

The city's policing is done partly by the municipal authorities and partly by private patrolmen, subsidized by property owners. The private constables deserve special mention, for they walk the streets, and make the nights hideous by clattering a powerful wooden bell, to warn burglars not to sin while they are near. The main streets of the city are lighted, but the side streets are not, making these a happy hunting ground for burglars. Timid householders, without any objection on the part of the police, fire a shot from their bedroom windows just to show possible lurking burglars there is a gun in the house.

One fine day last year there were 22 assorted murders and attempts at murder at Irkutsk. A vigilance committee was recommended. Ex-convicts and delegates of murderers rolled in their dozens and volunteered their services. In a few days there was such a wave of crime that respectable men went gunning for the vigilance committee and cleaned it out. Then Cossacks, sent to guard the government laboratory in which much gold was stored, turned robbers themselves and carried away the gold, going to the additional trouble of wrecking the place. Much of it found its way into China in the corpses of Chinamen who were being sent home to be buried.

GAVE HER BABY TO STRANGER

Poverty and Sickness Drives Woman to Part With One of Her Children.

St. Louis.—Worsted in her battle against poverty and sickness for herself and her two children, Mrs. Frances Jesse, twenty-five years old, a widow, has given away her two-months-old baby, Frank. An East St. Louis woman, whose name is unknown to the mother, took the child.

To make it impossible for mother love to cause her to interfere in the futuure with the rearing of her child Mrs. Jesse refused to take the name and address of the woman to whom she intrusted Frank. She does not know where the child is, and perhaps he has gone completely out of her life.

Mrs. Jesse still has Michael two years old. She can leave him with neighbors, she said, while she looks for work to support herself and Michael. When Frank was born, three months after his father's death, Mrs. Jesse found it impossible, she said, to keep her family together.

Weak from the lack of proper food and driven frantic by the cries of her hungry children, Mrs. Jesse told a neighbor, it was said, that she would end it all by jumping from the Eads bridge with the two boys. The man was unable to help her, but took her to police headquarters, where she told her story. The police told her she could find a good home for the baby if she would let it be known that she would part with him.

Mrs. Jess consented and newspapers told of the two-months-old baby who could be had for the asking. The East St. Louis woman called for Frank and carried him away.

Hair Lengths Are Mooted.

Munich.—The question is being raised here as to what is a good length of hair. There is a sudden revival of the story of the young lady in the fairy tale who, imprisoned in the tower, enabled her lover to climb up to the window of her cell by letting down her wonderful locks. According to the Munich News, although the young ladies of the present day cannot hope to parallel in real life this poetic invention, there is actually a record of a head of hair ten and a half feet long. Strange to relate, this did not belong to a lady, but to an Indian chief.

COMPARES GIRLS AND BOYS

Though Woman Has More Roundabout Way, Her Conclusions Are Conceded to Be About Right.

In the American Magazine, Ida M. Tarbell, writing an interesting article on women, has the following to say about young women and young men:

"In the first two or three years after entering college, a young woman will almost invariably appear superior to the men of her age, more grown up, more interested, surer of herself, readier. Later you will find her on the whole less inclined to experiment with her gifts, to feel her wings, to make unexpected dashes into life. It begins to look as if he were the experimenter, she the conservative. And by the time she is a senior, look out! The chances are she will have less interest from now on with man's business and more with her own! In any case she will rarely develop as rapidly in his field from this point as he is doing.

"He becomes assertive, confident, dominating; the male taking a male's place. He discovers that his intellectual processes are more scientific than hers, therefore he concludes they are superior. He finds he can out-argue her, draw logical conclusions as she cannot. He can do anything with her but convince her, for she jumps the process, lands on her conclusion, and there she sits. Things are so because they are so. And the chances are she is right in spite of the irregular way she got there. Something superior to reason enters into her operations—an intuition of truth akin to inspiration. In early ages women unusually endowed with this quality of perception were honored as seers. Today they are recognized as counselors of prophetic wisdom. 'If I had taken my wife's advice!' How often one hears it!"

BANK CLERKS POORLY PAID

Men Who Actually Handle Currency in Large Sums Receive Small Remuneration.

In talking with a bank clerk acquaintance not long ago the Office Window learned something of the inside of bank management. The bank where our informant had been employed for many years, it seems, had passed through two or three consolidations. With each consolidation our friend's position had been made less financially attractive, while the amount of work that was required in his particular department was necessarily much increased. In this bank any change in the salaries of any one of the hundred or more clerks must be approved and recommended to the bank management by the chief clerk, the tenure of whose office largely depends upon his ability to keep down bank operating expenses.

In the old days the president of this bank received $12,000 per annum. Today the president draws $35,000 a year and has two or three vice-presidents to aid him. These vice-presidents have annual salaries ranging between $6,000 and $7,000. As will be seen, the emoluments of the bank's officers have more than doubled with the increase in the banking business transacted by the institution, while the clerks have been obliged to meet the increased cost of living on salaries that are the same as or less than they were some years ago.

This case is perhaps fairly typical of modern banking methods. One clerk, with a wife and a yearly stipend of $750, not long ago had the misfortune to require an operation for appendicitis. The bill of the operating surgeon was for $150.

And yet banking positions are eagerly sought after.—New York Evening Mail.

Stranger to Avarice.

Artists are often very shrewd men of business; it is not every painter who is swindled by the picture dealers. But a charming story in Mr. Frederic Harrison's recent book shows that Millet cared little what was paid him for his pictures, because he did not work for money, but for the joy of creating beauty.

Millet had a standing agreement with a firm of art dealers, who took all his work in exchange for regular payments of $200 a month. Somebody pointed out to Millet that they could sell a single picture of his for as much as $10,000.

"That is their affair," he said, simply. "As long as I have all I need, and can paint what I like, and as I like it, I do not mind what they get for my pictures."—Youth's Companion.

Wealth in Japan.

According to a list compiled in Tokio, there are in the whole empire only 1,018 Japanese who are worth a quarter of a million dollars or more. The population of Japan is about 51-000,000, the most of them poor, the wealth being distributed among a few people. But the list shows that the Japanese are getting rich rapidly, as there were only 441 rich Japanese ten years ago. At the rate they are now going it is more than likely that in a few years Japan will have rich men to spare.

The Rural View.

Farmer Soboss—Well, there's another lite'ry guy bought a farm back here and gone to raising chickens. He's got over a thousand of 'em!

Farmer Hardscrabble—Gosh! He must be a good writer to support so mary hens as that!—Puck.

GREAT EMPEROR'S PET NAME

In Home Circle German War Lord Permits Himself to Be Known as "Willy."

In the Woman's Home Companion there is an intimate personal story of Emperor William's only daughter, Victoria Luise, in which many new facts are brought out about the emperor and empress of Germany. Following is a brief extract:

"The emperor, in absence of his consort, speaks of her as 'my wife;' the empress in the home circle addresses him as 'Willy.' The former alludes to his family, from the crown prince to the princess, as 'my young ones;' the latter speaks of them not by title, but as 'my children,' both expressions so clearly conveying the close existing attachment.

"Very often the emperor gives evidence at unexpected moments of the ever-present thought with him of his family. At times, when they were small children, and he was being entertained at state banquets as the guest of princes or cities, he would slip bonbons into his pocket, quietly saying, 'These are for the young ones; something brought home always tastes better; I know that from experience.'

"It is told of the emperor that in Rome, when he was selecting a gown to take home as a present to the empress, a relative advised as choice an elaborate creation, mainly of lace. 'Impossible!' he answered. 'With the children constantly clambering over her, it would soon be in ribbons.'"

DEEPEST DEPTHS OF POVERTY

Section in Italian Capital That Might Challenge Comparison With Any World City.

The problem of life among the poor of Rome, Italy, has been illustrated by Prof. Domenico Orano, who recently wrote a book dealing with the miserable condition of the inhabitants of the Testaccio quarter, the most densely populated district of Rome.

Out of the 10,000 inhabitants of this quarter, scattered in 82 tenement houses, there are 723 families who cannot afford to rent apartments but are forced to sublet enough space in rooms where they can sleep. There are 513 single-room apartments in the quarter and 109 rooms are occupied by five persons each, 76 by 6, 25 by 8, while the rest afford shelter to from 10 to 15 people. The rent for sleeping space in each room varies from $1 to $5 a month.

The hygienic conditions of the tenement houses in Testaccio are very bad. As a rule the poor people of Rome live on vegetable soup with paste and bread, as they cannot afford to eat either meat or fish, but to make up for their scanty diet they drink wine freely. There are 38 wine shops in the quarter against only three shops where milk is sold, and the average daily consumption of wine is over 3,170 gallons for 10,000 people, including women and children.

Society's Latest Fad.

If the reports current in Paris salons are to be credited leaders of fashion will shortly startle their humbler sisters by appearing with feet and ankles bare. The ladies declare that in the name of hygiene and beauty all their followers should discard shoes and stockings as all seekers of good health forbid the corset. It is said delicate white satin anklers will be allowed and the toes of the fair wearers will nestle under borders of bright hued woolen flowers. The same flowers will climb like creepers around the bare ankles.

This new fashion craze will also lead, it is anticipated, to devoted swains imprinting a chaste salute on the ladies' feet instead of on their hands, and in view of such a proceeding taking place already some noted beauties are practicing exercises to render their knees supple.—Exchange.

Curran and the Irish Chief Justice.

Lord Norbury held his post as Irish chief justice, in defiance of hints that he should resign, until he was 87. When he was 86 it was suggested to him very strongly by the Lord Lieutenant that he ought to go, but the negotiations were broken off by Norbury challenging the envoy to fight. His rambling and irrelevant comments often annoyed counsel. Once when he was maundering on he was interrupted by a sound which he only partially heard but which was really the braying of a donkey. "What noise was that?" he asked. "Merely an echo of the court, m'lud," replied Curran gravely.

Another judge called Fletcher, a very surly person, said to counsel, "Sir, I'll not sit here to be baited like a bear tied to the stake." "No, not tied, 'm'lud," was the suave interruption.—Westminster Gazette.

Talk the Fountain of Life.

A well-known doctor has recently propounded rather a curious theory. He says:

"Actresses and actors and all public speakers, lecturers, statesmen, politicians, professors—all live to a great age as a rule because they use their lungs. The average person doesn't breathe properly and does not make sufficient use of his lungs. Breathe as much as you can and talk as much as you can. That is the recipe for reaching an old age and remaining young."

Some one whispered: "Now I see why women generally live longer than men. They talk more."

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