American Union.

J. H. EMERSON, Editor.

DENTON MARYLAND.

Ralph Benedict's Eyes.

"Take care! Flora, take care. You are playing with edged tools. You may offend Ralph forever.'

"Offend him, indeed! Don't talk to me, Kate; I tell you he is hateful. I have flirted with him till my head aches; played with him, sang at him, romped or been dignified, till my wits are fairly bothered how to create a new sensation; and yet the wretch sits staring at me as if his eyes were made for nothing but to see with.'

"Well, what are his eyes made for?'

"Such eyes as his were made for a thousand things; great black ones, with such long silky lashes! Why he could make no end of commotion in the feminine fancy with his eyes alone. What are they made for? They are made to say unutterable things, to look a million varying emotions, to raise with fervency, to cast down with modesty, to melt with feeling, or flash with pride. And, upon my word, I don't believe the man has the slightest idea that they were made for anything but the convenience of seeing. And to think that I am engaged to him!'

"I thought you could break the engagement.'

"Yes, and lose every penny of my property and bring the whole family about my ears. No, Uncle George portioned off Glenville to us if we took it together, if not, it was to go to some distant relatives who live in Philadelphia. So, down comes my share of this world's goods, and in the most matter-of-fact way, says: "I think we had better be married in the fall, Flora.' And I! like an idiot, said 'very well.''

"He is certainly very handsome, Flora?'

"Yes; so is uncle's bust of Napoleon. Looks like him by-the-way, and one has about as much animation as the other.—The most provoking thing about him is, he will never do anything but what is proper and dignified. I never saw him take a glass of water without a desire on my part to tip the whole of it down his neck and see him jump. Though for that matter, he wouldn't jump if I did. I haven't done a harem scarem thing since he came that he hasn't caught me in the act. I never scramble over a fence that he is not on the other side with a profound bow for my especial benefit, and as sure as I dare to climb a tree or undertake the least bit of a frolic, his most magnificent highness is the first object to meet my eyes. Kate, I wonder if I couldn't make him jealous? I mean to try. Harry Vane came home yesterday, and is all ready to fall at my feet.'

"Harry Vane is a brainless fop, Flora.'

"He knows how to use his eyes even if he is, and he is the best fun in the world.'

"And you would offend Ralph?'

"I tell you I hate him!' and Flora dashed out of the room, leaving her invalid cousin and confident aghast at her sudden outburst.

In the parlor the merry beauty found her betrothed, his large eyelids closed over the useless eyes, and apparently fast asleep.

"I wish I could play some joke and see if it would astonish him when he awoke,' she said.

"Not in the least, if I knew it beforehand,' said Ralph, lazily opening his eyes.

"How dare you pretend to sleep?' cried Flora, indignantly; "I might have talked secrets.'

"Then I should not have listened.'

"Oh! of course not; nothing half so naughty could occur to you,' she said, sneeringly.

"I trust nothing dishonorable could, was the quiet reply, though for a moment his cheek crimsoned with vexation.

"I ask your pardon, I did not mean to be so rude,' said the frank little penitent, holding out her hand.

He only bowed gracefully, and snatching away the rejected hand, she threw herself down on the piano stool and dashed off her pique to a stormy polka. The polka went into a dream like a waltz; and one of Beethoven's sonatas followed; till, as the room grew almost dark, the subduing influence became stronger, and as the last note died away, she began to sing, not as he had heard her sing before, in dashing opera airs, her voice rose clear, but subdued, in sad melodies, old ballads, and those longing airs of "Auld Lang Syne," heard now-a-days.

The tea-bell broke in upon the pleasure, and the light dining-room found Ralph as dignified and Flora as saucy as if no music had stirred their hearts into a new and strange communion.

Kate, heard day after day, with pain, of the marked coldness between Ralph and Flora, and of her increasing flirtation with Harry Vane.

At last the crash came.

Flora threw back the door and rushed in, with burning cheeks and flashing eyes.

"I am free, Kate. My charming cousin came to me one hour ago, and asked an interview—a private one—which I granted of course. He informed me than when he graduated as a physician, with his heart full of the glory and responsibility of his profession, he had come here trusting to find a wife who would be his companion and true helpmate in the arduous life before him. He had hoped that my liveliness was merely youthful spirits, but finding me heartless and frivolous he preferred poverty to marriage with a flirt and withdrew his claim to my hand.'

"Oh, Flora! such a heart as you have thrown away. In the hours he has spent here trying to entertain me, I have learned much of the nobleness of his nature and of his love for you. He has so hoped that you would let your own generous nature show you the folly of your frivolous ways.'

"I have had one lecture, Kate, pray spare me a second. Ralph Benedict may seek somewhere else a wife as cold and censorious as himself.'

"And you?'

"Oh?'—with a nervous laugh—"he has kindly indicated my future for me.'

"Flora, you will not marry Harry Vane?'

"Such a brainless flirt. No! Though to think we are well mated. Ah! Ralph thinks to mortify me by his rejection; he shall see how gladly I accept my freedom.' And Flora left the room as abruptly as she had entered it, to fly to her own chamber, lock the door, and indulge in a long and bitter fit of weeping.

That afternoon Ralph Benedict was riding and musing. With his own hand he had torn from his heart its own bright spot. In the few glimpses Flora had let him see of her generous heart, her many secret acts of charity, her tender care of her cousin, he had learned to love the bright little beauty, all the more that her vivacity so strongly contrasted with his own rather stern nature. His life was one of earnest and steady seeking for the highest ends of life. He had seen in his short time of practice such hard relations of life, such scenes of offspring, such calls upon his deepest feelings, that life had become to him one broad field for the exercise of usefulness and self-sacrifice.

His one dream of happiness he had broken that day, because he dared not trust the hopes of his life in the hands of a trifler. Yes, he loved her, love her as such a nature as his loves the bright loveliness of a gay little beauty like Flora, and his heart ached sorely as he tock his long, lonely ride. He had promised his uncle to finish his projected visit and remain some weeks longer, and he was nerving himself to think of his cousin as the wife of another, last to his own act. As he drew his horse up at the stable door one of the servants came running to meet him.

"Oh, Dr. Benedict, I am so glad you have come! Miss Kate, sir, is very ill.—Will you come to her quick?'

"What is it, Nora?'

"Oh, sir, one of those dreadful spells she used to have when she first hurt her spine.'

The quick, firm step of Ralph, was the first grateful sound Flora had heard since being called to her cousin's side. All embarrassment was forgotten as she sprang to meet him.

"Oh, Ralph, help me!'

"You have seen her in these attacks before,' he said gravely; "tell me what you did then, and how she has been taken now.'

Calmly and concisely while sitting at the bedside of the sufferer, Flora described former attacks and their treatment, and the probable cause of the present one.

Quick to decide and prompt to act, Ralph made Flora useful as a nurse, while he tried his skill with loving zeal to ease the gentle girl before them. His uncle came in late in the afternoon, and, seeing how things were, refused to send for any other advice, and, thus free to act, Ralph was busy, faithful, and untiring, yet his hand was not firmer, his step quicker, or his mind cleaner than those of the pale yet steady little nurse. For three nights and days she never left the girl's side, and in the whispered talks beside her when asleep all levity was gone, all trifling vanished.—Sorrow and anxiety did what harshness or coldness could never have done—subdued the frivolity that was on the surface of Flora's nature, showing the devoted love, the quiet presence of mind, the unwearying capacity for self-sacrifice, that dwelt under the vivacity.

At last the danger was over, and after a fortnight of devoted watching Kate was convalescent, and her weary little nurse consented to leave her for a long afternoon sleep in her own room.

"If you please, sir," said Nora's scared face at Ralph's door, "Miss Flora has fainted clean dead away, sir.'

"Where,' cried Ralph, starting up.

"In her room, sir. She is altogether worn out with nursing.'

Worn out, indeed! Ralph thought as he raised the little figure in his strong arms and looked into the pale, very pale face.—It was only the reaction from fatigue and anxiety, and in a few moments Flora opened her eyes to see Ralph bending over, her face full of tender, anxious love.

"Flora, poor child, you are worn out. I have been careful and selfish not to watch you more closely. Oh, Flora, can you ever forgive my impertinent harshness, and let me tell you how I respect as well as love you.

"Ralph, I am a good-for nothing flirt, but if you will trust such a torment once more she will try to be a wife worthy of you.' And as Flora afterward declared, "the man actually began to find out what his magnificent eyes were made for."

Woman's Wounded Affections.

Washington Irving wrote: As the dove will clap its wings to its sides and cover and conceal the arrow that is preying on its vitals, so it is the nature of woman to hide from the world the pangs of wounded affection. With her the desire of the heart has failed. The great charm of existence is at an end. She neglects all the cheerful exercises that gladden the spirits, quicken the pulse, and send the tide of life in healthful currents through the veins. Her rest is broken; the sweet refreshment of sleep is poisoned by melancholy dreams, "dry sorrow drinks her blood," until her feeble frame sinks under the last external assailant. Look for her after a little while, and you find friendship weeping over her untimely grave, and wondering that one who but lately glowed with all the radiance of health and beauty should now be brought down to 'darkness and the worm.' You will be told of some wintry chill, some slight indisposition that laid her low, but no one knows the mental malady that previously snapped her strength, and made her so easy a prey to the spoiler.

Said a distinguished politician to his son: "Look at me! I began as an alderman, and here I am at the top of the tree; and what is my reward? Why when I die, my son will be the greatest rascal in the city." To this the young hopeful replied: "Yes, dad, when you die—n't till then."—*Danbury News.*

Must Twelve Men Agree?

One of the most valuable points of the jury system is its requirements of an unanimous verdict. In every other politico-institution, the majority rules. A majority of one on the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States can settle a case that involves the issues of transcendant importance, but a majority of ten inside a jury-box is held incompetent to decide the most insignificant point. Marcus Morton was once elected Governor of Massachusetts by one vote. An iota more than 50 per cent. of the votes made him chief ruler of a great State. If some scoundrel had maliciously brought a charge of petty larceny against him and had got a fellow-conspirator on the jury, the verdict of the honest eleven could not have freed him from the stigma of crime. On the bench inside of our societies and corporations, and at the polls the majority rules. Why should it not be so in the jury-box?

The early history of the jury system is somewhat obscure, but it is certain that the requirement of unanimity is of comparatively modern date. Sweden, which with the rest of Scandinavia, furnished the Northmen who became Normans in France and carried the Scandinavian institutions of their fathers into conquered England, still preserves a jury system that counts its age by centuries. One-half of the jury or any greater number, with the Judge, or the whole jury, against the opinion of the Judge, give the verdict. When a majority of jurymen is opposed by the minority and the Judge, there is no verdict. This is majority-rule, tempered by a sort of cumulative vote on the part of the Judge.—The Northmen carried this system with them into France, but, when they became Normans, and the province they had seized Normandy, they changed about and required an unanimous verdict. Thus a corrupt form of the Scandanavian original was carried to England by William the Conqueror. Before the Conquest the verdict of two-thirds of the jury had prevailed in English Courts. The dissenting minority was fined. A trace of this old custom crops out in several cases after the conquest. In these, the verdict of eleven jurymen was accepted as conclusive, and the twelfth was clapped into prison for his obstinacy. But in the reign of Edward III it was settled that the twelfth must agree. The decision to this effect contained one remarkable clause, advising the Judges of Assize to take the jury around with them in a cart until the luckless wights managed to agree. This was engrafted upon the legal system this requirement of unanimity, responsible for so much of the delay, the uncertainty, and the expense with which legal administration is justly charged. There have not been wanting the assailants of the idea. Jeremy Bentham says: 'If the work of forming verdicts had been the work of calm reflection, working by the light of experience in a comparatively mature and enlightened age, some number certain of affording a majority on one side, viz: an odd number, would on this, as on other occasions, have been provided, and to the decision of that prepondering number would, of course, have been given the effect of the conjunct decision of the whole.' This is bad English, but good sense. Hallam combines goodness in both when he refers, in his 'History of the Middle Ages,' to 'that preposterous relic of barbarism, the requirement of unanimity in a jury.' Yeatman says in his 'Study of Government: 'We could now well consider whether absolute unanimity may not safely be dispensed with.' Finally, we may quote in support of our position the report of a Parlimentary Commission which recommended a few years ago, that, after a jury had been out twelve hours, a verdict given by nine of its members should be accepted as final.—*Chicago Tribune.*

An Episode of Juvenile Crime.

For many months back the firm of Lufberry & Ayers, merchants of Rahway, N. J., have been sorely puzzled to find out who was the perpetrator of several robberies made at their establishment. Sometimes the depredations would be made two or three times a week, and at other times two three weeks would elapse. Amounts varying from $30 to $40 would be taken, but the more frequent practice was the purloining of only a few dollars at a time. The money was taken from the cash drawer in the counting room, and the drawer itself was apparently not opened or unlocked, and no violence was used in gaining admission to the premises. The utmost vigilance was taken, watchmen were placed in the building at all hours, but everything failed to detect the thief. Soon the money stolen began to amount to thousands of dollars. The robberies continued, and the manner of their perpetration became more mysterious as time wore on. It was ascertained that the thefts were committed every time soon after the establishment was closed in the evening. The money drawer was never emptied, a small amount always being left behind. Whether the thief was a ghost, hobgoblin or fairy, was a conundrum. At last the mystery was revealed. One evening a watch was set before the door was locked. At dusk a soft tread was heard; a childish form was seen to slip a key into the lock; it entered and closed the door carefully and glided across to the desk. She (a little girl it proved to be) had an empty whiskey bottle in her hand, which she placed under her arm and then passed her little, tiny hand under the back of the desk up behind and over the rear end of the cash drawer. Thus she reached its almost entire contents. A man's hand could not have done the work, so close did the drawer fit. She withdrew a portion of the money and the watcher stepped from his place and arrested her.—She was taken to the police station and identified as Lettie Donohue, a little daughter of a workman employed in the establishment. Her mother drinks whiskey, and whenever a supply of this article was needed the foregoing means was adopted to obtain it. And thus the mystery was solved which for many months nearly puzzled the wits of Messrs. Lufberry & Ayers of that Sleepy Hollow, Rahway.

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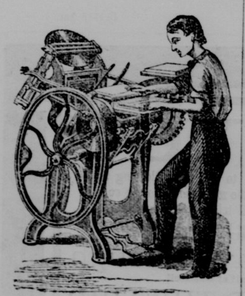

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REFERENCES.

By permission I refer to the following ladies as to the merits of the washer:

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Mrs. Chas Corkran,	Middletown, Del.
Mrs. Willie Lippincott,	" "
Mrs. Vanhekie,	near Port Penn, Del.
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No pains spared in trying to give satisfaction.
Persons taking measures for coffins should give the exact length of the corpse.
A good hearse, nearly new, a gentle horse and a trusty driver.
All material of the best class.
I will also brick up graves when desired.
Scythe and cradles at shortest notice of white ash.
All work put up with sharp tools
Forty years experience in the above business I flatter myself that my work cannot be surpassed on this shore. In my absence my brother, Collison Pritchett, will be found at my house or shop.
Orders should be sent in early for Scythe and Cradles.
Our thanks for past patronage.
Respectfully the public's ob't. servant.
5-6-tf. EDWARD PRITCHETT

Maryland Steamboat Co.

CHANGE OF TIME.

ON AND AFTER SATURDAY, September 25th Steamers will leave Pier 3, Light Street, as follows:—The Steamer

Highland Light,

every TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY at 9 o'clock, P. M., for Easton, Oxford, Cambridge and intermediate landings to Medford's. On SATURDAYS extending her trip to Denton. Returning MONDAY morning, leaving Denton at 10 o'clock, A. M.

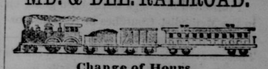
The steamer CHAMPION daily, at 7, A. M. (except Sunday) for Anapolis, extending her trips on MONDAYS and WEDNESDAYS to West and Rhode rivers, TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS to St. Michael's and Miles River, (Easton,) THURSDAYS to South River, and SATURDAYS to West River.

The steamer MASSACHUSETTS every TUESDAY and FRIDAY, at 6 P. M., for the Great Wicomico, Dividing and Dymer's creeks, and Plankatank river.

☞ Freight taken at low rates.

For further information apply at the office No. 98 Light Street, Baltimore. [10-7-tf.

MD. & DEL. RAILROAD.



Change of Hours.

On and after *Wednesday, Sept. 15th,'75,*

Trains will run as follows:

GOING NORTH.

Leave	Pass. No. 1.	Frt. No. 2.
Easton	4.10 A.M.	10.30 A. M.
Woodland	4.20	10.50
Cordova	4.30	11.10
Hillsborough	4.45	11.30
Ridgeley	4.55	11.50
Greensboro'	5.10	12.15 P. M.
Goldsboro'	5.25	12.40
Henderson	5.35	1.00
Marydell	5.45	1.15
Slaughter's	5 55	1.35
Kenton	6 10	2.00
Clayton [ar]	6.20	2.30
Wilmington	8.05	4.10
Philadelphia	9.20	5.35
Baltimore	1.15 P. M.	8.15
New York	5.10	10.22

GOING SOUTH.

Leave	Frt. No. 3.	Pass. No. 4.
New York	11.55 P. M.	9.25 A. M.
Baltimore	7.00 A. M.	2.45 P. M.
Philadelphia	8.00	5.15
Wilmington	9.25	6.40
Clayton	11.05	8.30
Kenton	11.25	8.45
Slaughter's	11.25	9.00
Marydell	12.05 P. M.	9.15
Henderson	12.20	9.25
Goldsboro'	12.40	9.35
Greensboro'	1.05	9.50
Ridgeley	1 25	10.05
Hillsboro'	1.45	10.15
Cordova	2.05	10.30
Woodland	2.20	10.40
Easton [ar]	2.40	10.55

Freight trains No. 2 and 3 run with passenger car attached, subject to delays, will run as follows:

All freights must be at the various stations in time to be loaded and manifested at least thirty (30) minutes before the starting of the trains, otherwise they will lay over twenty-four hours.

Passengers using the 4.10 A. M. train from Easton will arrive in Philadelphia at 9.20 A. M., and returning will leave Philadelphia at 6.15 P. M., thus giving nearly eight hours for business purposes in that city.

8-19-tf. J. L. CALDWELL, Supt.