LOCAL INTERESTS.

MINOR MATTERS.

—The Lenton season commences February 23d.

—Mancha & Heller, of Ridgely, are doing a lively business as real estate agents.

—Marriage bells have been ringing pretty lively in Caroline since the advent of '82.

—Mr. J. Frank Morgan, a resident of Queen Anne's, living near Hillsborough, has been appointed paper folder in the House of Delegates.

—Mr. James Melvin, of the Brick Hotel, was confined to his bed on Wednesday last. His indisposition was only slight and he will be all right in a day or two.

—The JOURNAL calendar we hoped to send out this week, but have not been able to get it ready on account of a press of work. Next week our subscribers may look for them.

—Major Wm. E. Stewart, J. Frank Bateman and Wm. R. Martin, Esqs., of Easton, and John B. Brown, Esq., of Centreville, were in town Monday and Tuesday at the chancery term of our court.

—Fish Commissioner Hughlett was in town on Monday. He received several applications for young fish, among them being one from Col. J. W. Bryant for German carp to stock a pond on his farm near Ridgely.

—Mr. Dudley Young, of the 5th district, whose arms were crushed by a sorghum mill last fall which necessitated their amputation above the elbow, is now afflicted with erysipelas, which, it is feared, will prove fatal.

—The splendid steamer Ida made her first trip to Denton on Sunday last. Many of our people had never seen this boat, and she was given a general inspection by them. The verdict of all was that she was "just splendid."

—The fishermen tell us that the mild weather we are now having will bring fish up the river in a few weeks. Yellow perch and sun fish have been unusually abundant during the winter, and cheap, selling at 20 cents and 25 cents a bunch.

—Mr. Frank Redden, of the Plains farm, and Mr. O. J. Redden, of Tuckahoe Neck, have purchased and are rebuilding the saw mill property at Denton Bridge, formerly owned by Mr. Wm. R. Emerson. Is is a good location for a saw mill.

—If the appropriation bill for river and harbor improvement should pass as it is to be reported to Congress, the Choptank will get $10,000 more; which amount will go a great way toward completing a navigable channel as far up as Greensborough.

—Mr. James Swann, recently appointed examiner of the public schools of this county, entered upon the discharge of his duties on Tuesday last. He bonded in the required amount, $20,000, his sureties being Col. R. C. Carter, Senator A. B. Roe, Sylvester Smith, Theophilus W. Smith, I. J. Sigler and Alfred Sigler. Mr. Swann will take up his residence in Denton.

—Capt. Newton Andrew and Mrs. Legates who eloped from the lower part of this county, each leaving a large family respectively, were recently seen in Crisfield. Andrews paid his family a visit a short time ago for the purpose of obtaining his wife's signature to a paper, after which he again took his leave for parts unknown. The good people of that community do not mourn their absence, we will venture to say.

—The steamer Minnie Wheeler discontinued her trips for the season on the 5th inst., and on the 10th inst. the Ruggles commenced running as follows: Will leave Baltimore every Thursday at 9 p. m., for Potter's Landing and Hillsborough. Returning, she will leave Hillsborough wharf at 8 and Potter's Landing at 11 a. m. The trip up the Choptank has been discontinued until the Minnie Wheeler is put back on her route.

—The business transacted by the county commissioners on Tuesday was: Acceptance of the bonds of James G. Redden, Thomas B. Curry and Nathan F. Butler, heretofore appointed constables; they are now qualified for the duties of their office. Enoch Covey of the 4th, William P. Price, of the 1st, and George Sherwood, of the 6th district, were appointed constables. The board meets again next Tuesday, when the appointment of overseers of the alms-house will be considered.

—Mr. John R. McNash, living at Fowling Creek, where he is postmaster, became suddenly speechless on Saturday morning last, his tongue becoming paralyzed. He had just finished his breakfast and was seated by the fire, when he was called to by the farm-boy to know what he should do that day. Mr. McNash understood what the boy was saying but could not speak a word in reply. It is believed that Mr. McNash is on the mend, and his numerous friends have reason to hope to hear again his hearty laugh and jolly jokes.

—With the beginning of the year Frank A. Redden has associated himself with Charles F. Willis, and they will continue the mercantile business at the Bridge under the firm name of Willis & Redden. Mr. Willis has been selling goods at the Bridge for several years, and having had experience when he began on his own account, appreciating the value of advertising and being industrious and careful, he has excellent business qualities, and of course has got along well. Mr. Redden is an honest young man, is attentive to his duties, sober and steady, and in him and his associate the people may safely place confidence. Mr. Willis has lately bought a large interest in the schooner Royal Oak, and buying and selling grain will be carried on by him extensively.

An effort existing without a cause in an impossibility; tickling in the throat, hoarseness of the voice, violent coughing, etc., are the effects of a severe cold. Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup cures the cold at once, and removes its serious effects.

Death to rats and vermin, Parson's Exterminator.

—Articles of incorporation for Tuckahoe Agricultural Association have been filed in the clerk's office for record. The names of the incorporators are: Edward Saulsbury, George W. Spurry, Josiah White, J. Boon Dukes, Henry C. Fisher, John W. Clark, Charles A. Dunning, Alfred J. Wilson, George W Collison, Beniah Kinnamon, Charles H. Shields, John R. Griffin, John E. Wilson, Augustus T. Warren, John Cade, Wesley Roe, L. T. Roe, W. N. Cahall, William E. Saulsbury and Thomas A. Smith. This association of farmers has purchased a tract of land in Tuckahoe Neck, at Thawley's chapel, on which a large store room and hall has been erected for the use of the grange. The stock of the company consists of one hundred shares, the par value of each being ten dollars. In their hall, which is a large two-story building, they propose to sell supplies for the accommodation of their members. We understand that Mr. William F. Beachamp is to have charge of the store.

FOUR DEATHS IN A FAMILY.

Mr. William E. Perry, residing near Preston, has lost four members of his family by death during the past three weeks. On Dec. 28th two children, aged four and a half and seven years, died of diptheria, and on Friday, Jan. 6th, his wife died of hemorrhage from the lungs and general debility, from long continued ill health, and on Monday morning of Jan. 9th another child, a daughter in her ninth year, also died. Such an occurrence is rarely met with and Mr. Perry has the sympathy of our citizens generally.

PREPARING FOR CONFERENCE.

MIDDLETOWN, DEL., Jan. 10.—The committee on conference entertainment are G. G. Cox, Hon. B. T. Biggs, W. H. Moore, W. P. Biggs, E. H. Hukill and the pastor here. About three-fourths of the members to be entertained have been provided for. Other churches are to help but have had no report from them yet. A committee was appointed to obtain terms on which we may use the Town Hall for anniversary exercises. The regular conference sessions will be held in the church. The anniversary committee will be able to report soon.

MR. TWIFORD NOBLE.

One of our most estimable citizens, died at his late residence, near Preston, on Tuesday afternoon, the 10th inst, after a brief illness of pneumonia. Mr. Noble was a native of Sussex county, Del., but has been a resident of this county for the past thirty-two years. His first wife, Ruth, daughter of Jacob and Hannah Leverton (well known names in the society of Friends and among anti-slavery people generally) to whom he was united in marriage about thirty-two years ago, only survived a few years, leaving two sons. He has been twice married since—a Miss Davis being his second and the last the widow of the late James B. Rumbold, who survives him. Mr. Noble served some years ago as County Commissioner and was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1864. He possessed many excellencies of character and disposition, and was an honest, upright and honorable man. Peace to his ashes and a tear to his memory!

CHANCERY COURT.

The chancery term of the circuit court met in Denton on Tuesday, Judge Stump on the bench. By holding an evening session the business was all disposed of Tuesday and the court adjourned. Numerous orders and decrees were passed and judgments in disputed cases taken. The appointment of Mr. Deakyne deputy clerk was confirmed by the court.

The drawing of the jury resulted in the selection of the following names:

Jas. H. Thawley,	T. H. Slaughter,
Jno. F. Dawson,	Chas. W. Gibson,
Levin W. Poole,	Jacob A. Heller,
Zachariah Lathrop,	Chas. W. Whitby,
Wm. H. Bullock,	Edw. Saulsbury,
John Beachamp,	Alfred Davis,
Elijah Todd,	Capt. Thos. Eaton,
Alex. Hardcastle,	James W. Holt,
Theo. W. Smith,	Charles E. Roe,
Geo. W. Collison,	Risden Plummer,
Jonathan Evitts,	John H. Powell,
Robert J. Orrell,	R. C. Carter,
Hugh Dufley,	Jas. G. Redden,
Wm. J. Blackiston,	D. J. Zacharias,
Wm. S. Goslin,	Chas. H. Shields,
Thos. F. Cox,	Wm. Sisk,
James L. Bullock,	James A. Dixon,
Sam'l M. Carter,	Thos. B. Curry,
John Russell,	H. C. Culbreth,
Eli C Gullett,	Walter Massey,
Henry S. Mancha,	Wm. Pennington,
Geo. W. Camper,	Chas. Elwanger,
Wm. G. Horsey,	James Park,
Henry H. Clark,	Thomas Melvin.

IT GATHERS THEM IN.

One by one the peninsula railroads are being bought up by the Pennsylvania. For some time past the purchase of the Delaware & Chesapeake has been contemplated by the Pennsylvania, and at a meeting of directors on Tuesday last the purchase was ordered. In the purchase of the Delaware & Chesapeake road the proposition is to pay $400,000 in bonds, that for the first ten years will pay 3 per cent. interest, and then 4 per cent. for 26 years, when they will mature. The Delaware & Chesapeake railroad will prove a valuable addition to the network of Peninsula roads already owned by the great Pennsylvania corporation. The road runs from Clayton, on the Delaware railroad, to Oxford, on the Choptank river. It is 54 miles in length and passes through Kenton, Slaughters, Marydel, Goldsborough, Greensborough, Ridgely, Hillsboro', and Easton. With the exception of the eight miles of road between Oxford and Easton, which was recently built, the road has been in operation nearly 15 years. The Delaware & Chesapeake road has done much to develop the country through which it passes. Two trains run up and down it every day and the freight business, consisting largely of oysters, is very extensive. For several years the road has been run on a paying basis, and the track and rolling stock is now in good order. The purchase of the Delaware & Chesapeake will be likely to occasion some changes in its present management, as Mr. I. N. Mills has been elected Superintendent of the Delaware Division and its branches, and will therefore include the new purchase.

OTHER RAILROAD MATTERS.

The incorporators of the Sussex Midland Railroad Company have raised the capital stock $10,000. The road, as projected, is to become a freight route across the peninsula, with Easton and Lewis as the termini, passing through Denton. The work of construction is to be begin, so report says, at an early day. Officers will be elected at a meeting in Bridgeville on the 19th instant.

Odessa parties are talking of making an effort to have a branch road constructed from Middletown to Odessa, a distance of three miles, and run somewhat on the principal that the road is from Smyrna to Clayton.

"SPELLS" AND WITCHES.

A belt of Delaware and a small part of Caroline, the Southeastern corner, is remarkable for the peculiarities of some of its people. The broad light of the nineteenth century has as yet failed to reach over the tops of the tall pines and shed its refreshing rays upon some of its dwellers. Some of the people of that section are loth to give up a few of the old and ridiculous superstitions, which for absurdity, would do credit to an Apache Indian. One man of the above-mentioned section firmly believes, as he says, in the power of putting "spells" on persons, horses, cows dogs, etc. He avers that on one occasion the wife of a neighbor of his put a "spell" on his cow, which caused her death. How to revenge himself for this injury he was at loss to know until he thought of another old woman in the same neighborhood, who also possessed that mysterious power of removing people and animals by her magical "spells." He confided to her his cow's singular death, and he wanted to know how to proceed against his silent though dreadful enemy. The oracle advised him to go out into the woods near by and find a large oak tree, hew a smooth place on the side of it about the height of the womans head whom he wished to kill, draw her profile on the smooth surface with a pencil, then take his stand a few feet from it with a gun losded with silver, blaze away and his enemy would be dead before sun-up. His adviser cautioned him particularly to take the night time for his work, to make it more effective. He followed her directions to the letter, and the next morning bright and early he learned that the slayer of his cow was no more, though being in good health and "thinned corn the day before." He makes it a point to keep in good favor of such people now. Another story equally remarkable for its absurity is told by another fellow of himself. While relating it his countenance wears a very sober expression, giving his hearers to understand that he is telling only the truth. His particular neck o' the woods is frequented nightly by myriads of witches, and he is very careful on going to bed at night to stop up the keyhole of the front door and see that the horse shoe, which is known to be a great witch preventive, is still nailed on the top of it. After proping a fence rail against each window shutter and putting out all the lights, save that which the fire-place affords, he feels safe. With all his painstaking to prevent their entrance, he is sometimes baffled and the awful witches get in, and the result is that he wakes in the morning feeling tired and worn, as if just returned from a hard day's work. The average witch's mode of procedure, on entering at night, is to hunt up the head of the household, take him noiselessly out of bed, without waking him or any other occupants of the house, bridle him with some kind of vine known only to the witch fraternaty, and lead him gently out of the house. Once out the door the witch mounts its charger (the man), and canters off through the woods, briars, over fences and ditches and returns about four o'clock the next morning, having ridden twenty or twenty-five miles. It unbridles its steed, puts him in bed again and takes its leave. On waking up the man feels tired, and his hands and feet are scratched and bleeding and then he knows that some heartless witch has been using him as a saddle-horse. This same man and his entire family were compelled to take lodging up trees one cold night recently, because the "witches got after 'em." The writer, during a brief sojourn in that section, heard of many witch encounters; notably one, in which the witch did not adopt the riding process to punish its victim. It simply drove stakes about the field of the unfortunate one. Not knowing at that time the wiles of the witches he pulled them all up, and for every stake there was a disease which of course he promptly took, and from that day he hasn't "seen a well day." A certain young man also relates his experienc. His was a very narrow escape and is worthy of notice. One evening he visited the house of an old lady (but presumably to see the *young* lady), and unintentionally gave offense to her (the old lady), who had heretofore been friendly to him. Just before leaving she gave him an apple, which he put in his pocket, and in the morning he was horror-struck on seeing a small hole in it as if made by a needle; and he was sure the old woman had put a "spell" on that apple for his benefit. He told his father about it, who was furious with rage, and called on the old woman and threatened to "shoot her picture with silver" as the other fellow had done, if she again attempted to put a "spell" on his son. This frightened the old woman terribly, and she promised never again to molest the young man, and so the matter was settled.

PRESTON.

The new year came in very quietly in Preston to most of the citizens. The only families to change quarters were those of Messrs. George Gale and M. Pinkind. Mr. Thomas H. Douglass begins housekeeping in a few days, and Mr. Beverly W. Wright took unto himself a young wife and began a new firm for life. Mr. Wright with his cousin, Jesse A. Wright, constitute the firm of B. W. & J. A. Wright, and are engaged in running a steam saw-mill to their own profit and the convenience of the public. They are now erecting a building for the purpose of starting a crushing mill for feed.

John Webster, Esq., of East New Market, owner of Upper Hunting Creek mills, during last summer placed a large engine in his mills and under the management of Thomas H. Flaharty, a worthy and energetic young man, has been doing a flourishing business during the long continued dry weather of the fall, extending into the winter. The mill has the capacity to grind eighty bushels of grain per day, and it has been kept busy. Where all the grists could have been ground, if the mill had not been arranged, is hard to conjecture.

These improvements are all in the right direction and indicate progress. But there is room for many more to follow. If a few manufacturing enterprises were inaugurated there would be employment afforded our present population and more would follow and money would flow in instead of running out. With all the advantages offered by the Peninsula it should soon be marked all over by manufacturing enterprises of kinds, canning factories, and our wealth and prosperity be proportionately increased.

BALTIMORE MARKETS

Thursday's Report.

WHEAT.—Wheat continues scarce, and No. 2 Maryland sold at $1 40a1 42. Southern fultz $1 39a1 41, longberry $1 40a1 45.

CORN.—Southern corn was in good request, especially for white, which sold at 76a77 cents; yellow brought 72 cents per bushel. Oats are selling at 52 cents and and rye at $1 00. Buckwheat meal is selling at $4.30a4.50 per hundred pounds.

Married.

CHILCUTT—BURKETT.—January 4th, near Bethlehem, Caroline Co., by Rev. G. H. Zimmerman, Mr. Wm. Chilcutt to Miss Mary E. Burkett, all of Caroline county.

BISHOP—COMEGYS.—On Jan. 4th, by Rev. I. G. Fosnocht, Wm. Bishop, of Caroline county, to Miss Mollie Comegys, of Queen Anne's Co.

WRIGHT—TAYLOR.—At the residence of the bride's parents, near Union Grove, on the 3d inst., by Rev. E. H. Nelson, Mr. James B. Wright to Miss Anna Taylor, all of Caroline county.

Died.

WEBBER. — On Sunday last, near Smithville, Mrs. Nicy Webber, widow of the late Charles Webber.

HANDY.—On Wednesday last, near Harmony, after an illness of only about four hours, Theodore Handy, aged about 66 years.

HANDY.—Near Fowling Creek on Wednesday night 5th inst., suddenly of heart disease, Mr. Theodore N. Handy, aged 74 years.

LANGRELL.—On Thursday of last last week, at his residence near Burrsville, Mr. James Langrell, aged 57 years.

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For the Cure of Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, Croup, Asthma, Bronchitis, Whooping Cough, Incipient Consumption and for the relief of consumptive persons in advanced stages of the Disease. For Sale by all Druggists.—Price, 25 cents.

We ask you to read the advertisement of Darby's Prophylactic Fluid, which appears in our issue of to-day. It is a wonderful healing remedy a most powerful disinfectant, and a positive germ destroyer, and is perfectly safe to use even in the hands of the most inexperienced. It is highly recommended by eminent physicians and chemists, and endorsed by hundreds of others who have used it and know its valuable properties. It costs but a trifle, and will save much suffering, time and money. Darby's Fluid has long been recognized as a household article for universal family use. Prepared by J. H. ZEILIN & CO., Manufacturing Chemist Sole Proprietors.

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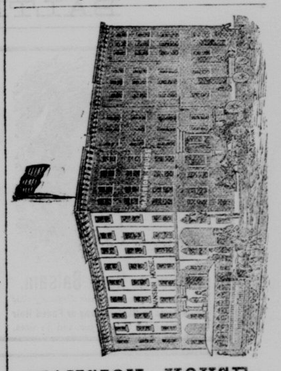

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