The Easton Gazette.

VOL. LXXVI.---NO. 2. EASTON, MD., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1891. $1 50 PER YEAR.

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Insurance Solicitor—"Well, doctor, have you examined this new client?" Doctor—"I hadn't thought it necessary. You see, I've been treating him for the last seven years." Insurance Solicitor—"That's enough, doctor. If he survived that he must be a man of wonderful vitality."—*Boston Courier.*

MUSIC.

Oh, take the lute this brooding hour for me—
The golden lute, the hollow crying lute—
Nor call me even with thine eyes; be mute,
And touch the strings; yea, touch them tenderly,
Touch them and dream, till all thine heart in thee
Grow great and passionate and sad and wild.
Then on me too as on thine heart, O child,
The marvelous light, the stress divine shall be,
And I shall see, as with enchanted eyes,
The unveiled vision of this world flame by,
Battles and griefs, and storms and phantasies,
The gleaming joy, the ever-seething fire,
The hero's triumph, and the martyr's cry,
The pain, the madness, the unsearched desire.

—*A. Lampman, in the Century.*

The Lesson of the Strike.

BY FLAVEL SCOTT MINES.

Over one hundred men were crowded into the little assembly rooms at Mawhaka. The air was redolent with the fumes of tobacco that came from numerous pipes, and the hot close room was filled with the smoke. At one end was a platform, upon which stood a dozen chairs and a table, and a score of hard benches scattered about completed the furniture of the room, unless the tiny broken stove in one corner be included. The company assembled there was one of men—sturdy fellows, who puffed doggedly at their black pipes, as though they held some grievance against them. The men of the great iron-mill at Mawhaka were dissatisfied. Trouble had been brewing for some time between John Parsons, the young mill-owner, and the operatives, and the friction increased daily. The original cause of the trouble had been forgotten, but trivial things occurring from time to time had served to keep the men inflamed, and they threatened to burst into open rebellion. Matters would have been brought to a focus before, but the men were not properly organized, or rather they had no leader among themselves. On this night district managers from neighboring towns were to address the men, and bring them to some sort of order; they were ripe for revolt.

Half a dozen men ascended the platform and took seats, while the others stretched out on the benches. The hum of voices subsided as the foreman of the mill arose and walked forward, and when there was a momentary lull, he rapped fiercely on the table with a stick.

"The meeting will please come to order."

Parliamentary rule, like death, is devoid of respect, and consequently all classes are ruled by it. As the foreman spoke the noise subsided, and the silence was broken only by the shuffle of heavy feet.

"A chairman must be appointed for the meeting," said the foreman.

"I move that Mr. Peters be elected chairman," said the red-faced man on the platform.

"I second it!" "Aye!" "Aye!" came from all parts of the room.

Mr. Peters, the foreman, colored and bowed. "Before I take the chair," he said, "I wish to say a few words. You know I'm with yer every time [cheers and applause], but I've been requested by the boss [a low hiss] to say a few words to you for him. 'Peters,' he says, says he, 'I hear there's goin' to be a meetin' to-night. Now,' he says, 'I want the men to come to an understandin'. I don't want no more of this foolishness—this growlin' that's been goin' on for some months past. Tell 'em to make up their minds one way or 'nother, ter quit growlin' an' go to work, or else they can quit work. There's no half-way business. I'm dead tired of it,' says he, 'an' I want you to tell 'em so.' Now, I've told you, and it rests with you. You know how I feel, an' I'll foller ther crowd. Gentlemen, I'll introduce to you Mr. Murphy, who won the lock-out in Coverton a few weeks ago."

The chairman sat down, and the man who had before spoken rose to his feet, and came forward rubbing his face with a red bandanna. The cheers that greeted him told the feelings of the men, for Mr. Murphy was well known as a general "kicker" against any sort of authority.

At the moment of Mr. Murphy's introduction John Parsons and two intimate friends were laughing and smoking over their postprandial coffee. Parsons was a young man of about thirty years of age, with a strongly marked, clean-shaven face and a thin, firm mouth. Of independent manner and over-bearing to his subordinates, he was much disliked by a number of people; but those who were counted as his intimate friends loved him and believed in him, and beyond them the young man did not care what people thought of him. At his father's death he has come into possession of the mill, and for three years had managed it successfully. A bachelor at the time, he was shortly to be married to a girl of his native town. Fond hopes of moneyed alliances were blighted when this highly eligible parti announced his engagement, and many a mother wondered what he saw in Rose Anderson. She had no money, it was true; but John Parsons was not mercenary, and the long line of ancestry on the girl's part would have been far more attractive to him than wealth untold. It was simply a love-match, and all indications pointed to a happy marriage. Parsons traced his lineage back to the days of feudalism, and he gloried in it. He was a curious combination of aristocracy and democracy, and the sentiment of "family" predominated. Strange ideas for a nineteenth-century American to hold, but they were a part of his life.

"I hear that you have had some trouble at the mill," remarked Wakeman, one of his companions, whose prosperous mill did not compare in size with that of his friend. "Any truth in it?"

Parsons frowned. "Yes," he said, shortly; "but it cannot last. It has to stop, or the mill is closed.

"Can you afford to do so?" asked Tom Foster, a young lawyer, who made up the trio.

"I will afford it," was the answer.

"Have you heard from any of the labor men on the subject?" volunteered Wakeman.

The young owner's fist came down on the table with a crash. "No, sir; I do my business with my employes through no third person. That chuckle-headed Irishman Murphy is to address a meeting that is to be held to-night, and I have sent the men an ultimatum—to shut up or stop work. I will not be dictated to by any third party; it's an outrage that that mill-owners stand it."

"But have the men no rights?" questioned Wakeman, who was notoriously weak in his management.

"I do not discuss their rights," rejoined Parsons. "The question is simply this, will they work as I wish, or will they not? They get their money regularly; they are paid for the time they work; if they are dissatisfied, let them get out, and give others a chance to fill their places. I know you will laugh at me, but I tell you that when the land was owned by the aristocracy and ruled by them, when class distinctions existed, man was happier than he is to-day. It is very beautiful in theory, but independence is a poor practice for everybody."

"Quite a sermon," muttered Foster, lighting a cigar.

Parsons laughed. "I do not mean to preach, but once started, I am carried away with the subject. I have often wondered where my ideas came from, for my father was a democrat in the pure use of the word. I think that the spirit of some old feudal ancestor is reincarnate in me, for I have a certain sense of superiority that I have no right to by my own merits. I don't mean the reincarnation of the Buddhists—I wouldn't refrain from kicking a miserable yellow dog because it might contain the soul of my mild old nurse, I'd refrain simply out of consideration for the dog—but what I do mean is the reincarnation of ancestral spirit which may have been latent for generations; hereditary, in other words. Let me illustrate by a story. Last year while in England I looked up the branch of our house which remained there while an ancestor of mine emigrated about 1700. I did not make myself known. The family name is the same, but the English branch holds a title, and everybody does not know what the family name is. The immediate family was in London, and I was shown through by an old housekeeper. My pulses thrilled as I trod the old ancestral halls, and I almost bewailed my fate at having a younger brother for an ancestor. I tapped the armor with a sense of pride, and listened to the old woman's stories with a feeling of personal admiration, for the men she spoke of were as much mine as the noble lord who lingered in Mayfair. When we reached the portrait gallery, I lingered before each face with strange sensations, but there was one picture that suddenly attracted me, and as soon as I saw it I seemed to remember the original. The picture was that of a beautiful girl of about eighteen years of age, and she seemed a queen by the very pose of her head. I was so entranced that my guide noticed it, and began this story—I give it in her own words: She was the daughter of old Sir Francis, who died about 1740. He was a fierce, headstrong man, holding his people in subjection, and feared by all. His only daughter inherited some of the old man's strength, but she was kind as she was beautiful, and an angel of goodness to all her inferiors and greatly loved. One evening in summer, however, while walking unattended through the park, a rough soldier addressed her. She turned away, but the man caught her in his arms and tried to kiss her. At this point I interrupted the narrator, and said that I knew the story. I looked at the face again and knew the rest. Her cousin, who was passing, heard the screams and hastened to her defence, stabbed the man and left him lying dead. 'La, sir,' said the housekeeper, as I finished, 'that's right; ye must have heard the tale.'"

"Had you?" inquired Foster, interestedly.

"No," replied Parsons, slowly; "I had never heard the circumstances narrated before, but the first words of the housekeeper called up the scene as in a picture. It seemed as though I had heard the scream, and bursting through the bushes had seen the girl struggling in the man's grasp. It was like a memory of a long-ago happening in which I was an actor. Then I saw the girl turn to her rescuer with a smile; the man before her inspired her with no sense of pity, for he had attempted to be her equal."

"Ah! I see," laughed Wakeman; "and you feel as she did; you are probably the reincarnation of the cousin. Did you marry her?"

For a moment the young man's eyes grew angry, and then he answered, quietly enough "I asked the housekeeper, and she said that he did. The girl was the old man's only daughter, and the young man was his heir, so they were both ancestors of mine. I attempt no explanations of my part of it, but tell you the story as it happened. I do, however, know how the girl felt, and to-day I hold myself as far above the lower classes as did the old knight in his own time. Have I not a right? Perhaps not in these later days, but I cannot destroy the feeling."

A servant entered at that moment. "If you please, sir, Mr. Peters would like to see you."

"Tell Peters to come in. My foreman at the mill," he exclaimed to his friends.

The man walked sheepishly into the richly furnished room.

"Well?" queried Parsons.

"The man are going to strike at noon to-morrow, sir, unless these conditions are agreed to," and Peters held out a paper.

The young mill owner took the document, deliberately tore it in half, and threw the pieces to one side.

"At noon to-morrow?" he asked quietly.

"Yes, sir."

"You may tell the men, Peters, that they may declare their strike on now if they desire, as the mill will remain closed until further orders. Good-night."

The young owner kept his word. For six months the forges of the great mill lay silent, and the furnace fires unlit. The men lingered about hoping for satisfaction, but to each query, John Parsons replied, "I am my own manager; I will open the mill when I please, and not before."

Winter was near at hand and the men were suffering. The district tried to organize a general strike with no success, and the spirits of the sufferers fell accordingly.

"Will you ever open up again, sir?" timidly asked Peters one day.

"When I get ready," was the answer of the owner; "and when I do, no union man will come inside the door; the workers will be under contract to me. But why do you ask? The men are free to go where they please; they needn't wait on my pleasure. Does the union not support them?"

"They have no funds, sir," Peters said, sadly, turning away.

And when the men heard this they cursed the young mill-owner with all the bitterness of hate, but when a young man suggested force, and hinted at something else, there was a deep sullen growl—but it was not favorable to the proposal. There were little ones that wanted food and raiment; there were wives that worked through all the lull in the storm, while the men stood idle and their union failed them for lack of funds.

One evening after dinner Parsons strolled through the village on his way to visit his fiancee. He had come to the conclusion that he had nearly won the fight, but the surrender of the strikers must be unconditional before he accepted it. The fault was not his; he had given warning. Two of his old workers passed him by, and though they looked at him appealingly, he did not appear to see them. There was a circus in town, and the streets were filled with wagons and people from the country, mixed with that crowd that follows in the wake of a circus. Parsons strolled by the great tent, where the venders of pea-nuts and pop-corn were shouting their ware, and then walked on to the house whither he was bound. Miss Anderson was not at home.

"She went out directly after dinner," said her mother, "and promised to return at once. She was bound on an errand of charity, and will surely be back before the darkness."

John Parsons sat on the piazza and smoked his cigar slowly. He was at peace with himself, and in a very good humor with a certain person in whom he believed implicitly. Facts were nothing to him if he did not choose to be convinced by them, but he could bring himself into a belief in anything that pleased him. He was thinking that the lesson of the strike would be a good one for his men and also for other mill owners. He did not notice that the minutes slipped swiftly by, and that Miss Anderson did not return. Suddenly he realized that it had grown quite dark, and, looking at his watch, saw that nearly an hour had elapsed since his arrival. He hurried into the house.

"I think that she was going to Barton street," said the old lady. "She surely ought to have returned."

John started. He recalled the crowded streets, the rough crowds, and his heart sank. He was madly in love with her, but the realization of the fact came at that moment. It was quite dark, and a horrible chapter of possible happenings flashed through his brain. He thought of the gaunt, hollow-eyed men he had refused that day to see, and the idea of revenge suggested itself. As he reached the gate three figures approached and stopped.

"Good night," he heard the voice of Miss Anderson say. "I am much obliged." And as two forms disappeared, the girl walked into her lover's arms.

"Who were those men?" he asked, quickly.

"Friends, John," she answered. "I was coming home, being detained longer than I thought, and was passing by the headquarters of your strikers—your strikers," she said softly, "when two men came forward—"

"Scoundrels!" cried John Parsons, fiercely, catching the girl's hands in a tight grasp.

"No, John, no," she replied, vehemently. "One of them came up and took off his hat. 'Excuse me, miss,' he said, 'but there's a pretty tough crowd in the village to-night, an' Jim and me thought we'd better say as we'd see you home;' and they did. They acted as gentlemen—true gentlemen—never saying a word until spoken to; and they came all the way home with me through that horrible crowd. They were so good and kind, and wanted to knock a man down who stared at me."

"Did they mention me?" the young man asked.

"They said they knew I was the 'lady as Mr. Parsons was to marry.'"

In one brief moment all that he had ever said against the working-man came into John Parsons's mind, and in that time he thought of the old baron and the men he called his inferiors. Liberty was equality in one way, after all.

The next morning the whistles of John Parsons's iron mill blew lustily at seven o'clock, and when he arrived there half an hour later, he found all the men assembled in the court yard wondering what was to come.

The young man mounted a box. "Men," he said, "we have probably both been in the wrong. I, at least, have, and I will confess it. The anvils await you, and the forges are lit. Go to work. Let the past be forgotten. We will begin all over again and work together. To-day is Wednesday; on Saturday you will receive one week's pay in full. I know that money is scarce, and I want to thank you for having acted as—men."

And the cheers that arose from those honest throats were heartier than those that greeted Mr. Murphy six months ago.

"I guess the ghost of my old ancestor is laid effectually now," laughed Parsons to himself. "He couldn't appreciate the era of chivalry and free labor."
—*Harper's Weekly.*

Remarkable Water System.

No city in the world is supplied more abundantly with water than Fez, one of the capitals of Morocco and the usual place of residence of the Sultan. This capital, with a population of about 100,000 people, gets its water supply in a remarkable manner. The town lies in a river valley. The Wady el Fez rises among the hills a few miles southwest of the city. By the time the stream reaches the outskirts of the town it is wide and deep. Its natural course lies through the heart of the city, but the inhabitants have diverted all the water from the large channel into a number of canals. Then from these canals the water is conducted by hundreds of little channels to every garden and house of the town. The river bed itself throughout the length of the city as it winds through the valley is perfectly dry.

When Doctor Lenz was there a few years ago he said he believed there was no other city in the world with so fine a water supply as Fez. Unfortunately, the natives do not know how to value and properly utilize their great blessing. Though a stream of pure water runs through every house and garden, the town is extremely dirty. Ludwig Pietsch, who accompanied the Dutch Embassy to Fez in 1878, said:

"There is no city in the world, with the exception of Rome and perhaps Vienna, which has so splendid a water system. The brooks gurgle through every garden in the town. The city has other blessings, too, for its climate is glorious, the soil of the country round is very fruitful, and the landscape is of surpassing beauty, but the people do not know how to utilize their blessings. Their streets are extremely dirty, their houses are badly ventilated, and they have made insalubrious a town that could be one of the healthiest in the world."

After the water has flowed through the city in these many hundreds of little channels, what is left of it is gathered into the river again east of the town, and then it flows north to join the Seba River, the largest in Morocco. It is the only instance in the world where a whole river is thus utilized to provide a large city with water.—*New York Sun.*

Cost of Superstition.

"What is the value of superstition in this age?" asked a gentleman at the Grand. "Nine people out of ten would say it cuts no figure in finance, but there never was a greater mistake. Just to illustrate the point it is only necessary to call attention to the fact that on the street railroad lines the receipts per car are on the average from $4 to $6 smaller on Friday than on the other days of the week. The cause is plain. There are in this city thousands of people who will not move about on Friday because of the superstition connected with the day, and as a consequence the street car companies suffer. Inquiry develops the fact also that the same conditions apply to steam roads and steamer lines, and it is found that their ticket receipts fall off heavily on that day."—*San Francisco Call.*

Washington's old headquarters at Valley Forge, Penn., will soon pass into the hands of a patriotic association.

THE NEWS.

The Lutheran Ministerium, in session at Wilkesbarre, Pa., found Rev. Conrad Kuehn guilty of the charges preferred against him, including several involving his morality and honesty.——The Twin bayou bridge, on the Woodville Road, near Natchez, Miss., fell in carrying with it a four-mule team, two women Mrs. Lewis and Levia Shields, being killed, and two men seriously hurt.——Frank W. Horwish, inventor of the mechanical boiler cleaner, attempted to assassinate Judge Horace S. Clark, at Wattoon, Ills., firing at him five times, and inflicting serious flesh wounds. Judge Clark is commander of the G. A. R. Department of Illinois.——A dozen business houses, at Vermillion, Ohio, were burned out. Losses aggregate $25,000.——Alexander Rencontre, a Sioux Indian, was granted a divorce from his squaw, in Chamberlain, S. D., she having attempted to kill him with an axe.——In a wreck on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad, near Dudley, Iowa, seventeen cars were demolished, and the engineer and fireman killed.——The Central Pacific Railroad Company have sold to C. H. & J. G. Pierce, Chicago lumbermen, twelve thousand five hundred acres of timber land, in Southern Oregon, for one hundred thousand dollars. The purchasers will erect large mills at Klamath City, and will build a railroad thirty-eight miles to tap their lands. The timber on the land is chiefly pine, but there is considerable red wood.

The telegraph operators on the Southern Pacific division of the Southern Pacific Railroad are on strike because the company, tried to compel them to sign affidavits that they would not become members of the union.——Representatives of the Switchmen, Trainmen, Conductors and Telegraph Operators' Brotherhoods met in St. Louis to form a federation of all the railway organizations of the United States.——The wife of James G. Blaine, Jr., in her action for divorce, has been granted $500 temporary alimony, by Judge Thomas, at Deadwood, S. D.——An independent cracker factory is to be put in operation in St. Louis to fight the cracker trust.——Techner & Frank, manufacturers of Jersey goods in Philadelphia, made an assignment to Simon H. Cohn, for the benefit of their creditors. Judgments aggregating $50,000 have been entered against the firm.——The beet-sugar factories in California have closed down for the season, and statements of the amount of sugar made have been sent to the internal revenue office. The total production from three factories was 6,070,138 pounds. The total bounty to be paid is $161,190.——Colonel Wm. E. Merrill, a distinguished United States engineer, dropped dead on a train near Enfield, Ill.——Charles Smith, colored, was executed at Canon City, Col., for murdering Taylor Stil man, who was on intimate terms with Smith's wife.——John R. Ely was abducted in Jackson county, Fla., and then murdered. In a fight one of the abductors was killed.——Two hundred employes of the Richmond and Danville Railroad, at Manchester, Va., were discharged.——W. E. Grimsly, of Snow Hill, N. C., who recently shot Rev. J. T. Abernathy for kissing his wife, made another attack upon him, but the minister returned the fire, and both men were wounded.

Andrew Pohl was suffocated by gas at Wilkesbarre, Pa.——At San Francisco advertisements have been published calling for bids for raising and repairing the sunken Chilian iron-clad Blanco Encalada, which was destroyed by a torpedo at Caldera last May.——Seventeen Chinese were landed on the beach near Port Townsend from British Columbia. The customs officers arrested ten of them, but the others escaped.——It is said that there are eight thousand cases of influenza in Nashville.——Josiah Minot, law partner of President Franklin Pierce, died at Concord, N. H., aged seventy-three.——Mayes, chief of the Cherokee Nation, died at Tallequah, I. T.——Head-keeper Patterson, of the Trenton state prison, identified a prisoner in the Camden county prison as Henry Smith, who recently escaped from the state prison by cutting himself out. The man was arrested at Camden, N. J., for entering a house with the intention of robbery. He gave the name of Stephen Harrison.——A mob of masked men broke into the jail at Waycross, Ga., for the purpose of lynching Welcome Golding and Elijah Cheaves, charged with murder, but the prisoners clung to the sides of their cells, and the lynchers, having no lights, riddled the empty beds of the prisoners with shot, and then left.——Engineer Edward Paxton, of the Cumberland Glass Company, was terribly burned by an explosion at the works, in Bridgeton, N. J.——Councilman W. C. McCormick and George Miller were arrested at Uniontown, Pa., on the charge of kidnapping a child, which McCormick claims to be his own.——Col. Wm. E. Merrill, United States engineer, in charge of the Ohio river and all its navigable tributaries, dropped dead on an Ohio and Mississippi train, near Edgefield, Ill., while en route to Shawneetown on business.

It is now believed that Henry L. Norcross, a Boston note broker, is the bomb-thrower who attacked Russell Sage.——The car shortage is increasing, owing to the blockades of the Eastern gateways. The roads out of Kansas City are limiting their shipments. The Rock Island has departed from the rule adopted by the Western roads, and, to a limited extent, is allowing its cars to go through in order to get the grain out of the way.——The bark Gen. Butler, from Port Gamble, Wash., foundered and broke up southwest of Cape Avago. It is feared that nine sailors were lost.——This year's hop crop is large.——Two United States marshals brought to Wichita, Kansas, from the Creek county, three heavily armed Indians named Leslie, Scott and Cæsar Jack, members of the famous Captain Wiley band of desperadoes, which has terrorized that country for several months. The camp was surprised northwest of the Sac and Fox agency, and after a long chase and desperate fight, in which two men were wounded, these three were captured.——John Zug's barn, near Prescott, Lebanon county, Pa., was burned, with contents, including thirteen head of cattle and a horse. Loss over $5,000. Origin unknown.——Ninety-one boys were graduated to be practical seamen from the school-ship Saratoga at Philadelphia.——At Westboro, Mass., the Hawley mansion, 126 years old owned by B. J. Stone, was burned. Loss about $8,000.——James C. Newton was shot through the arm on his own property, at Malden, Mass., by a stranger, supposed to be insane.——A Georgia drummer was knocked down and robbed in Branford, Fla.

Rev. Dr. Hortsman, chancellor of the diocese of Philadelphia, has been appointed bishop of Cleveland, Ohio.——At Kansas City George Wisner shot and killed Daniel Beckel, and then gave himself up. Wisner was jealous of Beckel's attention to his wife.——At Philadelphia the sash and planing mill of Amon & Bro. was gutted by fire. Loss $11,000; insurance $8,000. The fire is supposed to have been of incendiary origin.——At Keene, N. H., Henry H. Haines, chief engineer of the fire department, was instantly killed at a slight fire by falling down stairs.——George W. Slaughter was arrested at Indianapolis for passing counterfeit silver dollars.——There is so much diphtheria at Wheatland, Minn., that the schools have been closed.——James Freeman a jealous farmer, killed his wife near Reedsville, Ga.——Miss Julia A. Ames, a prominent temperance worker, died in Boston.——Hugh Jones and James Kitterick, miners, were killed by an explosion in the Hulman, Pa., coal mine.——Dr. W. H. Morgan, a prominent Alabama physician, attempted to commit suicide by taking morphine.

GOVERNOR JOHN P. BUCHANAN, of Tennessee, who has had a little more than he could do for some time past in dealing with the convict mines in his State, is a tall, blonde man, ruddy of face, with blue eyes and light hair. He wears a long moustache and goatee. He is a self-made man, once a farm-boy, and is a fine type of the educated granger.

REVIEW OF TRADE.

A Large Volume of Business Done With Growing Confidence.

Improvements in Collections--A Very Fair Activity in the Distribution of Merchandise.

The business failures occuring throughout the country during the last seven days, as reported to R. G. Dun & Co., number for the United States 283, and for Canada 49, or a total of 332, as compared with totals of 331 last week and 295 the week previous to the last. For the corresponding week of last year the figures were 374, representing 347 failures in the United States, and 27 in the Dominion of Canada.

As the holidays draw near all signs indicate a large volume of business at the present, with growing confidence of improvement in the future, except in parts of the South, where the unusual accumulation of cotton and its low price have a depressing influence. At the East there is again distinct, though moderate improvement in leading branches of industry, at the West trade continues in volume never approached in any previous year, and even at the South, in spite of some embarrassment, the volume of trade is on the whole large, though not equal to last year's.

There is no lack of money in any part of the country except at some Southern points, and the mere fact that cotton now accumulated at a few ports and interior towns represents fully $60,000,000 in value, paid to planters at once, explains the difficulty and suggests that it is not permanent. It is a good sign, also, that collections are on the whole improving, though slow at New Orleans and some Southern points, and only fair in some lines at Eastern cities.

Reports from all parts of the country show a very fair activity in the distribution of merchandise.

Among the clothiers the better class of goods are in excellent demand, trade in knit goods is quiet and in dress goods satisfactory, but some concessions are noted in flannels. Print cloths show some improvement and prints are more active.

The iron business is more active, bar and plate mills are well employed though prices are low, orders for 20,000 cars having been placed in two weeks at the lowest prices ever known. Lake copper is lower at 10.9 cents. Tin and lead are very dull and coal weak.

Cotton is unchanged, receipts being still beyond those of the same week last year. Pork products are slighly stronger, coffee a ⅛c and oil 1⅛c higher, without great activity in any branch of speculative trade. Exports of domestic products continue unchecked and for the last week were 44 per cent more than for the first week of December last year.

In the preparations for year settlements abroad such remittances as that of specie are stopped by the decline in exchange. Favorable monetary prospects strengthen the market for securities especially as it is evident that disbursements in dividends, interest and profits about January 1 will be large and will seek new investments. With a better tone, some securities have advanced, and there is no feeling of apprehension regarding the monetary future.

ABOUT NOTED PEOPLE.

SENATOR PROCTOR, has long worn a full beard, except that he shaved his upper lip. He is now growing a moustache, and it is said to change his appearance greatly.

BISMARK is what in Germany they call a "chain-smoker," that is he smokes from morning until night without a break, lighting one cigar with the end of the other.

MAX ADAMS, a young society man of Atlanta, is the latest American to join the Khedive's forces. He has just received a commission as captain in the Egyptian army.

MRS. TAYLOR, of Little Washington, Pa., is known as the Oil Queen, because she has accumulated a fortune of $3,000,000 by personal investments in the Ritchie County fields.

W. J. FLORENCE was near-sighted and could never recognize any of his friends in the seats of a theatre from his place on the stage. He thought he could play better for that reason.

MRS. BITTENBENDER, who wanted to be Supreme Court Judge of Nebraska, didn't quite get there at the late election, and her 7,322 votes looked very small when they left her in a minority of 70,000.

RABBI GOTTHARD DEUTSCH, the newly-elected professor of Jewish history and philosophy in the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, has just reached his post of duty. He is only 33 years of age. He comes from Vienna.

SENOR CARLOS CALDERON, who died at the age of 46 in Paris recently, was one of the greatest swells of the French capital. He was the son of a Spanish banker. He belonged to the most aristocratic Parisian clubs and was the boon companion of dukes and princes.

LOUIS PRANG, whose chromos have beautified many an artless cottage wall, worked for a whole year in Boston, when a beginner, for a hundred dollars, and was glad to get it. There are those who believe that the beginner who worked hard for a hundred dollars a year and is glad to get it is bound to succeed.

MLLE. ELISE ST. OMER has begun a journey around the world in the interest of the Geographical Society of Paris. The journey is to last three years, and the traveler is to devote special attention to the lives and customs of women in the various countries which she visits. She will publish a book upon the subject after her return.

A QUADRUPLE MURDER.

Two Women and Two Children Killed Near New Smyrna, Fla.

Four persons were killed in the house of Frank J. Packwood, in the centre of an orange grove on the banks of Hillsborough river, eight miles south of New Smyrna. Packwood is a native of Louisiana, but has lived near New Smyrna for over fifteen years.

The names of the persons murdered are: Miss A. Bruce, of New York city; Frank A. Bruce, four years old, son of F. J. Packwood; Mrs. L. D. Hatch and her boy, six years old. The house was entered through a window, the intruder smashing the sash and glass in order to gain entrance.

A ghastly sight met the eyes of the first visitors to the premises. In one corner of the main room on the floor lay the body of Mrs. Hatch, shot through the left eye. In the same room, lying on the bed, was the body of her son, shot under the left eye and with his throat cut from ear to ear.

In an adjoining room, lying on the floor, was the body of Frank Packwood, shot through the head and with his throat cut also. In the same room, lying upon the bed, was the body of Miss Bruce. Her person had been outraged and her skull and face had been smashed with some heavy weapon. Her face had also been shot through, and her throat had been cut. At the entrance of the broken window a large revolver was found, two chambers of it having been emptied. On the bed by the side of the body of Miss Bruce lay a double-barreled shot-gun, with the stock broken into splinters. On the bed near the body of the Hatch boy lay a long-bladed butcher-knife.

No clue to the murderers have yet been found but tramps seen in the neighborhood are suspected of the crime. A large posse, headed by Deputy Sheriff Dimick, started southward to scour the country for the murderers.

Robbery was undoubtedly the purpose of the murderers, but the extent of their plunder is unknown.

FATAL WRECK.

Serious Accident on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad.

A despatch from Clifton Forge, Va., says: Two serious accidents occurred on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, the one the sequence of the other.

Freights Nos. 71 and 72 first collided between Tuckahoe and White Sulphur Springs. A relief train running as the first section of No. 4 (F. F. V.) was started from Hinton immediately after. No. 33 was laying off for No. 4, and when the relief train passed, though the track was clear and pulled out for the west. Just east of Anderson No. 33 and No. 4 ran into each other with fatal results

The killed were:

Mail Agent S. G. Burnett, of Richmond.
Fireman Lyons, of Hinton.
Brakeman H. Mays, of Clifton Forge.

Conductor C. W. Remis had one leg broken in three places; C. H. Lyle, fireman, of Hinton, had both legs broken; J. P. Lear, freight engineer, was injured in the hips; Express Agent Carpenter was badly bruised, and Engineer Peek, of the F. F. V., who jumped before the collision was also badly bruised from the effects of the fall.

None of the passengers were injured.

MISS MARY THERESA OLIVIA CORNWALLIS WEST, daughter of Mrs. Cornwallis West, the famous English beauty, was married in London to Prince Hens Heinrich of Pless.

GENERAL STATE NEWS.

THE LATEST HAPPENINGS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE STATE.

MR. J. FRANK TURNER, counsel for the commissioners of Talbot county, has filed a petition in the Circuit Court asking the removal of five insane pauper patients from the Maryland Hospital to the almshouse of Talbot county. The almshouse has recently been repaired and improved and is now deemed fit for the reception and treatment of such patients. The cost for keeping them at the Maryland Hospital, which is $150 per annum for each, will thus be saved to the county.

THE school commissioners of Somerset county have awarded the contract for erecting a high school building on the Academy lot. The contract price is $11,399, less $1,500 allowed for the bricks of the old Washington Academy building.

MANY persons in Hagerstown and the country around have been attacked with the grip.

THE fire in the mountains above Clearspring, in Washington county, is spreading over a large area and doing considerable damage to the timber.

THE three young men from Hagerstown, Wm. L. Unseld, W. D. Wolf and John E. King, who were killed on railroads within the past two weeks were all engaged to be married about the holidays.

THE coroners' jury exonerated the P. W. & B. Railroad from all blame in the death of Frank Alexander, who was killed at Elkton.

MR. JAMES W. PEARRE, of Lisbon, Howard county, has sold his former residence in Frederick to Col. Tilghman T. Hersperger for $3,800. The property formerly belonged to Gen. Bradley T. Johnson, of Baltimore.

IN a fit of despondency John A. Fountain, of Dorchester county, drank a half pint of alcohol, from the effects of which he died.

THE oyster business in Cambridge is more depressed at present than it has been for many years.

THE frame stable of Mr. Philip Morningstar, about three-quarters of a mile northeast of Utica Mills, in Frederick county, was entirely consumed by fire. A son of Mr. Morningstar had taken a coal-oil lamp to the stable and set it down, and, while he was in another part of the stable, a pig upset the lamp, which set fire to the stable. One cow, all the hay and some harness were consumed. It is not known if there was any insurance on the property.

THE second trial of the slander suit of Jacob Cutter vs. George Fresh, in the Washington County Court, was concluded. The jury gave the plaintiff $1 damages. The case was removed to this court from Cumberland and was tried one year ago. Then the plaintiff got a verdict for $2,000, but that was set aside by the Court of Appeals, and new trial ordered.

THE Kent County Alliance met in the court house at Chestertown and appointed Messrs. W. J. Vannort, L. C. Justis, Jr., and W. D. Pennington delegates to the Maryland State Farmers' Association. The alliance also adopted a resolution requesting the president of the State alliance to call a meeting of that body on January 12, 1892, in Baltimore.

THE oldest building in Cambridge, the old brick building on Locust street, known as the place of imprisonment of Freeborn Garretson, has been torn down, and the bricks, which are of unusual size, are being hauled away.

PRINCESS ANNE is to have its second annual trades display and Christmas celebration on the 29th inst. The programme of the day will consist of a parade of mounted horsemen and will conclude with a torchlight procession at night. The town will be decorated and illuminated.

AN order was passed by the school commissioners of Wicomico county increasing the quarterly salary of teachers of grammar schools throughout the county $5.

THE survey by the Pennsylvania Railroad of a route from Green Spring Valley to Westminister, which has been interrupted, will soon be resumed and completed.

FARMERS of Carroll county will assemble at the court-house in Westminster on the 28th inst., to select five delegates to the State Farmers' Convention.

RECENT rains have greatly benefitted the wheat in some of the Eastern Shore counties. In Dorchester there is a reported injury to some fields by fly.

THE Baltimore county commissioners passed a number of bills to pay for work on roads.

COMPLAINT of a dangerous crossing at Highlandtown was made.

A NEW temperance society has been organized in Annapolis.

THE Circuit Court for Washington County sentenced three convicts to the penitentiary and three to the House of Correction.

PHILIP H. WINGERT, a prominent farmer, of Washington county, was thrown from his buggy and seriously injured.

THE new county commissioners of Cecil have organized and elected officers.

A DWELLING-HOUSE, four miles from Princess Anne, Somerset county, belonging to Chas. H. Hillman, of New Jersey, and occupied by Francis W. Shivers, was burned the other morning. Mr. Shivers was alone in the house and came near losing his life. All the furniture was consumed. The house was insured for $1,500 and the furniture for $600.

THE great stone piers for the bridge of the Potomac Valley Railroad across the Chesapeake and Ohio canal and the Potomac river near Cherry run, have been completed. The grading of the road on the West Virginia side, about a mile, is also nearly completed.

HEZEKIAH HAHN, one of the county commissioners of Carroll county, while on his way from Westminster to his home, near Taneytown, his horse became frightened and threw him out of the buggy. He was badly bruised.

THE city council of Cumberland has appointed a committee to prepare necessary local laws for enactment by the General Assembly, including laws to provide for a better water supply, to fund the floating debt and refund loans which will mature previously to 1894.

THE accident on the B. and O. Road, near Cherry run, delayed traffic eight hours. A coal hopper was derailed and fell on the other track and was immediately struck by a train going in the opposite direction. No one was hurt.

JOSEPH GORDON, of Pleasant Valley, Washington county, has caught this fall thirty-five 'possums, a coon and two ground hogs.

THE stockholders of the Scott Fertilizer Company met in Elkton and elected Frank R. Scott, president, and other officers.

AN Italian tramp named Ballaski was struck and killed by a B. and O. train near Sir John's run.

CHARLES EISENHART, an oysterman, from Pennsylvania, is held for a hearing at Annapolis, charged with stealing several suits of clothes from J. Nason's restaurant, on Market space. A missing overcoat and pants belonged to Horace Leiman, a pair of pants and coat to Frank Bowers and a suit of clothes to George Engelke.

MR. WILLIAM CHEW died at his residence, in Frederick, aged seventy-two years. In his youth he drove a stage from Frederick to Hagerstown, and was widely known in his stage career. He leaves eight sons and one daughter, all of whom reside in Frederick city.

JOS. N. BARKDOLL, of Ringgold district, Washington county, has been held for the action of the grand jury on the charge of wife beating.

ZORD H. BRINSFIELD, a prominent citizen of the Fork district of Dorchester county, while out gunning was accidentally shot by Joseph E. Tull, a companion, and seriously hurt. The two had separated in a thicket and Mr. Tull thought his friend out of gunshot when some birds were jumped. The load took effect in the head and neck. Mr. Brinsfield's wounds are not considered dangerous.

THIRTY LIVES LOST.

Most Serious Disaster of the Recent English Storm.

The British Ship Enterkin Caught in the Channel--People Killed by Falling Trees and Houses.

Reports from various points in South Wales state that the gale has been especially severe in that part of the country. The wind-storm was accompanied by heavy rain, and the result has been that some of the rivers have overflowed their banks, doing much damage.

The list of casualties caused by the storm is constantly gaining fresh accessions. The greatest number of injuries in the country districts have been caused by falling trees. Many persons have been badly hurt from that cause. Quite a number of accidents have also been caused by the wreckage of roofs and chimneys, falling bricks, tiles, &c.

The most serious of all disasters that have occurred during the present storm is the wreck of the British ship Enterkin, Captain Sinclair which was bound from Hull for Brisband. She was caught in the storm while bound down the channel and despite every effort made to save her she was driven upon the Galloper sands off the port of Ramsgate, County of Kent. Thirty lives were lost in this disaster, every person except an apprentice boy being drowned.

The Enterkin is wholly submerged. The sailors drowned include George Walker, of Richmond, Va.; James Roach, of St. John's, and William Linskell and W. Brooks, Canadians.

A survivor states that most of the crew wore cork jackets, which, however, were of no avail in the terrible storm. This survivor owes his safety to his accidentally catching a yard when the vessel overturned and holding on until the ship righted.

The rain has been so heavy in the districts drained by the Thames that that river is rapidly rising. In some places the low lands are inundated. The slopes at Windsor Castle and some parts of the royal park are partly submerged.

LIVERPOOL.—The river Mercy and its chief affluent, the river Irwell, have both overflowed their banks and the inundation has done much damage. Many of the lower parts of the city of Manchester, which is situated on the Irwell, are overflowed.

Some of the cuttings of the ship canal, the great engineering work which is to connect Manchester with the sea, have been washed out, entailing much loss.

CABLE SPARKS.

THE rebels in the northern part of China have been again defeated by the government troops.

AMONG the effects of Dom Pedro, ex-Emperor of Brazil, who died in Paris was found a bag of earth, part of the soil of Brazil.

BY means of an underground passage thieves succeeded in robbing the Russian government treasury at Viadivosteck of $250,000.

THE Chamber of Deputies of France, by a vote of 498 to 113, has rejected a proposal to grant amnesty to imprisoned labor rioters and political offenders in that country.

DR. WELTI, president of Switzerland, has resigned because the majority of the electors of the country voted against the government's purchase of the Swiss Central Railway.

THE vice-chancellor of Cambridge University, England, in accordance with an ancient law giving him the power, has imprisoned a girl for walking with a student in the university.

AT a banquet at St. Petersburg, in honor of the Feast of St. George, the Czar delivered a short speech, in which he declared that he was greatly pleased to state that the situation in Europe had become entirely pacific.

MANY peasants in the famine-stricken districts of Russia refuse to accept employment on government relief works. Nihilist agents are working actively to persuade the peasants that the Czar can and ought to supply them with food.

THE French government has instructed its consul at Rio Janerio to demand of the Brazilian government reparation for the killing of twelve Frenchmen in Rio Janerio by agents of Fonseca during the recent troubles, growing out of the dictator's action in dissolving the Brazilian Congress.

FUNERAL services over the remains of Dom Pedro, ex-Emperor of Brazil, were held in the Church of the Madeleine, Paris, the archbishop of Paris presiding. Many distinguished persons were present. The President of France and his cabinet were represented. After the celebration of a requiem high mass the body was removed to the railway station enroute to Lisbon, where it will be interred.

THE English Court of Appeals has decided that the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Insurance Company must pay the $10,000 insurance on the life of Mr. Maybrick, the Liverpool merchant, for whose murder by poison Mrs. Florence Maybrick, his wife, an American, is now serving a life sentence in an English prison; to Mr. Maybrick's brothers, who are executors of the estate, instead of his wife's assignee.

ESTIMATES FOR NEXT YEAR.

Statement of Appropriations That Will Be Needed.

A comparative statement of the estimates of appropriations needed for the next fiscal year with the estimates and appropriations for the current fiscal year has been prepared by Messrs. Courts and Cleves, the respective clerks to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. This statement shows an excess in estimates of regular appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1892, of $9,522,852, as compared with the estimates a year ago for the current fiscal year.

Similar estimates of permanent annual appropriations show a reduction of $622,928. These appropriations for the current fiscal year (exclusive of deficiency appropriations of $38,699,746, of which $29,335,598 was on account of pensions, and of miscellaneous appropriations amounting to $4,271,531), was $482,047,394, which is $7,884,699 less than the amount estimated as necessary to be appropriated for the next fiscal year. These estimates and appropriations do not include rivers and harbors, on which the chief of engineers reports that $58,064,950 can be profitably expended during the year. A comparison of estimates for the next fiscal year, with the estimates of a year ago, according to the several heads under which appropriations are made, is as follows: Agricultural $3,369,995 for the next fiscal year, an increase of $548,992 though only $332,842 in excess of the current year's appropriations, this being due to the fact that after last year's estimates were submitted $829,753, heretofore appropriated for under the War Department, was added to the agricultural appropriation bill on account of the transfer of the weather bureau; army, $25,947,207, an increase of $133,562; diplomatic and consular, $2,138,466, an increase of $195,861; District of Columbia, $5,620,125, an increase of $151,910; fortifications, $9,286,607, an increase of $1,902,284; Indians, $8,603,907, an increase of $1,756,998 (the appropriations for the current year, however, exceeding last year's estimates by $7,782,377 on account of ratification in the appropriation bill of several Indian treaties and of payment of claims of the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations of Indians.) Legislative, executive and judicial, $22,754,058, an increase of $64,755; Military Academy, $506,320, a decrease of $46,416; navy, $27,194,639, a decrease of $6,136,940; pensions, $147,064,550, an increase of $11,801,465; postoffice, $80,324,400, an increase of $2,777,506; sundry civil, $35,183,955, a decrease of $3,627,126.

DIED BESIDE HIS GOLD.

An Old Man Seized by Death While Gloating Over His Hoarded Wealth.

Thomas Kocher, an old man of West Superior, Wis., did not appear as usual, and a neighbor broke into his residence. Kocher was found stretched dead on the bed.

A little pile of gold lay beside him, a bundle of bills was on the table, and a miscellaneous assortment of Government bonds, mortgages and other securities were scattered on the floor. Wealth to the amount of over $22,000 was strewn about the room.

An investigation showed that the old man had evidently been engaged in counting his wealth when stricken by heart disease. He was a bachelor and lived alone.

ASKING FOR $5,000,000.

The World's Fair Committee Will Petition Congress for that Amount.

At the second day's session of the conference between the Board of Control of the World's Fair and the delegates from the various States a resolution was presented by Mr. Farquhar, of Pennsylvania, asking the representatives of the various States to petition Congress for an appropriation of $5,000,000 for the use of the fair.

The resolution was adopted: twenty-one States voting aye, five States not voting, and two absent.

HEALTH ALPHABET.

The Ladies' Sanitary Association, of London, gives the following simple rules for keeping health:

As soon as you are up shake blanket and sheet;
Better be without shoes than sit with wet feet;
Children, if healthy, are active, not still;
Damp beds and damp clothes will both make you ill;
Eat slowly and always chew your food well;
Freshen the air in the house where you dwell;
Garments must never be made too tight;
Homes should be healthy, airy and light;
If you wish to be well, as you do, I've no doubt,
Just open your windows before you go out;
Keep your rooms always tidy and clean;
Let dust on the furniture never be seen.
Much illness is caused by the want of pure air,
Now, to open your windows be ever your care;
Old rags and old rubbish should never be kept;
People should see that their floors are well swept,
Quick movements in children are healthy and right;
Remember the young cannot thrive without light;
See that the cistern is clean to the brim;
Take care that your dress is all tidy and trim;
Use your nose to find if there is a bad drain,
Very sad are the fevers that come in its train,
Walk as much as you can without feeling fatigue;
Xerxes could walk fully many a league.
Your health is your wealth which your wisdom must keep;
Zeal will help a good cause, and the good you will reap.

PITH AND POINT.

Of no account without a vice—The carpenter.—*Life.*

A missing button often suggests a miss to a man.—*Binghamton Republican.*

Every man has a serious rival in the ideal man a woman likes to sit and dream about.—*Atchison Globe.*

An upstart is a man who has been more successful than the man who tells you about him.—*Elmira Gazette.*

"Oh, why do summer roses fade?"
A poet asked one day.
"Because," the grosser mortal said—
"Because they're built that way."
—*Harpers Bazar.*

In order to fulfil your obligations you must love your neighbor as yourself even though you don't think much of him.—*Binghamton Leader.*

"Decline a man," the teacher cried,
The maiden colored red;
"Decline a man?" the pupil sighed,
"I can't—I won't!" she said.
—*Omaha Bee.*

The grasshopper has its ears in its forelegs. This sounds funny at first; but then think how many of the human family understand by their elbows!"—*Boston Transcript.*

He calls his girl his "little lamb,"
And there the variance lies;
She must be more mature, because
At him she casts sheep's eyes.
—*New York Herald.*

Miss Wee—"Oh, I'm invited to the party, but I don't know what in the world to wear. What would you wear if you had my complexion?" Miss Bee—"A thick veil."—*New York News.*

Some of Tennyson's early poetry was written with ink that has since faded entirely from the original manuscripts. These may now be classed as his first blank verse.—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

He smiled at the alto in the choir
And at the soprano grinned,
While the tenor turned as red as fire
And the basso got out of wind.
—*Judge.*

Guest—"I want a good, hearty dinner—plenty of variety. What would you advise?" Waiter—"Order consomme soup, hash and mince pie. That'll be sure to include everything."—*Buffalo Express.*

"Did you use the poultice I told you to put on your stomach?" "Yis, sor—and sorry the day that I did; I have been sick ever since, sor." "You have? I'm astonished! Where is the poultice now?" "Wh, sor, I et it long ago."—*Pharmaceutical Era.*

Ducks are Rapid Travelers.

Mr. John Petty, a noted small game hunter of Omaha, Nebraska, in a recent interview, said: "There is not a railroad train that can hold a candle to the slowest duck that flies. But the canvasback is the racer of them all, if he lays himself out to his work. When this duck is taking things easy, enjoying a little trip around the block, as it were, he goes through the air at the rate of about eighty miles an hour. If he has business somewhere and has to get there he puts at least two miles behind him every minute and does it easily. If you don't believe this just fire square at the leader in a string of canvas-backs who are out on a business cruise some time. Shot travel pretty fast, and if you happen to hit one of the birds see if it is not the sixth or seventh one back of the drake or leader. A drake does not always lead, but generally does if there is one in the flock; if there are more they seldom take the lead, but a wise old hen will be found there. If you wish to bring her down you must aim at least eight feet ahead of her, and if she falls you will find her a long distance off—say several hundred yards. The mallard, is slower; it is all he can do to make a mile a minute, but he can do it if he wants to. His regular flight is about forty-five miles an hour. The black duck is a close relative of the mallard, is also slow compared with the canvasback, and the pintail, widgeon and wood-duck are but little faster. The redhead can go easy and make ninety miles an hour as long as he likes, all day if necessary. The blue wing teal and his beautiful cousin, the green wing, can fly side by side and make 100 miles an hour without turning a feather. And maybe you think a wild goose can't fly. But he can. If you see a flock of big Canadas moving along so high up that they seem to be scraping the sky with their backs you would hardly think they were making a hundred miles an hour, but they are. The wild goose is not much of a pedestrian, but on the wing he is a hummer.—*New Orleans Time Democrat.*

The Old-Teeth Market.

An uptown dentist displays a peck or more of teeth, the product of many aching jaws, in a glass case in front of his establishment. A curious individual a few days ago asked the doctor if the teeth outside were all drawn by him.

"Yes, and down in my cellar I have a flour barrel full, of all sizes. We used to sell them to articulators of skeletons, and we got $1 a quart for them. They had to buy more than a quart sometimes to get even one tooth to suit, because a skeleton with a full set of teeth was worth at least $15 more than one not having all its teeth. But that trade is about lost to this country because they can set up a skeleton so much cheaper in France. There ought to be a heavy tariff duty on skeletons.—*Philadelphia Record.*