THE EASTON GAZETTE.

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KNOW THAT ..

IT IS ONLY A FEW WEEKS BEFORE

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AND NOW IS THE TIME TO SIT FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS

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FOR SALE BY

J. E. Shannahan.

Malaria Banished by Artesian Wells.

Our correspondent at Lake City, Williamsburg county, reports that there are now 18 artesian wells in the village and adds, "Before the wells were bored the people suffered a great deal with fever and malaria, but now it is a rare thing, indeed, to hear of a case of either." This is very decided testimony to the value of pure water for the redemption of "malarial districts," and Lake City's experience and example should not be lost on other places where the water is bad and health no better. There was a "great deal" of fever in the village when the wells were shallow. Now a case of it is "rare." That is sermon enough for sensible people in other fever haunted places.—Charleston News and Courier.

She Rules Europe.

"Germany," says The St. James Gazette, "has had five sovereigns since Queen Victoria began to reign. She herself will in future be recognized as the ancestress of one of the most powerful rulers. Her grandson wears the iron crown of Germany. Her granddaughter is empress of Russia. Another granddaughter is the crown princess of Roumania. Her second son rules over the principality of Saxe-Coburg. The hereditary princess of Saxe-Meiningen is her granddaughter. The heir to the throne of Greece is her descendant, the Grand Duke of Hesse her grandson. She has no fewer than 61 descendants who one day between them promise to be at the head of more than half of Europe."

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THE GAZETTE

EASTON, MD.

RUSSIAN CENTENARIANS.

Dwellers In the Caucasus Whose Ages Run Up to 140 and 150.

Last year an old peasant named Ivan Kouzmin was reported to have traveled from Moscow to Kiev at the age of 140. He was said to be in good health. He had formerly been coachman to Count Sheremetief, but in 1840 was sent to Siberia, where he spent 54 years, returning in 1894. His is not the only instance in which a Siberian exile has survived to extreme old age. Two years ago there was said to have died in Samara one Lavrentii Efimof, who had attained the age of 150. According to the newspaper reports of him he took part as a boy in the famous Pugatchef rebellion in the reign of Catherine the Great, and for his share in that brief but sanguinary outbreak spent 30 years of his life in Siberia. Recently there was said to be living in the village of Vank (Saratof government) an Armenian aged 110, the proud ancestor of 91 descendants, of whom 71 were still living. His name was David Kazarian. Another Armenian, a priest named Ter-Mikaeliantz, was reported not long ago to be living at Gori in the Caucasus at the age of 108. He was still able to walk to church and once a year performed the liturgy. If recent history in the Turkish empire continues to repeat itself, such instances of longevity among the Armenians seem likely to become rare. Last December there died in the government of Kharkof an old man, Theodore Liptzof, who was said to have reached the age of 115. He well remembered the Napoleonic invasion of 1812. It is worth noting that he drank vodka freely and that he took snuff and was an inveterate smoker of tobacco, which he not infrequently chewed as well. The Caucasus would seem to be a region favorable to length of days. In addition to the instance of the Armenian priest already quoted the following other instances have been reported from there:

Last year, in the town with the unpronounceable name of Mtzkhet, a peasant with the appropriate but equally unpronounceable name of Adam Martolekishwili died at the reputed age of 130. Unfortunately some doubt must be thrown on the accuracy of this instance, for the newspaper (The Kavkaz) from which it is quoted adds that Adam left two sons, the eldest 60 and the youngest 40 years of age. If this be true, the youngest son must have been born to his father at the great age of 90, an almost incredible feat in nonpatriarchial times. Adam is said to have left a widow aged 100, and this same town with the impossible name is stated still to shelter several old men and old women between 90 and 100. Three years ago one of its favored inhabitants, a woman, died at the age of 120. Happy Mtzkhet! In Tiflis, not long ago, a woman named Urumsima Arutunova died at the supposed age of 120, and as recently as May last a brutal murder was brought to light in the district of Tiflis in which the victim was said to be 100 years old. The object of the crime was not discovered. The case of Nicolas de Savin, the old French soldier who was taken prisoner by the Russians in 1812 and died two years ago in Saratof at the age of 126, was commented upon at that time in the English press. About the same time the case of another old soldier was brought forward, a Finn living in Wyborg, whose age was said to be 122. This summer there was said to be living a still older Cossack soldier. This man, named Solodof, residing in the village of Jovnino (Poltava government), is reported to have passed his one hundred and twenty-fifth birthday. Finally an old woman, aged 117, is, it is stated, still living in Nikolaief. She is a Pole and remembers the taking of Warsaw by the Russians in 1793. In closing the list it is well to add that in many of the instances quoted a closer investigation might materially diminish the ages of the persons in question. Only last year a paragraph appeared in the papers relating to an old man who had come from Siberia and who had reached the age of 138. A later paragraph stated that on examining his passport his true age was found to be only 99.—London Lancet.

Bicycle Fire Engine.

In Paris is to be seen a fire engine propelled by cycling firemen. The machine has the appearance of two tandem bicycles coupled with a single steering post. Hanging between the two bicycle frames are the hose reel and a rotary pump. The whole outfit weighs less than 140 pounds, and four experienced wheelmen can push this along faster than any other fire engine ever went. The foot power of the four men propels the machine to the scene of action, and when once there the same power pumps the water. After the arrival at the scene each man is assigned to some part of the duty of making the change. One raises the back of the machine on a leg, allowing the rear wheels to revolve freely. He also throws the pump into working order, and the others have unreeled the hose and made the coupling connections. Then, jumping into the saddles again, the energies of the men are directed to pumping. About 4,500 gallons of water per hour can be thrown between 75 and 100 feet in the air. The rapidity with which the machine can be propelled to a fire and also with which it can be put into action are its two great advantages. In two or three minutes after its arrival all necessary changes can be made and the machine is pumping a stream over the roof.

SEVEN MILES OF SOLDIERS.

The Impressiveness of the Recent Review at Goerlitz.

The Germans know how to make a good show with troops. At the maneuvers on Thursday at Goerlitz 80,000 men, 7,000 horses and 400 guns were in action. The line was seven miles long. These soldiers are trained to the highest point, and the spectacle was a brilliant one. It was intended to impress the people at home with the strength of the government, and those outside are supposed to learn from it the sort of enemies they would meet if war should arise. Germany is on a splendid war footing. The young emperor is a soldier. By his energy and restless moving all over the empire he shows his subjects what a deep interest he takes in the army, as well as in other branches of his government. The czar, of course, kept his eyes open during his trip through Germany.

From our point of view the withdrawing of over 400,000 men from productive operations might seem a useless tax on the people, but a standing army is, of course, a necessity for Germany. There is not the slightest hope that the dream of those who are anxious that the great nations of Europe shall break up their armed camps and sell their ships-of-war will ever be realized. The ambition of the rulers and the jealousy of the people are too powerful forces for that to take place. There is far more probability that the armaments of the nations that are likely to come into collision will be increased rather than reduced.

Germany in reality seems not to suffer greatly from the heavy charge of sustaining so many men. Germany is no longer an agricultural nation. She has become a very important factor in the manufacturing world—so important, indeed, as a study of her exports will show, that England is watching her progress in manufacturing with jealous eyes. Germany's foreign trade is steadily increasing, and in some important branches she has a monopoly. German workmen lack some of the quickness and the inventive skill that characterize the American skilled mechanic, but they make up for these in thoroughness and exactness in their work. They may exhibit some slowness in reaching their point, but they accomplish in their way what they undertake. The love of country is very strong among the Germans. The nation is welded together today as powerfully as it ever was. If a war should arise, the people would stand together as solidly as they have ever done. But there is no indication that war is near.—Baltimore American.

Won the Bet.

As she walked past the large plate glass windows of the —— club the other afternoon every member in sight popped up and watched her as she disappeared around the corner.

Then there was a prolonged whistle in various keys.

"Well, well!"

"How's that?"

"By George!"

"She looked at you, Jack."

"No, I think she looked at Wilton."

"Well, she's a beauty!"

Then one of the members rose and seized his hat.

"Where you going, Marcus?"

"Well, boys, she looked at me, and I think she's an old acquaintance of mine from San Francisco."

There was a groan of derision, but Marcus was gone.

He hastened around the corner and saw the divinity walking ahead of him down Broadway.

Ah! She stopped to gaze into a picture shop window.

He was beside her in an instant and touched his hat.

"I beg your pardon," he said, "but didn't I know you in Frisco?"

The girl looked at him in cold disapproval.

"You did not," she replied.

"I beg your pardon if I have offended you," said the gallant clubman.

"Oh, I excuse you!" was her reply. "I wagered $5 with a friend that some fool would come out of that club and follow me the first time I went by it, and I've won."

Then she took a car—alone.—Polly Pry in New York Recorder.

The Vanderbilt House.

The handsome home of Cornelius Vanderbilt on Fifth avenue is receiving new decorations. Groups of classic figures are being carved upon the porte cochere.

The driveway reaches the house by dipping under the massive porte cochere.

About the columns which support the roof of this are now scaffolds upon which are models of classic groups of men, women and children. Stonecutters, under the direction of a sculptor, are copying the figures with chisel and mallet upon the sides of the great pedestals which support the columns.

The groups when finished will cover the sides of the pedestals, except on those nearest the house. They are six in number and will be in bas-relief. Music, literature and art are some of the pleasures which the groups symbolize. Each group will be an art gem in itself.

The house has long been regarded as one of the handsomest in America and is artistic within and without. Even the massive iron fence which surrounds the grounds in which the house sits is a work of art and cost thousands of dollars.—New York World.

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