THE EASTON GAZETTE.

VOL. 81. NO. 23. EASTON, MD., SATURDAY MAY 1, 1897 $1.50 PER YEAR

DARKIE DAN'S DISCOVERY.

BY COLONEL PRENTISS INGRAHAM.

The good barque Vigil set sail with every prospect of making a safe and pleasant voyage around the Horn to San Francisco, touching at several ports on the way.

Captain Hedge Thompson was a thorough sailor, a genial gentleman and a firm, but able commander. He had taken with him a youth of sixteen, the son of a handsome widow whom he hoped to make his wife upon his return to Baltimore; and she had consented to part with her only child, as he would be in such good hands, especially as the boy expected to become a captain some day, of his own ships, for the widow had large shipping interests left her by her husband.

But the widow had stipulated that Captian Thompson must take along Darkie Dan, a negro who had sailed with her husband for years, and to all parts of the world, and who was devoted to the boy, Arthur Arleigh. Captain Thompson had given Darkie Dan the berth of cabin steward, and save that the negro dressed like an Arab, he was a splendid hand to have along.

Arthur Arleigh shared the cabin with the captain, but was turned over to the boatswain to teach him all he knew of seamanship, and the youth was an apt scholar.

But trouble was brewing upon the good barque Vigil, before she had been a week at sea; and it was the widow's son who made the discovery.

When sure that he was right, he told of his discovery to Darkie Dan; and the latter set out to play the detective, and find out if the boy was right.

The first mate of the Vigil was one who had served long under the widow's husband, Captain Arleigh. He had know the widow when she was pretty Ethel Aldrich, had loved her, and had never forgiven the man under whom he served, and to whom he owed so much, for winning her.

When she became a widow he expected to win her, and then came in Captain Thompson as a rival.

So the mate got the place on the captain's vessel, and the discovery that Arthur made was, that he and several of the crew were often talking apart together, and he overheard enought to find that there was some plot on hand against the ship and Captain Thompson.

With Darkie Dan in the secret, Arthur felt safe: and matters went quietly along until, one day, the captain called to the boatswain and told him to take Arthur for a cruise aloft.

The two started up the shrouds, when suddenly Darkie Dan came rushing upon deck and crying excitedly: My God, Cap'n there's going to be a mutiny!"

Captain Thompson signaled for the boatswain and Arthur to descend, and learned from the negro that he had heard the first mate plan with six of the sailors to seize the Vigil that night, kill the skipper, the boatswain, Arthur and himself, also the second mate and all who offend them, run the ship near shore, scuttle her, and take to a boat with what valuables there were aboard, and on landing state that she had foundered in a storm.

Forewarned by Darkie Dan's discovery, Captain Thompson arrested the mate in his cabin, though not until he had to shoot him; and the other mutineers were seized and put in irons, nine of them in all, being just half the ship's crew.

And on her way continued the Vigil, the mutineer mate dying at sea from his wound. Entering her first port, the Vigil shipped more men, and in good time reached San Francisco, where the mutinous men were delivered up to the authorities.

When the Vigil returned to Baltimore the captain made the widow his wife, and in due time Arthur became a captain, while Darkie Dan is like a shadow, never leaving him.

About Peaches.

The early peaches last year were a blank failure. In a hundred peaches you were sure of as many worms, perhaps more. Medium and late ones were better, and where the fruit was fine the prices were good. This does not apply to peaches alone, but apples, pears, plums, grapes and small fruits as well. There is a remedy for this—spray them. Then you will find the conditions reversed. Instead of knotty, wormy, worthless ruit, you will get sound, high-colored fruit that will bring a good price. Do the same with your tomatoes and your crops will be more than doubled. Call upon A. H. Larrimore, Easton, at once and get a spray pump of the best make and the necessary compounds. This is no experiment, it is well proven. 1-16-4-17

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Don't Let It Catch You Unprepared—Insure in the Grangers' Mutual.

The subject of fire insurance is getting to be a perplexing problem for the average farmer. Nearly every time he has to renew his insurance he finds the rates have increased, while the products of his farm are declining. When he was receiving $1.50 for wheat and corn was selling for 65 or 75 cts, he could get his insurance for ¾ per cent for three years. Now the same property costs him just double, or 1½ per cent, and is it not reasonable that he should object to paying the extra charges? Quite often he will give the agent a piece of his mind, pay the additional charge, and go off as if he thought the agent was doing this on his own account. Yet, the agent that is abused has nothing to do with fixing the rates. Others will not insure at all, unless they can find a company that will carry their risk at a reasonable rate. These same men are so thoroughly prejudiced against a Mutual Company that they believe that any other company except a Stock Company is a fraud. The situation is such that a great many farmers are beginning to think for themselves. The rates are fixed by a combine and each Stock Co. must bind themselves to charge the same rate. Even some Mutual Cos. are not free from this arrangement. So it does not matter whether you insure through an agent here in Easton or Philadelphia or New York, the cost is the same in either case, for I know from experience. Why is it that the insurance business is mostly done by foreign companies? There must be some profit in the business for capitalists of other countries to come over here to insure our property. Is there not enough enterprise and money in this country? Why not patronize a home company, chartered by this state, and keep the money at home? Then is there any necesity for paying from $10,000 to $50,000 salaries to officers of insurance companies, while we the tillers of the soil can scarcely make a living? Ten years ago there was collected in the State of New York for fire insurance in one year nearly $17,000,000, and the same year the amount paid out for losses was nearly $8,000,000, what became of the other $9,000,000 was not stated.

Compare our method with those of of other Companies, and we think you will come to the same conclusion that many of your neighbors have, and do as they have done—

Insured in the Grangers' Mutual

It is not for us to say insurance rates are exorbitant, but we are convinced that ten thousand dollar salaries to officials, and office rent of like extravagance, and agents innumerable, paying fees, are above the means of farmers, and to the support of which they need not contribute.

It is not, however, our purpose to question the utility of stock company insurance, for perhaps no better system will be devised to meet the wants of city and village property owners than that now in operation; but we desire to persuade farmers of our state to abandon this expensive system and avail themselves of the safer and much cheaper mode cooperative insurance. We have statute laws, enacted expressly for the benefit of farmers, by which we are forbidden to take other than farm risks, and where only actual losses and the trifling expenses of organization can be charged. We have always been antagonized by stock company interests, and many farmers have been persuaded to believe that this is a less reliable insurance but let us illustrate it.

We will suppose that one hundred farmers are enrolled equally in a mutual company. Their buildings can not be exposed by other buildings within one hundred yards for the law forbids it, so there could be but one loss by one fire, and that could not exceed five thousand dollars, for that was limited by law. Now suppose one fire should occur of two, three or five thousand dollars the limit possible. There are then ninety-nine members left who are bound by law to share in payment of the loss in proportion to the amount they have insured and it is as reliable as would be a bond and mortgage against the property of each insured party. Now can any one claim a like security for any stock company doing business in this state?

To provide such insurance as is required by the farmer, a Company is needed that insures no city or town property, manufacturing or business risks, one that pays its losses promptly and furnishes insurance at actual cost, most economical in its management and instead of building up a large cash surplus fund, leaves its capital at home and at work among the people to assist in developing the resources of its members and increasing their material wealth. Such a Company is the

Grangers' Mutual,

and such are its distinctive features.

It has been in successful operation for years, and has satisfactorily proven to its members the wisdom of its system, its managers have thus sought to build up a permanent company among us, believeing it will receive the support and influence of all those who desire cheap, safe and permanent protection for their homes.

A GRANGER.

SENATOR GRAY'S STRANGE POSITION.

Advocates a Treaty to Give Great Britain Rights in Chesapeake and Delaware Bays.

Senator Gray's attempt to secure the passage of the English Arbitration Treaty without amendments, which would prevent the fisheries of Chesapeake Bay and Delaware Bay from being opened up by "arbitration" to British fishermen, is a matter which deserves the serious attention of the citizens of the four States within whose territories these Bays are included.

As originally proposed and advocated by Senator Gray and others, every possible claim made by England was designed by the Treaty to be referred for decision finally to the "arbitrator" named by the King of Sweden, or to "the mediation of one or more friendly powers."

Among the subjects directed by Articles VI and IX of the Treaty to be referred to foreign "mediation" are:

1. Fisheries.
2. Rights of access.
3. Navagation.

If anyone should doubt that these articles of the Treaty were adroitly constructed by Sir Julian Pauncefote in order to permit a foreign "mediator" to pass upon the question of our "right" to exclude British fishermen from Chesapeake and Delaware Bays, let him recall:

(a) England's attempt in 1854 to secure reciprocal fishing privileges in all the waters of the United States.

(b) England's endeavor in 1887, under the Bayard-Chamberlain Treaty, Article XII, to secure fishing privileges within three miles of the shore of all our bays from which English fishermen are now excluded.

(c) England's success in inducing the Arbitration Commission of 1893 to decide by a vote of 5 to 2 that "the United States has not any right of protection or property in the fur seals in Behring Sea outside the ordinary three-mile limit." Those voting to sustain England in depriving the United States of a jurisdiction which had been exercised without question for almost twenty years were Baron De Courcel, representing France; Sir John Thompson and Lord Hannen, representing England; Marquis Venosta, representing Italy, and Sir Greger Gram, the umpire appointed by the King of Sweden. The claim of the United States received only the votes of its two representatives—Hon. Justice Harlan and Hon. John T. Morgan, Senator from Alabama.

The Behring Sea Decision to Be Used as a Precedent.

Nothing is more certain than that it is England's intention to use the Behring Sea Arbitrator's decision as a precedent and a wedge for further aggressions.

The President of the Arbitration Tribunal, Baron Courcel, predicted that in his final address.

"This part of our work," he declared, "inaugurates great innovations. * * * Our work is *a first attempt* at sharing the products of the sea. * * If this attempt succeeds, it will doubtless be followed by numerous imitations till the waters, as well as the continents, have become the subject of a careful partition."

Chesapeake and Delaware Bays in Danger.

Chesapeake and Delaware Bays have been singled out as the next American water to be attacked by English statecraft. The following significant statements bearing on this are to be found in Walker's "Science of International Law," published in London in 1893 and regarded as defining future English policy:

"But one power has, in the present century, asserted the principle of the headland line. It was applied less than a century ago by President Madison to the wide expanse of the Delaware and Chesapeake Bays. * * Great Britain has, however, become the most resolute of the supporters of the three-mile rule. * * * It falls to her now to vindicate it against the United States."

In other words, England, having failed in forcing American fishermen out of the Bay of Chaleur and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, is now seeking, under the guise of arbitration and other treaties, to obtain entrance for her subjects into the choicest of American fisheries.

Under the Arbitrtion Treaty advocated by Senator Gray, the question would be, "Has the United States any right of protection or property in the oyster beds or fisheries in Chesapeake Bay outside the ordinary three mile limit?" and the answer of the foreign mediator would be, "No!"

We sought or accepted" foreign mediation," and in honor would be bound to abide by the result.

Millions of dollars of property would be destroyed by Canadian poachers, and industries supporting thousands of our citizens would be annihilated in a season.

State laws would be of no avail, for the Constitution of the United States declares that—

"All treaties made or which shall be the supreme law of the land, and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, anything in the Constitution or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding."

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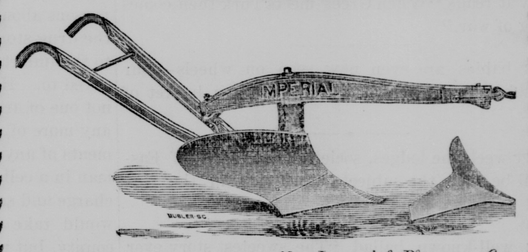
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