owners of land having a water front upon any part of the said areas so opened to oyster culture, shall have the exclusive right to rent any land open to oyster planting under the provisions of this Act, adjacent to their lands. And for an additional period of six months, after the expiration of the said period of four months all boatmen, residents of this State, who shall be engaged in the business of dredging, scraping or tonging for oysters at the time of the completion of the said survey, or at the respective times of the opening for oyster culture of several areas or if said survey shall be completed, or the said areas shall be opened to oyster culture during the closed season for dredging, scraping, or toning, as the case may be, then the persons so engaged at the end of the last dredging, scraping or toning season, shall have the like exclusive right in the order or their respective applications, as the same may be received and opened by the commissioners to rent any adjacent lands, provided that in no event shall any such land owner, boatman, or any other person, be permitted to rent or to acquire more than ten acres, or one hundred acres as the case may be, dependent upon the situation of the land which is leased or acquired; and provided further, that no such riparian, as is mentioned in this section, shall be entitled to rent the amount of ten acres, or one hundred acres, as the case may be, unless the water front of the land so owned by him, if fronting on water within the territorial limits of a county, be at least two hundred yards, or if fronting on waters in any other place, be at least seven hundred yards. The owners of land having a less water front than is mentioned above, shall be entitled to rent a proportionately less amount of land, dependent upon the length of the front upon water within county limits or elsewhere.

Section 101. Blank forms of application shall be furnished upon reasonable charges, to be prescribed by the Board of the Shell Fish Commissioners, to any person desiring the same. All such forms shall be printed and shall be substantially in the following language: Application for a lease to the Board of Shell Fish Commissioners of Maryland. The application of .....a resident of.....county, in the State of Maryland, respectfully shows that he is a resident of said State; that he wishes and intends to use the ground hereinafter described for planting or cultivating oysters. He therefore, requests that said board lease to him, in the name and on behalf of the State of Maryland.....acres of ground located under the waters of the State of Maryland, which ground is more particularly described as follows, to wit: (Describe here.) Dated at .....Maryland, this.....day of.....A. D.

.....
Applicant.

Section 102. When the period of ten months will have elapsed after said survey shall have been completed, or after the lands beneath the waters of any areas shall have been opened to leasing under Section 99 of this Act, the Board of Shell Fish Commissioners shall endeavor to lease the remaining portions of land so open to oyster culture under the provisions of this Act to applicants who shall be residents of Maryland, in the order of their applications as received and opened by said commissioners.

Section 103. Any person who may desire to plant and cultivate oysters in the area hereinbefore designated, shall file with the Board of Shell Fish Commissioners an application substantially in the form prescribed in Section 101 of this Act. The applicant shall indicate plainly the location of the land he desires to lease. The application shall be sworn to before a Justice of the Peace of this State. A fee of five dollars shall be paid by the applicant to the Board of Shell Fish Commissioners at the time of filing the application, which fee shall be returned to the applicant if his application shall be for any reason declined.

Section 104. If such applicant be a resident of the State of Maryland, and if no objections to the issuing of the lease asked for in any such application be filed with the commissioners within the period of thirty days after such application is made, or as soon as any objections that may have been filed to the granting of such lease will have been finally overruled by said commissioners, the said commissioners upon payment by the applicant of a further fee of two dollars and a half, in addition to the fee of five dollars, which is to accompany his application, shall cause to be entered in a book or books to be known as "The Register of Titles to Oyster Lands," the name of the applicant, with a concise but clear description of the land applied for. A survey of such land at the expense of the applicant shall be made by the Board before the entry, if, in its opinion, said survey is necessary to an accurate description thereof. The payment of the proper fees due for the application and the record in the register required by this section to be kept, shall constitute between the State and the applicant the relation of landlord and tenant for the term of twenty years, from the record of the lands so applied for as aforesaid, at the annual rentals provided in section 98 of this Act.

Section 105. The relation of the landlord and tenant, stated in section 104, shall have all the incidents attaching to that relation as the same exists under the laws of Maryland, excepting only the following particulars:

First. The only remedy for the State for non-payment of the rent of oyster lands shall be the strict enforcement of the provisions set forth in section 98 of this Act. Upon the non-payment of any rent for the time therein mentioned, it shall be the duty of the Board of Shell Fish Commissioners, after a written notice of not less than ten days to the lessee, to declare the lease vacated by stamping the word "void" in distinct letters across the description in the register; second, land leased under this Act shall be used only for the purpose of planting and cultivating oysters; third, no right shall exist to redeem or purchase any land of the State so leased; fourth, any other modifications caused by the provisions of this Act.

Section 106. The Commissioners shall at once notify the lessee of the record in the register required by Section 104, and the lessee shall, as soon thereafter as practicable, not exceeding thirty days from the receipt of said notice, cause the ground designated as leased to him to be plainly marked out by stakes, buoys, or monuments, under the supervision of the commissioners. At least four of such stakes, buoys and monuments shall have the initials of the lessee plainly marked upon them, and such stakes, buoys or monuments shall be at all times during the existence of said lease continued by the said lessee or his legal representatives.

Section 107. This Act is not intended to apply to any lands owned by private persons, the bounds of which extend below low water into or beneath the waters of this State. This Act shall not be so construed as to apply to any creek, cove or inlet, less than one hundred yards in width at its mouth at low tide.

Section 108. Any person who has, prior to the passage of this Act, lawfully appropriated or taken up any land in this State, for the purpose of planting, beding or cultivating oysters thereon, may become a lessee of said land for the term of twenty years from the passage of this Act, with all the incidents, including the payment of the rents, of the leases contemplated by this Act, provided such person gives written notice to the Board of Shell Fish Commissioners of his intention to become such lessee within six months after the passage thereof. The holding of any person who may have appropriated any such land shall become void and of no effect in law, upon the expiration of the said period of six months from the passage hereof, if no such notice of intention will have been given within said period of six months.

Section 109. The lessee of any land leased for the purpose of planting and cultivating oysters shall have exclusive ownership of and title to all oysters planted by him or existing on the land leased.

Section 110. No assignment or transfer of any interest acquired by this Act shall be valid for any purpose if made to a non-resident of this State. If any such assignment is attempted to be made, all interest of the grantor, or assignor, shall revert to the State, as if no lease had ever been made. If any assignment of any interest created by this Act is attempted to be made to any corporation, or joint stock company, all the interest of the grantor or assignor shall revert to the State as if no lease had ever been made. If any assignment of any interest created by this Act is attempted to be made to any person in such a way that the assignee shall become the holder of more than ten acres, or one hundred acres, as the case may be, according to the location of land leased under this Act, all interest of the grantor, or assignor, in case of such an assignment, shall revert to the State as if no lease had been made.

Section 111. It shall be lawful for any tonger, between the 15th day of April and the 15th day of May in any year, to take oysters from such natural beds or bars in the toning districts of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, as the commission may mark out for that purpose, and under such regulations as said commission may from time to time prescribe; and provided however, that said oysters may be sold only for the purposes now permitted under the existing laws of Maryland, during the season of the year above mentioned; and in addition thereto, to persons engaged in the industry of planting and cultivating oysters within the area designated by this Act, the same to be delivered only upon lands which may have been leased under the provisions of this Act for said purposes of planting or cultivation.

Section 112. It shall not be necessary for any holder of oyster land under this Act to take out any license for dredging, scraping, or tonging oysters on any land so held by him, and oysters on such land may be taken in any manner and at such times as may be desired by the holder of such land as allowed by the existing laws of this State.

Section 113. Any person who shall willfully and without authority take or remove oysters from any land leased under the provisions of this Act, or shall willfully injure or interfere with the oysters of such land in any manner or injure the oysters therefrom situated; or remove, alter or interfere with the stakes, buoys, or monuments marking the same, shall, upon conviction thereof, for the first offense, be sentenced to imprisonment in jail or the penitentiary, in the discretion of the Court, for not less than three months and not more than two years, and for the second, or any subsequent offense, be sentenced to imprisonment in the penitentiary for not less than two years and not more than five years.

Section 114. Any person, who shall work a dredge, scrape, or pair of tongs, or any other implement for the taking of oysters upon any land leased under the provisions of this Act without the consent of the lessee or owner, or who shall, while upon or sailing over any such ground or bed, cast, haul, or have overboard any such dredge, scrape or pair of tongs or other implement for the taking of oysters under any pretense, or for any purpose whatever, without the consent of such lessee or owner, upon conviction thereof, shall, for the first offense, be fined not less than fifty dollars, nor more than two hundred and fifty dollars, or in the discretion of the Court, be imprisoned in jail, or in the penitentiary for not less than three months, nor more than one year, or shall be both so fined and imprisoned, and for the second, or any subsequent offense, shall be sentenced to imprisonment in the penitentiary for not less than two years nor more than five years.

Section 115. Any person who shall make his boat fast to a State buoy, or remove the same, or in any manner interfere therewith the same, shall, in the discretion of the Court upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of not less than one year, or more than two years.

Section 116. In addition to other penalties herein provided, any person convicted of a violation of this Act under either of the three preceding sections, shall be, and is hereby denied the right to take out any license to dredge, scrape or tong for oysters in any of the waters of this State, for the period of three years after said conviction.

Section 117. It shall be the duty of all officers and members of the State Fishery Force to arrest persons violating this Act, and to patrol such waters of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries as they may be directed by the Board of Public Works to patrol, for the purpose of preventing violations of this Act.

Section 118. The revenues arising from the operation of this Act shall be applied in the following manner:

First. To the payment of all salaries, expenses, surveys, outlays and disbursements authorized by this Act; second, the balance, if any, to be paid at the end of each year into the Treasury of the State, leaving, however, a balance at the end of each year of ten thousand dollars with the Board of Shell Fish Commissioners, to be applied to the current expenses of its office for the ensuing year. All moneys so paid as aforesaid into the treasury of the State shall be placed to the credit of a special fund, called the "Special Road Fund."

Section 119. The Board of Shell Fish Commissioners shall annually prepare and publish in pamphlet form a full report of its transactions during the year prior thereto, as well as a statement of the operations of this Act, and an account of the receipts and disbursements hereunder. The said report shall also contain a detailed statement of the lands leased under this Act with the names of the lessees. The said commissioners shall also in its report make such recommendations as it may deem proper concerning further legislation or changes in the present oyster law, and shall present the said reports to the General Assembly of Maryland.

Section 3. And be it enacted, That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage, and all laws of Maryland inconsistent with this Act shall be, and the same are hereby repealed.

Approved April 2, 1906.
EDWIN WARFIELD,
Governor.
JOSEPH B. SETH,
President of Senate.
CARVILLE D. BENSON,
Speaker of House of Delegates.

[CHAPTER 712.]

AN ACT to repeal Section 164, of Article 81 of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, (as legalized by the Act of 1904, Chapter 72), title, "Revenue and Taxes," subtitle, "Tax on Gross Receipts of Certain Corporations," as said Section was enacted by the Act of the General Assembly of 1896, Chapter 120 Section 1, Code Section 164, and to re-enact the said section with amendments.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Section 164 of Article 81, of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, (as legalized by the Act of 1904, Chapter 72), title, "Revenue and Taxes," subtitle, "Tax on Gross Receipts of Certain Corporations," as the said section was enacted by the Act of the General Asembly of 1896, Chapter 120, Section 1, Code Section 164, be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments, so as to read as follows:

Section 164. A tax or a franchise tax is hereby levied annually upon the gross receipts of all railroad companies, whose roads are worked by steam power, incorporated by or under the authority of this State or any other State, Territory, District of Columbia or Foreign country, and doing business in this State, such State tax being as follows, to wit: One and one-quarter per centum on the first $1,000 per mile of gross earnings, or on the total earnings if they are less than $1,000 per mile, and two per centum on all gross earnings above $1,000 and up to $2,000 per mile, and when the earnings exceed $2,000 per mile, two and one-half per centum on all earnings above that sum; a State tax, as a franchise tax of two and one-half per centum upon the gross receipts or earnings of every telegraph or cable, express or transportation, parlor car, sleeping car, safe deposit, and trust company incorporated under any general or special law of this State and doing business therein; a State tax as a franchise tax of two per centum, is hereby levied annually upon the gross receipts or earnings of all telephone and oil pipe line companies and all guarantee and fidelity companies, title insurance companies incorporated under any general or special law of this State and doing business therein; and a State tax as a franchise tax of one per centum, upon the annual gross receipts or earnings of all electric light companies incorporated under any general or special law of this State and doing business therein; and a State tax as a franchise tax of one and one-half per centum, upon the annual gross receipts of earnings of all electric, construction, and gas companies incorporated under any general or special law of this State and doing business therein; and every guano, phosphate or fertilizer company incorporated by or under the laws of any other State, Territory, District of Columbia or foreign country and doing business in this State; if any such railroad company has part of its road in this State and part thereof in another State or States, such company shall return a statement of its gross receipts over its whole line of road, together with a statement of the whole length of its line and the length of its line in this State, and such company shall pay to the State at the said rates hereinbefore prescribed upon such proportion of its gross earnings as the length of its line in this State bears to the whole length of its line; and similar statements shall be made by each oil pipe line company, and each sleeping car, parlor car, express or transportation company, telephone or telegraph or cable company, so that the proportion of the said gross earnings of the said companies, respectively, accuring, coming from their business within this State, may be accurately ascertained, or said statement may be made in any other mode satisfactory to and required by the State Tax Commissioner; the said gross receipts taxes shall be due and payable at the treasury on or before the first day of July in each year. All the provisions and requirements of this section shall be in force and applied to all corporations of a like kind to those above enumerated which are doing business in this State, and which are incorporated by or under the laws of any other State, district, territory or foreign country. Every un-incorporated association, partnership or individual engaged in any one or more of the above specially enumerated branches of business in this State, except guano, phosphate and fertilizer companies, shall be subject to said gross receipts tax, and shall comply with all the provisions of this Article with reference thereto as fully as if such association, partnership or individual was a corporation.

Section 2. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved April 5, 1906.
EDWIN WARFIELD,
Governor.
JOSEPH B. SETH,
President of Senate.
CARVILLE D. BENSON,
Speaker of House of Delegates.

[CHAPTER 766.]

AN ACT to repeal Section 5 of Article 62 of the Code of Public General Laws, entitled, "Marriage," and re-enact the same with amendments.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Section 5 of Article 62 of the Code of Public General Laws, entitled "Marriage" be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted, so as to read as follows:

5. That before the clerk of any of the Courts aforesaid shall issue any license, he shall examine on oath the person making application for same, to ascertain, first the full name of the parties; second, their place of residence; third, their age; fourth, their color; fifth, whether married or single; sixth, whether related or not, if so, in what degree of relationship; seventh, if ever divorced, which facts shall be set out in printed form to be signed by the person making the application.

Section 2. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect on January 1st, 1907.

Approved April 5, 1906.
EDWIN WARFIELD,
Governor.
JOSEPH B. SETH,
President of Senate.
CARVILLE D. BENSON,
Speaker of House of Delegates.

[CHAPTER 783.]

AN ACT to repeal Section 83 of Article 21 of the Code of Public General Laws of the State of Maryland, and to re-enact the same with amendments.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Section 83 of Article 21 of the Public General Laws of the State of Maryland, title, "Conveyancing," be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments, so as to read as follows:

83. All deeds intended to convey or create an estate of inheritance or freehold or any declaration or limitation of use or any estate above seven years, and all mortgages, bonds of conveyance and bills of sale, which have been executed subsequent to the passage of the Act of the General Assembly of Maryland passed at the January Session, 1858, Chapter 298, and which have not been acknowledged and recorded according to the laws existing at the time of said execution or where the certificate of acknowledgment is not in the prescribed form, shall be and the same are hereby made valid as between the parties thereto and their privies, to all intents and purposes as if acknowledgment and certificate thereof had been made in accordance with the law existing at the time of their making, and as if the same had been duly recorded; provided, the said deeds, mortgages, bonds of conveyance and bills of sale in other respects are in conformity with the law, and provided further, that nothing in this section shall effect the interest of bona fide purchasers or creditors, without notice, who may have become so previous to the passage of this Act.

Section 2. And be it enacted, That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved April 5, 1906.
EDWIN WARFIELD,
Governor.
JOSEPH B. SETH,
President of Senate.
CARVILLE D. BENSON,
Speaker of House of Delegates.

ODDS AND ENDS.

The flirt loves to captivate, but captivates not to love.

It doesn't take criminal lawyers long to become case-hardened.

Too many of our coming men never get any farther than the background.

Every man knows some other man whose funeral he would like to attend.

After marriage many a girl discovers that she trifled with the wrong man.

Some women's idea of economy is to spend less money for food and more for clothes.

Certain men make a specialty of manufacturing promises on which they hope to raise money.

Rather than pass through a gate the average boy will go out of his way to climb a fence.

It's a waist of time to pray for the heathen if you are not on speaking terms with your neighbor.

A man is like a razor; he must be completely strapped once in awhile in order to show how sharp he is.

People wouldn't lie half as much if they ought to.

When a woman has an ideal husband it is only a dream.

It's mighty interesting what a lot of kissing a little mouth can do.

Because a man gets damned by everybody doesn't necessarily mean he is fitted for public life.

One way to convince a woman you think she is pretty is to convince her you think her friends aren't.

It seems to make a man awful restless to get married.

It's terrible easy to dream you are making money.

A woman would have more faith in her husband if nobody else did.

Men would take a lot more vacations if their wives didn't go with them.

The nearest the average man comes to being happy is to dodge unhappiness.

Only the survivors believe in the survival of the fittest.

The poor we have always with us—especially poor excuses.

Enthusiasm sets the pace, but common sense wins in a walk.

Perseverance works wonders, but it can't convert bad eggs into chickens.

It is easy for a man to behave after he breaks into the has-been class.

You have to keep pumping a steady stream of favors into gratitude to keep it alive.

When a man's business isn't going right, his wife wants him to call the doctor or go to church more regularly.

You would think it would make a woman ashamed to figure how many boxes of good cigars a spring bonnet costs.

A bridal couple can lose a lot of money getting wedding presents for which they will have to give better ones.

THE LOVELIEST THING ON EARTH.

Once to a large and busy town
A lot of wise men came,
So wise that to the simplest thing
They'd give a Latin name.

Students and scholars, great and grave,
Of mighty fame and worth;
They met there to decide what is
The loveliest thing on earth.

For days and nights they did debate,
Propounding theories deep;
(And by their speeches long and dull
Sent everyone to sleep!)

With spectacles and microscopes,
And telescopes so high,
They tried to prove a thousand things.
Who understood? Not I.

Then, when a year had come and gone,
And still with learned care,
They argued hotly every day,
A little child came there.

One old professor, who was kind
(In spite of too much Greek),
Caressed the child, and said, "My dear,
Perhaps you've what we seek!"

"The loveliest thing on earth!" and all
The others cried, "Who knows?"
The child said, "Why, I've got it here!"
And showed—a new-blown rose.

—Dorothy M. S. Browne, in Lady's Pictorial.

THE STORY OF A HERO.

Would you like to hear the story of a hero?

It was just 632 years ago that the bravest of brave Scottish Kings was born. You have all heard his name. It was Robert Bruce.

He was descended from Robert de Bruis, a Norman Knight who went with William the Conqueror to England in 1066, and who founded the illustrious family of Bruce, famous in Scottish history.

They were all fighters; of course Robert Bruce was trained as a soldier and spent his life battling for his country. None of his family and few heroes equaled him in bravery.

When Bruce was only 22 years old he was head of a large army, and joined the Scottish leaders in arms against England for the independence of their country. He became one of the four regents of the Scottish Kingdom and was crowned King of Scotland at Scone on March 27, 1305.

Then began the fierce struggle of the Scotch against the English. Bruce was at first overcome and his estates confiscated, and he was forced to retire to the mountain wilderness for refuge. But two years later, he had rescued the whole of Scotland from the English, and taken possession of the Isle of Man. Though the English tried hard they could not oust the Scotsmen and the independence of Bruce and his Kingdom were recognized at the treaty of March 4, 1328.

The greatest battle fought by Bruce was that of Barmockburn, near Stirling Castle, when the English army of 100,000 men were totally routed by the Scotch numbering 30,000 and 15,000 camp-followers. The loss of the Scotch is said to have been only 5,000; while the English left 30,000 dead upon the field.

A beautiful monument to Robert Bruce stands today upon a high bluff overlooking the old battlefield which is now covered by well kept villages and farms, with the winding Forth flowing between. The tourist may see the "Bore stone" where Bruce planted his standard on that eventful day, June 24, 1314.

A pretty story is told of Robert Bruce who in a time of distress and weakness took refuge in a cave. Worn with fighting and fasting, he fell asleep. When he awoke, still somewhat discouraged, he noticed a spider that was busy at work spinning a web at the opening of the cave. The energy and industry of the busy little weaver impressed and touched him. He arose with fresh courage, reunited his brave scattered forces and went on to victory—Philadelphia Record.

"NAPOLEON."

We had once a prairie dog whom we named Napoleon, on account of his extraordinary energy, courage and acuteness. We had a pair of them, the other being Josephine; but there was nothing remarkable about her. Napoleon was a fat little fellow, but exceedingly strong and brave.

We had caught a young woodchuck. It was old enough to have all the undaunted ferocity of its species; and, indeed, it was already nearly three times the size of Napoleon. The woodchuck had been left out in the sitting room where it had retreated into the unused fireplace, and sat, glaring furiously at every one who approached, and keeping its mouth wide open, except when, from time to time, it would close it with a fearful snap, loudly grinding its teeth together in a way peculiar to woodchucks. Some one brought in Napoleon, and, to my horror, set him down on the floor. I was for snatching him up, feeling sure that the woodchuck would make an end of him; but my father said: "Let them be. We can interfere in time." Napoleon, after investigating other parts of the room, trotted toward the fireplace. The woodchuck drew himself up and opened his mouth as wide as it would go, while his eyes gleamed with fury; and I held my breath in terror for my pet, who walked up to him, seemingly greatly interested. Napoleon never paused an instant, but proceeded to examine the woodchuck's wide-open mouth, thrusting his whole muzzle inside it, and then actually putting out his little pink tongue and sampling the roof of the woodchuck's mouth! Every moment I thought: "Now, now it will be all up with Napoleon. Those awful jaws will shut and that will be the end."

But nothing of the kind happened; the woodchuck seemed entirely paralyzed; he did not relax a muscle, but sat immovable, with mouth wide open, as he had done when Napoleon first approached. The latter made a long and leisurely inspection, first of the inside and then of the outside of the woodchuck's mouth, and at last trotted calmly away again, leaving the poor nonplussed animal sitting calmly in the fireplace as before.

Napoleon lived for several years more, and at last died of old age (so we believe), his mate having previously escaped — From "Nature and Science," in St. Nicholas.

SQUIRRELS' WINTER STORIES.

Here in Maine—in fact, all over New England, says the Bangor News, red squirrels do not put by great hoards of any kind for winter use. When a Maine red squirrel has filled itself with acorns and beech nuts it will hide a few here and there—under leaves, in hollow logs, in cracks of rifted trees and among stone heaps.

An average red squirrel, having the run of an oak grove in the fall of the year, may in the course of two weeks hide away from two to four quarts of acorns, though they will be in perhaps twenty different places, and in no instance which we have noted has any nut been shelled.

The squirrel which plans a hoard of nuts and makes deliberate preparations for winter is the little chipmunk, or striped squirrel, which seeks winter quarters soon after heavy frost and which remains in hiding all winter. The chipmunk often hides as many as two quarts of shelled beech nuts in one place. Their store-houses are, as a rule, under the ground in sloping and sandy soil.

There is a colony of chipmunks among the mounds of graves in the cemetery on Indian Island, Old Town, which numbers nearly 100 individuals, and it speaks well for the kindness of the Indian children to know that the little workers are permitted to live so near to human habitations, for the Indian cottages are on all sides.

It is believed that most observing woodsmen will say that the red squirrels of this vicinity seldom make large catches of provisions for winter consumption and never shell the stored nuts. In fact, the red species have no need to pay much heed to such matters, as they are abroad and active in the coldest days of winter, as much as they are in midsummer, so precautions for food are not demanded. As the red squirrels subsist for a good part of the year upon the cones of pines and spruces, which hang to the limbs, they do not care how deep or hard the snow may be, feeling secure in finding all the food they want among the treetops.

A HUMANE HUNTER.

In the northern part of Maine, fifteen miles from the nearest neighbor, is a large and comfortable farm, where the wild folk of the woods are very happy because the farmer who lives there will not allow any bird or beast to be killed on his property.

The wild deer know they are safe there, for nearly every afternoon three or four would come out and feed in a field near the house, and we could go very near without frightening them.

The farmer has many sheep and lambs, and carries salt to the pasture for them every morning, and often at nightfall he sees the deer at the same place where salt was given to the sheep.

He tells the story of a hunter, who came to his home one autumn to kill deer, and when he found that the farmer would not have them killed on his farm he was anxious to go farther on, so the farmer harnessed a horse to take him to Moose River. As they drove along they saw a deer feeding near the edge of the wood; it lifted its graceful head and came down within a few feet of the carriage, walking along and watching the men with its beautiful, trustful eyes.

"Why don't you shoot?" asked the farmer. "You want to kill a deer.

"Shoot that deer!" replied the hunter. "I wouldn't hurt it for a thousand dollars! The man who would shoot a creature like that would be a villain."

This is one of the stories the farmer likes to tell.—Our Dumb Animals.

MAKING PAPER DOLLS.

Paper dolls always give delight, particularly if a little ingenuity is displayed in making the faces a little different from ordinary dolls' faces. Sheet cardboard not too thick is the best material for making these dolls, and the easiest way to mark them out is to cut a pattern from heavy cardboard and draw around it with a pencil. Mark an entire sheet at once. When the figures are cut out paste a scrap picture head on each one, leaving the neck of the scrap picture free and unattached. The top of the doll's dress slips under this neck and is thereby aided to remain securely in place. With pen, pencil or brush draw the lines to represent the underclothes. The stockings are usually painted with a dull black water color, though there is no reason why they may not be painted red and further adorned with stripes or dots. A good effect is secured by painting the shoes in gold paint. Slippers may be painted black and ornamented with bows or buckles. The foundation of the dress should be cut out of heavy cardboard and marked around on writing paper. White is the best color.

THE HAIRY WOODPECKER.

He's a drummer.
He eats the boring worm.
He rids the trees of insects.
He dresses in very smart black and white.
He dwells from Canada down to the Carolinas.
He uses his strong bill for a hammering tool.
He much prefers to dwell in the deep woods.
He has a bright red spot on the nape of his neck.
His other half is denied the fascinating spot of red.
He predicts warm weather by pecking low on a tree.

HEBREW COLONY IN CHINA.

SUPPOSED TO HAVE SETTLED THERE 2,400 YEARS AGO.

First Discovered by a Jewish Priest —Faith is Rapidly Declining and Now They Pay But Little Attention to the Ancient Customs of Their Religion.

For more than two thousand years there has been a colony of Jews established at Kaifengfu, China. The exact date of their entrance into the country is not known, but it is supposed from a tablet found in their synagogues at that place that they must have appeared about 500 B. C., although it may have been as late as 58 A. D. It is not until the third or fourth century that they are mentioned in Chinese annals, says the Cleveland Leader, when their synagogue is referred to by a Chinese writer as a "heaven spirit monastery." Western Persia is given as their starting point, by which Persia is probably meant, because of the number of Persian words which are used by the Chinese Hebrews.

Mr. Ezra, who is an authority on the subject, thinks that there is no good reason for the theory that the Chinese Hebrews are descended from the ten tribes. There are many references to these Hebrews from the year 878. An Arabian writer mentions them as one of the sects that perished in a general massacre at Khanfu, but in 956 and 958 there are records of the Chinese district officials conferring honors on Hebrews, and in 1163 the erection of a synagogue was begun in Kaifengfu.

Hebrews were invited to Pekin to join the imperial army. In the fifteenth century there were many Hebrew communities in China. The best information we have about these communities comes through the Jesuits who entered Pekin at the end of the sixteenth century.

The discovery of the Chinese Hebrews was made by Father Ricci, one of the first Jesuits to enter China.

Early in the seventeenth century, one summer day in Pekin, a visitor, prompted by rumors of the arrival of certain foreigners who worshipped a single God and yet were not Mohammedans called on Father Ricci. The missionary, noticing the difference of features from the ordinary Chinese, led him to the oratory and knelt on his knees before a picture of the Virgin with the infant Jesus and St. John the Baptist. Nearby was another picture representing four of the apostles.

The visitor knelt also, remarking: "We in China do reverence our ancestors. This is Rebecca with her sons Jacob and Esau, but as to the other picture, who make obeisance to only four sons of Jacob; were there not twelve?"

Returning to the former apartment mutual explanations followed and an unforseen solution ensued. The stranger was a Hebrew, Ngai by name, who had come to Pekin from Kaifengfu to procure literary honors. He stated that in his city there were some twelve families of Israelites, with a fair synagogue, in which they preserved a roll of the law more than four hundred years old, and in Hangchow; the capital of Chekiang, were many more families, also with a synagogue.

Scattered over the length and breadth of China there were others of his sect, but these were gradually being lost, from having no meeting place. When shown a Bible in Hebrew he confessed his inability to read it, though he recognized the characters. He said that his preference for Gentile literature subjected him to many reproaches from the chief of the synagogue. Father Ricci was able to test the truth of these statements, and despatched some Chinese Christian messengers to Kaifengfu for purposes of investigation, and soon received visits from other native Hebrews.

The condition of the Chinese Hebrews has been declining very fast since that time. A missionary in 1866 found them in an improverished condition. They had been obliged to tear down a part of their synagogue to sell it. Finally, some thirty years later, a society for the rescue of these people was established, and in response to an urgent invitation eight Chinese Hebrews left Kaifengfu for Shanghai. They arrived in that city in March, 1902, where they were cordially received by the Hebrew colony. Questioned as to their observance of their ancient religion, these Hebrews admitted that their faith was rapidly declining. At present they do not observe any of the ordinances of the Hebrew religion, nor do they observe the idolatrous practices of the heathen. Many of them have been scattered, but there still remain to the seven clans about one hundred and forty adults. Their condition is so deplorable that they have no leader, no synagogue and no school for their children.

LINCOLN'S FAIRNESS.

Proved by the Fact That He Never Made an Enemy in His Profession.

Lincoln not only spoke a language which jurors could understand, but he also took them into his confidence and made them feel, as one of his contemporaries says, that he and they were trying the case together. He was likewise continually the friend of the court who thought it "would be only fair" to let in this, or "only right that that should be conceded," and who "reckoned he must be wrong," when the court overruled him, but who, nevertheless, took a quiet and tactful exception whenever the occasion required it.

"Now about the time he had practiced through three-quarters of the case in this way," observes Leonard Swett, "his adversary would wake up to find himself beaten. He was as wise as a serpent in the trial of a case, and what he so blandly gave away was only what he couldn't keep."

Of course these comments were merely intended to emphasize the fact that Lincoln did not try both sides of his cases, as some of his eulogists would have us believe; but [illegible] nately they have been dist[illegible] an implication that he in[illegible] tricks of the trade, and th[illegible] parent fairness was nothi[illegible] than a device by which he [illegible] unwary to destruction.

Mr. E. M. Prince, who is [illegible] ing in Bloomington, Ill., [illegible] heard Lincoln try over a [illegible] cases of all sorts, is a c[illegible] authority on any question [illegible] kind, and his testimony is d[illegible] convincing. "The truth is," M[illegible] remarked while talking with [illegible] er, "that Mr. Lincoln [illegible] for seeing the real point [illegible] once, and aiming steadily a[illegible] the beginning of a trial to [illegible] The issue in most cases lies [illegible] narrow compass, and th[illegible] great lawyer disregards ev[illegible] not directly tending to [illegible] sue. The mediocre advocate [illegible] to miss the crucial p[illegible] his case and is easily [illegible] with minor matters, and w[illegible] eyes are opened he is usual[illegible] and always surprised. Mr. [illegible] instinctively saw the kernel [illegible] case at the outset, n[illegible] it, and never let it esca[illegible] That was the only trick I [illegible] him play."

But the best possible pr[illegible] Mr. Lincoln was an unsu[illegible] practitioner and generous [illegible] is the fact that he made no [illegible] in the ranks of his profess[illegible] ing all his active and varied [illegible] Forbearance is often mista[illegible] timidity, and tact for weakne[illegible] Lincoln's professional oppone[illegible] interpreted his attitude towa[illegible] but they were always speedi[illegible] lusioned. Mr. Swett remark[illegible] "any one who took Lincoln fo[illegible] ple-minded man (in the cou[illegible] would very soon wake up on [illegible] in a ditch;" and although he [illegible] resorted to tongue lashing, an[illegible] displayed anger, there is [illegible] evidence that no one eve[illegible] him with impunity.—From [illegible] Trevor Hill's "Lincoln the [illegible] in the Century.

FARMING AS A BUSIN[illegible]

Changes That Have Been Wr[illegible] Rural Industrial Life.

In proportion as the life in [illegible] cities becomes more irksome [illegible] the autocratic dominations [illegible] tors and cooks, the life of th[illegible] till the fields becomes more [illegible] tive. It has not been many yea[illegible] the farmer was considered a[illegible] of commiseration. His lot w[illegible] tainly a hard one compared w[illegible] of the pampered son of indol[illegible] lived in a steam-heated flat. T[illegible] er of other days was obliged [illegible] from the first glow of the [illegible] until long after dark, and hi[illegible] was comparatively slight. [illegible] twice a year he "went to [illegible] which meant that he visi[illegible] largest municipality in his n[illegible] hood. There he saw little to [illegible] him and he was usually well [illegible] to return to the farm and aga[illegible] up the burdens of daily toil.

To-day there are comparati[illegible] farmers in the United States [illegible] not in close touch with the [illegible] world. The telephone and th[illegible] mail delivery have connected [illegible] ands and thousands of farm[illegible] the great cities. Co-operat[illegible] eries and elevators have [illegible] farmer an independent busin[illegible] He no longer depends [illegible] word of the crossroads sto[illegible] for the prices of his prod[illegible] daily paper and his te[illegible] make the world's market [illegible] close familiarity. His road[illegible] in better condition than e[illegible] and if he has no a[illegible] least better horses [illegible] his father's.

The farmers of [illegible] are business men. The[illegible] and are systematic in their [illegible] They have been taught much [illegible] experiment stations that dot th[illegible] and crop rotation is a u[illegible] study. Fertilization is conside[illegible] essential concomitant of [illegible] nowadays, and economy o[illegible] space, and energy is a ma[illegible] awakening interest. Agricultu[illegible] leges have no lack of attendan[illegible] farming is more of a busines[illegible] ever before. The farmer of [illegible] well feel sorry for the av[illegible] dweller who is a victim [illegible] drudgery in the employ of [illegible] else and is never able to t[illegible] dependent breath.

Improved machinery, tr[illegible] and scientific methods have gi[illegible] farmer a dignity he never [illegible] possessed. The better busines[illegible] he is the better farmer he i[illegible] bettering of the ruralist's co[illegible] should prove a powerful arg[illegible] in support of the dictum, "B[illegible] the farm."—Kansas City Journ[illegible]

Lincoln the Lawyer.

It is conceded by all his co[illegible] oraries that Lincoln was the b[illegible] round jury lawyer of his day [illegible] nois. Undoubtedly his knowle[illegible] human nature played an im[illegible] part in his success. He [illegible] another quality, however, [illegible] almost, if not quite, as e[illegible] jury work, and that is cle[illegible] simplicity of statement. [illegible] logical mind marshaled fa[illegible] orderly sequence, and he [illegible] them in such simple lan[illegible] a child could follow him t[illegible] most complicated cause, and [illegible] recital of issues had the force [illegible] gument.—From Frederick [illegible] Hill's "Lincoln the Lawyer" [illegible] Century.

Pretty Watch Cases.

The prettiest watch cases [illegible] able, in which gold is chief[illegible] played, are those showing g[illegible] gree over dark red enamel, th[illegible] appearing here and there as u[illegible] ing the elaborately rich design[illegible] of other small watches have p[illegible] or conventional figures carried [illegible] diamonds on the bright an[illegible] surface.

Jerome K. Jerome the English [illegible] morist, declares that American hum[illegible] is dying out. It all runs to hor[illegible] play, he finds, and he lays this lar[illegible] ly to the "comic" supplement of [illegible] Sunday papers.