THE CHESTERTOWN TRANSCRIPT.

VOL. 8. CHESTERTOWN, SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 14, 1870. NO. 52.

THOMAS NORRIS & SON,

141 Pratt street,

Near Light, Baltimore.

SOLE AGENTS for the following First Class Standard Machines:

WOOD'S SELF-RAKER REAPERS, $165.
Self-Raker Reaper and Mowing Attachment, $205.

WOOD'S JOINT-BAR MOWER,
4 ft. 3 in. cut, $125.

These Machines are too well known to need any commendation from us.

WESTINGHOUSE THRESHERS AND CLEANERS,

PELTON OR TRIPPLE-GEARED POWERS,

Warranted to suit purchasers, or no sale.

BICKFORD & HUFFMAN GRAIN DRILLS.

The farmer's favorite, with improvements for the next season, rendering them the most superior Drill in the wide world.

NOVELTY WHEEL HORSE RAKE,

The simplest and most complete and consequently most desirable rake in use: price $45.

McKENNEY'S GRUB AND STUMP PULLERS,

Worthy the attention of those who have new grounds to clear and old peach orchards to take up; takes up old peach trees by the roots with the greatest facility.

☞ Constantly on hand and for sale every variety of Implement and Machine needed on the farm, from a Portable Engine to a Hand Grain or Hay Rake.

Fresh and genuine FIELD AND GARDEN SEEDS, &c.

THOMAS NORRIS & SON.
June 5—tf. 141 Pratt st., Balt.

GROCERIES,
WINES AND LIQUORS.

NOTICE.

TO ALL LOVERS OF GOOD BRANDIES, WINES, TEAS AND GROCERIES.

I AM PREPARED TO OFFER GREAT inducements to customers, wholesale and retail. Keep constantly on hand a large and well selected Stock of Goods, consisting in part of

Green and Black Teas, of choice chops; Coffees—Java, Laguyra, Rio, &c.

English and American Pickles, Capers and Condiments, Olives, Italian Maccaroni and Vermecilla. Fresh Canned Fruits of all kinds; Canned Meats and Fish; Foreign and Domestic Preserves and Jellies. I have on hand a fine stock of

Old Brandies, Wines, Whiskeys, Gin,

which I offer to Hotel keepers at the VERY LOWEST PRICES, and ask a call.

THOMAS M. GREEN,
88 *W. Baltimore Street, near Holliday.*
Sept. 25, 1869—y.

C. T. R.

ATTENTION.

1st.

TO MY LARGE and VARIED STOCK OF GOODS,

embracing the *Largest* and the *Best* assortment of all descriptions that I have ever offered to the Public, it would be almost an impossibility to enumerate the various kinds and qualities, and the only way to find out is to give me a call and save money by *buying of me for the CASH.*

2nd.

To my full and beautiful line of CASSIMERES,

BOUGHT TO MATCH IN SUITS,

together with assortments of Beaver & French Cloths for Overcoats, and to the fact that

MR. WM. GREENBURG,

Fashionable Tailor, formerly of Philadelphia,

now occupies rooms over my store: I am therefore prepared to furnish to order Clothing of all Styles, to suit the most fastidious.

3rd.

I am Agent for the justly celebrated

Grover & Baker Sewing Machines,

which I keep constantly on hand in a room fitted up for the purpose, where they are open to inspection to all that wish to buy. This Machine is so well and favorably known, that only an examination is necessary to accomplish a sale.

4th.

Lastly, I call the attention of my customers

To my complete Stock of Liquors,

consisting of

WHISKEY, BRANDY, WINE, GIN,

&c., which I will constantly keep on hand until further notice. Especial attention is called to my *SUPERIOR OLD COGNAC BRANDY, HOLLAND GIN* and *PURE RYE WHISKEY,* which I bought especially for MEDICINAL purposes and family use.

Any of the above articles can be bought CHEAP FOR CASH, at

E. W. PURNELL'S
GALENA, MD.

N. B.—*Country* ... and *Poultry* dressed for the ... market, taken in exchange for M... or the Cash.
Galena, November 16, 1869.

Notice.

THE TAX BOOKS of John W. Duyer, late Collector, have been placed in my hands for IMMEDIATE SETTLEMENT. All interested are hereby notified that I shall proceed at once, without respect to persons, to collect the same by law.

C. H. DAVIS, Const.
April 30, 1870-3t.

JOHN P. RINGGOLD,
175 Balt. street,

OFFERS the following inducements to the citizens of Kent and Queen Anne's Counties:

For Ladies.

Patent Merino Vests.
Patent Merino Drawers.
Fine Wool Under Vests.
Fine Wool Drawers.
Scarlet Cashmere Vests.
Fine Cardigan Jackets.
Balmoral Stockings.
Kid and Buck Gloves.
Castor and Cloth Gloves.
Roman Scarfs and Sashes.

For Misses.

Patent Merino Vests.
Patent Merino Drawers.
Patent Merino Stockings.
Scarlet Cashmere Stockings.
Black Cashmere Stockings.
Kid and Buck Gloves.
Cloth and Castor Gloves.
Fine Cardigan Jackets.
Fleecy Cotton Hosiery.
Roman Scarfs and Sashes.

For Gentlemen.

Shirts, Collars and Cuffs.
Undershirts and Drawers.
All Wool Undershirts.
All Wool Under Drawers.
Scarlet Cashmere Shirts.
Scarlet Cashmere Drawers.
Buckskin Shirts & Drawers.
Buck and Cloth Goves.
Kid and Castor Gloves.
Scarfs, Ties and Socks.

For Youth.

Patent Merino Shirts.
Patent Merino Drawers.
All Wool Undershirts.
All Wool Drawers.
Fine Woollen Hosiery.
Knitted Mits and Gloves.
Wristlets, Mittens.
Suspenders, Ties.
Merino Stockings.
Roman Scarfs and Ties.

Dec. 11, 1869—y.

WM. TOMLINSON. WM. T. TOMLINSON

WM. TOMLINSON & CO.,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
FOR THE SALE OF
Grain, Live Stock and Country Produce Generally,
No. 112 Light St. Wharf, Balto.

ORDERS FR GROCERIES, SEEDS, Fertilizers, Farm Implements, and other Merchandise promptly filled.

☞ *Consignments respectfully solicited*
January 19, 1870—y

CIGARS & CONFECTIONERY.

TOBACCO! TOBACCO!!

RICHARD B. RUSSELL having removed to the Old Stand on High St., below T. B. Hynson's, is now

Manufacturing Cigars

with a view to supplying the store-keepers as CHEAP AS THEY CAN BE BOUGHT IN THE CITY!

Chewing Tobacco of all grades,

both natural and sweet; and also Fine Cut.



A GOOD ASSORTMENT OF
Smoking Tobacco, SNUFF AND PIPES.

A GOOD ASSORTMENT OF

CANDIES

AND

FRUITS.

☞ A good smoke or a good chew may always be had at

RICHARD B. RUSSELL'S.
Chestertown, Jan. 8, 1870—tf.

FARMERS,
LOOK TO YOUR INTEREST!
AT
The Galena Machine Shops,
BY
W. A. HYLAND & CO.

YOU CAN GET *REAPERS, MOWERS, THRESHERS, HORSE-POWERS, JACKS, CORN SHELLERS, CULTIVATORS, CULTIVATOR TEETH* and *PLOWS.* We have on hand about

Fifteen Tons of Castings,

As Good as can be Bought in the State.

ALSO, ONE HORSE POWERS,

suitable for shelling corn, and other light work. A number one article, as tested by some of our best farmers.

ALL KINDS OF REPAIRING NEATLY AND PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

☞ Old Iron wanted, at market prices.

GIVE US A CALL.

GOOD WORK AND FAIR DEALING!
IS OUR MOTTO.
Galena, Jan. 29, 1870—10m.

STATE OF MARYLAND
MUTUAL
FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF BALTO.
Office, No. 196, W. Balt. st.

THIS Company Insures on the Mutual plan, Buildings and Personal Property against loss or damage by fire. The entire profits returned to the policy holders.

B. G. HARRIS, President.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

FRANCIS NEALE, of Neale, Harris & Co.,
S. H. CAUGHY, of Noah Walker & Co.,
C. MCCULLY, of Rosenstrat & ...
PHILIP T. GEORGE, of ... Jenkins,
B. G. HARRIS, late of N... Harris & Co.,
HON. GEO. BRENT, of Court of Appeals,
GEORGE P. JENKINS, of Charles County,
GEORGE COMBS, of St. Mary's County.

☞ WANTED—An active man as Agent to represent the above company in Kent Co.
Sept. 25, 1869—y.

KENT COUNTY RAILROAD.



The Kent County Railroad being completed to Kennedyville, Trains will be run daily, (Sundays excepted,) for freight and passengers, between Kennedyville and Townsend, where close connection will be made with trains of the Delaware Railroad,

Commencing on Monday, May 2d, 1870, and run as follows, until further notice:

GOING EAST.

Leave Kennedyville	7:00	A. M.
" Black's	7:10	"
" Lambson's	7:25	"
" Massey's	7:50	"
" Morris'	8:00	"
" Vandyke's	8:15	"
Arrive at Townsend	8:30	"

GOING WEST.

Leave Townsend	11:40	A. M.
" Vandyke's	11:55	"
" Morris'	12:05	P. M.
" Massey's	12:25	"
" Lambson's	12:40	"
" Black's	12:50	"
Arrive at Kennedyville	1:00	"

☞ Passengers from Kennedyville, and all Stations on the Kent County Railroad, will reach Wilmington at 10:15, A. M.; Philadelphia at 11:45, A.M., and Baltimore at 1:05, P. M.

Passengers for the Kent County Railroad, will leave Baltimore (President street depot) at 7.25, A. M.; Philadelphia (depot corner Broad street and Washington Avenue,) at 8:30, A. M., and Wilmington at 10:10, A. M.

A STAGE will run between Chestertown and Kennedyville, making close connection at the latter place with trains East and West. It will leave Chestertown at 5:30, A. M., and returning, leave Kennedyville on arrival of train, and reach Chestertown about 2:30, P. M.

J. B. WINGATE,
Chief Engineer and Superintendent.
April 30, 1870—tf.

Notice to Creditors.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' court of Kent County, letters of Administration, on the estate of

JOHN L. PORTER,

late of Kent county, deceased.

All persons having claims against said deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, on or before the 25th day of October, 1870; otherwise they may be excluded by law from the benefits of said estate. Given under my hand this 19th day of April, 1870.

JOHN H. PORTER,
April 23, 1870—tf. Administrator.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Kent county, letters of Administration, on the estate of

HENRIETTA L. SPENCER,

late of Kent county, deceased.

All persons having claims against said deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, on or before the 1st day of November, 1870; otherwise they may be excluded by law from the benefits of said estate. Given under my hand this 26th day of May, 1870.

HENRIETTA M. L. EVERETT,
April 30, 1870—4t. Administratrix.

Notice to Creditors.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the subscribers have obtained from the Orphans' Court of Kent County, letters of Administration, on the estate of

THOMAS D. BURGESS,

late of Kent county, deceased.

All persons having claims against said deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, on or before the 18th day of October, 1870; otherwise they may be excluded by law from the benefits of said estate. Given under my hand this 12th day of April, 1870.

JAMES A. BURGESS,
JEREMIAH NICOLS,
April 16, 1870—tf. Administrators.

COX, WARDEN & MERRITT
SUCCESSORS TO
Cox & Brown,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS
FOR THE SALE OF
GRAIN, FLOUR AND COUNTRY PRODUCE,
Nos. 8 Bowly's Wharf & 72 South St.
Baltimore, Md.
Jan. 16, 1868—y.

RASIN'S BILLIARD TEMPLE.



The subscriber having thoroughly refitted the MORNING STAR HOUSE, on Princess Street, as a Billiard Saloon, has opened it to the public. The entire upper floor has been thrown into one room, making it a spacious Saloon, which has been newly painted and papered in the best style, and furnished with a *first-class* Marble Top Billiard Table, easy chairs, and all the comforts of a first-class resort.

At the Bar will be found the usual varieties of good Liquors.

The public patronage is solicited.

W. B. RASIN.
Chestertown, March 19, 1870—y.

PROFESSIONAL CARD.

DR. J. H. PRICE having located at THE TRAPPE, offers his Professional services to the surrounding community.

Refers to a practice of four years at Hoorsville, Anne Arundel county.
January 8, 1870—

HARDWARE.

A general assortment of Builders' and Housekeepers' Hardware, for sale by

T. W. ELIASON & SON.
Feb. 26, 1870.

COAL, COAL,
For Sale at Buck Neck Wharf.
Nov. 20, 1869. J. BELL & BRO.

Selected Poetry.

MAY.

BY GEORGE W. SEARS.

The red-winged merle from bending spray,
With graceful pinions poising,
Pours out a liquid roundelay
In jubilant rejoicing;
The cock-grouse drums on sounding log,
The fox forsakes the cover,
The woodcock pipes from fen and bog,
From upland leas the plover.

The speckled trout darts up the stream
Beneath the rustic bridges,
While flocks of pigeons glance and gleam
O'er beech and maple ridges;
The golden robin trills his note
Among the netted shadows,
The bob-o'-link, with mellow throat,
Makes musical the meadows.

The peeping frogs with silver bells,
In rhythmical ovation,
Ring out a chime of treble swells,
In joyous gratulation;
The low of kine is mingling with
The song of lark and sparrow,
And fallow fields are growing blithe
Beneath the plow and harrow.

The moon all night, serene and white,
On lake and stream is growing,
While rippling fountains seek her light,
Through woodland valleys flowing;
And all night long a low sweet song
Sweeps o'er the misty hollow,
From marsh and fen, from hill and glen,
From brook, and field, and fallow.

It is the time of pleasant things
When Love makes up his issues,
And hearts well up, like hidden springs,
From rusted cells and tissues—
A time to hear at break of day
A silver-chorused Matin—
A liquid fretwork in crochet
On atmospheric satin,—

A time to feast the soul, the eyes,
To watch each bird that passes,
And half surmise that birds are wise,
And men are only asses;
And then to turn and raise the load
With weary shoulders bending,
And take the old, well-beaten road
That leads—unto the ending.

[*From Lippincott's Magazine for May.*

The Education of the Hand.

People, with a few unfortunate exceptions, have each two hands. We should not mention this fact were it not that in the education of youth only one seems to be generally considered. Children are told to hold their knives in their right hand when cutting their food, and when the necessary operation is completed, to lay it down and use the fork while eating, still employing the right hand. The only further instructions they receive in regard to the left hand, is to keep it clean in common with the right hand, and not to get into the habit of thrusting it into their pockets. They are taught that whenever one hand only is required, the preference is to be given to the right. Thus the left hand is, with the large majority of people, a comparatively useless member, employed only to supplement the other in all manual operations. Without pausing to inquire into the origin of this senseless custom, it is sufficient for our purpose to say that it has no foundation in the anatomy of the hand, or in any natural peculiarity of the human mind. As well might we teach children to hop about on the right foot, to keep the left eye closed, and to stop the left ear with cotton, as to teach them to magnify the value of the right hand at the expense of the left. Nor, in renouncing this absurdity, would it be necessary to violate existing social conventionalities. The fork might be held in the right hand while eating, and the knife may take its place in cutting food. These are small matters, observed only for conventional reasons. What excuse can there be for neglecting the early and careful instruction of both hands? We are not speaking of an impracticable thing when we say it is possible to rear children so that whatever one hand can do the other may do equally well. We know that this has been accomplished in many notable instances, where the disability of the left hand has been rectified, in spite of all obstacles arising from bad habits acquired in childhood. We have seen surgeons transfer an instrument from one hand to the other whenever convenience required it, without the least awkwardness. We have seen draftsmen using both hands in coloring drawings, an immense advantage both to rapidity of work and evenness of shading. We have seen woodmen chop timber "right or left-handed," and one carpenter who used to hammer or saw with either hand with nearly equal facility. In all these cases the use of the left hand is common with the right, gave much ... efficiency.—*Scientific ...*

... the wonderful plant, ... flower of the Holy Ghost," has been successfully raised in Norwich, Conn.—The only specimens heretofore seen, we believe were found growing wild on the Isthmus of Panama. The flower is a creamy white cup, nearly as large as half an egg, and extremely beautiful, and its wonder as a natural floral growth, is the fact that in the flower is a little pure white dove, with pink bill and eyes, and its head turned as if looking over its back.—Its wings, feet, bill, etc., are as absolutely perfect as those of a real dove.

Severn Teackle Wallis, Esq.

Baltimore has just cause for pride in her eminent sons and beautiful daughters. Oratory has nowhere illustrated the annals of the country more than in Maryland—with its Wirt, Pinkney, McMahon, and not the least in that grand list of orators, Severn Teackle Wallis. The splendid discourse of that distinguished Gentleman, upon "The Life and Character of George Peabody," delivered at the Institute, and also by special request before the General Assembly of the State, is before us. The following is one of the many gems in the setting of the world-picture he has given us of George Peabody:

"Beneath the surface of his munificence, his large public sympathies, his generous patriotism, flowed on the old current of thrift, economy; closeness and money-loving. Perhaps, rather, the two streams ran side by side in the same bed, like the united waters of the Arve and Rhone—one earthy and bearing the stain of the earth, the other bright with the hue of the sky.

But there came a time, at last, when this busy, accumulating life, with its seemingly inconsistent traits and phases, was to be rounded into its final development and true expression. The elements of character which appeared so much in contrast with each other as scarcely to be reconciled, were to be shown working, all the while, harmoniously together. The man of calculation and acquisition—almost of greed, if you please—with all the habits and temptation which are commonly inseparable from the career of such, was of a sudden to rise up superior to them all, as if he had never known them—a head and shoulders higher than his seeming self. The man whose practical life had been mainly dedicated to saving, was to consecrate the rest of it to giving.—The man who loved money and had lived in the pursuit of it, was to reach that point—almost unattainable by humanity—at which he was to feel and say: 'I have enough!' Such phenomena are developments, not changes. If Mr. Peabody's whole heart had been in money during the long years which he was 'gathering gear,' he could never, in his old age, have shaken off the golden fetters.—The result showed which had been master and which servant, all the while. The fruit proved the tree. And yet the fruit had in it much taste of the soil in which the tree grew. The system, the care, the prudence, which had gathered and preserved his wealth, were developed as well in its appropriation. In fact he made benevolence his business and dealt with it as such. Its merely sympathetic guise did not seem to attract him. At all events he did not yield greatly to its attraction. He did not grasp at the near pleasure which comes from the contact of present charity with present suffering. For his kindred, he provided with generosity, yet without prodigality. His aims were wider and his sight went farther than would have been consistent with bestowing his wealth on individuals, no matter how much he prized them. He had not mounted upon a high hill, without having his horizon expanded. He saw humanity in the distance as well as beside him, and saw it was the same humanity far off as near. Yet his extended vision rested, where the mists began. It did not seek to penetrate the realms of unreality. He was not mislead by any dream of reforming the world. The consciousness of being able to do something for mankind, and the desire to do all that he could, did not betray him to the folly of supposing that he could do everything. He was far from being a schemer as if he had not the means of scheming. He was not imaginative, much less fanciful. He knew that wealth is the great lever of the world and that his hand was on it, but he had no notion that, with it, he could change the course of the planet. He had seen enough of what is commonly called "philanthropy," in his generation, and had no tast for it. Probably he heard of Robespierre's early philippic against capital punishing, and knew the value of speculative benevolence. He therefore did not lend himself or his money to the schemes of excellent but somewhat self-engrossed and not very useful people, who think that society is like Pandora's box, with its great good at the bottom, and that the true way of getting at this, is to turn the whole upside down. The solitary blow, as far as I have seen, which malice has aimed at his memory, has come from a "humanitarian" quarter—as if to demonstrate the justness of his appreciation. Looking at human nature, in the light of his own experience, and valuing most highly, in it, that healthy, vigorous, independence which was his own peculiar trait he thought he could and his fellow creatures best, by teaching them to help themselves. He likewise thought that, on the whole, more good was to be done by striking the evils of humanity at their root, than by providing for a few of their victims. These were the simple ... which guided ... the appl... made... and ... the decent ... and cheerful home—so, instead of founding hospitals and almshouses, for London vagrants and paupers, he offered the attraction of cheap and comfortable dwellings to those who are willing to work.—He believed that education, refining occupations, cultivated tastes, the study and the love of art and science are, next to religion, the great safe-guards and purifiers of society, and accordingly he founded institutes, libraries, professorships, boards of education, to diffuse and encourage them among his countrymen.—In all this, he followed the bent of his life—investing instead of spending. Nor did he follow the example of some founders, who retain control over their founda-tions and deceive themselves into the belief that they are administering, what they are unable to give up the pleasure of handling. He placed all that he gave in the hands of others—absolutely and without reserve. It was his honest and deliberate judgment that the best use he could make of the grain he had garnered was to run it out into seed, not food. So he chose his ground and planted, in the faith that future seed-time and oft-returning harvest would vindicate his choice, under His blessing who sends down the early and the latter rain."

Hand-Shaking.

How did people first get into the habit of shaking hands? The answer is not far to seek. In early and barbarous times, when every savage or semi-savage was his own law-giver, judge, soldier, and policeman, and had to watch over his own safety, in default of all other protection, two friends or acquaintances, or two strangers desiring to be friends or acquaintances, when they chanced to meet, offered each to the other the right hand—the hand alike of offence and defence, the hand that wields the swords, the dagger, the club, the tomahawk, or other weapon of war. Each did this to show that the hand was empty, and that neither war nor treachery was intended. A man cannot well stab another while he is engaged in the act of shaking hands with him, unless he be a double-dyed traitor and villian, and strives to aim a cowardly blow with the left, while giving the right and pretending to be on good terms with his victim. The custom of hand-shaking prevails, more or less, among all civilized nations, and is the tacit avowal of friendship and good-will, just as the kiss is of a warmer passion.

Ladies, as every one must have remarked, seldom, or never shake hands with the cordiality of gentlemen; unless it be with each other. The reason is obvious. It is for them to receive homage, not to give it. They cannot be expected to show to persons of the other sex a warmth of greeting, which might be misinterpreted; unless such persons are very closely related to them by family, or affection; in which cases, hand-shaking is not needed, and the lips do more agreeable duty.

Every man shakes hands according to his nature, whether it be timid or aggressive, proud or humble, courteous or churlish, vulgar or refined, sincere or hypocritical, enthusiastic or indifferent. The nicest refinements and idiosyncrasies of character may not perhaps be discoverable in this fashion, but the more salient points of temperament and individuality may doubtless be made clear to the understanding of most people by a better study of what I shall call the physiology or the philosophy of hand-shaking.

To present the left hand for the purpose of a friendly greeting is a piece of discourtesy—sometimes intentional on the part of superiors in rank to their inferiors, and an act that no true gentleman will commit. There is no reason why it should be considered more discourteous than it would be to kiss the left cheek instead of the right; but, doubtless, the custom that makes the right hand imperative in all sincere salutation dates from those early times when hand-shaking first began; and the hand that shook or was shaken in friendship was of necessity weaponless.—The poor left hand that one would think ought to be of as much value and strength as the right, just as the left foot or leg is as strong as the right foot or legg, because they are both used equally, has fallen into disrepute, as well as into comparative disuse, until it has become an accepted phrase to say of any proceeding that is inauspicious, artful, sly, or secretly malicious, that it is "sinister"—that is, left-handed.

To shake hands without removing the glove is an act of discourtesy, which, if unintentional and thoughtless, requires an apology for the hurry or inadvertence which led to it. This idea would also seem to be an occult remnant of the old notion that the glove might conceal a weapon. Hence true courtesy and friendship required that the hand should be naked, as a proof of good faith.

To refuse pointedly to shake hands with one who offers you the opportunity in a friendly manner amounts to a declaration of hostility. And after a quarrel—or act of open hostility—the acceptance of the hand offered is alike the sign and the ratification of peace.—*All the Year Round.*

Our Ancestors.

CURIOUS FACTS IN REGARD TO THEIR LIVING AND DOING.

The customs, manners, literature, architecture, history, everthing in fine pertaining to England, previous to the seventeenth century, may be regarded as the common ancestral property of all ... Bull's pos... where ... over the w... of our ... whatever throws light ... of Great Britain can never cease to be of interest. The October New England *Farmer*, noticing a recent publication, "Our English Homes," extracts and comments as follows:

The whale was eaten by the Saxons, and when men were lucky enough to get it, it appeared at table late in the fifteenth century. In 1246 Henry III. directed the Sheriff of London to purchase one hundred pieces of whale for his table.—Whales found on the coast were perquisites of royalty; they were caught and sent to the King's kitchen in carts. Edward II. gave a reward of thirty shillings to three mariners who caught a whale near London bridge. Those found on the banks of the Thames were claimed by the Lord Mayor, and added to the civic feast. Pieces of whale were often purchased in the thirteenth century for the table of the Countess of Leicester. England was often supplied with this choice dainty by the fishermen of Normandy, who made it an article of commerce. The Normans had various ways of cooking it, sometimes it was roasted and brought to the table on a spit; but the usual way was to boil it and serve it with peas. Epicures looked out for a slice from the tongue or the tail.—The grampus or the sea-wolf was also highly esteemed; but of the blubber dainties the porpoise was deemed the most savory. The Saxons called it sea-swine, and the ecclesiastics of the middle ages porco marion. Porpoises were purchased for the table of Henry III. in 1246.

In the reign of Henry II. the whole stock of a carpenter's tools was valued at one shilling, and consisted of a broad-ax, adz, a square and a spoke-shave. There were very few chimneys; the fire was laid in the wall, and the smoke issued out of the roof or door, or a window, and the furniture and utensils were of wood. The people slept on straw pallets, with a log of wood for a pillow. Even as late as the time of Elizabeth, 1558, it is stated that apologies were made to visitors if they could not be accommodated in rooms provided with chimneys. They had few glass windows, and when was introduced, it was for a long time so scarce that when people went away they would order the windows taken out and laid up in safety.

In the fourteenth century none but the clergy wore linen. The household furniture, among the wealthy, consisted of an occasional, a brass pot, a brass cup, a grid-iron, and a rug or two, and perhaps a towel. Of chairs and tables we hear nothing. Even the nobility sat upon chests in which they kept their clothes.—If a man in seven years after marriage could purchase a flock bed and a sack of chaff to rest his head upon, he thought himself as well lodged as the lord of the town.

In addition to the poverty of what seems to us absolute necessities, the houses and the people were exceedingly dirty.—Erasmus, a celebrated scholar of Holland, who visited England, complains that "the nastiness of the people was the cause of the frequent plagues which destroyed them, and he says their floors are commonly of clay, strewed with rushes, under which lie unmolested a collection of beer, grease, fragments, bones, spittle, excrements of dogs and cats, and everything that is nauseous.

Their tables were as miserably supplied as their dwellings. They had little fresh meat, but salted most of their cattle and swine in November, upon which they mostly depended through the winter.—Very few vegetables of any kind came upon their tables. It is stated that, in the early part of the reign of Henry VIII. not a cabbage, turnip, carrot or other edible root grew in England.

The average duration of human life was at that period, not one-half as long as that of the present day. The constant use of salted meat and a few or no vegetables, contributed to the shortening of life, to say nothing of the large number swept away by pestilence and famine.

How to Judge Books.

Concerning books Southey wrote as follows:

Would you know whether the tendency of a book is good or evil, examine in what state of mind you lay it down. Has it induced you to suspect that what you have been accustomed to think unlawful, may, after all, be innocent, and that that may be harmless which you have hitherto been taught to think dangerous? Has it tended to make you dissatisfied and impatient under the control of others, and disposed you to relax in that self-government, without which both the laws of God and man tell us there can be no virtue and consequently no happiness? Has it attempted to abate your admiration and reverence for what is great and good, and to diminish in you the love of your country and your fellow creatures. Has it addressed itself to your pride, your vanity, your selfishness, or any of your evil propensities? Has it defiled the imagination with what is loathsome, or shocked the heart with what is monstrous? Has it disturbed the sense of right and wrong which the Creator has implanted in the human soul? If so—if you are conscious of all or any of these effects—or if, having escaped from all, you have felt that such were the effects it was intended to produce, throw the book into the fire, whatever name it may bear on the title page? Throw it in the fire, young man, though it should have been the gift of a friend; young lady, away with the whole set, though it should be the prominent furniture of a rosewood ... case.

... you sot," said a temperance man to a tippling friend, "what makes you drink such stuff as you do? Why, the very hogs wouldn't touch that brandy."

"That's cause they is brutes," said Tom. "Poor creeters! they dunno what's good."

☞ "A farmer was elected to a corporalship in a militia company. His wife, after discoursing with him for some time on the advantage which the family would derive from his exaltation, inquired in a doubting tone:

"Husband, will it be proper for us to let our children play with the neighbors' now?"

One of the little urchins eagerly asked:

"Are we not all corporals?"

"Tut," said the mother, "hold your topgue; there is no one corporal but your father and myself."

☞ What kind of essence does a young man want when he pops the question? Acqui-escence.

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