Chestertown Transcript.

TUESDAY, NOV. 26, 1878.

THE POWER OF EARLY IMPRESSIONS:

AN ADDRESS

BY REV. WM. H. HUTCHIN,

Of Chestertown,

Delivered before the Association of Public School Teachers of Kent County, at their meeting on Friday, 22d inst., and published at their request.

By *impressions* here I mean marks or results left upon heart, or mind, or soul, by influences external to them.

Early impressions are those which are made in childhood or youth when the heart is impressible, the mind teachable. These early impressions are made by very many different agencies.

Nature touches the child with a thousand fingers and marks the plastic mind with myriad beauty-forms. Every sense brings in lesson after lesson from the Universal Mother, sets up the message in its own type and, colored or uncolored, prints it upon heart or brain.

The looks and acts and words of human contact make, each and all, their own proper impressions. There are looks which burn like a brand into the child-heart, and others which fall as gently as the roseleaf in the brook, which yet makes its dimple; there are deeds which rest upon the mind like an imposed rock upon the the tender sward, checking growth, while others loosen the soil, let in light and heat, and urge to luxuriance and fruitfulness; there are words which leave a mark on heart or brain like the defacement wrought in the wood-work of some beautiful floating palace by an exploding shell, while again, sweet words nestle down into close companionship with other desirable associated impressions like a beautiful and lovable child taking her place in a class which gladly opens to receive her.

It will be sufficient to refer in passing to the unseen but powerful touches of the Spirit of the Good God "given to every man to profit withal." I. Cor. xii, 7—and also to the defacing and destructive touch of the spoiler, Satan.

The POWER of these impressions is two-fold: the power to stay; the power to effect results. The power to stay is first in order for our thought. Nothing is ever forgotten and no impression entirely erased. The mark may be covered up by something else but only to reappear in the oddest and most startling way sometimes. And the impression will be retained when the agent has been lost in the forest of past years. An oak tree with its 500, or 600, or 800 concentric rings telling of the centuries of its growth, will sometimes, when it has bowed beneath the stroke of the woodman's ax, reveal a marred place in one part of one of the rings,—a scar made when the tree was young by hands that have been folded in rest for half a thousand years. Thus the memory and the heart and the man retain early impressions. Memory consists of retention and reproduction. That which is retained may not always be readily reproduced,—the oak rings lie too thick above it. And yet it is not improper to claim that every item retained, every early impression *is* reproduced somewhere in the character. If we could read aright we should find its mark somewhere on or in the developed life. But we have to think just now of the power of staying rather than that of producing results

In the Connecticut valley there are in the rocks clear and distinct foot-prints of a strange and unknown bird. Stepping to and fro through the shallow water the strange fowl left his impressions in the yielding mud which in time hardened to rock. These marks are there after thousands of years. So too in the coal beds are found to-day the graceful and beautiful impressions of fern-fronds that laid down to sleep no one can tell how many ages ago. But not all the marks on the memory are graceful or beautiful or even engaging. Back yonder a single occurrence starts out of the gloom,—there is an angry man speaking harsh things which will never lie down like the fern and which burn like an impression from a searing iron.

Horace says: "What seasoned first the vessel keeps the taste." The permanence of early taste impressions *is* undoubted. Not the taste for the beautiful now but the liking for certain food. Who ever forgets his mother's make of mince pies? Why the very odor of the steaming object of interest and longing strikes upon the sense now,—the pastry was just right, the flavor simply delicious,—ah, nobody makes, nobody can make such mince pies as mother used to. And, then, her buckwheat cakes! A bitter cold night, no fire in the sleeping room, a colder morning, an early breakfast, a hungry child,—brown, well-buttered, light lascious buckwheats,—surely those were *the* cakes. I may remark just here that this particular reference need not be taken as the text for a long talk to his wife by any young man here. Somehow the wives do not encourage their husbands to dwell upon this comparison.

There are people to-day who are ready to aver that to secure the widest basis necessary for a good education Comly's spelling book is unsurpassed. That it is or, rather, was a book which was in place in the week-day school and also in the Sunday school; that the best lessons of their lives were gained from its well-thumbed pages. Indelibly fixed on their minds is the first attempt at reading: 'See-the-young-lambs-how-brisk-and-gay, on-the-green-grass-do-skip-and-play.' T-h-e-y—they—l-oo-k—look—s-o—so, &c., &c. Ah, who forgets his early school days? Or the boys and girls? Or the teacher and his manner? Bishop Emory never forgot the impression made by his teacher's method and style. He says of a school in which he was a pupil that the teacher's name was "Stattard of the true *abistlepha* and *ampersand* stamp of those days." The biographer of the good Bishop did not know what these two words meant, but he learned on inquiry that the *abistlepha* was regarded as a necessity in pronunciation. We in spelling acorn would be content to say a—c-o-r-n, corn—acorn: but the scholars of that day desired to pronounce every syllable, and so said a—(by-itself-a)—c-o-r-n, corn—a-corn. "*A-by-itself-a*" was soon condensed by the irreverent and hasty school boy into "abistlepha." The ampersand was, as *we* know, the & character following the last letter of the alphabet. An old friend of mine never dropped the *izzard*,—for him *ze* was an innovation and he maintained the dignity of the name given to the letter by his gray-haired preceptor sixty-five years before, when he carved its shape on his mind.

What impression did Sunday make on us? To some it was like a black extinguisher for the joyousness of youth put on with great ceremony every seventh day during childhood. If they live for a century the influence will remain to vex and sadden. So, too, the early acquaintance with God's holy book. Some read over the stories which were impressed on the mind from its pages and glow again with the interest which they aroused when they were first repeated to them in childhood. Others have had its pages laid like blisters on the heart to draw out the evil; while its difficult passages were placed in the mind,—a nauseous and indigestible mass,—so that they trace their religious dyspepsia to that early wrong practiced upon them.

One might imagine himself the possessor of a copper-plate upon which *portraits* were etched and on which he might look at any time, to see again the forms and faces familiar to him in early youth. But the copper-plate picture could not fill out with changing expression and glowing or pale cheek, bright or dull and sunken eye, the deepening look of concern, or interest, or love,—or the growing coldness and aversion. The old familiar faces look at us out of the past—no, not out of the past—but *out of ourselves*, where we treasure them. The mother's cautioning smile is as clear as it was when she breathed, and her rebuke lives if she does not. A Poet, whose name I have not, says:

"Were a star quenched on high,
For ages would its light,
Still travelling downward from the sky,
Shine on our mortal sight.
So, when a great man dies,
For years beyond our ken,
The light he leaves behind him lies
Upon the paths of men."

Charles Lamb mused on *the old familiar faces*, i. e., he studied the etched portraits:

"I have had playmates, I have had companions
In my days of childhood, in my joyful school-days:
All, all are gone, the old familiar faces.

* * * * * * *

I loved a love once, fairest among women;
Closed are her doors on me, I must not see her:
All, all are gone, the old familiar faces.

I have a friend, a kinder friend has no man;
Like an ingrate, I left my friend abruptly—
Left him to muse on the old familiar faces.

Ghostlike I paced round the haunts of my childhood,
Earth seemed a desert I was bound to traverse,
Seeking to find the old familiar faces.

Friend of my bosom, thou more than a brother,
Why wert thou not born in my father's dwelling?
So might we talk of the old familiar faces.

How some they have died, and some they have left me;
And some are taken from me—all are departed:
All, all are gone, the old familiar faces."

We never will forget how certain people looked, and I think we will be a little disappointed when we meet them again in the hereafter that they have changed so. I recall an old man, a cake-seller, who sold desirable cakes at an undesirably high price in my school days,—his bent form, clean apron, the square basket in which a snowy cloth concealed the toothsome delicacies, his old broad-rimmed hat which covered a puzzled-looking face,—a face which only brightened on such an occasion as this,—the question was put to him "What four pieces of American currency make fifty-one cents?" After some minutes' study his countenance was struck with the lightning of success and he said, with as much assurance as Edison's announcements of his discoveries contain, "What *four* pieces, &c.," "why five ten cent pieces and a cent!" And then there was Aunt Nancy, forty eight years old and unmarried, who always looked like a freshly ironed silk handkerchief, and whose face was as angular, exact and unreadable as the gift books she always brought. I defy any one wha ever knew her to get away from the conviction that she was constitutionally repellant to all dust particles—and men. Each of us can run through his own picture gallery at his option and in his own time,—the pictures are always there,—they will *never* be taken down.

There are strange effects of *sound* which startle us sometimes. They are tautographic impressions. As one speaking or singing in the tautograph may have his words or the tune reproduced because of the impressions on the tinfoil, by merely turning a crank,—so by some unintentional or involuntary turn sometimes, a slight strain of music will come to us as though borne over the chasm of a score of years. But the faint and vanishing and untranslatable strain of music is from *within us*. It may be a part of the cradle hymn our mother sung or it may be a part of some song which were it to ring out more clearly would be hushed with a sob.

But these are not the only messages that come from our tautograph. Teachers know how necessary it is to store the mind with models and how conjugations must be drilled in that they may serve as the key note for a correct grammatical style. And there is nothing that stays like bad grammar. Edmund Everett Hale has evolved the key conjugation of the grammatical scale in a certain section of country thus,—and I may say before giving it, that people who start on this key seldom get entirely away from it: "*Present*—I dun it, you dun it, he dun it: we or us uns dun it, you uns dun it, they uns dun it. *Imperfect*—I dun dun it, you dun dun it, he dun dun it; we or us uns dun dun it, you uns dun dun it, they uns dun dun it. *Perfect*—I gone dun dun it, you &c., he &c.; we or us uns gone dun dun it, you uns, &c., they uns, &c. *Pluperfect*—I dun gone dun it, you &c., he &c., we or us uns dun gone dun it, you uns &c., they uns &c. *First Future*—I gwine dun it, you &c., he &c.; we or us uns gwine dun it, you uns, &c., they uns, &c. *Second Future*—I dun gwine dun it, you—he; we or us uns dun gwine dun it, you uns, &c., they uns, &c." Early impressions have power to stay. But they also have THE POWER TO EFFECT RESULTS.

Man taken at any time in his life is but a bundle of results wrought out on the basis of a peculiar nature given to him by his Creator. In some things he is what he is by the sole and unexplainable self-development of that nature. Causes which are invisible to us and which elude our most subtle analyses work and we can only wonderingly note results. But in the main he is made by surrounding influences which produce impressions upon him. The earlier impressions would seem to have the better opportunities for influencing the subsequent life. There is a hight in the Rocky Mountains where two fountains gush out from the rocks not very far away from each other. A slight exercise of human skill would turn the current of either fountain into that of the other and so unite their waters. But after a few rods have been traversed by each stream it would be almost impossible to divert either into the other. The consequence is that the water from one empties into the Pacific ocean while that of the other finds its way through the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico into the Atlantic ocean. This wide severance might have been prevented by an impression made at the fountain source. So the touch of a passion or a thought in the early years of a human life may deflect that life so that the results in subsequent years shall be infinitely what they would not otherwise have been.

This principle is recognized by the highest wisdom:—"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he wil not depart from it." Prov. xxii—6.

Cawdry quaintly says: "As young plants being straightened while they be tender, and trimmed with pruning and other parts of husbandry, will grow very goodly to behold in their greatness, which being neglected, are many times very crooked, and unfit for divers uses: so, likewise, do young men and women, for the most part, prove as they are nurtured in their youth."

And Dr. John Todd says: "All great men have attributed their success more to the mental and moral habits acquired in early life, than to anything else. Even the temper, the disposition, is formed by acquired habits, so that one who is naturally irritable may become a calm man."

The truth which is thus uttered and endorsed is acquiesced in by the universal mind as it speaks the same proverb in different languages. In English it says: "As the twig is bent the tree's inclined;" in French, "What the colt learns in youth he continues in old age;" in Danish, "What youth learns age does not forget;" and again, (Gælic) "It is not easy to straighten in the oak the crook that grew in the sapling."

I have asserted that men are largely what they are because of the influence of impressions from without. But in all the development HUMAN NATURE maintains itself. Not all the impressions in the world will make a man any thing else but a MAN. Through all the mutations of character and life he is never a demon and never a beast and never an angel,—but always a man, no matter what impressions are made upon him. And the power can only work upon what has been given to him in certain proportions in his nature; I mean in the special apportionment of natural gifts to each man. There is no use of trying by switch or candy, by coaxings or threats, by appeals to shame or pride, to fear or to hope, to develop a taste for mathematics in some minds; the mathematical faculty is so small and so overshadowed by some other that it is evident that the Creator never intended that mind for a mathematical wonder. And so of other faculties.

But results *are* developed; each man is a bundle of results. In many cases these results may be traced to the impressions which started, fostered and secured them. In others the causes are lost in the gathering years, like footmarks in the falling snow.

Every family has a number of stock opinions. They have been "handed down" for generations; i. e., they have been impressed upon the children in the home-life. These opinions govern the grown-up people and condition them and their work. Men are farming to-day on the same plans as those which failed with their great-grandfathers.

And then in the matter of religious opinion and church membership,—who will deny the influence of early impressions here? By far the greater part of old established church memberships are composed of the children of the former members, together with those who attended the Sunday school of that particular church in youth.

Then again look at the effects of certain methods of teaching One teacher is earnest in his desire that his pupils shall gather facts and utter them plainly and forcibly. Another regards the task of the student as but partly completed when this is done, but insists on the closest attention to the graces of oratory and the embellishments of style. The result is seen in the differing work of their scholars. The last reference points to the necessity of a division in the *character* of the results wrought by these early impressions. They may be either *good* or *bad*.

Their power to effect good results is seen in the production, through their agency, of *excellence of character* and life. There are characters which are beautiful and excellent; they are worthy of admiration, and of imitation and are fruitful of good works.

The earliest impressions being made in the home circle we should expect to trace many good results to that source.

Lamartine says: "The same blood, drawn from the same veins; * * *; the same name borne by each, and of which each is bound to maintain the honor (whether obscure or illustrious signifies nothing), and which cannot be tarnished or exalted in one without reflecting on the rest; the common fortune, which bestows affluent or narrow means, as it is amassed or subdivided amidst the inheritors, according to the number of children; the same paternal mansion, whether in town or country, whose roof has sheltered their cradles during infancy, and the shadowy remembrance of which is impressed on the mind to the last moment of existence; the same traditions, that common consent of mind which binds together the religion, customs, manners and innate sentiments of the hereditary group; finally the same remembrances of lessons, conversations, hospitalities, ease, weariness, happiness, tears, births, deaths, hopes and disappointments—sad and joyous secrets of the domestic hearth—all these form, unknown to ourselves, around our hearts an atmosphere of ineffacable impressions, which pervades equally our moral and physical senses; from the influence of which escape is impossible, and which, though it does not bear the cold sternness of legislation, displays the irresistible force of nature."

It was a favorite expression of an old gentleman, whom I knew, when the character of a young man was well spoken of, "Ah, that is to be expected; he started right; I know the stock." He was asserting his recognition of the the power of early home impressions to produce good results.

These impressions are often insensibly received. This is especially true in large-heartedness and true nobility of character. No big-hearted man attempts to put that trait into words in teaching his boy to imitate him. The man is insensible of the grandeur of his own character as a mighty mountain is of its own altitude and magnitude and weight; resting in solid and immovable security on the steady earth, its broad bosom upholds forests and rocks and hamlets without an effort and without self-consciousness, while the dwellers upon and about it drink in rather than hear of its greatness, and grow to be like it. To be in the constant vicinity of greatness is to be silently yet surely impressed by it, whether it be the greatness of a cultured and magnificent intellectuality or the sublimer fact of a manhood distinctively Christian.

Perhaps many of us have seen in the Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia a wonderful picture called "Death on the Pale Horse." It *is a wonderful* production, and resulted from a kiss impressed on a little boy's lips. Benjamin West sketched roughly the outline of his little sister's face as she lay in the cradle. His mother saw genius if not skill in the sketch, and with a natural pride kissed her boy. "That kiss," said the renowned artist, "made me a painter."

"It was from his mother that 'Bobbie Burns' as Scotchmen love to call him, imbibed his love for song; 'for she used to give wings to the weary hours of her checkered life by chanting songs and ballads she herself had composed."

"Patrick Henry had many a lesson in conversational power, his mother training the gift in the promising lad."

Of course in such a wide field as is here opened we can do little more than cull a few of the many attractive thoughts and illustrations which fleck the sward like buttercups and daisies.

There can be no doubt of the power of early impressions to produce grand results. But there is also the POWER TO PRODUCE BAD OR UNDESIRABLE RESULTS. These we may glance at under the two divisions of *peculiarities*, which are undesirable; and *vices* which are bad indeed. PECULIARITIES. Whenever a man differs decidedly from the average man in his neighborhood he is said to be "peculiar." This holds good if he be very much *better* than his neighbors. But this is not the popular use of the term. Popularly "a peculiar man" is a piece of humanity who fits into no society, can be depended upon only to be odd and selfish (generally); a character inciting to ridicule or contempt or pity, and unworthy of imitation; an altogether unsafe model.

There are physical peculiarities. A physical habit is an incarnated memory. One man will walk stoop-shouldered and with bowed head and respect no one who does'nt walk in the same way. Trace this peculiarity back to its source and we shall find that the *boy* loved and reverenced and strove to imitate in all things a man who from ill health walked stoopingly.

Here is another man who never sheds a tear, never speaks a word of sympathy or pity and never opens his hand in charity—the little children shun him; women shiver in the coldness of his presence; men call him morose and cynical. He has no associates. Why is this distressing and, we cannot help but feel, distressful peculiarity? It is the result of early impressions. You would'nt think it, but he was a warm-hearted and very sensitive child. Tears came readily for his heart was tender and there was nothing between it and his teachers, playmates and home associates. His sensitiveness was a constant temptation to sport with his feelings. He learned, first, to weep alone because of the unkindness of almost every one he loved. Day by day his tear stained face was a prayer for love and he received ridicule and coldness. He was impressed then that the only way to keep his heart from being hurt was to build a wall of adamant around it. He built that wall leaving no place for a door. The result is a peculiar heartlessness. He thinks his heart is there and that he could allow it egress to other hearts. But he is wrong. It died years ago. The result of early impressions here is a *dead heart*.

One very disagreeable peculiarity is found in the man who contradicts and opposes every body and every thing. His peculiarity is chronic opposition. He is like Josh Billings' mule, the only way to keep him in a field is to put him in the one next to it and let him jump over the fence. He is to be met in the lodge, in the street and in the family circle, and always on the opposite side. In early life he was impressed with the fact that men took positions in opposition to popular views, held to them and uttered them until honor and applause came in the places of curses. These men were reformers, but no one kindly told the boy that on innumerable thing not connected with their hobbies these strong-willed men were in agreement with many around them. The impression on the boy was that strength of will meant a fugilistic attitude toward humanity. The process was easy whereby the boy's ambitious *will* became the man's stupendous *wont*.

Some years ago I saw the picture of a cat. It was intended to give some idea of how a frantic black cat looked to a frightened boy as it jumped toward him from the upper landing of a flight of stairs. Every hair asserted its individuality like the prickles on a chestnut burr; its mouth was wide open for the double purpose of showing sharp, terrible, white teeth and at the same time emitting a horrifying howl; the legs were all extended and each particular claw seemed half an inch long,—a frightful picture. Well there are some people whose minds are represented by this cat picture. They are full of fright and horror,—a dog howling at night, the hooting of an owl, an article of clothing put on wrong, entering a house with the left foot first, the death watch in the wall,—a thousand and one omens and signs keep them in constant superstitious dread. They are about as companiable at the yellow fever and are miserable companions for themselves. No good results from talking to or arguing with them. There is no difficulty in tracing this fearful and unholy result back to the impressions made by "ghost stories" told in the presence of the unfortunates when they were children.

Worse than peculiarities are the vices resulting from early impressions. "Of all the adult male criminals in London," says the Earl of Shaftesbury, "not two in a hundred have entered upon a course of crime who have lived an honest life up to the age of twenty. Almost all who enter upon a course of crime do so between the ages of eight and sixteen." By this testimony the criminal life as a rule is the result of vicious experiences and impressions in early youth. Perhaps nowhere else can such convincing proof and illustration of the truth of this assertion be found as in the prison records which contain the confessions of murderers, burglars, highwaymen and thieves who trace their downward course to the impressions made by reading in youth Jack Sheppard and other books which paint vice in such alluring colors that it seems much more desirable than virtue.

Said a gentleman once:—"When I was a boy a friend lent me a book to read while he stepped into a store for a few minutes. I caught but a page, but I would give all that I am worth to have the impressions then made effaced. They have been giving me battle during my life.' *I will not further* trace the *baneful* results of early impressions.

In conclusion—Early impressions are lasting—they have an eternal grip on heart and brain and soul. They not only *remain*, but they affect and mould and frame and fashion largely the character and life of the individual. If evil impressions are likely to work baneful and vicious results there ought to be the endeavor to keep the young life unmarked by them. If impressions of good are likely to result in broad and unselfish, honorable and charitable lives, the opportunity and privilege of making these impressions ought to be regarded as God-given.

And, too, such work is God-like! What are the earliest impressions that He makes? The first appreciated touch is that of the soft hand of the tender mother; the first look is into eyes which distil love like a silent benediction over the bosom-pillowed head; the first sounds are the soft lullabies which never after are entirely hushed in the anthem of life. Thus each early impression is good and, unless counteracted by other effects, produces good and good only.

The old look backward, and how often when they have grown weary of life, and second childhood has come, they plead for the early caress and look and voice.

We are teachers. Children are committed to our care. We may make what impressions we please. But whatever their character *they are eternal*. They are placed to stay. We shall face their results, many of us in this life, for these children soon take their places as men and women in the struggling throng.

But this life is not all. One bright, long day we shall look upon characters which we have helped to develope, and there in the secret-searching light we shall see the results of impressions which we made with pains-taking conscientiousness, but which we feared, sighingly, were erased and lost.

Many a teacher who wrought in sadness shall there learn a new meaning to the words "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy." Ps. cxxxvi-5.

1878. 1878.

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Sept. 8, 1878.

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July 16, 1878—6m.

FARMERS can buy all kinds of Salt Fish by the barrel—at J. G. HUDGINS'.

GAMBRILL'S FLOUR, Patapsco Family, Patapsco Extra, Orange Grove Extra—by the barrel, sack or pound. Patapsco Family, 4c. a pound; good flour 3c. a lb, at

Aug. 6. J. B. SAPPINGTON'S.

FOR GOOD GOODS and low prices, call at J. B. SAPPINGTON'S.

SYRUPS—30, 50 and 60c. a gallon. Sugars 8, 9, 10 and 11c. by

Aug. 6. J. B. SAPPINGTON.

JOHN BELL,

HAVING had his Store lowered and enlarged on High street, opposite the Bank, invites his friends and the public to examine his well selected stock of

FAMILY GROCERIES,

Tin, Wood and Willow-ware, Confectionery, Domestic and Foreign Fruits, Nuts, &c., which he offers to the public at prices to suit the times.

☞ Country Produce taken in exchange for goods.

By giving personal attention to business I hope to merit a share of patronage. Thankful for past favors, I remain,

Respectfully, JOHN BELL, Agt.

Nov. 12, 1878.

CIGARS AND TOBACCO—a fine stock—at SPARK'S.

GLASSWARE—the cheapest in town! A dozen good tumblers for 50 cents! A nice Lamp for 25 cents—at SPARKS'.

1878 FALL AND WINTER. 1878

New Millinery

AND

FANCY GOODS,

LATE STYLES! LOW PRICES!

MRS. H. USILTON, Just below Wickes' Drug Store, has received a well selected stock of new and beautiful MILLINERY and FANCY GOODS for FALL and WINTER wear, of the latest and most fashionable styles.

HATS, BONNETS, RIBBONS,

LACES, TRIMMINGS,

Neck Ties, Belts, Ruffles, Feathers, Flowers and Ornaments. She is satisfied her ability to please both in quality and price.

☞ STAMPING done in the neatest and most durable manner.

The ladies are invited to call and examine her goods and prices before purchasing elsewhere. No effort will be spared to give full satisfaction to all who favor with their patronage.

MRS. H. USILTON.

Nov. 5, 1878.

A GOOD LINE of Bleached and Unbleached Muslins, Tickings, Canton Flannels, adies Corsetts, Notions, Hosiery, &c—all at lowest prices, by J. B. SAPPINGTON.

SELF-RAISING BUCKWHEAT

AND

Griddle Cake Flour!

Always Ready, Always Reliable and *Perfectly Healthy.*

Requires neither Salt, Yeast nor Baking Powder, for sale by

COLIN F. STAM,

Nov. 5, 1878. Chestertown.

COOK STOVES.—A number of the best makes of COOK STOVES in store and for sale cheap.

Call and see them.

JOHN W. HINES,

Nov. 5, 1878—3t. Below the Bank.

POTOMAC, Labrador, and Smoked Herring—at J. G. HUDGINS'.

SALT by sack or quart, Champagne Cider; Canned Fruits; Bologna Sausage; Powder and Shot—at KENNARD'S.

NEW and large lot of those excellent 2 for 5 cts. CIGARS; would be cheap at 5 cts. can only be bought at KENNARD'S.

NEW FRUIT, Raisins, Currants, Figs, Oranges, Lemons, &c.—at SPARKS'.

SCHEPP'S PREPARED COCOANUT, for Pies, Cakes, &c., for sale at SPARKS'.

TOBACCO—At 60 cts., 75, 90 cts. and $1.00 a pound. CIGARS by the box or 1,000 at J. G. HUDGINS'.

JOB PRINTING very low at this office.

The people of Baltimore and surrounding country have our best thanks for the kind reception of the representatives of our House, and the splendid reception given.

This encourages us to do better, and

FOR THE AUTUMN OF 1878

We send out a new and elegant assortment of

FALL AND WINTER

Ready-Made Clothing

FOR MEN AND BOYS

AND TAILORING GOODS IN THE PIECE TO BE MADE UP TO ORDER.

WE WILL DO OUR BET!

to please and suit all who come to us, and not be satisfied ourselves unless we full satisfy our patrons.

JOHN WANAMAKER,

166 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore.

Buy only the NEW AMERICAN

IT IS THE Only Sewing Machine WHICH HAS A Self-Threading Shuttle

It has Self Setting Needle. Never Breaks the Thread. Never Skips Stitches. Is the Lightest Running.

The Simplest, the Most Durable, and in Every Respect

The Best Family Sewing Machine!

The "NEW AMERICAN" is easily learned, does not get out of order, and will do more work with less labor than any other machine. Illustrated Circular furnished on application.

AGENTS WANTED.

J. S. DOVEY Manager, 64 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, Md.

A Talk With Fruit Growers.

I HAVE now growing, on my farm, a fine seedling Peach Nursery, (from the seed of the Smock,) of over 200,000 trees.

Being from Smock seed, and growing on land that never grew trees before, they must prove especially hardy and prolific.

I shall bud 50,000 (commencing June 15th) for this Fall's planting; such trees will run from 3 to 4 feet in height.

I shall bud the balance in August, for planting the following fall. As must all planters have preference for special varieties, I propose to take orders, before the budding is done, customers furnishing their own buds if they prefer; so that all may be accommodated. Do not fail to give this matter proper consideration, and send in your orders early. By so doing you can secure just the varieties you want; but if delayed till you are ready to plant, nurserymen may not have the kinds you prefer. I will give instructions how to forward buds, upon inquiry.

I HAVE A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF ALL KINDS OF NURSERY STOCK.

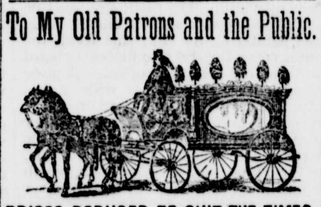
Twenty years' experience as an extensive Fruit Grower and Nurseryman, certainly entitles me to a reasonable share of patronage on this peninsula.

N. BARNARD,

STILL POND,

June 11, 1878. Kent Co., Md.

To My Old Patrons and the Public.



PRICES REDUCED TO SUIT THE TIMES.

I RESPECTFULLY desire to say, by this method, to the old friends of my father, who for many long years, was so well and favorably known to this entire community as the *leading* Undertaker, that I am still devoting myself untiringly to its prosecution, in all its departments. And in this connection I desire, particularly and emphatically to say that I can furnish Caskets and Burial Cases, of all kinds, upon the shortest possible notice, at **prices much below** ANY ONE ELSE engaged in the business in this vicinity. I can do this because I am at less expense than others, and I guarantee full satisfaction in every case, both as regards quality and price.

☞ When away on other business, orders may be left with my mother, who resides next door to the shop, and they will rceive equal attention as if left with me in person, as she thoroughly understands the business in every particular. I will allow nothing else to interfere with the prompt and efficient execution of all orders with which I am favored.

JOHN N. DODD,

Sept. 24, 1878—tf. UNDERTAKER

LIME! LIME! LIME! LIME!

Shells! Shells! Shells! Shells

30,000 bushels of each for sale.

THE undersigned is prepared to furnish LIME and SHELLS to the citizens of Kent, Queen Anne's and Cecil counties; and will land the same on the Chester and Sassafras rivers, or any of their creeks where there is a depth of five feet of water, of the best quality and at the lowest prices.

WILLIAM PERKINS,

Rising Sun Saloon.

Chestertown, Md., Oct. 22, 1875—tf.

7,000 BUSHELS

OF THE

Best Oyster Shell Lime,

Of the Steamboat Wharf at Chestertown,

PUT up in 500 and 1000 bushels piles: for sale, by the quantity, or in small lots for building purposes. Now is the time farmers to buy, as they have more time to haul it than in the spring. *WILLIAM PERKINS.*

Dec. 3, 1875—tf.

SEASONABLE.

NEW GOODS, NEW GOODS.

I. X. L. Fly Traps, Fly Fans, Fluting Machines, Wire Dish Covers, Two, Three and Four Prong Forks, Screw Wrenches, Scythes, Snaths, Scythe Stones, Scythe Rifles, Zinc Oilers, Knives and Forks, Tea and Table Spoons, Tin Cups and Plates, Field Kegs, Animal Poks, &c., at a very low price. J. K. ALDRIDGE.

June 8, 1878.

ESTABLISHED 1868.

1878. 1878.

J. B. Sappington,

DEALER IN

FIRST CLASS GROCERIES,

Chestertown, Md.

WE RESPECTFULLY call the attention of buyers to our stock.

FLOUR, BACON, LARD, SUGARS, COFFEE, MOLASSES, SYRUPS, OILS.

Tobacco, Cigars and Snuff,

At Lowest Prices.

SALT, BY THE SACK OR BUSHEL.

SALTED FISH—MACKEREL & HERRING, By the Barrel or Retail.

QUEENSWARE, WOODENWARE, STONE AND GLASSWARE,

Very Cheap.

SPECIAL ATTENTION IS CALLED to our

Stock of Dry Goods, Notions, BOOTS & SHOES,

which we are selling off

At Cost.

☞ Give us a call, and be convinced that

SAPPINGTON'S

IS

"The Cheap Store."

We offer no BAITS, but sell ALL Goods at the lowest prices.

GAMBRILL'S FLOUR.

By the Barrell and sack, at Baltimore prices.

Wanted—Butter, Eggs and Country Produce in exchange.

☞ Thankful for the liberal patronage heretofore received we will endeavor, by fair dealing, quick sales, and small profits, to merit a continuance of the same.

Respectfully, J. B. SAPPINGTON.

June 25, 1878.

Chester River Steamboat Company.

FARES REDUCED.

On and after Monday, October 14th, 1878, the Fares on New Iron Steamer B. S. FORD, and Steamer GEO. LAW will be reduced as follows: Between Baltimore, Kent Island, Queenstown and Grey's Inn Creek, 75 cents. Between Baltimore, Quaker Neck, Booker's, Rolph's, Chestertown and Crumpton, $1.00.

The B. S. FORD

Will leave CHESTERTOWN every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8 A. M., for BALTIMORE, stopping at Rolph's, Booker's, Quaker Neck, Queenstown and Kent Island.

Returning, leave BALTIMORE every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 10 A. M., making the above stops.

STEAMER GEORGE LAW

Will leave CRUMPTON every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 7 A. M., stopping at Chestertown, Rolph's, Booker's, Quaker Neck, Grey's Inn Creek, Queenstown and Kent Island.

Returning, leave BALTIMORE every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8 A. M., making the above stops.

Sept. 3, 1878.

CALL! CALL!

You can purabase at

T. W. WICKES' PHARMACY

PAINTS!

OILS AND VARNISHES

VERY LOW.

June 4, 1878. *T. W. WICKES*

BROILING BEEF, Hams and Cheese a large assortment of PIP