The Transcript.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1892.

LOCAL MATTERS.

—Chestertown may have a Leap Year ball.

—Easter Sunday will be April 17. Lent will begin March 2.

—Some persons in the upper part of the county filled their ice-houses with five and a half inch ice.

—The new postal cards have been passing through the Chestertown postoffice for several weeks past.

—Snowy winter—abundant harvest is an old saying. Has the present winter so far been snowy or otherwise?

—Delaware farmers want the game law amended so as to allow them to sell the game shot on their own farms.

—Last week was examination week at the Chestertown public school, and this week the Washington College boys are enjoying a siege.

—On February 14, the good St. Valentine will again enthrone himself in the hearts of his young country men as also of young country women.

—Capt. R. S. Emory, who has been desperately ill at his home for several weeks past, we are glad to state was yesterday pronounced somewhat better.

—The schooner Barbara Anna is said to have paid the oystermen of the Cliffs over $3,000 thus far this season. The Cliff bivalve has no superior on the river.

—Wild geese during the recent cold snap have been feeding in the wheat fields along Wye river in flocks of from one to five hundred. They have been in smaller numbers along the shores of Kent.

—During the recent illness of Drs. F. N Sheppard and J. C. Hackett, Crumpton and vicinity was entirely without a physician and it might be said that the grip had a walk over, which it duly enjoyed.

—The Denton *Journal* declares that some peach growers say nearly all the buds are dead. Were peach buds endowed with consciousness, death would truly be a supreme luxury to enable them to escape false prophets.

—The following prices are reported to us as having been paid at the respective creameries, per hundred pounds, for milk during January; Chestertown, $1.20, Kennedyville, $1.20; Locust Grove, $1.30; Crumpton, $1.25; Sassafras, $1.20.

—The attendance of scholars at Union school, just across Chester river, in the district in which diphtheria recently prevailed to some extent, has been so small that it was at one time feared that the school would have to be temporarily closed.

—The farmers of the Peninsula are discussing measures for the extermination of the English sparrow. The next Delaward Legislature will probably be asked to pass an act giving a bounty for the heads of dead sparrows. Shall Kent join in this crusade against the foreign visitors?

—Monday will be a great holiday in 1892. Washington's birthday falls on Monday and so does Memorial Day. The Fourth of July is billed for a Monday and Labor Day will be celebrated on a Monday. Christmas is set down on the calendar for Sunday and of course will be celebrated on a Monday.—*Centreville Observer.*

—During the recent cold spell, wild duck shooting was excellent in the tributaries of the Chester river. Morgan's creek was reported as being alive with ducks, one gentleman stating that he saw fully five hundred in one flock. Lankford's bay also afforded fine shooting, the water being alive with ducks of choice varieties.

—A call for a colored State convention has been issued, to take place at Annapolis March 18, 1892, to consider and take action upon the educational, industrial and political interests of the colored people of the State. The delegates to the convention, from Kent are: Zachariah Dunn, Wm. H. Perkins and Rev. F. S. Dennis.

—The invention is announced of what is represented to be a practicable electric carriage for common roads, to be driven by a storage battery and capable of climbing hills and of attaining a speed of from ten to fifteen miles per hour on level grades. The storage cells may also be adapted to furnish light and heat for the occupants of the vehicle, if so desired.

—The Delaware Annual Conference M. E. Church will convene in John Wesley Church, Salisbury, on Wednesday, March 23. Bishop Vincent will preside. One hundred and eleven ministers and one hundred and eleven delegates are expected to attend the conference. Presiding Elder White is busily engaged in arranging the matter of providing homes for the visitors.

—The steamer B, S. Ford was withdrawn from the route between Claiborne and Baltimore on the first of February. Capt. Thompson has secured the steamer Tangier to take the Ford's place, and the B. S. Ford will to-morrow take the Emma Ford's route while the latter vessel is undergoing repairs and taking on a spring suit of paint.

—Says the Wicomico *News*: Col. Voshell, of the Peninsula House is constantly adding new features to his house. Last week he had the small hall to the left of the main entrance-hall fitted up as a cloak and satchel department. The place will also be used to stow other pieces of "baggage" when the "sample room" is overcrowded. "Razzle dazzle," We've all been there before."

—Thieves have been at work on stackyards near Chestertown, it is supposed for the purpose of securing bedding for horses and other stock. A large stack of straw was removed from the yard of Mrs. E.R. Wickes during the recent snow. It is probable that it was for bedding for horses during the cold weather, and doubtless the stolen goods are now in the hands of innocent holders for value in Chestertown.

—On Saturday 5 h. 18 m. A. M. the planets Venus and Jupiter will be in conjunction and distant from each other only 34 seconds of arc counting from their nearest limbs, or 57 seconds of arc from centre to centre. At this time however, the planets will be below the Eastern horizon of Baltimore. They will rise together at 8 h. 41 m. A. M. and set 8 h. 6 m. P. M. For an hour before setting they will be so close that the naked eye will have difficulty in seeing them as two seperate planets. Almanac.

—The Public School Association will meet at the school-room in Chestertown, on Friday, Feb. 5, 1892, at 10 o'clock A. M. The regular questions for discussion are: 1st. What constitutes "Domestic Economy," and how shall it be taught? 2d. Are there any advantages in teaching by the "Topical Method," if so, what are they? Rev. W. R. Mowbray will deliver the address. Miss Katie McKee will read the essay. Teachers will respond to the question; "How shall we teach History of the United States?" The literary committee will meet a half hour earlier.

—Mr. Walter Trew, during the recent cold spell, had his attention attracted to the delightful music of a pack of Queen Anne's hounds in full cry. Looking in the direction, he saw a fox crossing the river on the ice. When near Deep Point, on the Kent side, the fox broke through three different times, and was unable the last time to extricate himself, and was drowned. The dogs wisely turned back.

—Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Hulme celebrated the 30th anniversary of their wedding on Tuesday evening of last week at their residence, 2207 St. Paul street. A unique feature of the reunion was a burlesque wedding, at which Mr. J. Luther Duff acted as minister. Solos was sung by Mrs. Anna Louise Powell, of the Woman's College; Mr. George A. Schaeffer and Miss Zaidee Hulme. A recitation was given by Miss Sophie Smith. Many handsome presents of pearl were received.

—Thomas Broxson, a successful farmer living about two miles from Locust Grove, died at his home about ten o'clock Sunday morning of typhoid fever, aged thirty-three years. Mr. Broxson was taken sick about Christmas with the grip, which after causing intense suffering developed into typhoid fever. The deceased leaves a wife and four children, three boys and one girl, the oldest of which is aged about five years. The interment took place at Georgetown, at two o'clock P. M. on Tuesday.

—Tuesday was ground-hog day, and throughout the country woodchuck holes were closely watched by rural weather prophets to see whether his Honor, the Ground-hog, would dare come out and measure his shadow. The little autocrat of Double Creek, who regulates the weather bureau of Kent and Queen Anne's, came out early, saw his shadow and returned to his hole. So we are scheduled for six weeks of all kinds of weather.

—The Emma Ford last week had real winter experiences, and on Wednesday failed to make her Queenstown landing on account of ice, low tide and the high wind; and Queenstown was without a boat from Tuesday until Saturday on account of ice. The Corsica, which on account of the freeze made the Ford's trip, tried to make a landing on Thursday, but could not find the channel on account of the buoys being down under the ice. She broke heavy ice from Booker's wharf up to Chestertown, the crust at the latter point being about one and a half inches thick.

—Wilmington M. E. Conference at its next annual session, most likely, will have six pastoral vacancies to fill. Since the last annual session three members have died, the Rev. T. O. Ayres, T. R. Creamer and S. J. Baker. The Rev. J. D. Rigg has taken a superannuated relation and it is thought that at the next annual session the Revs. J. H. Caldwell, D. D., and Chas. Hill will be given such a relation. Mr. Hill, owing to illness, has been obliged to stop preaching, and during the ensuing two months his pulpit at Elkton will be supplied by ministers of Wilmington district. It is not unlikely the Rev. R. C. Jones will be able to resume pastoral duty next Conference year.—*Every Evening.*

—The Ladies' Schubert Quartette, of Boston gave their annual entertainment at Stam's Hall, on Saturday evening, which was by common consent superior if possible, to their delightful entertainments of last year. Miss Whitcombe, who upon her first appearance in Chestertown was accorded an absolute ovation, was even more popular on this her second visit. The friends of Miss Nichols and Miss Roberts had not forgotten their favorites and gave them a most cordial reception. Miss Webber, the stranger guest of the popular quartette, possesses a pure, rich and flexible voice, which harmonized beautifully with the voices whose excellences are of such a character as to need no mention from the rural critic. The ladies state that Chestertown is one of the most pleasant places named on their long list of points to be annually visited.

—Prof. Wm. P: Toury, who was the analytical chemist in the poisoning case in Talbot county, says the Legislature should provide promply for the taking of medical and chemical testimony privately in poisoning cases as evidence in divorce cases is taken, for the reason that such testimony in public merely educates the public to the use of poisons. The law should also make provision against the selling of such poisons as Rough on Rats, which contains about 50 per cent. arsenic, and can be bought without a physician's prescription. The professor noted the similarity between the Smith case and the poisoning of Miss Annie Gale several months ago at Still Pond. In both case the accused were colored girls, fifteen years old and the poisoning ensued upon a threat of guardians to whip them. In both cases the same kind of poison wasused.

—The recent illness of Prince George, of Wales suggests a new possibility of the origin of typhoid fever. It is stated by the medical men who are attending him that the typhoid germs probably entered his system through the medium of oysters gathered from beds poisoned by sewage. And so, perhaps from loyalty, perhaps from fear, nobody in London society is eating oysters at present, and the experts are examining the bivalve with microscopes to see if there be any health in them. Of course, that is going to cause uneasy persons in this country to flee in terror from the succulent oysters. And no doubt an investigation into the sanitary condition of the oyster in this country would be a very safe as well as a very interesting performance. It would also be full of consolatton to timid persons who are always afraid of eating disease and drinking contagion. And meanwhile, the good intent of the oyster may be assumed, on such an eminent authority as the *Medical Record*, which states that in this country the oyster beds are not found in the neighborhood of large towns where they would be contaminated by the sewage. "Moreover," says the *Medical Record*, "typhoid fever generally begins to lessen in amount as the oyster season sets in."

—Since the first visit of the male Schubert Quartette several years ago, the name of the great composer of sweet song, has gathered around it an almost romantic or sentimental veneration among the Chestertown lovers of fascinating music. It were next to superfluous for us to do more than announce their coming, so far as those who have heard them are concerned, but for the benefit of those who are strangers to the inimitable Iott, the sweet tenor of Samuel Battle, the magnificent baritone of John B. Tyley, we would say that no such entertainments have ever been given in Chestertown, as those annually given by the delightful singers. Then, too, the charming Miss Baldwin retains her place with this popular quartette. Mr. William Harris, second tenor, is a stranger to Chestertown audiences, but is said to have a voice of rare beauty and merit. A new and delightful feature of the entertainment this year will be the appearance of Miss Ida M. Palmer, a reader of talent and rare culture. Miss Roman, the accompanist, is said to be one of the most skilled pianists the quartette has ever had. The Male Schubert Quartette needs no further introduction. We will, however, keep our friends reminded of their appearance in Chestertown on the evening of Feb. 17.

—Thursday last leave was secured to introduce a bill in the House of Delegates of Maryland, making Saturday a half holiday. The bill specifies the legal holidays now provided for, enumerating each. It then provides that every Saturday, from 12 o'clock noon to 12 o'clock midnight, shall be regarded as a legal holiday or half holiday, and shall be observed as such. It provides that in regard to all bills, notes, checks, promissory notes and similar papers the half holiday shall be considered as Sunday, and all such bills shall be deemed presentable on Monday for payment, provided that such bills, notes and promissory papers, except those payable at sight, shall be payable on the next succeeding secular or business day. The bill further provides that whenever the 1st of January, 22d of February, 30th of May, 4th of July or 25th of December shall fall on Sunday, the Monday following shall be deemed a legal holiday.

—Messrs. T. Lockard, H. Owens and — Trott, all of Betterton, just before the recent cold spell, crossed Sassafras river to Crownheart's fishing-shore, and took up headquarters at a comfortable fishing-shanty on the river-side of Grove Point, for the purpose of ducking. The gentlemen took a supply of provisions sufficient to last them several days, but after two or three days in their new quarters, navigation closed, and a return across the river was impossible. Their scanty store of provisions gave out, and but for a limited supply of beans which was found in the shanty, and a small stock of dry bread which they still had, the 19th century Robinson Crusoes must have fared badly. Anxious friends at Betterton watched the proceedings of the castaways on Grove Point by means of fieldglasses, and finally one man was missed. This gave rise to the supposition that one of the number was sick and confined to the shanty. A rescuing party of two, consisting of William Jester and Walter Brice, rigged a bateau on a sled and crossed the river on the ice and brought Messrs. Lockard and Owens across the river. Trott, however, becoming heartily sick of his shanty-life Trotted off for home; reached Georgetown, where he spent the night, and after a walk of about thirty-five miles around the head of Sassafras river, reached home foot-sore and weary just one hour and a half later than his companions. The results of the excursion were four ducks, awful fare and a possible violation of some New Year's resolutions.

THESE WORK DONE WOKED.

Excellent Work Done at the Chestertown Public School.

The averages given below, will show that in spite of the grip and the disagreeable weather of winter, the scholars of the Chestertown public school have been steadily and conscientiously at work. After a siege of a week, the intermediate examinations closed last week, and the following are those who made averages above 80:

EIGHTH GRADE.

Howard Fowler	93	Bessie Stuart	89
Violet Beck	89	Minnie Maslin	87
Mary Anthony	89	Vevia Hendrickson	87

SEVENTH GRADE.

Anna DeFord	88	Mamie Patterson	83
Maud Bramble	86	Tillie Reiche	80

SECOND-SIXTH GRADE.

Mamie Thompson	95	Minnie Peregoy	87
Mamie Carroll	94	Foster Perkins	86
Amie Russell	90	Harry Rickey	85
Tannie Willis	88	Julia Elliott	82

FIRST-SIXTH GRADE.

Lillie Crow	95	Marion Smith	86
May Hill	91	Dora Staats	86
Georgia Thompson	91	Bessie Cannan	85
Harry Anthony	89	Maggie Joiner	84
Florence Melvin	89	Frank Singer	82
MamieKirby	88	Frank McWhorter	82
Emma Greenwood	88	Clara Downey	81
Allie Wright	87	Carrie Reiche	81
Rose Frazier	87	Sallie Beck	81

SECOND-FIFTH GRADE.

Grace Whaland	95	Waters Russell	87
Frank Smith	95	Harry Fallowfield	85
George McFeely	90	Owen Crow	84
John Toulson	90	Percy Pennington	83
Susie Culp	89	Susie Ford	82
Annie Brice	88	Sadie Hendrickson	82

FIRST-FIFTH GRADE.

Sophie Rose	90	Mary Brown	83
Charlie Pippin	85	Raymond Simpers	82
Lemont Thompson	84	Mamie Barnes	82

FOURTH GRADE.

Mattie Storke	99	Frank Hines	88
Zoa Elliott	96	Philip Lewis	87
Hallie Toulson	96	Earle Joiner	87
Lucy Fogwell	95	Ollie Hill	86
Lizzie Willis	95	Harry Barnes	86
May Crow	94	Ralph Coleman	85
Dollie McWhorter	94	Bennie Greenwood	83
Barbara Anthony	92	Wilkins Elliott	83
Glenn Howard	92	Florence Green	82
Bessie Coleman	91	Walter Wright	82
Hayward Meeks	89	Carlie Senart	81
Walter B. Sappington	89	Harry York	81
Linda Lewis	88	Dora Thompson	80

THIRD GRADE.

Hallie Fogwell	97	George Perkins	90
Nora Boston	97	Carl Russell	90
Maude Melvin	96	Fannie Smith	88
Robenia Dill	95	Charles Whaland	88
Staunton Brown	95	Gleaves Frazier	87
Ada Barnett	93	Maud Thompson	87
Pearl Hendrickson	92	Harlee Frazier	83
John Reed	91	Blanch Dugan	83

SECOND-SECOND GRADE.

Gussie Friedman	99	George Pennington	91
Ethel Coleman	98	Jessie Willis	89
May Jones	98	Godfrey Westcott	87
Chester Melvin	94	Blanche Elliott	85
Lillie Greenwood	94	Bessie Twilley	84

FIRST-SECOND GRADE.

Polk Bramble	97	Frank Duyer	84
Earle Barnes	96	John Morgan	82
Slator Blackiston	93	Tony Bell	81
Iris Anthony	91	Ida Downey	80

THIRD-FIRST GRADE.

Jennie Hines	88	Arnold Dugan	82
Elsie Fallowfield	87	Lottie Reese	80
Ned Westcott	86	Maggie Chilcutt	80

SECOND-FIRST GRADE.

Charlie Hines	89	Frank Greenwood	85
Bennie Boston	89		

MESSRS. EDITORS:—A correspondent from Cecil sends you the following "bit" concerning Chesapeake City Academy:

The intermediate examinations have closed, and the results are in every respect encouraging to both principal and assistants. The scholars seem to be thoroughly interested in their work, and evidence a great desire to gain that which fits them best to grapple with the schemes of the world—an education. We are very much encouraged in our work, having at the commencement of this—the spring—term, 162 scholars on roll; and feeling, as we do, that our labors have been blest by a beneficent Providence, we will labor on, hoping that as another school year draws to a close, we shall see the fruits of the thoughts we have endeavored with patience to instill into the minds of those under our charge, manifested in their lives.

[Mr. Thomas D. Bowers, principal of the academy, is of Chestertown, and has a wide circle of friends who will be glad to learn of his signal success as an educator. —EDS.]

Court News.

Board of county commissioners met on Tuesday with a full board present. W. B. Usilton, treasurer for Kent county, presented his report for January, which was accepted and filed by order of the board. Receipt from Maryland hospital for the remittance for support, etc., of James H. Hadaway, for the year 1891, received and filed. Order was passed abating assessment on furniture of T. J. Bayard.

Orphans' Court, Feb. 2, 1892. Present judges Harris, Moffett and Burgess. J. Charles Wheatley one of the administrators of A. J. Rees filed an account of sales of his decedent. The will of Perry Brown, Sr., was probated. Colin F. Stam filed release from Joseph E. and Mellissa B. N. Gresimer. The will of James Kelley was filed for probate. The last will and testament of Sarah C. Rogers was probated. Samuel Merritt was appointed guardian to A. R. Merritt. Letters of administration on the personal estate of Thomas S. Wilmer were granted to James Brice, who filed his bond in the sum of $3000, and E. J. Watson and W. F. Melvin were appointed as appraisers. Letters of administration were granted to John D. Urie on the personal estate of George Maslin.

A BEAUTIFUL WEDDING.

HYNSON—GILPIN.

One of, if not the most beautiful wedding celebrated in Chestertown for a number of years, and the great social event of the present season, will be the marriage at Immanuel Protestant Episcopal Church, at eight o'clock this evening, of Richard D. Hynson, son of the late Richard Hynson, Esq., and Miss Emma Gilpin, daughter of Mr. Joseph E. Gilpin. The wedding will be in full evening dress, and the English form will be adhered to. Many, of the large number of ladies who will be present, will appear in full evening dress, and the marriage throughout will be an elaborate and beautiful affair. The bride-elect, wearing a magnificent wedding gown, and leaning upon the arm of her father, will approach the altar, preceded by her maid of honor, Miss Hallie Beck, who will be preceded by two little flower girls, Miss Isabel Beck and Miss Mary Rogers, daintily dressed in cream gowns. As the bride advances to the altar, where she will be met by the groom, Miss Nettie Crane, of Baltimore, a cousin to Mr. Hynson, will play the beautiful march, by Lohengrin. The altar reached, the maid of honor, the flower girls and the six ushers, will assume positions on either side of the bridal couple, while the bride and bride-groom-elect, standing under a beautiful arch, with a large and richly frosted marriage-bell pendant having a lily clapper, will be pronounced man and wife by Dr. Eccleston, of Immanuel P. E. Church, of Baltimore, assisted by Rev. S. C. Roberts, of Immanuel Church, Chestertown. The church decorations will be rich and beautiful, and have been arranged solely by the circle of King's Daughters, of which the bride is a member. Around the sides of the church are graceful festoons of evergreens, and instead of the time-honored ribbon separating the reserved seats for the immediate family and young lady friends of the bride, from those to be occupied by general friends, a beautiful arch of evergreens and winter berries has been formed; and back of the graceful curves of the large arch with its pendant marriage-bell, under which the bridal couple will stand, a number of lighted candles will cast a subdued and mellow light. From the chandaliers will hang graceful festoons of evergreens.

The ushers will be Mr. David P. Davis and Charles E. Perkins, of Philadelphia, Dr. C. P. Gilpin, Frank Gilpin, brother of the bride, W. H. Cacy and W. W. Beck. Mr. and Mrs. Hynson will take the train to-morrow morning for a protracted bridal tour.

After the marriage ceremony an elegant reception will be held at the home of Mrs. Richard Hynson, on Front street, to which no invitations have been issued, but we are authorized to say all friends will be welcome.

Mrs. W. Frank Hines and Miss Millie Comegys beautifully entertained Miss Gilpin and her prospective Maid of Honor, Miss Beck, at their home on Front street, on Tuesday evening. The ladies present were: Miss Gilpin, Miss Hallie Beck, Miss Ada Roberts, of Centreville, Miss Mary Beck, Miss Ellen Fisher, Miss Blanche Constable, Misses May and Hallie Ireland.

Mr. Hynson, on the same evening was tendered a most delightful entertainment at the Voshell House, by his gentlemen friends, and a royal good time was enjoyed.

A DELIGHTFUL DANCE.

The Most Enjoyable Social Event of the Year at Still Pond.

The delightful dance given by the young men of Still Pond, at the town hall, on Thursday evening, was in every respect a brilliant affair, and was the most enjoyable social event of the present winter; and, indeed, was possibly one of the most elaborate social successes ever achieved in that section, where elegant dances are the rule rather than the exception. The hall was beautifully decorated with flags and evergreens, and was in readiness for the grand march and the fascinating maze of the intricate waltz. Amid a burst of sweet music and a flood of mellow light, the brilliant procession of the grand march commenced at 8.45 o'clock, led by Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Price. The pleasures of the dance continued without a pause until midnight, when a tempting lunch was served, after which dancing was resumed and lasted until an early hour in the morning.

Fully two hundred persons were present, representing the youth and beauty, not only of the Eastern and Western Shores, but of other States than Maryland. The music, consisting of harp, clarionet, cornet and violin, was furnished by George Hyatt, of Wilmington, Del. Those present were:

From Baltimore—Misses Bessie Cannon, Hattie Davidson, Maud Ritter, Mary Stokes, Mollie Alrich; Messrs. Albert Rivers, Jas. Conley. From Washington—Harry Rose. From Phillipsburg, Pa.—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Deringer, Mr. and Mrs. Woodland Deringer. From Pittsburg—Miss Cowan. From Philadelphia—Miss Nivin. Delaware College—Messrs. S. K. Martin and Brooks Ross. From Middletown, Del.—J. Cowgill Alston, and Harry Howard. From Sudlersville—Messrs. Massey; Misses Rose Comegys, Lottie Rose. From Millington—Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Comegys. Georgetown—Misses Katie and Bessie Woodall, Emma Wilson. Sassafras—Harry Griffin, Fletcher Caulk. Locust Grove—Mrs. J. Horton Kelley, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Comegys, Mr. and Mrs. John M. Comegys, Mr. and Mrs. Julian Hurtt, Misses Hayes, Messrs. Woodland and Clifton Hurtt, Miss Delia Justis, Miss Crow, L. C. Justis, Jr., Mr. Crow. Kennedyville—Miss Mary Janvier, Will Janvier, J. Herman Ireland, P. A. M. Brooks, Phil Wilmer, Bert Medders. Still Pond—Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Price, Mr. and Mrs. I. R. Starkey, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Turner, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Hossenger, Mrs. Phil Clark, Mrs. W. P. Norris, Misses Gulie Parrott, May Parrott, Therese Raymond, Annie Roeder, Sue Jones, Katie Howard, Lillie Parrott, Lydia Norris, Eva Hopkins, Mina Lusby, Dr. W. E. Barnard, Howard Turner, George C. Howard, J. H. O. Stokes, G. E. Parrott, John Parrott, Will Price, Carson Harris, Hyland Jones, Harry and S. C. Cacy. Hanesville—Misses Mamie Catlin, — Smyth; Romie Skirven, Jas. G. Beck, Kidd Alrich, Clifton Alrich, Wm. B. Stephens, Percy G. Skirven, Jesse Usilton, Murray Smyth; Fairlee and below—Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Trew, Misses Strong, Mr. Strong, Mr. and Mrs. Bert DeCorse, Chas. Beck, Eugene Wilson. Chestertown—Misses Belle Aldridge, Nelie Walker, Nannie and Daisy Brice, Misses Ireland; George Brice, Carole and Herman Perkins, Frank Gilpin. Queen Anne's—Richard Duckett, Sam'l Emory, Will Trenchard, T. R. Emory, John Friel and Spencer Comegys. Washington College—Harry Hurtt, Earle Fisher, Mr. Carter and Mr. Downs.

To the following ladies and gentlemen, those present were largely indebted for a most enjoyable occasion:

Committee of Reception and Arrangement: C. H. Price, Woodland and Clifton Hurtt, Dr. W. E. Barnard, S. C. Cacy and Howard Turner.

Patronesses: Mrs. C. H. Price, Mrs. W. S. Maxwell, Mrs. E. T. Comegys and Mrs. J. Horton Kelley.

Floor Committee: Geo. C. Howard, J. H. O. Stokes, G. E. Parrott and Clifton Hurtt.

Thompson's Execution.

SCENES AND INCIDENTS OF THE FIRST EXECUTION IN KENT FOR FORTY YEARS.

A Startling Discovery Since the Hanging

A Final and Supreme Effort at Escape Determined Upon by the Prisoner After All Opportunity Had Passed.

The first execution which has taken place in Kent county for forty years, was that of Friday morning, when Thomas Thompson, the murderer of William, alias Bully Adams, paid the penalty of his crime on the gallows. The extreme rarity of the imposition of the death penalty in the county, together with the enormity of the crime which it was intended to avenge, and the fearful solemnity attending the taking of human life, all conspired to surround the occasion with an unusual, and we fear an unhealthy air of mystery, which awakened a correspondingly morbid and unhealthy desire to witness the execution. Since the appointment of the day for the hanging by the Governor, a nervous interest had manifest itself among the people, and Sheriff Plummer received hundreds of applications for permission to be present. With the approach of the day, excitement increased, and as it was impossible to witness the final act in the fearful tragedy, hundreds of persons were anxious to see the prisoner and the fatal trap through which he was to dart into eternity, and on Wednesday and Thursday long processions of curious men, women and children, including friends of the prisoner as well as curious strangers, were admitted to the jail.

Thompson was cheerful, declared himself as being ready to die, and asked many to meet him in heaven. The first nail in the scaffold was driven on Monday, and through the bars of the front of his cell the doomed man could watch Contractor T. J. Joiner place the fatal beams in position, and could distinctly hear each nail driven, until the deadly machine stood a thing complete. This dreary outlook, however, had no depressing effect, and the prisoner declined to have a curtain placed to incept his view of the solitary workman and his gloomy task, stating that it made no difference to him. Thursday evening found the gallows complete and ready in every part. A letter was received by Thompson on Tuesday, from a colored man, Thomas Downes, of Philadelphia, asking him to prepare for the fearful ordeal through which he was to pass by making his peace with his God and be ready for the future. This letter was promptly answered by Mr. Dugan, Thompson's abiding friend, the latter dictating every word. At nine o'clock on Thursday morning, the prisoner received at his own request, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, administered by Revs. S. C. Roberts and R. Irving Watkins. To all those who called, Thompson talked cheerfully, stating that he had no fear of death, was ready to go, and asked many friends to meet him beyond the grave.

THE LAST NIGHT ON EARTH.

Early Thursday evening he wrote with his own hand, with a pencil, the following letter, which was given to Mr. Dugan with instructions that no one should see it until after he was buried:

KENT COUNTY JAIL, CHESTERTOWN, Jan. 28, 2 o'clock, P. M.—To the Revs. Mr. Watkins, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Melvin, Mr. Dennis and Mr. Brown, all ministers of the Gospel; allow me in this small way to thank you all for the kindness and the interest that you have shown for me since my conviction, and though my petition for your welfare is weak, yet it is given from my heart. May God is His infinite mercy bless you all and protect you through this world, and when He sees fit to take you all away from this earth, that you one and all may meet me in heaven. I bless you all for the interest you have had for me, because it was you all that have made me as I am, ready to die.

To Mr. Pearce and Mr. Lewin Wickes: I thank you both for the kindness that you have shown me during my trial. It was intended, I believe, for me to die in this way, and I thank God that I am ready to go, and I believe you done all you could for me, and I am satisfied as it is so. God bless you both.

To Mr. Samuel Comegys and wife: Accept my thanks and prayers for your attention and kindness while in your charge. You both were good and kind to me, and my last prayer is for both of you that you both may meet me in heaven.

To Mr. Plummer, wife and Mr. Frank Plummer, and to my guards and watches: May God bless, protect and watch over you all is my earnest prayer. You all have been kind and faithful to me, and no better reward would I ask of you all than for you all to meet mein heaven. Again I say God bless and protect you all is my prayer.

To the choir of the M. E. and M. P. churches: May God bless you all for the sweet songs that you have sung over me, and I know you will be rewarded enough for your trouble, when I can truthfully say that I believe your hymns have been answered, for I believe that I am going straight to heaven.

Now, to the good people of Chestertown: God bless you all. I believe you all have that sympathy for me as you would for any other poor creature in my place. You all I believe, have prayer for me, and now, as I am about to leave this world, I would ask of my companions to change their way of living, and give their hearts to God.

Good bye to everybody, and may God bless you all, is the prayer of

THOMAS H. THOMPSON.

The spelling and the correction of the sentences have been altered and corrected to some extent.

Notwithstanding the rapid march of the hours toward the fatal time appointed for the execution, the doomed man bore up bravely and ate a substantial supper in addition to a dozen fried oysters previously given him by Mr. Dugan. About seven o'clock the guards began to take position about the jail, which attracted the attention of the prisoner, and he wanted to know what it all meant, and when told that it was a precaution against any possible trouble from any direction, the prisoner said that so far as he was concerned it was all unnecessary, that he would give no trouble. Later in the evening, about 9 o'clock, a number of the members of the M. E. and M. P. church choirs, who had sung to the prisoner on several previous evenings arrived and held a song service, in which Thompson earnestly participated. When the singing was finished he thanked his friends, stating that their songs had been of great spiritual benefit. The night, until about 1.30 o'clock A. M., was passed by some of those present reading the Scripture to the condemned man. At 1.30 o'clock he stated that he wanted to sleep, but wished to be called at 4 o'clock. After a few moments, however, of broken rest, he asked for Sheriff Plummer and his wife, and thanked them for their kindness to him. He also thanked the deputies and all connected with the jail during his imprisonment, stating that their kindness had been all that could have been asked. At 4 o'clock the three prisoners who had been in the jail with Thompson were led to his cell to bid him good-bye.

A warm and tempting breakfast was prepared at an early hour, but the prisoner refused to eat, stating that he had no appetite, and passed the early morning until 5 o'clock reading his Bible. At that hour, Revs. R. Irving Watkins, S. C. Roberts and F. S. Dennis; several physicians, representatives of the press, the prisoner's counsel, and others arrived. A prayer and song service was held, Thompson participating. The prayer which he offered was remarkable for its force and apparent sincerity, and was declared by those present to be one of the most touchingly beautiful they had ever heard. There was no evidence of fear, excitement or resentment, but a child-like, frank confession of sins committed and a faith in Divine forgiveness. He prayed for his father and brother in a clear strong voice, but in referring to his sister his eyes became suffused with tears and the deep voice faltered with emotion. The not unmoved witnesses to this affecting scene, besides the ministers were: Messrs. James A. Pearce and L. W. Wickes, Thompson's counsel; Dr. W. Frank Hines, jail physician; Drs. J. L. Wethered, J. Horton Kelley and C. W. Whaland; Profs. Stratton and E. J. Clarke; guards Dugan and Storks, and Messrs. F. G. Usilton and M. W. Thomas; At the conclusion of the service these all filed past the cell and one by one shook hands with the doomed man. Not until within a few hours of the execution did he know at what time it would take place, and then he unconcernedly asked "what time are you going to hang me." About 5 o'clock the deputies, numbering about 100, and those provided with tickets commenced coming in. T. J. Joiner was given charge of the guards which were stationed in the yard surrounding the scaffold. Edw. J. Spear and H. Hicks had charge of the first district men; Chas. Gill, the second; James Harris and Robert Carter, the third; Tilden Brice and Prof. Stratton, the fifth.

THE MARCH TO DEATH.

With the first appearance of the cold gray mist of the coming dawn, Thompson was told to prepare for the end. This was a desolate picture. The shades of a cloudy cheerless day forced themselves between the prison bars, only to make the curious scene more oppressive and dreary. The hour had arrived, and Messrs. Dugan, Joiner and Storks, and Court Clerk John H. Greenwood, entered the cell and removed the cold fetters.

Thompson retained his cheerfulness, and when asked whether he would have his hands bound in front or behind him, said that it made no difference. The hands were tied it front; the elbows securely bound and the prisoner was led from his cell, when Revs. Watkins and Dennis, one on either side, joined the slow and solemn march to the gallows. The ministers left Thompson at the jail door, and accompanied by Sheriff Plummer and Messrs. Dugan, Joiner and Storks, the prisoner stepped upon the fatal platform. Mr. Joiner adjusted the black cap, and Mr. Storks tied the prisoner's legs, after which the noose was tied by William Newcomb, assisted by Crier Greenwood. "Put it a little lower," Thompson coolly asked. Just before Sheriff Plummer pulled the lever which sprung the trap, Thompson whispered to Guard Joiner, "Will you meet me in heaven?" "I will try," was the response, and just at twenty-five minutes to seven o'clock, with a heavy crash the trap fell, and the next moment the murderer of William Adams was hanging almost motionless below the platform. No evidence of fear had been shown. With a firm and steady tread he ascended the gallow's steps, and no tremor or nervousness was noticeable throughout the dreadful ordeal. He met his fate as bravely and coolly as though nothing of unusual importance was transpiring with himself as the principal actor. Dr. Kelley was the first to approach the body, after a lapse of two minutes, and found the pulse to be ninety-six. After having hung for twenty-five minutes, Dr. Hines ordered the body cut down, when it was found that the bones of the powerful neck had been dislocated, and the general opinion was that death must have been absolutely instantaneous. The body was placed in a plain pine coffin, prepared by Undertaker Dodd, which had been ornamented with silver-plated nails and handles by means of subscriptons taken up by Mr. Dugan. At 10 o'clock the body was taken to Bethel A. M. E. Church. The church was crowded, and near the front sat the pall-bearers whom Thompson had selected before his execution, as follows: Richard Murray, Alonzo Lloyd, Emory Lively, George Barnes, William Beverly and Alexander Chaney, all of whom sat with covered heads during the impressive service, which was conducted by Revs. Watkins and Dennis. After a prayer by the latter, Mr. Watkins in accordance with the request of the dead man, read the ninetieth Psalm, from a Bible which had been given to Thompson. Mr. Watkins gave the weeping and hysterical audience a stirring talk. The interment took place in a lot purchased in the colored cemetery with subscriptions taken by Mr. Dugan, and by a singular accident Thompson lies with the head of his coffin almost touching the foot of that of his victim, Bully Adams.

At the request of Thompson, Mr. Watkins read the following letter:

Dear father & Sisters and Brother I can say that the lord have Spoke peace to sold I cant say it now With lips that the lord have forgive me of my Sins But Bless god I am able to Spake from the deps of my hart Tell my friends dont grive at me but grive at the one that sent for me For I am gone my father in glory On my friends Dont do as I done but stop your wild ways and come on the lords Side For the lord have Promised that Wicket Shall not live holy if they do Turn oh my friends turn to the lord oh Dear father you have sum maney ups and Downs stop stop and Think for a moment if you Dont reform hell will be your home Good By ould world and every body I am jest gone a little Before you all.

THE DISAPPOINTED MULTITUDE.

That Sheriff Plummer used a wise precaution in having the execution at an early hour soon became evident, for at an early hour persons commenced to arrive in town, hoping in some way to secure a glimpse of the ghastly spectacle presented on the scaffold. Indeed, persons were arriving all during the night, from every direction, and by half-past eleven o'clock it were safe to say that two thousand people were or had been in town, while nearly as many more had turned back after learning that the hanging was over. About four o'clock two old colored men arrived from Denton, having driven all night. There were persons present from all sections of Kent and Queen Anne's, even Kent Island being represented in