The Transcript.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1896.

LOCAL MATTERS.

Four Coons at One Hunt.—Three colored men came into Chestertown on Friday bringing four enormous coons, as fat as seals, ready-dressed and ready for the feast. The varmints were caught during one night's hunt and with two dogs.

Peach Talk Commenced.—The South Mountain peach growers have commenced speculating on the peach outlook and declare that the prospect for a crop is promising. In Kent the recent mild weather caused peach men to commence an examination with a view to the future. The wood assumed a bright red appearance, but as yet the crop is safe, and it is all too early for phophecies on this point.

Orphans' Court.—Present, Judges Burgess, Byron and Harper. The last will and testament of Mary A. Wilmer was filed for probate. The last will and testament of George W. Davis was admitted to probate. Letters testamentary on the estate of George W. Davis were granted to Wilamina W. Davis, and E. M. Bonwell and R. T. Turner were appointed to appraise said estate. The first and final administration account of M. A. Statts, administratrix of George H. Statts, was passed.

A Deaf Mute Dead.—Mr. Joseph H. Linton, a deaf mute aged 62 years, who had become well and favorably known in Chestertown and vicinity, died at the home of his nephew, near Baltimore, on January 9th. He came to Chestertown several years ago as a photographer, and afterward made his home in and near town, where he made many friends. While a young man he was employed by the United States Government at Washington, D. C., as a carpenter and witnessed many harrowing incidents among the prisoners captured during the civil war while engaged in repairing the prison where the men were confined.

C. P. S. Echo.—The "Echo," the attractive and well-edited paper of the graduating class of the Chestertown public school, was read on Friday afternoon last, together with the following interesting programme: Song, 3d grade; Echo, Editorial, Sadie Hendrickson; reading, the Man from Dayton, Owen Crow; reading, "Tom and Bess," Annie Sappington; Echo, "A Chapter from Homer," Bessie Cannan; song, "Juniata," Bessie Cannan, Annie Brice, Sue Ford; recitation, "He Didn't Amount to Shucks," Glenn Howard; Echo, "Star Fish," John Loud; recitation, Lizzie Davis; Echo, "Spice Box," Bessie Cannan; song, 4th grade; dialogue, "New Scholars," girls of 5th grade.

Capt. William A. Thompson Dead.—Captain Wm. A. Thompson, who for thirty years was master of a steamer for the Ericsson Steamboat Company, died late Sunday night at his home in Baltimore. Last Friday Mr. Thompson was stricken with apoplexy on North avenue while in one of the wagons of the People's Despatch Company, for whom he had been working for the past four years. He fell to the street unconscious and was immediately taken home. He never spoke after that. He was in his sixty-sixth year, and leaves a widow and six children. The deceased was born in Dorchester county, and followed the water up to within four years ago, and was one of the best-known captains on the bay. For a long time he ran the old steamer Ruggles on the Choptank river, and afterwards the L. G. Cannon on the Chester river.

Marriage Licenses.—The following licenses for the marriage of white couples were issued by Clerk of the Court Sam'l G. Fisher during the month of January: Alcade Porter and Mamie E. Hall, Geo. W. Sutton and Mary Pennington, J. H. Glenn and Laura E. Price, W. S. Jarman and Mary L. Thompson, W. T. H. Whiteley and Mary A. Kirby, L. P. Atwell and Elizabeth E. Johnson, W. T. Harrison and M. L. Edwards, A. J. Stewart and Etta S. Hicks, J. A. Hickey and Rachel E. Sanders, J. F. Baker and Susie Thomas, G. R. Apsley and Lillian A. Stevens, Ivanhoe Willis and Margaret C. Fisher, W. T. Dreka and Lulu P. Bonwill, J. A. Myers and Mamie E. Walker, F. J. Williams and Katie E. Jankowski, W. J. Porter and Margaret Frances McKevitt, S. M. Truitt and Josephine Knotts. Colored—George Holland and Ella Hammond, Thomas Frazer and M. C. Rigby, Levi Kennard and S. C. Garretson, J. H. Pearce and Katie Black, Horace Warren and Lucy Smallwood, T. C. Clark and Lizzie Reed, Walter Massey and Bertha Mander.

Ducking Laws.—The committee on legislation of the Maryland Game and Fish Protective Association, will this week introduce in the Legislature, bills providing new regulations for fishing and gunning in Maryland. The committee believes that the innovations contained in them are as great as they can hope to have passed at this session. The ducking bills re-enact sections of the public local laws, entitled "Harford County," so as to permit the gunners to cross to the Susquehanna river at 3 A. M., the shooting to continue until one hour after sunset on all shooting days, which are the same as before, namely, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from November 1 to January 1, and Saturday added from January 1 to March 31. The penalty for violation is a fine of $50 to $100. The license is $20 for a single sink-box; $25 for a double sink-box; $20 for a sneak-boat. The licenses are interchangeable, the holder being permitted to extend the privilege to another to shoot from the box or boat.

The Chester River Battle Recalled.—The Republican reform mill at Annapolis has resurrected after nearly ten years, the claim of certain gentlemen in Baltimore city for indemnity for the dredge boats sunk in Chester river by that gallant commander, T. C. B. Howard, in eighteen hundred and eighty-eight. It will be remembered that a number of lawless dredgers, when between Piney Point and Hail Point, lashed their vessels together and endeavored to out fight and outwit the gallant Howard. The officer of the law was not to be so easily gotten rid of, and as a sequel to the encounter, two dredge boats were sent to the bottom of Chester river and about thirty men were lodged in Centreville jail. The boats were violating the law, the rights of Kent and Queen Anne's county oystermen were being outraged when captain Howard called the timely halt, and the fact that a bill has been introduced to make the State pay one thousand dollars to one of the owners whose vessel Capt. Howard sunk is far from a creditable transaction. The committee made an unfavorable report on the bill, but the Republicans of the House substituted the bill for the unfavorable report, and it is now on its passage. The *Easton Ledger* says: no Republican member from Talbot or Dorchester raised his voice in defence of Capt. Howard, though they all know that his action in Chester river on that occasion was not only justifiable but commendable—not only commendable but necessary.

Tomb Stones Caught in an Oyster Dredge.—Captain William H. Sanford, of Rock Hall, while dredging on Kent Point some weeks ago, caught in his dredge a well-preserved marble tombstone about 3 feet tall, 15 inches wide and 6 inches thick. The only lettering on the stone was H. P., cut near the top. The stone was more than a mile out in the bay, and the only way to account for its presence is that it was used as ballast by a passing vessel and was thrown overboard. Captain Sanford says the owner can get the stone by sending for it, but he positively refuses to deliver it to the owner himself. Carroll Routan, of Baltimore, caught in his dredge the same day and at the same point, a slab about 6 ft. by 4 and resembling a slab used to cover a grave.

Hoarded Gold.—In response to inquiries sent out by the Maryland Title Insurance and Trust Company relative to the amount of gold coin hoarded in the respective sections of the State, W. B. Copper, of the Second National Bank of Chestertown, writes: "In reply to yours of the 25th, will say so far as I can judge in a general way, our people as a class are not in the habit of accumulating their savings in their own houses. In my judgment, there is but little gold in the hands of the people of this section; neither do I believe the issue of United States bonds which is now being offered will be largely distributed among our people." J. Fletcher Rolph, cashier of the Centreville National, wrote: "In reply to your inquiry of 25th inst., will say I don't think there is much money hoarded in this county. The prospect for selling U. S. bonds among the masses with us is quite limited indeed.

Queen Anne's Railroad.—Work on the Queen Anne's Railroad, building between Queenstown and Lewes, Del., is being pushed with all possible haste. The wharves at Queenstown have been completed, and President Bosley said to a reporter that the first section extending from Queenstown to Denton, a distance of 20 miles, will be in operation within 90 days. He expects that the entire line will be completed by September. The contract for building the second section will be awarded within the next ten days. The route has already been graded, and is ready for track laying. The wharves at Queenstown are said to be the strongest on the Chesapeake bay and are capable of accommodating three trains. Representatives of the road were in Washington last week and urged the deepening of Queenstown creek and harbor from 6 to 12 feet. General Gittings and Congressman Miles addressed the committee. The Delaware route will soon be determined upon. A committee from Smithville, Delaware, will guarantee to the company, should the Smithville route be selected, free right-of-way and a suitable depot and freight house.

CHURCH NOTES.

Revival services continue in the M. E. Church of Chestertown to date. Last Sabbath evening eight penitents presented themselves at the altar seven of whom were converted before the close of the service. The services thus far have resulted in forty-five conversions. The usual services will be held at the usual hours on Sabbath next. Subject of morning sermon: Temptation. Evening subject: Life Fleeting. Epworth League subject: Winning Souls to Christ by Works of Mercy and Help. Leader, Miss Anna G. Lambert. Revival service at the conclusion of the evening sermon. Public cordially invited to all services.

Dr. J. L. Mills, pastor of St. James M. P. Church, was given a pleasant surprise last week by a large number of his congregation. Abundant and substantial tokens of love and esteem were not wanting on the occasion. Mr. Samuel Vannort made a neat speech on behalf of the visitors, which was eloquently responded to by Dr. Mills. Mrs. Mills, who is never more at home than when extending a generous welcome and good cheer to her friends, was an ideal hostess.

A number of the parishioners of Rev. T. B. Cooper, pastor of Bond M. E. Church, laid seige to their pastor's pleasant home in royal fashion. In addition to vegetables, fruits and other substantials for the larder, the beseigers carried their own refreshments, and ice cream, custards and cake were abundantly enjoyed.

Rev. Frank Fletcher, the popular pastor of the Galena church, also came under the ban of a night attack, and while the unsuspecting pastor was quietly enjoying himself at home "the Assyrian came down like a wolf on the fold." The surprise was complete, and the occasion was one of the most delightful within the history of the church. Mr. Fletcher is deservedly popular, and gave every evidence of a full appreciation of the substantial exhibition of the love and goodwill of his people.

Considerable difficulty has been experienced in heating Christ M P. Church during the present winter. The gentleman who put the furnace in was over last week and stated that the open ceiling is responsible for the trouble. Just what will be done to remedy the difficulty has not been determined upon.

A glorious success has crowned the revival services of Rev. W. P. Compton at the Chestertown M. E. Church, nearly forty persons having professed conversion, and eight, principally young men, found saving grace on Sunday evening. Mr. Compton is an indefatigable and zealous worker, and will continue the services just so long as interest remains unabated and results are at all satisfactory.

The ladies of Shrewsbury parish have been so well pleased with the success of the Cobweb party at the Rectory last month, that they are preparing to have another social affair at the same place on the 13th inst. A general invitation is extended to all.

Mrs. Cleveland has consented to be present at the African Methodist Episcopal Church, colored, in Washington, on the 14th instant, as a patroness of an entertainment to be given in aid of the Home for Friendless Colored Girls.

Bicycles for 1896.

With the approach of spring, the heart of the Kent county cyclist naturally goes out to the beautiful steeds to be ridden by local wheelmen during the coming season. J. H. Sides clings to his first love, the Majestic pace-maker, with a tenacity which would make an opossum's love for a persimmon weep for shame. He will place on the market this tried and reliable wheel.

John H. Aldridge has a beauty in the scarlet-rimmed Syracuse. This is one of the most beautiful wheels on the market, is high grade and standard in every respect. The Syracuse made its appearance during the recent bright weather and was the observed of all observers.

R. Snowden Thomas, with the time-honored record-breaker Rambler, is still in the field and has one of the finest wheels ever ridden on a track or country road. When the roll is called Thomas and the Rambler will be there.

Charles S. Smith will offer bargains in good wheels at moderate prices.

Mrs. Sylvanus, of Wilmington, nee Miss Grace Kelley, of Locust Grove, was in town on a Barnes wheel last week. Mrs. Sylvanus is an expert and graceful rider, and graced the beautiful white steed which she rode.

The Single Tax Lecture.—The lecture delivered by Dr. Leaverson in Stam's Hall on Saturday night, on the Single Tax theory of Henry George, while interesting, was not as satisfying in its fullness or clearness as might have been expected. The audience, all things considered, was as large as could have been expected, and certainly representative of the most intelligent citizenship of the county. The speaker declared Henry George to be the greatest, wisest and best of mankind, and claimed for his system that it is destined to be the great antidote for poverty. Drunkenness, said the speaker, has been held responsible for the world's grinding, enervating poverty, whereas the truth is that poverty has been responsible for drunkenness. He held that improvements, the product of skill or toil, should not be taxed; thrift and industry, should not be compelled to pay tribute to wealth. Neither should *land* be taxed, only its *value*, that which has been created by the community at large. Dr. Leaverson declared that the value of an acre of land in the business centre of New York is worth $17,000,000. William M. Slay, Esq., asked how it would be possible to compel men who had come in possession of this land at enormous prices, paid in money which they had possibly earned by industry, economy and manual labor, to pay the required tax on this land value without working an injustice, while improvements and other values were totally or comparatively exempt. The answer to this can not be said to have been entirely satisfactory to all of those present. The claim was made that the comparatively poor and impoverished bear the burthens of the present unjust system of taxation, while money-lords and millionaires escape. Prof. J. I. Stephens asked how the poor, without means and without property to be taxed, paid the taxes which should be borne by the rich. Here again the doctor's answer was far from satisfactory. The talk was, however, interesting, and doubtless in a more comprehensive lecture the system could and would be more satisfactorily explained. Captain Cecil Atkinson, of Bel Rio Farm, this county, introduced the distinguished lecturer with appropriate remarks.

WEDDING CRYSTALS.

Pretty Mid-Winter Marriages in Kent.

A beautiful morning wedding was solemnized at St. John's Catholic Church, Rock Hall, on Tuesday of last week, January 28. The contracting parties were Miss Katie Jankowski and Mr. Frederick Williams. The church was profusely and handsomely decorated for the nuptial occasion with evergreens and blossoming potted plants. At the sanctuary rail stood a magnificent arch of evergreens and roses, while on either side were bright blossoms and potted palms, oleanders, lilies and other plants. The altar was beautiful with a profusion of potted plants and cut flowers. Promptly at 10 o'clock the bridal couple entered the church preceded by little Miss Virgie Jankowski, bearing on a beautiful cushion the wedding ring; and the maid of honor, Miss Annie Williams, sister of the groom, to Mendelssohn's wedding march, sweetly rendered by Miss Mary Willson. Father McSweeny in white vestments, met the couple, who took position under the marriage arch, and declared them man wife. The bride was handsomely attired in green satin with pearl trimmings, veil, wore a wreath of orange blossoms, white gloves and slippers. The maid of honor wore a handsome gown of dark blue cloth and velvet and wore a white wreath, gloves and slippers to correspond with the bride's. Mr. Bennett Willson was best man. Immediately after the ceremony a delightful wedding breakfast was partaken of by the bridal party and a few friends at the home of the bride.

A splendid reception was held from 6 to 12 o'clock P. M. and hosts of friends partook of the wealth of seasonable delicacies, after which good night was said. The presents were numerous and beautiful.

PERSONAL AND SOCIAL.

Messrs. J. I. Coulbourne, Harry Green, R. J. Garey, Howard Fowler, D. G. Gooding, and J. S. E. Pardee, all of Washington College, attended the pleasant dance given at the home of Mr. Charles J. Joslings, near Sudlersville, on Friday evening.

Messrs. Barnett and Richards have rented the spacious room in the Eliason building, over Moody and Lusby's clothing store, and have opened a tonsoial emporium, handsome and complete in every particular. Mr. Barnett, one of Chestertown's popular young men, has just finished a thorough schooling, while Mr. Richards is an expert and veteran at the business.

Ex-postmaster Hiram Brown is fitting up the large room under the Voshell House, to be used by him for the sale of agricultural implements, feed stuff and grain. Mr. Brown has had practical schooling in both branches of the business and will doubtless make a success of the enterprise.

A pretty, quiet home-wedding was solemnized at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John Johnston, of Sassafras, on Wednesday evening, January 15th. The contracting parties were Mr. Louis P. Atwell, and Miss Elizabeth C. Johnston, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Johnston. The bridal couple entered the parlor just as the hands of the family clock indicated the hour of seven, to the strains of the wedding march finely rendered by Mrs. D. Maloney, of Towsend, Delaware. Rev. B. F. Truitt performed the ceremony. More than a hundred guests were present from Philadelphia, Wilmington, Middletown, Towsend, Del., Chestertown, Kennedyville, Locust Grove, Chesapeake City, North East, Massey, Singerly and from the surrounding neighborhood. Many useful and oramental presents were received. At a late hour the bride and groom repaired to their home near Sassafras.

"Father" Davis, of Still Pond, Md., accompanied by his son Harry, spent several days with Middletown friends this week. Though the frosts of 94 winters have touched the "good grey head," he is still active in both body and mind, and was able to attend the revival services in the M. E. Church here on Monday evening, where his presence was felt as a benediction.—*Middletown Transcript.*

Mrs. Dr. Reid, at Washington College, last week gathered from her yard a beautiful bunch of flowers, which were presented to Prof. and Mrs. J. R. Micou on the occasion of their anniversary on Wednesday of last week.

Mr. John A. M. Passmore, a prominent Republican politician of Philadelphia, visited Chestertown on business last week. Mr. Passmore was some years ago the Republican candidate for Lieutenant Governor of the State.

The dance given at Edesville Hall, on Friday evening last was in every way a most enjoyable affair. Messrs. Willson and Ayres furnished delightful music and every thing conspired to lend to the evening's pleasure. Among those present were: Mrs. George Jessop and Mrs. Lizzie Camp, Miss Wright and Miss Waltham, of Baltimore, Misses Fannie and Annie Sappington, Laura and Celeno Jessop, Mamie Willson, Violet Beck, Marie Camp, Georgia Bette and Eva Wallis. Chas. Jessop, Frank Gilpin, Wm. and Geo. Camp, Jas. L. Beck, Bert Evans, Howard Parrott, Wm. Hepbron, Page and Elwood Strong, Thos. Trew, Horace and Scott Beck, Clifton Rasin.

FROM STILL POND.

The "Povertie Partie," which was held last Thursday evening in the town hall, by the Still Pond Epworth League, was a financial and social success. Curiosity was aroused by the invitations, which were unique and appropriate. The entertainment was even more novel. On entering the hall the guests fell into the hands of the fining committee, composed of the following persons: Rev. E. H. Nelson, J. W. Harper, C. B. Krusen, Wm. H. Krusen, Robert Hill and Mrs. E. H. Nelson, Mrs. Angie Rasin, Mrs. W. D. Pennington, Miss Nellie Krusen, Miss Josephine Jones, Miss Pauline Nelson and Miss Verma Krusen. These persons imposed severe fines upon all who were so presumptuous as to deck themselves in any apparel not compatible with the "hard times which do prevail." After all had paid their taxes, the following literary and musical programme was rendered:

Singing by all—"Swanee Ribber."
Shadow Picture—The Children's Brigade.
Quartette—"While the Years Roll By," Chestertown C. C. Quartette.
Shadow Pictures—All Alone in the World.
Shadow Pictures—St. Va'entine's Day (in four scenes).
Vocal Solo—"We'd Better Bide a Wee'," Miss Jessie Roseberry.
Shadow Pictures The Belle of the Kitchen.
Shadow Pictures—The Miser and the Spectre, (in three scenes).
Quartette—"The Bull-dog on the Bank," Chestertown C. C. Quartette.
Shadow Picture—Home Amusement.
Piano Solo—Constellation March, Miss Pauline Nelson.
Encore Quartette—"Op'ra," Comic, C. C. Quartette.
Shadow Picture—Goodnight.

Director of Shadow Pictures, W. M. Watts; pianist, Miss Pauline Nelson.

Next came the gingerbread and "crystal clear," which was "handed 'round" to all. A vote of thanks was tendered the C. C. Quartette for their excellent music. They responded by singing "Goodnight, Ladies," and the party was over. Great credit is due Mrs. J. W. Harper, chairman of the party committee, for the success of this unique entertainment. The admission fee being merely nominal, the receipts were not very large, the gross returns from all sources being about twenty-three lollars.

The League has decided to hold another entertainment to be called a "Colonial Tea," on the evening of Washington's Birthday, Feb. 22d. Full particulars in our next. JOE KING.

KENNEDYVILLE NEWS.

The W. C. T. U. met at the village hall on Friday evening, Jan. 31. The gathering was large and the occasion was one of special interest. A beautiful chorus was sung by the choir, Miss S. Blanche McKnett presiding at the organ. After prayer by Mr. W. J. Hurlock the choir sang the "White Ribbon Star Spangled Banner." Very impressive readings were given by Mrs. M. J. Othoson and Mr. H. C. Jarrel. After the transaction of several items of business the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Emma Shafer; vice-presidents, Mrs. Archibald, Mrs. Weer, Mrs. Boggs, Mrs. Kelley, Mrs. Sutton, Mrs. Jarrell; secretary, Miss Jennie Meredith; treasurer, Mrs. M. J. Othoson. The superintendents of the various departments are as follows: Sabbath Observance and Unfermented Wine, Miss S. B. McKnett; Juvenile Work, Miss Mary McKnett; Flower Mission, Miss Ida Newcomb; Literature, Mrs. Maggie Webb; Legislative and Petition Work, Mrs. Emma Jarrell; Purity, Mrs. Maggie Melvin; Press Work, Mr. W. Ernest Sanders; Franchise, Mrs. S. E. Sutton. Eight new members were received into the Union. A very enjoyable feature of the evening was a pound party, from which over four dollars were realized for the county treasury.

The prospect for a year of profitable and pleasant work is very encouraging, and the interest is evidently increasing.

Kent, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Hague, died on Wednesday night, Jan. 29, aged about 23 months. Rev. Jesse Shreeve preached the funeral which was largely attended. Interment at the M. P. burial ground.

Rev. Quincy L. Morrow, formerly pastor of the M. P. Church, will deliver an address at the church on this (Thursday) evening at half-past seven o'clock. Subject: Christian Citizenship. All persons invited. Admission free. As a lecturer, Mr. Morrow is complimented in highest terms by the press of the various towns and cities in which he has spoken.

Miss Carrie Copenhaver, of Baltimore, is visiting her sister, Mrs. Emma Shafer.

Mr. Sylvanus Whitely, of Illinois, has been visiting Mr. W. H. Whitely. JUNO.

FROM MILLINGTON.

The Ladies' Aid of the M. E. Church in town, at their monthly meeting held Saturday evening at the parsonage, elected officers for the ensuing year, and received the annual report of the treasurer. Mrs. T. J. F. Smith is president, Mrs. Fred Numbers, vice-president; Mrs. W. S. Green, treasurer, and Miss Mary Green, secretary. These are re-elections save for the vice-presidency. The treasurer's report is highly encouraging when the hard times of the past year are considered. The receipts foot up $40, and the expenditures $29, leaving a balance in hand of about $11. A more heroic band of women few churches can claim. They have lately taken out a policy of insurance on the parsonage furniture amounting to $500. The ladies are now planning another box-social to take place in the near future.

The lecture room of the M. E. Church has been greatly improved by new cocoa matting on the aisles, and new carpet covers pulpit and chancel this week.

On Saturday evening just as the Ladies' Aid closed their allotted work, the M. E. parsonage was unceremoniously invaded by a host of friends, who at once assumed the functions of host, and without let or hinderance had things their own way the balance of the evening. A splendid spread of cake, ice cream, lemonade and milk was shared by over eighty persons, and thirty dollars worth of needful supplies, at current prices, went into the larder and cellar. About 10 o'cl'k Capt. Numbers delivered a brief, but very appropriate address on behalf of the friends, which was acknowledged suitably by the pastor, Rev. George W. Burke, when the visitors departed to their homes as happy as they had left the parsonage occupants.

Mrs. Jas. Nickerson, widow of Mr. Jas. Nickerson who died of consumption about four weeks ago, died Saturday at her home in Sand Town, of the same disease. At the time of the death of her husband, the dread monster had so completely fastened its grasp upon her that she was unable to baffle with its power and was not long in following her husband to the tomb. She leaves two sons nearly grown. The funeral took place Monday afternoon, interment at Holden's Church.

Miss Jennie Thompson, of Newark, Del., is visiting her aunt Mrs. T. J. F. Smith.

Mrs. T. B. McGinnis, of Wilmington, Del., is visiting her mother, Mrs. E. J. Moffett.

Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Cook and children have returned from a three weeks visit with friends and relatives in Phillipsburg and Easton, Pa.

Mrs. M. Hilbard, of Blackbird, Del., spent part of last week with her brother Mr. J. P. Ahern. Y

FROM FAIRLEE.

EDS. TRANSCRIPT:—The good weather extraordinary for the season, has enabled the farmers to do much of their spring work, taking up peach trees, laying hedges, hauling out manure and plowing the ground.

Last Sunday was "ground hog day." If the traditional weather prophetic beast did not see his shadow he must have kept well under cover of hill or brush. The probability is he went to his underground home for six long weeks out of sight and hearing of drifting snows and howling storms. Glad we have plenty of coal in the bin.

This is said to be the commencement of the wet season on the distracted Island of Cuba, and judging from the heavy fall of water on Sunday night and Monday, with snow-clad fields and sleet-covered trees, it is probably the beginning of our rainy season too. The thirsty earth, with her myriads of mouths, is well prepared "to drink in the rain that cometh oft upon it."

The mid-winter excursion from Baltimore to Tolchester and from Tolchester to Baltimore on last Saturday was largely attended. Among the excursionists from Fairlee and vicinity were: Capt. Corey and family, the elder and two younger Keysers, F. H. Ward, Will Barnes, A. H. Kendall, J. L. Lewis, Walter Sparks, Allie Baker, Mrs. Kline and Miss Lulu Lee; also Mrs. Wm. T. Miller and daughter, Miss Bessie, from Swan Creek.

For this week have been appointed four cottage prayer meetings and one sociable. The latter is to be held on Friday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Staats.

A large congregation greeted pastor Merritt at the Salem Church on Sunday morning. Among the visitors we noted the presence of Mr. Charles Hurlock, from Chestertown, Mr. J. A. Greenwood and Mr. Charles Ayers, from Rock Hall.

Three new members were received into the church, two at Salem and one at the Union, on Sabbath last. Though over a month has elapsed since the departure of Evangelist Galloway, we still have "refreshing seasons from the presence of the Lord."

Mr. Wm. Diehl will soon move in his fishing tent, preparatory to the spring work at the bay.

A delightful surprise was given Miss Laura Greenwood at Misses Minnie and Carrie Smyth's on Wednesday evening, by her host of young friends. It was a real surprise to the young lady. She had spent the day out of town visiting friends, and returned only a few moments previous to the arrival of her surprising guests. The evening was spent principally in games of various kinds, until 9.45 o'clock, when refreshments, consisting of ice cream, custards, cake, lemonade, fruits, candies and nuts, were abundantly served. After this delightful diversion the games were again resumed, fishing being one of the games indulged in and mostly enjoyed. Miss Greenwood is an expert angler, having been known to catch and safely land fifteen fish in thirty seconds. There was, however, at one time a shadow of darkness cast over the merry party by mine hostess complaining of being unwell and had to retire, but for a short period only, as she was soon seen again in the midst or her guests to the delight of all. At eleven o'clock the merry visitors, after having expressed their delight at being present on the occasion, bade adieu and departed to their respective homes. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. George Bramble, Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Keyser, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. G. Smyth, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Crow, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Duyer, Mrs. Walter Sparks, Mrs. A. M. Kendall, Miss Lura Lee, Miss Della Lee, Miss Grace Hatcherson, Miss Minnie Hudson, Miss Zadie Lee, Miss Blanche Smyth and sister, Carrie; Messrs. Wm. Keyser, Jr., Wm. Barnes, Clarence Crew, Charley Crew, Walter Barnes, Joe Watson, Charlton Kidd, George Hendrickson, Clarence Greenwood, Malcon Lee and Archie Ramage.

Some of our young men are making preparations for a week's cruise on Capt. George Bramble's vessel. Weather permitting, they will likely start on Tuesday, taking in the gunning on the Susquehanna and Bohemia rivers. They have our best wishes for success and a pleasant voyage. EAST END.

FROM ROCK HALL.

One month of the session of the Maryland Legislature has been numbered with the past, and yet but one bill has been sent to the Governor for his signature. Alas! Well might some of the Legislators ask the question, "what are we here for?" There is loud murmurings here on account of such tardiness in accomplishing that for which the people by their votes sent them to the Ancient City. A prominent local Republican said; "Why criticise the Legislature for their tardiness? Such has been the rule with every Legislative body for many years." True, but the present is a *Reform* body, and we had hope of better things. We are sorry to learn of the persistency of our old friend, Delegate Sam Ford, to destroy the oyster tongers' safe-guard, the police force, that has done so much good for him and his people, when a few years ago, while procuring his living from the waters of the Annamessex, he was an Eastern Shoreman.

The recent excitement in this locality owing to the appointment of Capt. Stevens as commander of the Anna B. Smith, subsided very considerably on learning from Senator Westcott that the appointment was temporary, but now it is learned that Capt. Stevens is commissioned for two years and the excitement is on the rise again, as it is now evident that nothing short of charges being preferred and sustained against Captain Stevens will induce the "powers that be" to supplant him with another. So far, Capt. Stevens has proven himself equal to the requirements of his position, and the only thing that can be said against him is that he and his mate are ex-commanders of dredging vessels; but the majority of our people care little about the past record of the men so long as our interests are carefully protected. This we believe will be done by Capt. Frank, and not only the oyster tongers' interests, but every other interest over which he has jurisdiction, as evidenced by the fact that he would not permit his *own brother* and others to engage in their vocation of fishing on Sunday when they made such attempt.

The weather of last week was exceptionally good, and the oystermen and fishermen put in early and late time in plying their avocation. The tongers did a good weeks work, oysters selling for 35 cents per bushel, but the net fishermen, with a few exceptions did not find the week very remunerative. The oyster buyers, were entirely left, owing to the fact that oysters in Baltimore were selling for 40 cents.

Capt. Geo. T. Sewell has had quite an unpleasant experience since he has been master and owner of his present vessel, the "Gleam." She has been robbed five times, the last time being just before Christmas, on which occasion, the parties made a second attempt at robbing the vessel the same night by the use of chloroform or other substance, but Capt. Sewell, was determined not to succumb to its effects, and remained awake during the night. On the following day he met with an accident that came near costing him his life. While lying in one of the docks, the captain of a steam ship which was bound up the dock, requested Capt. Sewell to move his vessel in order that the ship might pass up. Capt. S. complied, and rendered every assistance to pass the larger vessel, and while he was pressing off the foward part of the ship, through the carelessness of a deck hand, the ships anchor dropped from its position, and one of the flukes caught in Capt. Sewell's coat pocket, carrying him down twelve feet below the surface of the icy waters of the dock. Capt. Sewell firmly believes that because of his kindness in accommodating the skipper of the Steamship, Providence interposed to save his life.

Capt. John H. Coleman seems to be slowly succumbing to the disease (consumption) with which he has been afflicted so long.

Oysters having become so scarce, a number of our oystermen have laid aside their patent tongs, and now use the hand tongs, by which they can catch more oysters than with the former.

Maxwell Lodge, No. 27 I. O. O. F., had the pleasure of a visit by "Wallace," the TRANSCRIPT man, on Wednesday night last, who rendered valuable service during the conferring of the first and second degrees of Odd Fellowship on one of our enterprising merchants, after which he delivered a splendid address on the beauties of Odd Fellowship. He seems to be at a loss to know what "Joe" has against him, as every time he is here that individual gets him into service of some kind, but let us here say to him, that "in due time it will be explained." In the meantime, beware, for if he has his eye on one of our fair maidens, and his interests are reciprocated, one of the conditions is, that he locate here, otherwise "Ben" may be found uncomfortably near. Wallace, however, is a dear good fellow, and a hustler for the TRANSCRIPT and otherwise, and we fear that Amicable Lodge loses a deal of solid enjoyment by not pressing him more into lodge service.

As last Sunday was a semi-sunshiny day, his hogship, the wood chuck, in his perambulation, unmistakably recognized his majestic shadow, therefore, according to old-timers, six weeks of wintery weather is to follow, but as nearly all signs are fast failing, we hope this one will be a complete failure. BONJOUR.

FROM TOLCHESTER.

EDS. TRANSCRIPT:—The mid-winter excursion was a success, over seventy-five persons taking advantage of the trips.

The fishermen from day to day have added to their number until now a full force is on, and up or down the shore one can see a boat coming or going. All seem to be trying to be first. The catch has been good, over five hundred bunches of perch and rock having been shipped up to February 1st. The first herring caught was by Tilman Hubbard, last Thursday. Just stop and think, ye old fishermen; fishing in full blast on the bay in January. Our fishermen are looking to Messrs. Nicholson, Baker and Westcott to take care of their interests in the bill now pending before the House to repeal the law for stake-net fishing, and we would call their attention to the fact that gill-net stake-fishing with from three to six-inch meshes, is no drawback to the abundance of fish, and cannot be classed with pound-net and other similar devises. Besides, to have such a law go into effect now, would put all our fishermen to a great loss, as they have all prepared their spring outlays.

The socials of Salem and St. Paul's congregations are having each a pleasant evening once a week. That of St. Paul's at Mr. James Beck's was the hit of the season, over seventy-five persons present and over five dollars realized. No one understands better than Mr. and Mrs. B. how to manage a big crowd like this. Salem was entertained at Mr. Wash. G. Skirven's, and came away with the highest praises of how they were entertained. How nice it is to belong to both churches. HAPS.

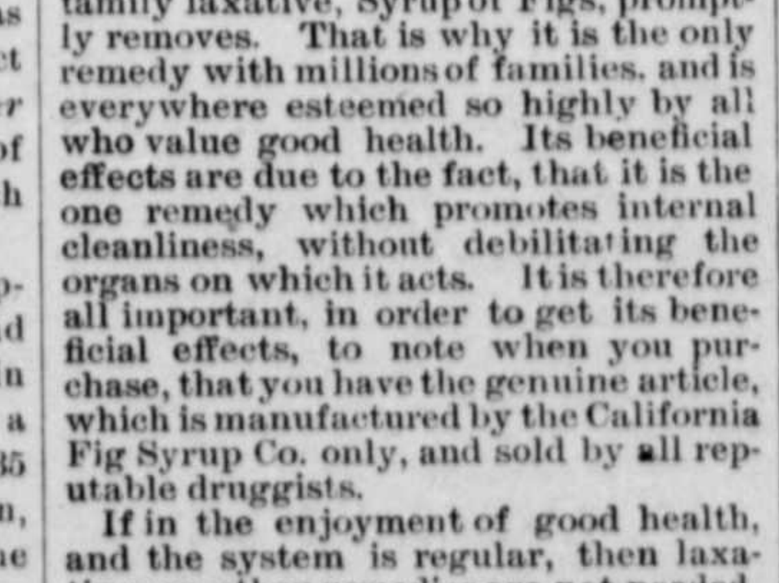
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There stands now to its credit on the books of the company	48.10
	$145.59

Were Mr. Lambert to cancel this policy and collect the amount to its credit he would then have received from the company, $145.59, or nearly double his entire payments to the company. 3t.

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If in the enjoyment of good health, and the system is regular, then laxatives or other remedies are not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative, then one should have the best, and with the well-informed everywhere, Syrup of Figs stands highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction.

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