The Transcript.

SUBSCRIPTION, $1.00 PER ANNUM.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1897.

LOCAL MATTERS.

Peach Prospects.—Some of the prominent peach-growers of Queen Anne county state that the condition of the peach buds at present is very promising. They claim that the buds are no further advanced than they were in December, being kept back by the cold weather.

At the Jail.—Clarence Sheppard and Edward Ringgold two young colored boys of Chestertown were convicted before 'Squire Lambert on Monday night for stealing $2.74 from the Chinese Laundryman. The boys took an appeal to court and were committed to jail in default of bail.

Signs of Spring.—Blustering March has borrowed from May several days the past week. Crocuses are putting forth their dainty blossoms. Hyacintes and John quills are busting into bloom. Bicyclists are taking advantage of the lovely weather and our streets are alive with the fair sex in their becoming costumes who are devotees of the wheel.

With the Gunners.—Wild ducks are reported plentiful in Chester River. Capt. W. C. A. Thompson, Wm. Moody, Wm. Duyer and H. W. Lambert, Jr., on Monday killed 32 fine brass-eye blackheads, and on Tuesday morning Mr. Frank E. Duyer killed six. Two Chestertown gunners succeeded in bagging six snipe Monday afternoon.

The Farmers' Club.—The farmers' club will meet in the Still Pond hall on Saturday afternoon, the 27th inst., at 2 o'clock. The secretary wrote to the Agricultural College requesting that they send a speaker to address the club on the subject of "Dairying," but at the time of going to press no reply had been received. Questions of interest will be discussed however, and a large attendance is requested.

To Confederate Veterans of the Peninsula.—The Charles S. Winder Camp of Confederate Veterans having been duly organized in Easton, Maryland, it is earnestly requested that all of the old soldiers who wore the gray send at once their names and address to Adjutant Owen Norris, Easton, Talbot County. The fee of membership and annual dues are but nominal, within the limit of all, and all ex-Confederates on the Peninsula sending 20 cents to the Adjutant will be enrolled as members of the Charles S. Winder Camp. In each case the rank and command must be given.

The New Catholic Rectory.—Messrs. W. S. and A. M. Culp, to whom the contract for building the new rectory for Sacred Heart church, Chestertown, was awarded, will commence the new structure about the first of April. The plans have all been made and everything is in readiness awaiting more favorable weather. The house is to be heated by steam, have all modern improvements and wires will be placed for electric lights. In event a plant is ever established in Chestertown it will only be necessary to attach these wires to the street wire. The cost of the building will be between $4,000 and $5,000.

Queen Anne Railroad.—President Bosley, it is said, has given out the following statement: "The line will be opened for travel Tuesday, April 6—next Tuesday one week. Trains will leave Greenwood, Del., twice daily and Queenstown twice daily—morning and afternoon. All arrangements have been completed with the Chester River Steamboat Company to run boats to meet the trains at Queenstown. The first boat will leave Baltimore at 6 A. M. and after meeting the train on the other side of the bay return to Baltimore. It will leave Baltimore at 4.30 P. M. and return to the city. Mails as well as passengers and freight are to be carried both ways. The company has at present three engines and 10 or 12 passenger cars, and the equipment is to be increased as the service demands. It is expected that the line will be open for traffic through to Ellendale in six or eight weeks." Wilmer Emory, Esq., att'y for the Company, has invited the General Assembly and Constitutional Convention of Del., to take a trip over the road within the next two weeks. He proposes to take them from Greenwood to Queenstown, Md., by train, and thence to Baltimore by boat.

Personal Mention.

Mr. J. Pearce Crisfield, of Savannah, Ga., made a flying visit to his uncle, Mr. James A. Pearce, this week.

Mrs. La Duc of Staten Island, is the guest of of Mrs. Wicks on Water Street.

Mr. Roland Watts, of Westminister, is the guest of her parents on High St.

Rev. Mrs. Nelson and daughter, of Still Pond, were the guests of Mrs. S. E. Thomas, on Washington Ave.

Miss Gertie Turner, of Millington, is the guest of Miss Etta Trew, near town.

We are glad to see Rev. J. M. Gill again on the streets after having been confined to the house for several days.

The Misses Downey, of Rock Hall, are the guests of Chestertown friends this week, and are welcomed back in their old home by a host of friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Z. Nye, of New York City, who have been spending the winter in Washington, came to town last week just in time to enjoy the session of the M. E. Conference, and are still with their friends, Mrs. Mollie Simpers and family but will return early next week to their summer home, Ocean Grove, N. J. Mr. Nye, like all the good preachers that were here, voices the sentiment that Chestertown is the best place to visit he ever struck, and is enjoying every minute of his visit here among his good friends.

Spring Weddings.

Mr. Harvey M. Culp, son of Mr. Wm. S. Culp, of Chestertown, and Miss Fannie E. Dennis, of Philadelphia, were married last week at the South Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, by Rev. Stuart Moore. After the ceremony a reception was held at the home of the bride's mother. Mr. Culp is employed in Cramp's shipyard.

Miss Margaret McKaig, daughter of Mr. Wm. McKaig, formerly of Chestertown, and Mr. Wm. J. Holiday, of Northumberland county, Va., were married last week at the Twelfth Presbyterian Church, Baltimore. The ceremony was performed by Rev. D. B. Greigg, pastor of the church, and Rev. Dr. Purnell, of New Windsor College. After the ceremony the bridal party were entertained at the home of the bride's parents. Their future home will be at Lodge Landing Northumberland county, Va.

Mr. Thomas A. Ayres, and Miss Hallie Lambert, of Rock Hall, were married on Tuesday evening, March 9th, at the parsonage of Chatsworth Church, Baltimore, by Rev. T. O. Crouse. The groom is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. H. Ayres, and the bride, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Lambert, all of Rock Hall. The newly married couple will reside at the Chesapeake House, Rock Hall.

Damaged by Fire.

[illegible] stove in the Chestertown Cycle room in Stam's Hall caught on fire Tuesday evening while being lighted by Mr. Harry Hodgkins, and but for his great presence of mind, would no doubt, have proven a very serious fire. Mr. Hodgkins, as soon as the oil ignited moved everything away from the stove, closed down the windows to prevent draughts and hurrying down in the drugstore of Mr. Stam gave the alarm, secured a bucket of water and rushing back to the room threw the water on the fire which deadened the flames for a few moments. By this time a Stemple Fire Extinguisher was produced and in less than half a minute completely extinguished the flames. No damage was done to the room other than burning the paper off the wall in one corner and slight injuries to the carpet.

ELECTRIC LIGHTS.

More Information as to the Cost of Them—Additional Signers Since Our Last Issue.

The following letter from Samuel Catts, Esq., of Smyrna, Del., was received by a citizen of Chestertown this week:

"The electric plant here is owned by the town, and cost about $16,000. The town is lighted by twenty arc lamps and twenty-five incandescent lamps of 32 candle-power each. The arc lights are said to be 100-candle-power each, but there is a great deal of doubt about it. It costs about $3,600 per annum to run the plant. Half is paid by the town, $1,800, and the balance is collected from consumers, who pay for dwellings 8c. per month for 5-candle-power lamps; 15c. per month for 15-candle-power lamps; 25c. per month for 25-candle-power lamps. No reduction in regard to number of lamps. Commercial lights in stores and business places 2½ cents per candle power."

About 350 lights have been added to the list published in the TRANSCRIPT last week which makes the total number thus far subscribed, about 700.

A prominent citizen of Chestertown has offered to donate a suitable sight for the plant, or a contribution of $25 in money, should his location prove unsatisfactory. We hope the commissioners will give the matter favorable consideration and let us have electric lights for Chestertown.

A letter from Middletown, Del., arrived yesterday too late for publication, but suffice it to say the writer advocates the lighting of towns by electricity.

OBITUARY.

Son and Mother Die Within Four Days of Each Other.

On Friday last Mr. Walter Maslin, youngest son of the late Wm. Maslin died at the home of his mother, near Pomona, Quaker Neck, after an illness of about two weeks, of pneumonia. The deceased was 27 years old and unmarried. He was a member of Bond M. E. Church, a most estimable young man and very popular with a large circle of acquaintances. Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon, conducted by Rev. W. R. Mowbray assisted by Revs. T. B. Cooper and E. C. Menichol. A large crowd gathered to pay their last respects to the deceased. Interment at Chester Cemetery. The pall bearers were: E. W. Emory, A. C. Loud, Wm. T. Brown, E. G. O'Meara, R. C. Leverton and W. S. Scoon.

Mrs. Ann Rebecca Maslin, widow of the late Wm. Maslin, died in Quaker Neck, on Monday morning, aged 71 years. The deceased had been in failing health for some time and was completely prostrated by the death of her son, Walter Maslin, who died the Friday before. Funeral services were held yesterday afternoon. Interment at Chester cemetery.

With the Cyclers.

The Chestertown Cycle Club tendered the use of their rooms to the M. E. Conference.

Cashier Rickey says he is never sick when the roads are ridable.

Miss Cornelia Walker stands at the head of the lady cyclists in the number of miles made during '97.

Mr. Colin F. Stam is arranging another one of his delightful runs for the arbutus club.

Mrs. Harry Rickey is the acknowledged leader of the ladies in long distance riding, rarely making less than twenty miles every day.

The tandem made its first excursion in the country last week.

Dr. C. W. Reid takes his daily spin about 7.30 in the morning.

Thus far this spring the lady cyclists outnumber their escorts.

Miss Mary Fleming was one of the first to bring her wheel out when the roads became good.

Mrs. T. W. Eliason, Mrs. Wilbur Eliason Mrs. Micou and Mrs. Hiram M. Brown are among the latest additions to the Chestertown lady wheelmen.

GOLT'S GLEANINGS.

During the absence of Bro. Conoway at Conference, the pulpit here was filled last Sunday by Rev. C. K. Morris. He delivered a good sermon to a full house. Brother Morris formerly preached at this church for a number of years, and his old friends are always delighted to welcome him back, and never fail to be benefitted by the discourse he gives us.

Miss Florence Jewell left us on Saturday to spend a short time with her parents.

Miss Bessie Arrell, one of our popular young ladies, is staying a while near Townsend, Del.

The funeral of Mr. John Hobson, aged sixty seven, took place last Monday at Union Church, near Townsend, Del., and was attended by several friends and relatives from this village.

Mrs. Christopher Little is visiting her son in Philadelphia.

Mr. Alonzo Hall, of Greenspring, Del., is the guest of his uncle, Mr. John Rolph.

Mrs. Smith and Master Willie Smith visited relatives in Delaware last week.

Mr. Thomas Blachfield, residing near this place, who has been suffering with cancer in his neck for several months, is reported to be in a very critical condition. A lunch party for his benefit was held last week at the residence of Mr. William Brown.

Miss Lola Ford, who has been visiting friends in Delaware, has returned home.

Dr. Jeter, of Sassafras, paid a visit to this village on Monday. He reports a great deal of sickness in the neighborhood. W. W.

New Advertisements.

Messrs. T. R. Hubbaad & Son, who are among the most progressive fertilizer men of this peninsula, have placed in another column of this issue their Spring announcement. This firm enjoys an extensive trade, shipping goods over a large territory in this State and Delaware. Last week they unloaded at their factory on Chester River near Chestertown, from the steamer Charles Hamilton, a cargo of nitrate of soda, muriate of potash, etc., from New York.

Messrs. Turner & Son, at Betterton, by advertisement in this issue offer their trade a large spring assortment of needed articles. No establishment in the county are better situated to give their customers rock-bottom prices than this enterprising firm. They have their wharf, boats and buildings. Have the advantage of doing their own freighting, and have no rent to pay, which gives them advantage in selling over all competitors.

Mr. W. H. Cacy, of Massey's, offers for sale, one pair of mules and a lot of finely bred cattle; see his advertisement in another column.

Mr. Frank Miller, the plummer and machinest, has an advertisement in another column, to which we call the attention of our readers.

The personal property sale of Mr. M McCall Rasin, will be found in this issue. Mr. Rasin offers some useful farming articles. See advertisement for particulars.

In this issue will be found the advertisement of Mr. Wm. DeFord's horse. Mr. DeFord offers the service of this handsome and finely bred horse to the citizens of this and Queen Anues counties.

Wilmington M. E. Conference.

FULL AND COMPLETE PROCEEDINGS OF EACH DAY.

Appointment of Ministers.

Adjourned on Tuesday to Meet Next Year in Lewes, Del.

THURSDAY.

The second day's session of the Wilmington Conference convened in the M. E. Church at 8.30 o'clock, with Bishop Walden presiding. After short devotional exercises, the business session was called. Rev. Milton L. Hutton was transferred from the Minnesota Conference to the Wilmington Conference. The bishop then stated that, instead of reserving his address until the closing hours of the conference, as was usually the custom, he would deliver it in part each day. He stated that the reports of ministers should not be confined so exclusively to the finances of the churches, but that more attention should be paid to the number of persons taken on probation, and of how many still remain on that list, so that a more definite idea could be formed of the good work of the church. The candidates for admission to the conference were then called up and instructed by the bishop.

Reports of the presiding elders were called. They are Revs. L. E. Barrett, of Wilmington District; Rev. R. H. Adams, Dover district; Rev. W. F. Corkran, Salisbury district, and Rev. Alfred Smith, Easton District. The reports showed the churches in satisfactory condition. Each elder gave a strong endorsement of the work being done by the Epworth League in their districts, and encouraged its continuation. At the conclusion of Presiding Elder W. F. Corkan's report, the bishop, with appropriate remarks, on behalf of the preachers of Salisbury district, presented him with a handsome gold watch. Mr. Corkran, in a few well-chosen words, expressed his appreciation of the gift. The hymn, "Blessed Be the Tie that Binds," was then sung. Rev. J. D. C. Hanna offered the following:

"Resolved, That we hereby express our very high appreciation of the efforts of Bishop Walden to impress upon the minds of the members of the church the need of the immediate salvation of Africa, as presented in his lecture on "Africa and Its Evangelization," delivered at the M. P. Church last night.

"Resolved, That we rejoice in the fact that when the Freedman's Aid Society could not appropriate the needed funds for the continuance of the work of the missionary training schools of Central Tennessee, Bishop Walden assumed the responsibility of the payment of the principal and interest of over $18,000 resting against this school, and then aided greatly in qualifying missionaries for Africa."

A collection was taken up to assist the bishop in the work, and amounted to $29.

Rev. T. E. Martindale offered the following petition, addressed to Hon. John Biggs, chairman of the Delaware Constitutional Convention:

"Resolved, That the Wilmington Conference of the M. E. Church, now in session, consisting of one hundred and seventy-five ministers, representing twenty-three hundred members in the state of Delaware, respectfully petition your honorable body to grant the citizens of the little Diamond State relief from the licensed liquor traffic by adopting the majority report submitted for your consideration by the Committee on Manufacture and Sale of Alcoholic Liquor."

The Pentecostal services in the afternoon were conducted by Rev. Isaac L. Wood. The anniversary of the Woman's Home Missionary Society was held in the afternoon, Mrs. C. C. Brown presiding. Rev. V. S. Collins and Mrs. E. L. Weldin made addresses. The missionary anniversary was held this evening in the M. P. Church, Dr. Robert Watt presiding. Dr. R. A. B. Leonard, general missionary secretary of the church, delivered the address.

The Epworth League anniversary was held in the M. E. Church, President R. K. Stevenson presiding. Ten representatives from the Epworth League of Centreville, Mrs. J. H. Hall, Mrs. R. T. Coursey, Mr. and Mrs. Coville, Misses Dora Palmer, Ida Walters, Sadie Hayden, Messrs. Phil Skinner, Burton Downs, Harry Chambers and John D. Davis, were present and took part in the exercises. A special musical program was rendered, in which representatives from all the church choirs in Chestertown took part. Dr. J. E. Broadbeck addressed the league, reviewing the work it was accomplishing for the church.

Following was the musical programme rendered:

1. Organ Voluntary.
2. Chorus with Orchestra, Marching Song of Epworth League, Chestertown Chapter.
3. Song, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," congregation.
4. Duet, "O Morning Land," Miss Anna G. Lambert, Mr. Edw. Lambert.
5. Solo, Miss Laura Thomas.
6. Chorus and Orchestra, God Bless Our League, Chestertown Chapter.

FRIDAY.

Conference convened at 8.30, Bishop Walden presiding. Rev. V. S. Collins offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

"*Resolved*, That in accordance with page 69 of the discipline this conference be made a corporate body.

"*Resolved*, That the presiding elders be instructed to name nine trustees to be elected by this conference who shall proceed as soon as possible after the adjournment of the conference to secure the requisite charter and articles of incorporation.

"*Resolved*, That the nine thus nominated by presiding elders and elected by this conference shall serve as trustees of this conference, three for one year, three for two years and three for three years, or until their successors are elected."

The nine trustees named by the presiding elders, subject to election by the conference, and who were elected are Vaughn S. Collins, C. P. Swain, Adam Stengle, T. E. Martindale, W. L. S. Murray, C. T. Wyatt, E. H. Nelson, J. H. Rawlins and C. A. Prettyman.

Reports for the year were made from the four districts of the conference as follows: For missions, $21,222; conference claimants, $4,794; conversions, $3,924; probationers, $760; accessions, $431.

S. B. Shipman was transferred from the Virginia Conference by Bishop Mallalieu.

It was moved that Edward Davis be changed from effective elder to superanuate. Referred to board of stewards. J. E. Amos was transferred to the Baliimore Conference.

On the Epworth League H. W. Ewing, secretary, reported: Easton district—Number of chapters, 39; active membership, 1,758; associate members, 770: increase in membership, 298, and a gain of 3 chapters. Dover district—28 chapters; active members, 1,526; associate members, 39; an increase of 6 chapters and 993 members. Salisbury district—34 chapters, 1,500 active members and 75 associate members; a decrease of 8 chapters and a decrease in membership of 935. Wilmington district—35 chapters and 1,300 active members; an increase of 5 chapters. Rev. R. K. Stephenson was elected president and H. W. Ewing secretary and treasurer.

A meeting of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, held in Christ Methodist Protestant Church this afternoon, was addressed by Mrs. E. B. Stephens, secretary of the Baltimore Branch, which includes the State of Maryland. Mrs. Stephens submitted the same report made to the Baltimore Conference on March 4. Some of the figures were as follows: Number of auxiliary societies, including bands, 5,834; members, 149,819; receipts, $285,823. Invested in publishing the Journal in five different languages, $25,000. Appropriations for 1897, $327,350; over $400,000 invested in property for schools, orphanages, hospitals and for homes in foreign fields. There are 12,000 pupils in schools, 14 hospitals and dispensaries, in which are treated annually 60,000 women.

Bishop Walden gave personal experiences in this department of work.

Mrs. Eaton, president of the Baltimore Branch, made an address, taking as her subject the "Woman Question."

The sixth annual banquet of the conference alumni of Dickinson College and Drew Theological Seminary took place this evening in Stam's Hall. The officers are: President, Rev. Walter E. Avery, D. D.; secretary, T. N. Rawlins. The toastmaster was Rev. W. E. Avery. The toasts and those who responded were: "Methodism's Need of Universities," Bishop John M. Walden; "Dickinson College—the Outlook," President George Edward Reed; "Roll-Call of the Alumni," Rev. R. W. Todd; "The Ministry," Rev. John R. Todd; "Drew Theological Seminary," Rev. S. J. Morris, D. D.; "The Dickinson School of Law," Dean William Trickett.

The following is the response of Rev. R. W. Todd to the roll-call of the alumni:

Good Mr. President and friends; I claim your kind attention,
While of some quaint Alumni facts and fancies I make mention.
And call the honorable roll (remaining still unhung)—
Sons of the old Peninsula and sons of Dickinson.
I dreamed me in the chapel old, at the antique front *Winder*;
And, gazing south, I viewed the scene with nought to mar or hinder.
And scanned our roll illustrious. *Andrew(s)* forth some suggestions.
Which *Hurst*—while flitted through my brain, as distant shadowy questions.
But, as I looked and cogitated, fancy changed to fact
Which lingers with me. So I give the picture still intact:
A gold-pave *Nicholson* shines out from campus stretching far,
And *Joynes* unto the *Ridge-way* which leads toward Delaware;
A *Cone-way*, or rabbit path, leads all the way to Dorset,
And to the *Ford* of North-west-Fork, and there doth bravely *Cross* it.
Along these paths and in our fields are many great attractions,
Which *Merritt* praise, and smash, meanwhile, monotony to fractions.
The *Hinch-Cliff* towering tow'rd the sky; the *Ri(o)st(i)gate* open swinging;
The *Pil-crim* where we stow supplies for needs of future bringing;
The *Hen-dricks* where we hatch our chicks, to preachers e'er so precious;
An' th' *Hig-nutt* tree, whose autumn fruit in winter doth refresh us.
Our *Primrose* peeps from snowy bed to cheer the springtime heather
And th' flowers *Budd* the live-long year and bloom in every weather.
Beauty and fragrance 'gainst the sense from *Hill*, and *Wood*, and *Vale*;
And nature's orisons resound from our fair *Martin-dale*.
Our *North-rup* (rope) bounds our Cecil *Groves*, but southward then unroils,
And binds a Snowhill maiden fair in hymeneal toils.
Of trades and artizans we show a list by no means meager;
Not elsewhere named, already, sir. Our *Steward's* ever eager
To bring us good supplies of meat; our *Potter* gives admissions,
And we *Can-nell* our *Gardners* true will give required additions.
A wheel of *Emory* polishes our fishing hooks all right, sir;
And on *Broad-water* our good *Fisher* takes 'em day or night, sir;
Our dear'rous *Turner* makes repairs; our *Van-dyke* curbs our seas;
Our *Tilgh-man* cultivates our fields; our *Parker* guards our trees
And trains our vines. With *Sudd(t)ler's* stores and *Fletch-er's* knife to aid him,
Should wifey for his *Nuptial* show, our *Rider* brave will raid him
Our *Clark* is ever at our *Beck* to write down all our action;
While th' *Tyler* stands at onter door to guard against infraction.
Rue nale or day should eavesdroper or cowan do his wo's,
Our *Savage* skilled will hunt him down and *McKim* bite the dust;
His battery will lay him low: our *Cannons* ne'er miss fire;
And he who would our good *Mill-bourne* shall taste our righteous ire.
As virtue *Stoops* to conquer all the foes who seek to subdue,
So, bending low, we lift our *Cross* and ever bravely *Barrett*.
Our library shelves are well supplied with literary store,
For we've a mighty *T me* of books all crammed with golden *Lore*.
A-very nice man is our *Walter*, both in name and nature;
While a *Pretty-man* embellishes our striking nomenclature.
Our ranks are full of noblemen— the sons of fathers royal—
There are *John's* and *Jack's sons*, *Harman's sons* and *Harris' sons* all loyal
Unto the *Wright*, as *Daniel* was, and made of *Sterling* metal;
And when they make a *Taylor's* bill, they always promptly settle.
Our *Rich-ards* do they love their pelf? Are they from virture *Free? nay*;
But *Clementa-y* with prudence show upon their high arena.
This *Pone* we *Reid* at Chestertown, where stands our W. C.
While some can *Reed* their titles clear to Dickinson's D. D.
Of *Course-y Long* man finds *Dew-cese* contesting life's great race,
While two strong *Coards* the racer bind securely in his place;
And if the *Price* of his success be as the Gospel story,
His *Penne-will* discharge the debt and buy a crown of glory.
In quality and character our men are true as steel,
For instance, Wilkins, Mallalieu, Thomas, and Will Dashiell,
With Phoebus, Cowgill, Torbert, Quigg, Griffith, Winbrough and Collins;
Reynolds and Williams, Hursley too, and brother Tommy Rawlins,
Aspril and Wallace, Lattomus and Charley E. McShane,
Then Hopkins, too, our poet sweet, and Christopher Naudain,
And Murray, with his sunny face, and Alexander Bayley;
Higgins and Stevens fall in line, and end it up with Whaley.
Our *Good-ing's* evidently *King*: k from his comrades roams;
And *Watt's* the matter with our firm—the great *Smith, Brown and Jones*;
This paragraph quite staggered me; I vow I am not funning;
I've done my best; the naughty names are not *Cold-well* for punning.
No doubt you're tired, so I must close, nor hint of love or hymen;
You'd like a drink, I hear you say. Well, if you're very *Dry* den
Of *Todd-y* we have quite enough, flavored with *Hot-and* prime
To tumble you Van-bark-a-*low* in double quickest time.
But now this Donkey's noise must cease; the strain begins to pinch 'im;
With one *Moor'hray* he pardon begs, and prays you not to *Lynch* 'im.
And send him to the MORG-AN' hold a legal inquisition,
With verdict that he met his fate from senile inanition.

The Veterans' anniversary took place tonight, president, John France. The speakers were Dr. J. Benson Hamilton and Medford H. Cahoon. The anniversary of the Church Extension Society, Dr. C. P. Baker, president, was held in Christ Methodist Protestant Church this evening. Dr. J. A. Spencer was the speaker.

A plan of insurance was presented to the ministers. The plan is to form a club of eighteen and insure the life of one member of the club, the insured member to transfer the policy to the treasurer of the conference so that in the event of death of the insured member the treasurer would receive the face value of the policy as well as all dividends from the policy. It is on the twenty-year endowment plan. The members of the club pay the premium on the policy.

SATURDAY.

The fourth day of the Wilmington M. E. Conference convened at the usual hour this morning. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. S. M. Morgan, of Mt. Salem. The bishop in his address advocated kneeling by the congregation during prayers in the church, instead of sitting in the seats and leaning forward to the back of the pew in front. He advised the placing of kneeling benches in the pews. He made some practical suggestions to the ministers in the conduct of the ritual public services, by which to make them more interesting spiritually, etc.

The order of the day—the vote on the construction of the constitution so as to make it lawful to admit women as delegates to the General Conference, which was deferred from yesterday—was taken up for consideration, and was decided by ballot, without debate, the vote being—for 100, against 33. The resolution on equal ministerial and lay representation in the General Conference was taken up, and lost by a vote of 61 for, and 73 against. The reports of the examiners were then called, and a number of applicants passed. Rev. E. H. Collins, of the Wilmington district, was admitted to full membership in the conference, and elected to deacon's orders. Rev. H. M. Thurlow was transferred from the Baltimore to the Wilmington Conference in the place of Rev. J. E. Amos, who has been transferred to the Baltimore Conference. Rev. J. R. Cannon was transferred from the Virginia Conference to the Wilmington Conference. The following were then introduced to the conference: Dr. C. W. Reid, of Washington College, who tendered the members of the conference an invitation to visit and inspect the buildings and grounds of the college; W. W. Hooper, Dr. Mills, of the M. P. Conference, and W. W. Wilson, of the Baltimore M. E. Conference South. A resolution was then adopted, expressing the pleasure of the members upon having with them Rev. Dr. John A. Roache, "who, half a century ago, was a leader of Methodist hosts on the Peninsula, and whose preaching of the Gospel to our fathers was occasion of great power and blessing."

At the afternoon session Rev. W. G. Strickland was elected to local elder's orders. Reports of the committee on conference relations was then called. Ministers on the superannuated list are Revs. John B. Quigg, B. F. Price, S. A. Phoebus, James S. Gate, Henry Sanderson, C. J. Hammitt, W. W. Redman, W. B. Walton, J. H. Cladwell and A. D. Davis; changed from supernumerary to effective, T. B. Hunter. Those continued as supernumeraries are A. T. Scoot, W. F. Talbot, J. B. Merritt, J. W. Poole, J. W. Hamersley, G. W. Wilcox, J. D. Riggs, W. L. P. Bowen, T. H. Hanes, W. M. Warner, Newton McQuay, F. O. B. Walden and W. M. Green; changed from supernumerary to superannuated, W. E. England. By request of the conferenbe, Rev. S. N. Pilchard, who had been appointed by ex-President Cleveland chaplain of the United States army, was appointed by Bishop Walden to that position.

Dr. Henry A. Butts, president of Drew Theological Seminary and Rev. E. W. Burke, of the Philadelphia Conference, were introduced.

Mr. William Salisbury, president of the board of trustees, of the Dover Conference Academy, presented a report which showed a larger number of students in the school than at any previous year, but, because of being unable to collect tuition fees, the academy was in a bad financial condition. On motion, the trustees were authorized to ask pledges from the ministers, in order to relieve the school of debt, and the sum of $1,900 was pledged. Several of the ministers and laymen present gave private contributions, ranging from $50 to $100. The amount asked to be raised was $3,500. A committee was appointed to solicit further contributions, and, it is thought, the required amount will be raised with but little difficulty.

Rev. J. D. C. Hanna then offered the following:

"WHEREAS, Our conference ranks are being crowded to the detriment of our own members, with transfers from other conferences; and

"WHEREAS, When members of this body are invited to the pastorate of churches in other conferences they find the doors of those closed against them, unless an exchange can be affected; therefore,

Resolved, That we respectfully, but most earnestly request our bishop to make no transfers into our conference without a fair and equitable exchange."

The bishop stated that he had no objection to the resolutions, but as far as he was concerned, he would be governed in his appointments by the discipline of the church. This elicited considerable debate from the conference. The penticostal services were omitted this afternoon on account of the business session. The temperance anniversary was held in the M. P. Church, at 7.30 this evening, Walter H. Thompson presiding. J. G. Wolley made an address to the society. The anniversary of the Freedsmans' Aid and Southern Educational Society was held in the M. E. Church, Rev. T. E. Terry presiding. Dr. John W. Hamilton addressed the society.

SUNDAY.

Services were conducted in all the Methodist churches in Chestertown, both morning and evening, by ministers of the Wilmington Conference, and the bright, warm day brought out full congregations to all the services. Dr. Alfred Smith, presiding elder of Easton District, conducted love feast services in the M. E. Church at nine o'clock, and Bishop Walden preached the sermon at the 10.30 o'clock service. A specially arranged musical programme, by Prof. R. K. Pippin, leader, was rendered at this service. Mr. Pippin was assisted by Mrs. Mamie Dodd, Mrs. W. A. Smith, Mrs. Elizabeth Hennick, of Baltimore; Mrs. Delmar Dyott, Misses Minnie Peregoy, Carrie Jones, Mamie Copper, Julia Thompson, Clara Downey and Sue Ford, Messrs. W. W. Chapman, Dr. H. L. Dodd, G. B. Twilley, M. W. Thomas, A. L. Davis, J. P. Parrott, R. S. Thomas and W. L. Wheatley. Two solos were sung by Mrs. Hennick. Miss Anna G. Lambert was organist, and John N. Dodd and Jacob F. Thompson cornetists.

The ordination of deacons and elders and the memorial services were held in the M. E. Church at two o'clock this afternoon. Bishop Walden officiated, assisted by Dr. T. E. Martindale. Rev. Edward H. Collins, stationed at Stanton, Del., and Rev. Thomas S. Holt, of North East, Md., a graduate in class of '95 in Boston University, were ordained deacons. Rev. Harry A. G. Westerfield, stationed at Chesapeake City, Md.; Clarence W. Strickland, stationed at Parsonsburg, Md.; Julius A. Brewington, stationed at Georgetown Circuit, Del.; William P. Taylor, stationed at Mt. Lebanon, Del.; and William G. Strickland, stationed at Chincoteague Island, Va., were ordained elders.

Memorial services took place in honor of Dr. Merritt Hulburd, late of Grace Church, Wilmington, and Rev. James Conner, of Leslyville, Del., who died during the past conference year.

MONDAY.

The Wilminton M. E. Conference this morning got after winter racing in Maryland, and the ministers pledged themselves to oppose any candidate for the legislature who does not promise to help suppress race-track gambling.

Rev. George W. Townsend conducted the religious services. Bishop Walden made a short address, in which he stated he thought the superannuated ministers should have the same claim on a church as a regular pastor. It was decided by unanimous vote that the next annual conference meet at Lewes, Del.

The following on the subject of race tracks was offered by Rev. V. S. Collins:

"In view of the rapid growth of the vice of gambling, and its increasingly baneful effects, it is with deep regret that we face the fact that the state of Maryland is in the grasp of the gang of race-track gamblers that once made the name of Gloucester infamous. The present law of the State legalizes all of the worst forms of race-track gambling, practically all the year round, and anywhere in the commonwealth, in which respect Maryland stands with California and Louisiana alone among the States of this nation. The present point of acute attack from this demoralizing army of gamblers is found in Cecil county, where the people are already waging a war of desperate extermination against the invader. If success should crown this local fight, it will be saddened by the fact that the gamblers will simply migrate to other Maryland territory; therefore, be it

"Resolved by the Wilminton Conference, That this is the fight, not of Cecil county alone, but of our whole State and conference; that we pledge our utmost endeavor to help the afflicted locality by laboring to secure a law forever prohibiting race-track gambling throughout the entire State; that we urge all our ministers and people to see to it that only such legislative candidates as are in favor of such a law shall receive their votes."

The conference stewards presented a report, showing the amount of claim upon the funds raised for the support of superannuates and supernumerary preachers, and the widows and orphans of deceased preachers, to be $15,000; amount distributed, $7,555. Bishop Walden called Rev. Dr. T. E. Martindale to the chair, and the bishop and presiding elders retired to arrange the appointments. Prof. W. L. Gooding, of the Dover Conference Academy, made an address in behalf of the academy.

The committee on constitutional amendments submitted a report, stating "that in view of the inability of the committee appointed at our last session to secure the adoption of the proposition submitted in our memorial, Rev. Dr. T. E. Martindale, Rev. Dr. W. E. Avery and Rev. V. S. Collins be appointed on the part of this conference, and we request the co-operation of Judge Charles B. Lore, J. E. Ellegood and Charles F. Richards on the part of the laity to present our action to the Congress of the United States and endeavor to secure favorable action." After a spirited debate the report and resolution were laid on the table.

The following were elected trustees for the Wilmington Conference Academy: Revs. V. S. Collins, T. E. Martindale, John France, R. H. Adams and W. E. Avery.

STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

The report of the committee on statistics was then submitted. Following is a summary:

1 Church Membership.	
Number of Probationers	5,509
Number of Full Members	37,003
Number of Local Preachers	114
Number of Deaths	542
2 Baptisms.	
Number of Children	2,437
Number of Adults	339
3 Sunday Schools.	
Number of Schools	391
Number of Officers and Teachers	6,140
Number of Scholars	44,546
4 Church Property.	
Number of Churches	390
Probable Value	$1,578,800
Number of Parsonages	128
Probable Value	$278,700
Paid for Building and Improving Churches and Parsonages	$38,884
Paid on Old Indebtedness on Church Property	14,086
Present Indebtedness on Church Property	110,877
5. Ministerial Support.	
Paid Pastors and House Rent	131,283
Deficiency	4,681
Paid Presiding Elders	7,023
Paid Bishops	1,411
Paid Conference Claimants	5,665
6 Benevolent Collections.	
Missions	23,137
Church Extension	2,049
Sunday School Union	418
Tract Society	407
Freedmen's Aid and Southern Education Society	1,375
Children's Fund	1,093
Conference Academy	1,216
American Bible Society	501
Woman's Foreign Missionary Society	1,563
Woman's Home Missionary Society	2,313
Conference Education Society	336
Domestic Missions	871
Philadelphia Hospital	90

[Continued on second page.]

DIED.

WALTERS.—Jennie May, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Walters, died Friday March 19th, 1897. Interment Sunday afternoon at Chester cemetery.

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