The Transcript.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1899.

LOCAL MATTERS.

For Assault.—Mr. Christopher Hoffman, of Rock Hall, was lodged in jail yesterday on a charge of assault with an axe upon his wife, on Tuesday. Mr. Hoffman's mind has been somewhat unbalanced for several years and it was during a moment of mental trouble that he made the desperate attack upon his wife with an axe. Mrs. Hoffman is a powerful woman and defended herself, escaping with slight injury.

Is War Beneficial?—The Pieria Literary Society of young ladies, of Washington College, will hold their first open meeting to-morrow afternoon, to which the members of the Mt. Vernon and Philomathean Literary societies will be invited. The young ladies will debate the question: "Resolved that war is a benefit to mankind." Both sides will be ably represented and an interesting debate is assured.

Fruit from 2000 Trees for $5.—Mr. Lee Truitt, of Milford, Del., is predicting great returns from a recent peach deal. Aaron Woodruff's hopes were frozen by the late blizzard and in his despair he disposed of his prospective peach crop from 2000 trees to Truitt for $5. The speculator in the peach deal at Wookruff's expense is a dealer and declares that this year's crop will surpass the great crop of 1883.

New Cannery for Chestertown.—Mr. E. W. Scarborough, representing Isaac Robinson, on Saturday leased for two years the basket factory property of the American Strawboard Co., situated at the depot, Chestertown. Mr. John Bell has already contracted with farmers for Mr. Scarborough for about two hundred acres in corn and tomatoes for this new enterprise. Corn, tomatoes and pears will be packed. The price offered is $6 per ton and baskets furnished.

Want a Postoffice.—A number of citizens of lower Quaker Neck are outspoken in their demand for a postoffice for their growing city by the Chester. With a postoffice at Cliff City a large and prosperous section would be greatly benefitted. The claim is made that Prof. C. T. Stratton has a roomy store building under construction which will be conveniently located, and no better postmaster could be found than the affable musician and man of business at Cliff wharf.

Out of Date.—"A colored man and woman who were in jail at Chestertown for theft, the man being leg ironed to the wall, escaped under cover of night a week ago. In the morning when the sheriff went to the prison he found that someone had removed a hinge from the door by which the escape was made."—Baltimore *American* of Tuesday. There is no shadow of truth in the item. The Baltimore journal has grabbed up a chestnut which referred to the Galena lock-up two weeks ago.

Chestertown's New Postmaster.—Postmaster Charles M. Lucas took formal possession of the Chestertown postoffice yesterday morning. His commission came by Tuesday's mail and he and his deputy, Mr. William H. Lambert, Jr., and Mrs. Lucas swore in at once. Expostmaster Joseph N. Wher[illegible] has consented to remain for three weeks and assist the new postoffice officials in making themselves familiar with the routine work. The postoffice will be continued at the old place on Lawyer's Row during the present year.

Destroying Young Fish.—Complaints are being made that some Chester river fishermen are destroying many young perch fish by taking them from their nets and allowing to die in the bottom of their boats. No fisherman who stops for a moment to think will fail to realize that he is surely and quickly killing the goose which lays the golden egg. Each bushel of young fish killed is just to that extent a lessening of the supply of next season's marketable supply. A word to the Chester river fishermen on this subject should be sufficient to remedy this pernicious habit of destroying the young fish.

Must Get Vaccinated.—The State Board of Health has adopted an order to prevent the spread of small-pox, which will have an important bearing on the many industries in Maryland during the coming season. The order reads: "By virtue of authority conveyed in Section 8 of Article 43, Code of Public General Laws, title, 'Health,' it is ordered by the State Board of Health that, after April 1, 1899, no farmer, canner or fish packer shall take into his employ any person or persons who do not show proof of successful vaccination of more recent date than July 1, 1898. Any person or persons violating this law shall be fined not less than $50, nor exceeding $500."

An Absolutely Secret Ballot.—The sale of the undertaking business of the late Ernest C. Reiche, at 11.30 o'clock on Thursday, March 30th, will dispose of one of the oldest undertaking properties on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. For twenty-five years strength and patronage continued to reward the business efforts of its founder. Mr. Reiche was an artist with tools, and beyond all question the ballot box which his ingenuity evolved and his skill with edge tools enabled him to perfect, was one of his masterpieces. This ingenious little contrivance for securing an absolutely honest ballot, attracted the attention of some of the most prominent advocates of ballot-reform in the United States. But for a lack of funds to push the box, its inventor might have accumulated wealth from its adoption.

The Chestertown Book Club.—The Chestertown Book Club has now begun its second year, again giving its members an interesting selection of new books—biography, travel and fiction. Several who are interested in the club have expressed a wish that the old books should be used as a nucleus to a small circulating library, which would undoubtedly be a benefit to the town, but it is suggested that unless better care is taken of the books, they can be devoted to no such good use, as many of them are mutilated almost beyond the possibility of rebinding. It is requested that the readers be more careful; also that no books are loaned *outside the households* of club members, and that books will be forwarded on the *second* Saturday after they are received. Should this be impossible at any time, let the book be dated *when forwarded*, not when it should have been forwarded. Old books may be left at Stam's Drug store as soon as possible.

In The Churches.

The ladies of the Sassafras Mite Society, of the M. E. Church, realized $65 at the entertainment and supper, and cleared $30.

The Students' Christian Association of Washington College and the Epworth League will hold a union service Sunday evening in the M. E. Church instead of the regular preaching service.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

Bits of News and Gossip Gathered Here, There and Everywhere.

† The thermometer registered 25° on Tuesday morning.

† A Worton peach authority places the Kent county crop at this writing at one-half.

† The steamer Susquehanna will commence her spring schedule on April first.

† Samuel Coleman, of Still Pond, has been granted an increase of pension from $14 to $24.

† The members of Galena Cornet Band are preparing for a fair and festival at an early date.

† A Sassafras fisherman took out of his net 240 pike fish which weighed 275 pounds. No fish story, either.

† Think of it! Prof. P. H. Hicks was awarded first prize at a Galena sewing carnival, for high art with the needle.

† Talbot county farmers are trying to determine whether or not wheat turns to darnel. Kent farmers are not a unit on this point.

† The Chestertown chapter of King's Daughters will give a delightful entertainment in Stam's Hall on the evening of Tuesday, April 18th.

† A gentleman in a position to know estimates that the average annual distribution of clover seed is ten bushels to each farm in Kent county.

† Mr. Charles Coppage, of Queen Anne, had his rib broken by being thrown from his carriage by his runaway horse on High street, on Tuesday.

† It is now "Capt. Morris K. Barroll, U. S. A." By the new army personnel bill Lieutenant Barroll, who is now fighting in the Philippines, was advanced to a captaincy.

† The county commissioners of Queen Anne are continuing the good work of shelling the sandy piece of road just beyond Chester bridge. The entire strip of road is reported as having been covered.

† New Cannery buildings will soon replace the old buildings at the Chester River Company's wharf. Contractor Sparks will do the work. Mr. G. N. Numsen, of Baltimore, will operate the cannery.

† A joint meeting between the boards of county commissioners of Kent and Queen Anne will take place in Chestertown to-day, and decide upon whether or not Chester bridge needs a new draw.

† Mr. Wm. Wood, of Galena, on Monday killed with a rifle a swan measuring seven feet from tip to tip of wings. The shot was made at a range of 500 yards. Another swan was crippled but got off.

† A few have responded to the advertisement of Messrs. Crane & Trenchard Bro's, in the TRANSCRIPT for white women berry-cup makers. The room in which they work is well heated and perfectly private.

† Who can beat this Talbot county record? Thomas Quimby has a flock of thirty-four ewes that have 54 lambs, 16 twins, 2 triplets and 16 singles. He has not a blank sheep in the flock, and all are doing well.

† Mr. R. G. Nicholson, proprietor of Little Grove Nursery, last week replanted a number of dead trees in the court house yard which stood as a monument to the republican reform in tree trimming as adopted in 1895.

**† Mr. John Tilghman, whose thrilling experience on the bottom of his capsized boat was referred to in last week's TRANSCRIPT, lost a fur cap which he valued above any other property involved in the disaster, the boat not excepted. It was an heirloom of the Tilghman family.

ANOTHER SCHOFIELD (?).

This Time in South Carolina.

Mr. Charles L. Dodd, in his capacity as a commissioner of Chestertown, on Saturday received a letter from John A. Levins, schooner Bertie and Maud, 39 Commercial Place, Norfolk, Va.

Captain Levins stated, without any reference to day or date, that five negro men boarded his vessel at Roanoke Island; he had read of the assault upon Mrs. Godwin, and that he believed that one of the men, who gave his name as C. E. Skinner, was the man wanted by the Kent county officials. The man was described as being about 5 feet 9 inches in height, 30 or 35 years of age, weight about 145 or 150 pounds, had high cheek bones and pointed chin.

Deputy Sheriff Charles L. Gill, in the absence of Sheriff Roe, replied to the communication by Monday's mail, giving a full description of Schofield.

Capt. Levins made no reference to any suspicious actions on the part of the man Skinner and gave no other reason for suspecting him of the Kent county crime, other than a general resemblance to Schofield as gathered from newspaper notices.

NEW SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

School Board Requests Funds From the County Commissioners.

The board of school commissioners for Kent county, on Tuesday made the following formal requisition upon the commissioners of Kent county for the funds necessary to provide new school buildings for Chestertown as authorized by act of Legislature of 1896.

To the county commissioners of Kent county:

The undersigned board of county school commissioners of Kent county, respectfully represent that a number of citizens of Chestertown have been urging this board to proceed under the act of Assembly of 1896, chapter 193, to build a new school house in Chestertown, but this board is advised that it cannot take action until your board complies with the duties and obligations placed upon you by the said act of Assembly.

As we understand the law, the county commissioners are directed to borrow, on the credit of the county, not exceeding ten thousand dollars, by the issue of county bonds.

That after the money is provided by the county commissioners, the law then directs the board of county school commissioners to proceed to secure a site and have the school house erected.

We desire to notify your honorable board, that this board is now and always has been since the law was passed, ready to perform the duties imposed upon us, as soon as the money is provided by your board as required in the law.

KENNEDYVILLE NEWS.

Mrs. Helen Rice, of Boston, a national organizer of the Loyal Temperance Legion, will deliver an address at the M. P. Church on Sunday evening next, March 26th. On Saturday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock, Mar. 25th, a meeting will be held at the Presbyterian Church at which time Mrs. Rice will re-organize the L. T. L. of our village. All are cordially invited to attend these meetings. Parents are especially requested to bring their children on Saturday afternoon.

The congregation of the M. P. Church has elected Mr. W. E. Sanders delegate to the Maryland Annual Conference; Mr. W. T. Jones, alternate. Rev. J. H. Daugherty, who has served the church during the past year, has resigned his pastorate.

Mrs. Thos. Redmile is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Herzog, in Baltimore.

Messrs. T. Shafer & Co. paid 75 cents for milk last month. ANTONIO.

OBITUARY.

JAMES A. B. MARTIN.

James A. B. Martin, died at the home of his sister, Mrs. Anna E. Physick, at Port Deposit, on Saturday, March 4th, of consumption, aged 45 years. Mr. Martin was a son of the late Rev. John Martin, who was for a great many years rector of Shrewsbury church. Two brothers, Rev. Henry Martin and Douglass Martin, and two sisters, Mrs. Physick and Miss Lucy Martin, survive him. The funeral was held on Tuesday afternoon at St. Mark's Church, Perryville. The deceased passed many years of his life in Kent.

N. W. COMEGYS.

The funeral of Nathaniel W. Comegys took place at the home of his son, John M. Comegys, near Kennedyville, on Friday afternoon. Interment was made in Shrewsbury cemetery. The funeral was largely attended by citizens from nearly every section of the upper part of the county and from Chestertown. The pall bearers were: D. J. Nowland, Edward Pennington, Thomas J. Pennington, Dr. N. W. Comegys, Samuel Comegys and William Comegys.

The home of Mr. Comegys was for years the centre of that splendid hospitality which has made the name of the Eastern Shore synonimous with good cheer and a hearty welcome. The door of his residence was always open to his social friends, and a large-hearted, open-handed generosity met the needy who applied for aid.

A life-long friend of Mr. Comegys, makes the following correction to the TRANSCRIPT's notice of last week. He says: "In referring to the ancestors of the late Nathaniel W. Comegys, you say he was a representative of an old and honored family, founded here by William Comegys, a native of Germany, in 1707, which is a mistake. Cornelius and Milliminta Comegy, his wife, came from Germany in the year 1660 or 1664 and first located along the Sassafras river, but stayed only a very short time, then moved to Quaker Neck and permanently located there in a Quaker settlement. From them the whole Comegys family in this country sprang, as there never was another Comegys family known to have settled in America. Mr. N. W. Comegys was one of their descendants."

SECOND ANNIVERSARY.

Chestertown Council Jr. O. U. A. M. Celebrate With Music, Speech-Making and Feasting.

The Chestertown Council Jr. O. U. A. M. celebrated their second anniversary in splendid fashion on Friday evening. Music, speech-making and feasting were all in order, and were entered into with a zest which marked the fullest capacity for the enjoyment of the good things of this life along all lines.

The programme was opened by Mr. George B. Twilley, who made a short but very happy speech, and was followed by prayer by Rev. J. M. Gill. A delightful chorus was then rendered by Mrs. Horace Reed, Miss May Fallowfield, Prof. R. K. Pippin, James P. Parrott, W. L. Wheatley and G. B. Twilley, with Mrs. William Smith as accompanist on the organ. After the first selection Mr. L. B. Russell extended a warm welcome to all present. After singing and music, Dr. C. A. Grise made and address, and was followed by Mr. William F. Russell, and Prof. Smyth, of the Chestertown Public School. Music abundantly interspersed the other features, making a delightful variety. Mr. James P. Parrott's solo, "The Sexton," was one of the "hits" of the evening, and was encored to the echo.

After the musical and oratorical portion of the programme had been delightfully completed, then came the feast of creams, ices, cake, fruits, nuts and confections. That the committee of arrangement of this feature, Messrs. Wm. L. Fowler, J. A. Russell, J. R. Rollison, William Sappington and J. E. Matthews, had done their whole duty, was attested as soon as the banquet room was entered. There was no stint, no friction, but "all went merry as a marriage bell."

The Chestertown Council has ninety-three members, among them many of the most representative young business men of the town and county. Their officers are: Councilor, Geo. B. Twilley; V. C., J. E. Matthews; Rec. Sec., J. R. Rollison; ass't, C. R. Pippin; finan'l sec., J. A. Russell; conductor, J. W. Barnes; treas., J. W. Hirons; warden, H. A. Pennington; I. S., W. C. Benjamin; O. S., E. F. Lambert; chap., T. H. Meeks; trustees, W. L. Fowler, J. A. Russell, J. W. Barnes alternate to Death Benefit Association, W. L. Fowler.

AN ATHLETIC TOURNAMENT.

Interesting Programme by Mr. A. B. Burris' Class in Physical Culture.

[REPORTED FOR THE TRANSCRIPT.]

The annual athletic tournament of Washington College took place on Friday night, and was a brilliant affair. The gymnasium was crowded with the cream of Chestertown society, who liberally applauded the daring feats of the college athletes. The entertainment opened with a march executed by sixteen of the lady students, and the difficult evolutions were received with storms of applause. The class was led by Miss Estelle Crew, of Betterton, and composed of the following students: Miss Williams and Miss Barber, of Conaways, Md.; Miss Dutrow, of Frederick; Miss Childs, of Annapolis; Miss Holloway, of Selbyville, Del.; Miss Munnikhuysen, of Bel Air, Md.; Miss Parsons, of Baltimore; Miss Peterson, of St. Mary's; Miss Mills, of Pocomoke City; Miss Davis, of Still Pond; Miss Clayton, of Annapolis; Miss Handy, of Somerset county; Miss Bramble, of Dorchester county; Miss Wright, of Federalsburg, and Miss Jones, of Lynchs. Following the march was a wand drill. The movements were all executed without music of any kind, but in perfect time and showed splendid training. The last event on the programme for the young ladies was an exhibition of German gymnastics, which was in line with the other work, and the "co-eds" went to their dressing room followed by thunders of applause.

The second part of the programme was presented by the male participants and was much longer, exhibiting of course, much heavier work.

The opening march was a marvel of intricacy, and every figure was perfect in its execution. The athletes who stood out most prominently in the difficult events were: J. H. Anderson, of Milford, Del., whose feats on the rings were a credit to any gymnasium in the land. On the horizontal bar, H. U. Clogg, of Pocomoke City, showed special aptitude, and never hesitated to follow his instructor, Mr. Burris, in any trick of muscle or agility. On the parallel bars, V. F. Ward, of Salisbury, led the procession and his muscular development was a subject of general remark and admiration. As a tumbler and general mat performer, A. T. McDorman, of Somerset county, was specially in evidence, and his feats were both amusing and difficult. Others worthy of mention were: P. T. White, of Wicomico county, whose all round work was quite noticable; W. S. Sheppard, of Salisbury; C. C. Gum, of Worcester county; F. C. Kirk, of Rising Sun, and H. S. Brown and E. Simpers, of Chestertown; Rude, Jefferson, Noble, Tull, Powell and Jones.

All in all, the tournament was a magnificent success, and Mr. A. B. Burris, the competent instructor, can take all the credit to himself. A splendid prize cup will be offered at the field sports next June, to the student scoring most points.

PERSONAL AND SOCIAL.

Miss Lulu Boggs, of Crumpton, presided at the organ on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. H. B. Wright and Miss Lillie Attix, at Kenton, last week. Miss Boggs is an accomplished musician.

Miss Frankie Holten, of Middletown, Del., is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. F. Beasten, at Sassafras.

Mr. George Kennedy and wife entertained Townsend friends most royally at their Sassafras home, last week.

Mrs. Augustus Malsburger and Miss Elsie Malsburger, of Masseys, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Dreka, of Sassafras, last week.

The *New Era's* Sassafras correspondent says that Henry Rosin and wife, of near Galena, entertained most beautifully at an elaborate dinner to Luff Spry, Rev. W. W. White and wife, of Warwick; William H. Spry and wife, of Sassafras; Frank Sylvester, William H. Spry, Jr., and wife, of below Galena. A delightful day was spent.

Townsend Lodge Jr. O. U. A. M. extended a splendid hospitality to its friends. Messrs. Frank Sylvester, Chas. F. Beasten, A. T. Laws, Chas. Brice, Roy Caulk, Fletcher Caulk, Robert Johnston, Oscar Comegys, Archie Biggs, and Doc Hodgson were entertained on last Friday night.

William H. Spry entertained most elaborately on last Thursday Rev. W. W. White and wife, of Warwick; Henry Rosin and wife, of near Galena; Wm. H. Spry, Jr. and wife, of below Galena; Frank Sylvester and wife, of Sassafras; Luff Spry, Prof. W. Sherwood, Irving Spry, Paul Rosin, Miss Annie Sylvester and Frank Sylvester, Jr.

The grand-mother of Father Brady died last week aged 94 years. This aged lady was with Father Brady during his work in Chestertown and had many friends here.

The numerous friends of Mr. Jesse Duyer will be pleased to learn that Mr. Duyer has returned from Baltimore where he went for treatment greatly relieved both in sight and hearing. He is gratified at the result and is hopeful of a permanent cure.

Mr. and Mrs. Joel R. Clements gave a pleasant crokonole party in honor of Miss Julia Burchinal's birthday, on Saturday evening.

Mr. Thomas J. Shallcross has so far recovered from his severe attack that he was able to drive to Locust Grove on Friday.

Miss Janie McFeely, whom Kent evidently championed in the great piano contest arranged by the Baltimore *Herald*, won by the handsome majority of 21000 votes. The fortunate young lady has indeed, received royal honors. The Baltimore city firemen and hosts of other friends fairly smothered her with beautiful flowers until her room is represented as having been a bower of fragrance and beauty. Hutzler Bros., in whose store she is employed, notified her that she was at liberty to take as much time off as she desired, on pay, and to select the handsomest piano cover in their establishment for her magnificent new instrument.

Mr. Edward Jones, of Philadelphia, is a guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Jones, Queen street.

Judge James A. Pearce spent Sunday at his Chestertown home. He went to Elkton on Monday to attend the present term of court.

The Misses Clara and May Warwick, daughters of Mayor Charles Warwick, of Philadelphia, are guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Perkins. Clarence W. Perkins, Esq., of Baltimore, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Perkins on Tuesday.

Mr. Murray Perkins, of Baltimore, is the guest of Chestertown friends.

Mrs. Charles L. Gill is visiting at the home of ex-Senator W. T. Hepbron.

Miss Mary Peters, of Galena, is substituting as teacher in the Chestertown public school, in palce of Miss Nellie Walters who has been quite sick for several weeks and has gone to her home to recuperate.

On the 22nd of April, Mr. Frank W. Smith, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Smith, will graduate at the Baltimore Medical College and will then enter the City Hospital for a years laboratory course, after which he will be ready to practice as a full fledged M. D.

Senator Chas. T. Westcott has been elected first vice-president of the International Trust Company, recently formed in Baltimore city. John E. Searles, the sugar and cotton king, is largely interested in the company, and it will be one of the largest concerns of the kind now doing business.

Miss Annie Brownley, of Baltimore, is visiting her sister, Mrs. Wm. R. Pippin.

Mrs. Geo. D. Lofland went to Baltimore on Monday to consult an eye specialist.

Mrs. Hiram Tarbutton, of near Sudlersville, is the guest of Miss Phoebe Maul, High street.

Mrs. J. Lloyd McFeely and daughters, are visiting the former's mother, Mrs. S. A. Bacchus, High street.

Mr. Curtis E. Crane, accompanied by a party of Chestertown and St. Michaels friends, is off on a cruise down the bay after wild geese, swan and wild ducks. Mr. Crane is on his racing yacht, the Josephine.

Miss Fidler, an experienced milliner, is now in the employ of Mrs. R. Bergen's millinery department.

Mrs. E. J. Clarke is visiting her father at Pocomoke City.

IN SPORTING CIRCLES.

Interesting Items from Turf, Field and Farm.

Dr. J. C. McCoy's Kirkwood farm, Del., possesses an air of animation and bustle as the spring season opens. Mr. Fred L. Welch, so well known to the horsemen of this section as an expert shoer, is now "Dr. F. L. Welch, the shoer and veterinarian" of the kite-shaped track and wears his honors most gracefully. Sixty trotters and racers were expected last week, making a total of 90 fine horses in the McCoy stables, independent of Dr. McCoy's string of 30.

A writer from Kirkwood to the Middletown *New Era* says:

"E. E. Ecker, trainer for Col. Goff, of Providence, R. I., has been located here this winter with a string of 18 horses, some of which are very promising. He has Kentucky Union with a mark of 2.07¼; Bright Regent, 2.06¼, and several others that will respond to the call when the bell taps."

Mr. Romie Byron, in referring to the catching and killing of the bag-fox on the great chase of Thursday, said that to his certain knowledge the fox had been affording rare sport for over twelve years. During his last great run he ran up a tree, a trick which Mr. Byron says he has practiced thirty or more times before. On Thursday one of the hounds followed him up the tree forcing him to dash down in the midst of the entire pack, from which he escaped only to be caught and killed in a tile crossing the public road.

Eight muskrats have been killed this season in a branch not far from the home of Mr. Walter T. Morris.

Queen Anne and Caroline sportsmen had a shooting match at Sudlersville on Thursday. Messrs. Jere and Robert Godwin, and Lewis Booker, of Crumpton, and John E. George composed the Queen Anne team. Mr. George killed 8 and each of the others 7 of the ten birds. Of the Caroline team R. B. Bond killed 6 of his ten birds; B. L. Osborn, 8; ex-Sheriff Berry, 3; and H. M. Cade 2. With the total score standing 29 to 20 in favor of Queen Anne the Caroline crack shots withdrew. Several other matches were shot off. Messrs. John H. Aldridge, J. G. Usilton, Hick and Jack Cannan and Hines Thomas attended from Chestertown.

TO HANG TO-MORROW.

Joseph Wright to Die Upon the Gallows To-morrow for the Murder of William Newcomb.

Before the hour of noon to-morrow, Joseph Wright, colored, will forfeit his life upon the gallows, for the murder of William Newcomb, also colored, on the 4th day of November, 1897. The gruesome instrument of death was finished by contractor Jesse Duyer yesterday and stands only a few feet from the door leading from the gloomy corrider into the rear jail yard. It is enclosed on the three sides exposed to public view and the execution will be strictly private, only the jail officials, his spiritual advisers, physician, representatives of the press and a few others being admitted. Sheriff Roe has given no idea as to the hour of the execution.

HIS LAST DAYS.

Yesterday, the last day of life but one, for Joseph Wright, differed but little from the other days he has spent in the Chestertown jail. The appetite and cheerful demeanor of the condemned man remain unaffected by the rapid approach of the hour for the execution. He talks, and even laughs when in conversation with those whom he knows, with a childlike unreserve, but has made no reference to his execution unless directly questioned. He insists that but for the fact that he knows the exact day upon which he is to die, he "would not mind it half so much."

The story of his life, though rather uninteresting in detail, is told to his questioners with striking simplicity. His short story is that he was born in Cecil county in 1877. His father's name is Joshua Wright. As he grew up, though he did not make a habit of drinking whiskey, he sometimes drank to excess when out with "the boys." He entertained no malace toward William Newcomb, and declares that whiskey has brought him to the foot of the gallows. He declares that he was so drunk at the time of the murder that he did not know what he was doing. He did not own a pistol, and it came into his possession by a mere accident.

READY FOR THE END.

When asked if he realized that the scaffold was ready and that he had but one more day to live, he said, "Yes sir, but I am ready, I didn't mean to commit murder, but I know I have got to pay the penalty."

KIND FRIENDS.

Many of the ladies of Chestertown have taken a profound interest in the condemned man. He has been visited and talked to. Comforts and even little luxuries have been sent to make the his last days as bright as possible amid the gloomy surroundings. Mrs. W. J. Vannort, Mrs. R. D. Hynson, Mrs. James Brice, Mrs. C. M. Lucas, Mrs. Jas. T. Dixon, Mrs. H. L. Boyd, Mrs. John Brice, Miss Josie Kedue and others, have lent brightness and comfort to the condemned man by visiting him.

That he appreciates the kindness shown by Sheriff Roe, Deputy C. L. Gill, and Messrs. Connelly and Storkes, the death watch, is shown by the familiar way in which he talks to them. While enjoying some of the tarts, pies and fruit sent him several days ago he said to Deputy Gill: "My, Mr. Charlie, I am in it, ain't I?" Dr. S. C. Roberts, Rev. John M. Gill and other ministers have constantly visited him in jail.

HIS MOTHER'S VISIT.

In response to several letters, the condemned man's mother came down from Cecilton, Cecil county, on Monday. This was the first time Wright had heard from her since his final sentence to death by the Court of Appeals, though he had several times written. The woman was evidently effected, and wept bitterly, tried to give what comfort she could to her son, and received in return assurances that he felt safe and was sure of his salvation at last.

In the same mail came a letter from Joshua Wright, the man's father, at Earleville, Cecil county. This was the first time Wright's father had written to him. The letter expressed regret that the boy was in such a sad plight, and recalled the fact that he had received good counsel in years gone by. Both the mother and father are expected to visit the condemned man to-day.

A COMMUTATION.

The ladies and a number of citizens have labored industriously to secure signatures to petitions praying of the Governor a commutation of the death penalty to life imprisonment in the penitentiary. Many of the representative citizens of Chestertown affixed their names to the papers, and yesterday morning Col. Wm. J. Vannort left for Annapolis to state the case to Governor Lowndes. Wright has had no intimation of their move, and should a commutation come it will be a welcome surprise.

The Annapolis correspondent had this to say of the move in yesterday's Baltimore *Sun*:

"Governor Lowndes, who returned to Annapolis to-night, said he had received no petitions as yet for commuting the death sentence of Joseph Wright, colored, who is to be hanged at Chestertown for the murder of Wm. Newcomb, colored. The Governor intimated that executive clemency would not be exercised, though he stated it was quite a different case from that which recently occurred in Prince George's county, which the Governor strongly condemns."

The following is the petition:

Petition to the Governor.

To HIS EXCELLENCY, LLOYD LOWNDES, GOVERNOR:—Joseph Wright is under sentence of death for the murder of William Newcomb, on the 4th day of November 1897, at a place called "Big Woods" in Kent county.

This man Wright, was tried at the April term 1898 of the circuit court for Kent county by a jury. The jury disagreed among themselves as to the *degree* of the prisoner's guilt, and were discharged by the court. Then, upon the motion and affidavit of the State's Attorney, the case was moved by the court to Talbot county for trial, and was tried at the May term 1898, by a jury. The prisoner was convicted of murder in the First Degree and sentenced by the court to be hanged.

The case was appealed on a point in the evidence reserved by the Prisoner and it appears that the Court of Appeals has sustained the ruling of the lower court.

Appeal is now made to the Governor of the State to commute the death sentence of Joseph Wright to imprisonment for life in the penitentiary.

To support this appeal for the exercise of that High Executive Function, the following statement of facts and circumstances of the homocide are laid before you:—

The printed evidence shows that Wright is a young negro farm hand; that he came to Kent county from Cecil county, some years ago; that he was a good hand on the farm, and labored faithfully for the persons who employed him in the neighborhood; that he was on friendly terms with the deceased William Newcomb, who was a respectable and aged negro; that Newcomb had been very kind to Wright. He had boarded with Newcomb a year before the homocide, and owed Newcomb several dollars for board, and he had told Wright that he could pay the money when it suited him to do so; that there was not a particle of evidence produced at either trial to show a previous quarrel or any manifestation of ill-will from one to the other; that the parties lived close by each other and met at the store almost every night, that Newcomb was a peaceful old man and good citizen, and lived alone.

That the homocide took place at the store of William Simmons, a man of their own color, where all these people were in the habit of assembling.

That on the day of the homocide, November 4th, 1897, Wright had worked in the corn field, and at the close of the day went to his abode. That later in the evening Wright met two friends at the store of William Simmons, one of whom (Anderson) suggested that they go to Kennedyville and get some whiskey, as he had one dollar and a half to spend. Wright, Hackett and Anderson went to Kennedyville and secured the whiskey, a quart and half pint and drank the same before reaching Simmon's store. Hackett was drunk, unconscious: Wright and Anderson were also drunk. In leaving the store the latter, Anderson, fell over the feet of the deceased Newcomb and Wright without any apparent reason started a quarrel with Newcomb about his treatment of Anderson and without motive or premeditation fired the fatal shot in a drunken frenzy.

The whole circumstances preceding and attending the homocide were purely and simply a matter of accident, as a careful perusal of the evidence will show, the meeting at the store of Wright, Anderson and Hackett was a common occurrence; their visit at Kennedyville for whiskey was not pre-arranged, although it might be said that the drunkenness which ensued was a natural consequence of their drinking whiskey; the way in which Wright secured the pistol from Anderson was a mere chance showing no premeditation or desire to use it in any way; the fact that Anderson fell over the feet of the deceased and that a quarrel resulted was but the natural result of their drunken condition. And we, as citizens of Kent county, feel that whereas Wright should be punished, yet that under all the attending facts and circumstances that the punishment of death is too severe a punishment for his crime, as the evidence shows that he acted while in a drunken condition without motive, unconscious of what he was doing and without premeditation or deliberation. And we believe that the ends of justice would be better accomplished by the exercise of that high executive function, commutation to the penitentiary for life instead of the execution of the death penalty.

FROM WORTON.

Mrs. A. S. Turner entertained the Worton Y. at her home on last Friday evening. Re-election of officers was the principal feature of the evening. The gentlemen, however, had no voice in the matter, only the ladies being allowed to vote. The officers were elected as follows: President, Miss Sue E. Matthews; vice-president, Miss Florence Jewell; rec. sec., Miss Mary Cooper; cor. sec., Miss Clara Biddle; treasurer, Mrs. Geo. Biddle; organist, Miss Florence Jewell. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. F. R. Rouse in this place, on next Friday evening. At the last meeting two new members were enrolled.

This (Thursday) evening, Mrs. Helen G. Rice will deliver a lecture in the Presbyterian Church of this village.

Friday evening was spent in a very enjoyable manner at the home of Mr Geo. N. Cooper, by those who did not attend the Y. Dancing was indulged in and everybody expressed themselves as well pleased.

Miss Janie Anderson was given a pleasant surprise on last Wednesday evening by her many friends. Over forty persons were present.

Mrs. W. D. Carter has been suffering with neuralgia.

Mr. Robt. Rash paid a flying trip to Baltimore.

Mrs. Caffery, of Philadelphia, is the guest of her mother, Mrs. Kiker.

Mrs. O. M. Fogwell has been visiting her brother, who has been quite sick.

Miss Millie Porter has been visiting friends in Philadelphia.

Miss Agnes Newcomb is visiting friends down the county.

Mrs. Edw. Newsome is visiting her mother in this village.

Mr. Wm. Copper is erecting for himself a new barn.

One night last week thieves broke into Mr. Otho Fogwell's hen house and took therefrom 23 chickens. On arising, Mr. Fogwell discovered his loss, and at once notified Constable John A. Duyer, and an immediate search was made. The thief was tracked all day, and late in the evening the thief was found at his home in Melitota. A hearing was held before Justice Wilkins and he was held for court. MADGE.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Beck, Walker & Brown's Spring Card to the Public.

This reliable firm makes a straightforward, business-like proposition to the farmers to furnish the very best fertilizers for potatoes, oats, asparagus, general truck, pear and peach trees, etc. Mr. P. B. Hollis, their agricultural chemist has become thoroughly identified with the preparation of high-grade fertilizers on the Eastern Shore. He is still in charge of the works of Messrs. Beck, Walker & Brown, and while under his careful supervision, the gentlemen of this well-established firm feel no hesitancy in offering to the farmers the best goods at moderate prices.

Misses Cora and Hattie Reed, make their annual spring announcement of beautiful millinery. No branch has been overlooked and their stock is superb in every particular.

The festival and supper to have been held by the ladies of Zion M. E. Church, Morgnec, on Saturday last, has been postponed to take place on next Saturday. The ladies will spare no pains to make this a most enjoyable affair. See their card elsewhere.

ROYAL Baking Powder

Made from pure cream of tartar.

Safeguards the food against alum.

Alum baking powders are the greatest menacers to health of the present day.

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PRICE $1.00 PER BOTTLE.

At R. F. Parks'

STOCK CLEARING, ASSORTING REDUCING,

is going on. Better values offering to-day than yesterday.

SALES MUST CONTINUE.

NET CASH, Low-Down Prices must do the work.

Values Going To-morrow at

Ladies' Fast-holds (Boston Rubber Co. goods), per pair	18c
Ladies' Storm Rubbers, per pair,	30
Gents' Storm Rubbers, per pair,	49
Gents' Plain Sandels, per pair,	48
Ladies' Croque, per pair,	24
MEN'S HEAVY Leather Boots, per pair,	$1.39
Men's Heavy Leather Boots, worth $2.25, per pair,	1.98
Lot of Boys' Shoes, prices were $2, 2.50 and 3.00, any size left of 50 pairs, per pr	1.00
Lot of Ladies' Shoes, prices were $2.25, 2.50, 3.00, any size left, per pair,	1.75

The above all jobs, and rare, too, at the price.

Good Domestic Flannel, per yard,	10c
Flanneletts, that were 10c. per yard, now	6¾c
Apron Ginghams, Saturday, all you want,	4½c

White Blankets start 39c.

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Closing out at most any price.

Lap Robes, good plush,	2.75
Horse Blankets,	75c
Extra good Feather Bed Tick,	12½
Extra Good Straw Ticking	8
9-4 Brown Sheeting Muslin,	15
4-4 Extra Bleached Muslin,	6½
4-4 Brown Muslin,	4
4-4 Extra Good Brown Muslin,	4½

Towels 5c., Towels 10c., Towels 12½c., Towels 15c.

Linen Napkins, per dozen,	75
Linen Napkins, per dozen,	60
Linen Napkins, per dozen,	50

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Fine Blended Coffee, 2 lbs. for	23
3 Boxes Lye,	25
13 Boxes Soap,	25
Pack Gold Dust and 5 Bars Soap,	25

Timothy, Clover and Orchard Grass Seeds for sale at Rock Bottom Prices.

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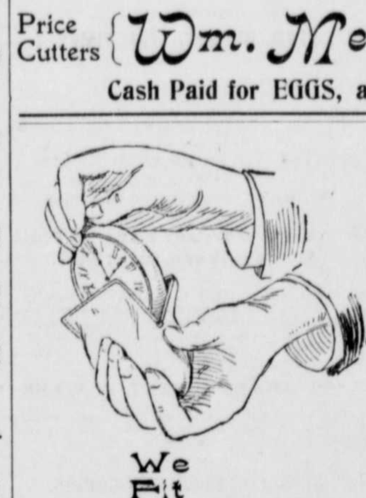
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Beautiful Line of Fine Madras Suitings	12½
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Fine Line Dress Ginghams, worth full 10c.	7½
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See Our No-Brand Bl'd Muslin, Same as Fruit at	5¾
Extra Line Cheviots at	10
New Line "All Wool" Dress Suitings at	25

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Set Wagon Harness	$5.75
Our Leader Wagon Harness at only	$6.90
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Our Special $2.50 Hair Collars	$1.98
Full Cream Cheese	15c
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Gold Dust, 4 lb. package	15c
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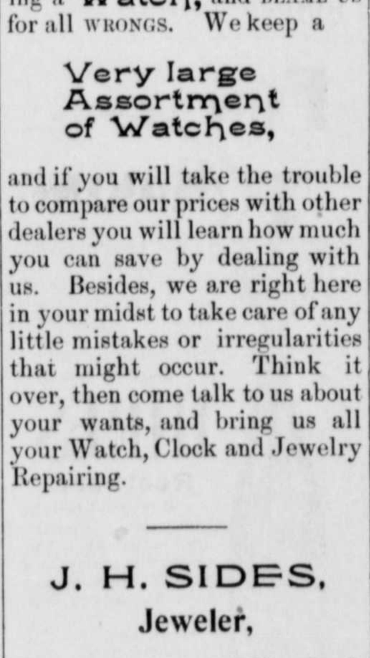
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