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ARLINGTON L SPARKS

Dry Goods Notions Millinery

Our Dress Goods Department is running over with desirable stuff at popular prices and variety, quality and general excellence are found at this counter in abundance.

There is a complete range of shades and patterns and we feel sure of pleasing you, if you will look over our stock.

Coats Coats Coats

For Ladies, Misses and Children.

Our sales in this department have exceeded our fondest expectations and every model is smart, new and attractive.

The styles are the latest; materials are of good weights and fine quaility; the tailoring is excellent; the trimmings effective, and last, but not least, the prices are very moderate.

You cannot afford to buy without seeing our line.

FURS FURS FURS

We carry a line direct from the manufacturer, bought early; by reason of which we feel sure we can save you at least 25 per cent. off present prices.

For the Christmas Shoppers.

We are prepared to serve your needs with a variety of things for useful gifts.

HANDKERCHIEFS, GLOVES, NECKWEAR, HOSIERY, NAPKINS, TOWELS, TABLE LINEN, SHAMS, SCARFS, TABLE COVERS, WHITE SPREADS, BLANKETS AND COMFORTS.

DOLLS

DOLLS

DOLLS

For our your friends we have added a line of dolls, the finest ever shown in Chestertown, ranging in price from 5 cts. to $4.00.

Bring your little girl in, she will enjoy looking at them

Arlington L. Sparks, Chestertown, Md.

OLD VIOLINS.

The Best Method of Finding Out Their True Value.

Very often somebody thinks that he or she has a small fortune locked up in a fiddle case. The somebody does not know much about violins, but has heard or read that an old violin is a very valuable thing. And because grandfather happened to leave a violin, to assume duties upon the head somebody immediately believes that grandfather's violin is a treasure. As a matter of fact, ninety-nine times out of a hundred grandpa invested in a ten dollar fiddle and played "Suwanee River" and "Annie Laurie." When he bought it the violin was worth $10, but since then it has been depreciating in value at the rate of about 10 cents a year. From the mere fact that most of the varnish is scratched off and there are several cracks in the instrument it does not follow that it is an "old one."

If a violin is good to start with it will improve with age and good care, but, on the other hand, a poor fiddle is not benefited to any extent if it survives a century or two.

Don't judge a violin by the label inside of it. Anybody can copy an old name and date and paste it in. If all the violins bearing a Stradivarius label were his, poor old Antonius would be working yet. More than half of the cheap, worthless violins bear copies of his or some other master's label, and even some real old and good instruments have been passed off as the work of Amati, Guarneri, Magini and other famous makers.

Any one having a violin with the label of a comparatively unknown maker is likely to be the owner of a more valuable instrument than the person whose fiddle is marked "Antonius Stradivarius."

There is only one way to find out whether or not a violin is living up to its name, and that is to get the judgment of a good dealer. If he tells you that your violin is no good, but still offers to buy it, you may be quite certain that you have a good fiddle. But don't sell it. Take it to some other authority and see what he says, but don't make a bargain. You will hear from him if your violin is genuine, for the supply of valuable ones is small and great rivalry exists among dealers to secure masterpieces.

A great many people have the idea that all the very good instruments are the output of a half dozen old geniuses when the truth is that there are scores of old as well as quite modern makers whose works bring very high prices.—New York Herald.

A FEW WORDS.

Don't say abolishment, for abolition is the perfect word.

Don't say wonderment when wonder will express your meaning.

Don't say "My politics are." Politics is singular in spite of the final s.

Don't say people when you mean persons. People is a collective noun, in the singular number.

Don't say flapdoodle words, for even when properly employed your meaning will not be so clear to the reader as when you use simple words.

Don't say receipt when you mean recipe. The collector to whom you pay money gives you a receipt. A formula for the preparation of food is a recipe.

Don't say surprised when you mean astonished. You may be astonished to find Johnny stealing jam, but he is surprised by you.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

A Cause For Thanks.

Charles O'Conor once began an after dinner speech in Philadelphia in this way:

"I must confess that I dread to make after dinner speeches. At the most sumptuous dinners, even at such a dinner as this one, if I know that at the end I must make a speech I am nervous. I have no appetite. I find little to admire in the best efforts of the chef. In truth, gentlemen, I can readily imagine Daniel, if he was at all of my mind, heaving a sigh of relief as the lions drew near to devour him—heaving a sigh of relief and murmuring:

"'Well, if there's any after dinner speaking to be done on this occasion at least it won't be done by me.'"

Gentle Door Taps.

A story of extraordinary deafness was unfolded at a recent meeting of a medical society in Philadelphia. An elderly woman, exceedingly hard of hearing, lived near the river. One afternoon a warship fired a salute of ten guns. The woman, alone in her little house, waited until the booming ceased. Then she smoothed her dress, brushed her hair back in a quaint manner and said sweetly, "Come in."—Argonaut.

The Letter I.

The name of "I" is in Hebrew jod or jot, a hand, and the earliest characters representative of the sound closely resemble a hand with but three fingers. Little by little one finger after another dropped off until only the little finger was left, and the letter became the smallest in the alphabet, a jot or tittle that is, the "I" and its dot being synonymous of the most insignificant things that could be described.

A Serious Moment.

"There is my last poem," said the young but melancholy contributor.

"Thank the Lord!" replied the dignified editor as he clung to his chair that he might not dance a hornpipe.—Detroit Free Press.

Common Now.

Silver forks are to be used at Rockaway and West Point hotels during the coming summer.—Volume 1, No. 1, New York Morning Herald, May 6, 1835.

THE FLAG IN HISTORY

ORIGIN OF NATIONAL EMBLEMS OF THE OLD WORLD.

Joan of Arc and the White Banner of France—The Tricolor of Holland. St. Augustine, the Missionary, Introduced Flags into England.

The first western sovereign to adopt a flag was Clovis, king of the Franks. After his conversion to Christianity in the fifth century he took the "chape de St. Martin" as his standard. This, according to some writers, was actually part of the cloak which the saintly bishop of Tours cut in two in order to share it with a beggar at Amiens. More credible authorities, however, assert that it was the blue flag of St. Martin's abbey.

After Clovis, the Merovingian kings seem to have returned to the ancient emblems. They were content to fight under eagles, flowers, crosses or the images of saints until the time of Charlemagne, who, if an old mosaic in the Church of St. John Lateran at Rome is to be believed, reintroduced the blue flag embellished with six red roses.

The color of the French flag was changed in 1124, when Louis the Fat carried the red oriflamb of St. Denis in his struggles against the German emperor Henry V. This continued to be the official French flag down to the battle of Agincourt in 1415. In the meantime the blue flag had again made its appearance, now decorated with the fleur-de-lis instead of the roses of Charlemagne. In this form it was carried at Acre and Crecy and Poitiers, until in the fifteenth century it became the banner of France.

The first white flag in French history was the banner of the Virgin Mary borne by Joan of Arc in her heroic campaigns for the defense of the dauphin. A pure white flag was occasionally used by Francis I. in his struggles against the Emperor Charles V., but it did not become the permanent royal banner until Henry IV., the first Bourbon, ascended the throne in 1589.

The tricolor of the French revolution was a compromise. The cockades of the revolutionists were composed of two colors, the red of the Paris commune and the blue of the ancient monarchy. In the troubled times just preceding the deposition and execution of Louis XVI., Lafayette, to signify the desire of the people for a reconciliation with their king, added the Bourbon white to the cockade. The tricolor as a national emblem was adopted by the convention in 1794.

Long before this, however, the tricolor had been the national flag of Holland. The Dutch were in fact the first to use it. When the United Provinces gained their independence from Spain in the sixteenth century, according to a favorite old story which cannot be authenticated, they invited Henry of Navarre to choose their colors, and he suggested orange, blue and white. Whether he selected this combination or not, such were the colors of Holland until some time in the seventeenth century, when the orange was replaced by red. When William of Orange became king of England in 1698 he crossed the channel under the red, white and blue.

The early inhabitants of England, like those of other countries, used emblematic devices of one kind or another, that of the Saxons being a white horse. The introduction of flags into England is ascribed to the missionary St. Augustine and his followers, who after the conversion of King Ethelbert, according to the Venerable Bede, entered Canterbury in procession, chanting and bearing small banners.

Since the fourteenth century the cross of St. George has been the emblem of the British nation. Before that time it was worn on the armor by the crusaders, among whom it came to be known as the "jack." During the bloody civil wars of the fifteenth century it was practically superseded by the roses, white and red, and in 1606 by proclamation of James I. it was finally replaced by a red flag with the jack in the upper inside corner. The red standard of Great Britain did not attain its present form, however, until after the union with Ireland in 1801. By parliamentary enactment in 1801 the present union jack was brought into being by the addition of the cross of St. Patrick.

Waving flags are said to have been first brought to Spain by the Saracens. The present Spanish colors, red and yellow, came from the old shields of Castile and Aragon.

The Austrian black and yellow were the colors of the Holy Roman Empire. They were adopted, so the story goes, by Frederick Barbarossa, whose fancy was captured at a ceremony in Mainz by the black and gold flooring of the hall.

The crescent was originally the special mark of Constantinople, where for centuries it was used as a Christian symbol. There it was that the Turks first found it when they captured the city in 1453. Even today it may be found side by side with the cross on the churches in Moscow and other Russian cities, where it is used to indicate the Byzantine origin of the Russian faith.—New York Tribune.

The Audience Worse Than the Orator

John Bright was once asked how it was that Pitt made one of his finest speeches after drinking two bottles of port. John Bright was, as usual, equal to the occasion. He pointed out that verbatim reporting was unknown in those days, and he suggested that the other members of the house, on whose opinion Pitt's reputation largely depended, had probably drunk three bottles.

The price for tobacco must in each [illegible]

EASY DOOR FASTENERS.

Only One Kind of Lock the Expert Burglar Can't Pick.

"There's only one lock in the world that I can't open if you'll give me a few minutes at it, and as for ordinary door and drawer locks, I'll open them as easily as if there was no lock there. Any expert burglar can do the same."

The foregoing statement was made by an experienced locksmith of Kansas City.

"Few persons know how insecure their homes are," he continued. "Few persons realize that the average lock is absolutely worthless for keeping out an experienced burglar. The ordinary door lock is good for nothing but reminding casual business or social callers that they must ring to be admitted. None of these ordinary 'door fasteners,' and that's the best you can call them, will deter a burglar two whole minutes. If there's no key in the lock, he soon fits one to it. If there is a key in the lock, he inserts a pair of pinchers and in ten seconds has it opened. Understand me, I am speaking of the experienced burglar. The clumsy burglar is the one who gets in trouble. He'll fumble around with a lock until somebody hears him. There is only one unpickable lock made. That's the six pin lock used by the government. It will defy any expert. There are six little steel pins in the lock, which have to be raised just a certain distance to open it. Some of the pins are one-fourth of an inch long and some of them a half inch. If one of the pins lacks even a hairbreadth of being raised the proper distance, the lock will not open. It baffles all the experts."

This locksmith is so expert he can open the majority of safes by putting his ear to the combination and listening to how the tumblers click into place as he turns it.

"I intended at one time to be a burglar," this locksmith declares. "I had it all planned out—even had a set of burglar's tools made. Then I decided that honesty was the best policy, and I stuck to my trade."—Kansas City Star.

THE SHREW MOUSE.

Some Queer Superstitions About a Harmless Little Animal.

The shrew, or shrew mouse, as it is commonly called, is found in nearly all parts of the world. It is distinguished by an elongated, pointed muzzle, small eyes, plantigrade, six toed feet and glands that secrete a musky fluid. Altogether it closely resembles a mouse, but it is really not related to the mouse family.

When at home it is either under a pile of rubbish or in a hole which it has burrowed in the earth. It is nocturnal in its habits, but perfectly harmless, yet at one time it was much disliked and persecuted because it was thought to be a dangerous, mischievous animal. Among the Italians the notion was prevalent that the bite of a shrew was extremely poisonous. The French and the English believed that if a shrew ran over an animal's foot the animal felt great pain and eventually became paralyzed; hence if a horse, a cow or a goat became a little stiff in its limbs the foolish people at once declared it "shrew struck," and the poor shrews had to suffer in consequence.

Of course the "shrew struck" animal had to have something to cure it, so an ash tree was selected, and a deep hole was bored into its trunk. Then a shrew was captured, put alive into the hole, the hole was securely plugged, and the innocent little animal was left to die of starvation.

The ignorant believed that after such an act the ash tree had power to cure "shrew struck" animals, and whenever an animal became inactive or a little numb in its limbs its owner hurried to the "shrew ash," cut a switch from it and switched the "shrew struck" beast. The smarting caused by the switching naturally made the helpless animal move about as much as it possibly could, and in a short time it was pronounced cured.

A Gallant Highwayman.

A highwayman recently held up a gasoline runabout on the outskirts of Rome. The highwayman stopped the runabout with a shot in the air. Then he ran forth from the tomb that had concealed him—the holdup happened on the Appian Way—and found to his surprise only a woman in the little car.

"Where, madam, is your husband?" he demanded sternly and suspiciously.

"He's under the seat," she answered, flushing.

"Then," said the highwayman, "I will take nothing. "It's bad enough to have a husband like that without being robbed into the bargain."

Evolution of Chemistry.

The first chemists were the alchemists, who for hundreds of years vainly tried to make gold by compounding various chemicals. Chemistry was introduced into Spain by the Moors in 1150, and the Chinese and Egyptians claimed an early acquaintance with it. However, chemistry was not a science until the seventeenth century. Boerhaave was the first to combine the study of chemistry with medicine, and since then its evolution has been rapid.

A Bad Case.

"What's the matter, dear?" asked the doctor's wife. "Are you worried about Mr. Poorley's case?"

"Yes," replied the doctor.

"And is there no hope?"

"Very little. He says he doesn't expect to have enough to pay more than one-third of my bill."—Answers.

The consciousness of clean linen is of itself a source of moral strength second only to that of a clean conscience. —Phelps

Happy and Prosperous New Year

TO EVERY ONE.

Start it right by going to Black's for your merchandise goods and prices. All the best can be found. Prices reduced on all Winter goods.

Blankets worth	$6.00 now	$4.98
Blankets worth	5.00 now	4.05
" "	4.00 now	3.20
" "	3.50 now	2.85
" "	2.50 now	1.98
" "	1.50 now	1.10

Men's and Ladies' Underwear all reduced in same proportion. Men's and Boys' Boots and Pants all marked at cost to close out remaining winter stock. Come early, get your size. My loss is your gain. Come and make this your regular dealing place for 1907. Am paying 31c now for Eggs, and will guarantee this price all next week.

Yours for Business,

B. S. SUTTON,

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New York Clothing House

The Largest Clothing House in Maryland.

VISITORS ARE WELCOME HERE.

It is a cardinal principle at this store to treat its visitors fairly and squarely. We invite you to come and learn whether it is to your advantage to buy of us. We do so in sincerity, and we shall not attempt to force a sale. You are perfectly free to obey the dictates of your own judgment.

All our new designs are now on display, and every one a model of style.

Men's Suits..... $10 to $25
Youth's Suits..... $7.50 to $20
Children's Suits.....$2.50 to $12

A complete asssortment of

Furnishings, Hats and Shoes,

for Men, Youths and Children.

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CHESTER RIVER LINE.

WINTER SCHEDULE

In effect Dec 26th, 1906.

Steamer will leave Pier 7 Light St. wharf, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 11 A. M., weather permitting, for the following points: Rock Hall, Queenstown, Bogle's, Cliff's, Spaniard's Point, India-town, Ashland, Quaker Neck, Booker's, Wilmer's, Rolph's, Piney Grove, Chestertown.

Returning, steamer will leave Chestertown, weather permitting, Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8 a. m. stopping at all the above landings, arriving at Baltimore about 2.00 o'clock p.m.

WILLARD THOMSON, General Manager. T. MURDOCH, Gen. Frt. & Pass. Agt.

Baltimore, Dec. 15th, 1906.

NOW IS THE TIME TO

PAINT and PAPER

Your House

BE sure and get the BEST WORKMEN and the BEST MATERIAL. Don't waste good money on bad material. Masury's Paints are the best on the market. We are the sole agents for this district, and are always ready to show you sample card and quote prices.

We Will Paper Your R[illegible] for $3 and upwards

and guarantee satisfaction or money back.

IF YOU WANT YOUR PICTURES FRAMED, call and see our selections of Moulding before going elsewhere. They are the finest in town. We can be found at the old stand, opposite the M. Church.

Yours for Business,

W. L. FOWLER.

STILL POND MARBLE WORKS

WM. H. KRUSEN, Proprietor.



Granite & Marble Work

OF ALL KINDS

kept in stock at moderate prices.

Chester Freighting Co.

(In Effect Monday, Feb. 26th, 1906.)



The power boat "LELAND MILLS," will leave Crumpton (Sheppard's Wharf,) Mondays and Thursdays at noon; Chestertown (Bacchus & Usilton's wharf) at 4.30 P. M., stopping at Newnam's and South East.

Leave Baltimore on Tuesdays and Fridays 6.0 p. m., arriving in Chestertown early next morning.

We are prepared to handle all kinds of freight including grain, fruit, merchandise, poultry, pigs, etc.

Our freight charges will be reasonable and service prompt.

m17-tf. JAMES E. MEREDITH, Manager.
C. W. ROLPH, Agent, Chestertown.

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Stove, Nut and Egg.

I have on hand an entirely new stock of LEHIGH and MAHONEY COAL. Bright, clear and new—not a lump of old—stock all under cover.

OAKAND PINEWOOD

Sawed and split any length and size desired. Kindling short and fine as you want it.

With thanks, I am yours, etc.

A. P. Matthews.

Chestertown, Md.

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