The Easton Star.

Devoted to Politics, Literature, Agriculture, Foreign and Domestic News.

NEW SERIES. EASTON, MD., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1877. VOL. XIII.--NO. 12.

THE EASTON STAR

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING, AT EASTON, MD.

F. K. HOSSON, Editor & Proprietor.

TERMS:

Two Dollars cash in advance, or Two Dollars and Fifty Cents if not paid in advance. Clubs of Twenty, Thirty Dollars in advance. No paper will be discontinued, except at the discretion of the proprietor, until arrearages are paid. No subscription will be taken for a shorter period than six months. Persons who have received bills will be promptly notified under editorial head.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.

One square (16 lines)—one insertion, $1; and 25 cents for each subsequent insertion. A liberal deduction made to those who advertise by the year or for six months.

Advertisements sent to the office not marked with the number of times to be inserted, will be marked 'tf,' and continued till ordered out, and charged according to regular rates.

Special Notices in Local columns, 20 cents per line for each insertion.

To Travelers.

MARYLAND STEAMBOAT CO.

SUMMER ARRANGEMENT.

ON and after Saturday, April 7th, 1877, the Steamer HIGHLAND LIGHT, Captain E. T. Leonard, will leave pier 3, Light street, foot of Camden, every TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY, at 9 o'clock P. M., for EASTON, Double Mills, Oxford, Clark's Point, Wallack's, Cambridge, Chancellor's Point, Cabin Creek and Medford's, making close connection with Maryland & Delaware Railroad at Easton, and with the Dorchester & Delaware Railroad at Cambridge. The Tuesday trip will be extended to Denton, making all the regular landings on the River. On the return trip, will leave Denton every Wednesday at 12 o'clock noon, and every Monday, Wednesday and Friday will leave Medford's at 9, Cambridge 5, and Easton at 9 o'clock P. M., arriving in Baltimore early next morning.

On and after Tuesday, June 12th, the Steamer SAMUEL J. PENTZ, Captain John H. Kirwin, will leave Pier No. 3, Light st., foot of Camden, every TUESDAY and FRIDAY, at 6:30 A. M., for St. Michaels and Miles River Ferry (Easton). On the return trip, will leave Miles River Ferry at 11 o'clock A. M., and reach Baltimore at 3 P. M.

Freight is solicited at low rates and carefully handled.

Baltimore, March 27, 1877.

Fall & Winter Arrangement.

THE STEAMER

OLIVE,

CAPT. E. N. DODSON.

FROM BALTIMORE.

On and after Tuesday, September 18th, the steamer Olive will leave Baltimore every Tuesday and Thursday, at 10 a.m., for Claiborne, St. Michaels, Tunis's Wharf, Trimble's Wharf and Wye Landing. Every Saturday, at 10 a.m., for Claiborne, St. Michaels and Tunis's Wharf.

FOR BALTIMORE

Leave Wye river every Wednesday and Friday at 7 a.m., Tunis's Wharf 9 a.m., St. Michaels 10 a.m., Claiborne 10:45 for Baltimore. Every Monday Tunis's Wharf at 9 a.m., St. Michaels 10, Claiborne 10:45 for Baltimore.

R. S. DODSON, Proprietor.

St. Michaels, Oct. 16, 1877.

Maryland & Delaware

RAILROAD.

WINTER ARRANGEMENT.

On and after Monday, Oct. 15th, 1877, Trains will run as follows:

GOING NORTH.			GOING SOUTH.		
LEAVE			LEAVE		
Easton	7 00	A. M	New York	8 25	P. M.
Dodsland	7 15	"	Baltimore	6 50	A.M.
Jordan's	7 25	"	Philadelphia	8 00	"
Hillsborough	7 40	"	Wilmington	9 35	"
Ridgely	7 55	"	Clayton	11 15	"
Greensborough	8 15	"	Kenton	11 30	"
Goldsborough	8 30	"	Slaughters	11 45	"
Henderson	8 45	"	Marydel	12 00	P.M.
Marydel	8 55	"	Henderson	12 15	"
Slaughters	9 10	"	Goldsborough	12 30	"
Kenton	9 25	"	Greensborough	12 40	"
ARRIVE AT			Ridgely	1 05	"
Clayton	9 40	"	Hillsborough	1 20	"
Wilmington	4 20	P. M.	Cordova	1 35	"
Philadelphia	5 40	"	Woodland	1 45	"
Baltimore	7 50	"	ARRIVE AT		
New York	10 05	"	Easton	2 00	"

Freights must be at the various stations at least sixty (60) minutes before starting of Trains, otherwise they will lay over twenty-four hours. Freight trains will have passenger car attached and will be subject to delays incident to freight business.

J. L. CALDWELL, Superintendent

To Farmers and Merchants

On Choptank River.

Steamer Ruggles

Choptank River and Baltimore.

WE beg to announce that we have placed the good Steamer *RUGGLES*, Capt. Townsend, upon the Choptank River as a Fresh Bait to and from Baltimore, and solicit the patronage of farmers and others to sustain the enterprise. This is exclusively a Freight Line for transportation of Grain, Fruit, Truck, Merchandise, &c., at reasonable rates. A good wharf has been secured in Baltimore, foot of Commerce street, for delivery and receipt of cargo. The *RUGGLES* will leave Choptank River on *MONDAYS* and *FRIDAYS*, leaving Coward's Point at 10 A. M., and stopping at Reese's Landing, Gilpin's Point, Kingston, Dover Bridge, Hog Island, Lloyd's Landing, Medford's Wharf, Cliff, Cabin Creek, Jamaica Point.

Will leave Baltimore on *TUESDAY* and *SATURDAY* evenings.

Every effort will be made to satisfy the patrons of the Steamer and merit success.

I. M. PARR & SON.

WM. E. TURNER, Agt. on the Choptank.

Baltimore, August 8th, 1877.

Farmers' and Merchants

Packet Line.

The Schooners

Clara M. Leonard

and

Annie M. Leonard.

THE above boats are making weekly trips between Easton and Baltimore, and will carry all kinds of freighting as cheap as any other vessels. Every effort will be made to give satisfaction. Our boats are new and built out of the very best material. Orders left with Messrs. G. E. Bowdoin & Co., Commission Merchants, corner of Bowley's Wharf and Pratt st., Baltimore, will be promptly attended to. Grain bought or taken at the lowest freight rates. All Grain stored in our Warehouses, in case of fire will be at the owners risk. Agricultural Lime delivered at the lowest cash price. Feeling thankful for past favors, we hope by strict attention to business, a continuance of the same.

C. R. LEONARD & BRO.

Office in same room with R. B. Dixon on Dover street, Easton.

may 8, '77

Easton Livery Stables.

FRANKLIN G. WRIGHT, PROPRIETOR.

Next door to *The Easton Star* Office.

TRAVELERS will deposit their whips, robes, blankets, &c., at the office. Stable accommodations for 100 horses. Horses received on livery by the day, week, month or year. Horses and carriages for hire at all times. Travelers promptly sent to any part of the county or adjoining counties. Hacks run regularly to the steamboat landings, to convey passengers with dispatch.

The highest market price paid for corn, hay, oats, blades and straw.

A DAILY STAGE LINE TO THE RAILROAD. Passengers leaving Easton in the morning arrive in Baltimore and Philadelphia in time for dinner.

In hiring horses, 12 hours is considered a day, 6 hours a half day. For extra hours an extra charge will be made.

Easton, Md., sep 22

Ice Cream.

Martin & Co. will supply parties, picnics and excursions with Ice Cream at city prices. Families can at all times be supplied, delivered at their houses by leaving their orders in advance. We use none but the best "Aldderney Cream" which makes it superior in richness and flavor.

LUMBER! LUMBER!!

Building Materials of all Kinds.

Weatherboarding, Framing,
Shingles, Flooring,
Laths, Bricks,
Lime & Hair, Doors,
Sash, Shutters,
Mouldings &c.

White, Virginia and Carolina Pine.

Fencing, Fence Posts, and Cant Rails.

Lumber Dressed and Undressed.

Farmers and Builders, Look to your Interests.

Everything at Bottom Prices.

LUMBER-YARD AND OFFICE ON WASHINGTON STREET, NEAR THARP'S PEACH HOUSE.

The subscriber informs the public that he has a full line of all kinds of building material and fencing particularized above, which he is offering at city prices. He particularly invites a call from all wanting lumber, satisfied that he can please all as to PRICE and QUALITY.

John A. Arringdale.

Easton, Sept, 26th 1876 1y.

THE GREAT DEMAND

For our

POPULAR CLOTHING

has induced us to place upon our counters the largest and finest line of goods to be found in the city.

OUR MEN'S DEPARTMENT

is filled with new and choice styles from lower to finer grades. Gentlemen desiring suits for either business or dress wear will find it to their advantage to make their selections wish us.

Our Boys' Department

is a special feature of our business and contains everything new and desirable in the way of cut and fabrics including many styles not to be found elsewhere. Parents and Guardians should not fail to inspect our goods and prices before making their purchases.

NEW YORK ONE PRICE

CASH CLOTHING HOUSE,

184 West Baltimore st., opposite Light st., Baltimore.

Beauty!! Excellenbe!! Durability!!!

QUALITY AND CHEAPNESS!

Are the leading *characteristics* of the immense *New Stock* of

Fall & Winter Clothing

just opened by us.

CHAS. N. OEHN & SON,

Wholesale and Retail Clothing House,

230 West Pratt street, near Hanover street,

adjoining Citizens National Bank, *BALTIMORE, MD.*

SPECIALTIES.

We are making specialties of solid, heavy, substantially made and shrunk FARM SUITS which we are selling at $8:50 and $10

ALSO.—Fine and Elegant Business and Dress Suits at $10, $12, $15, $16, $16:50, $18, $20, $25, $28, $30, $35.

oct9-3m

Fashionable

DRESS MAKING

MRS. M. A. STEWART has connected with her Millinery establishment, MADAM LORD, (late of New York)

FASHIONABLE

DRESS AND CLOAK

MAKER,

where may be found the latest

NEW YORK AND PARIS FASHIONS,

and also the most reliable Patterns to please the most fastidious.

CUTTING, FITTING AND BASTING

done for those who wish to do their own work. Also Pinking, Stamping, Stitching, Fluting and Braiding. We will be corresponding weekly with the leading Fashionable Emporiums of the Metropolis and can confidently promise superior work and elegant styles. We invite a call from the Ladies, Misses and Children. We will make prices to suit all who will favor us with their custom.

NEW MILLINERY GOODS,

Fancy Goods & Notions.

I have secured the services of a first-class Milliner from the city and will be pleased to wait on the ladies in that department. I have just returned from the city with everything the newest and most desirable in my line. I am constantly receiving novelties from both Baltimore and Philadelphia. I earnestly invite an examination of my stock. Repairing done with neatness and dispatch.

The public's obedient servant,

oct16 M. A. STEWART.

SLIPS for PICTURE FRAMES. Assorted colors. G. W. MILNICK, opposite the Bank.

The Ladies

BAZAAR OF FASHION,

And Fashionable Resort.

For Millinery, Notions and Fancy Goods,

Mrs. M. S. Norris

Opposite Court House, Easton, Md.

The cases of this well-known and favorite establishment have again been replenished with all the articles necessary to make up the fashionable toilet and selected with the greatest care as to quality, style and price. Bonnets and Hats in endless variety. Ribbons and Laces of every grade. Trimmings, a heavy assortment of every design; and Notions innumerable. The elegant taste always displayed in the trimming of Bonnets and Hats and which has secured for her an enviable reputation as a Milliner which she intends in the future to maintain, and the Ladies may always rest assured that their work will be executed with neatness and dispatch.

Grand Opening

Every Tuesday and Saturday. The Ladies of Talbot and adjacent counties are cordially invited to inspect her large and superb stock of Millinery. To see is to please.

MILLINERY

I HAVE begun the purchase of my Fall Stock of

MILLINERY and FANCY GOODS,

and can now display some of the latest styles of Hats untrimmed. My

"Fall Opening,"

will take place in October, for which cards will in due time be sent out.

Ladies not receiving a card to my Spring Opening are requested to hand in their names and post-offices prior to October 1st, and they will be entered on my post-office book, and cards sent them.

Don't buy your Fall Hats and Bonnets until my "Opening" and I will show you "Models of Taste and style."

Respectfully,

sep15 E. V. HIGGINS.

LORD & TAYLOR,

NEW YORK.

We inform the Ladies of Easton that our mail and express department is now so thoroughly organized, they can do their shopping in New York without the expense of traveling there. We send samples of piece goods with prices plainly marked, and catalogues of Ladies', Misses' and Children's Furnishing Goods by mail to applicants who send us their proper address, free of charge, and if they explain clearly the kind of goods wanted, we seldom fail in suiting them. From the printed catalogue they can always make selection of garments that will give satisfaction, and it is only necessary to give the proper measurements to insure success.

OUR IMPORTATIONS

ON THIS SEASON GIVE US AN UNEQUALLED STOCK OF GOODS.

BLACK SILKS, handsome and durable, all widths, $1.00 to $3.50. The GREAT AMERICAN INDESTRUCTIBLE SILK $1.20, $1.25, $1.50.

PLAIN COLORED SILKS, new shades, commencing as low as 75c. per yard, and at $1.00 same as quality of last season at $1.25.

Fancy Brocha and Damasse Figures of the new Paris shades, from $2.00 upwards. Trimming Satins at $1.00, worth $1.25.

THE PRICES AT WHICH WE OFFER OUR SILKS ARE ONE-QUARTER TO ONE-THIRD LESS THAN LAST SEASON.

NOVELTIES IN DRESS GOODS

give a richer display of colorings and brilliant effects this season than for many years past, and we are receiving by every European Steamer fresh additions to our stock.

The finest COSTUME CLOTHS range in price from 50c. a yard to $8.00, and on low-priced DRESS GOODS from 10c. a yard up, many of them being as effective as the heavier fabrics.

SHAWLS, MANTLES and WRAPS.

India Valley Cashmere Shawls from $100 00 up. India Filled Centers at $50.00 and up.

Real Decca, Chedda and Striped India Shawls new designs from $10 00 upwards. Also, full lines British, French and German Shawls in beautiful new styles, of the best and most reliable manufacture. Paris Mantles and Cloaks of the latest modes from $15.00 up, and Berlin from $8.00.

Ladies' and Children's Suits and Under Clothing

These departments embrace everything pertaining to Female Costume suited to all ages and circumstances. For full particulars see catalogues.

HOSIERY

Ladies', Misses', and Children's Hosiery from $1.50 a dozen, up to the finest goods. All the newest and prettiest designs in Hosiery are represented in our stock in Silk, Cotton and Merino.

"A thing of beauty is a joy forever,"

and beautiful stockings are now considered an indispensable part of female a tire.

GLOVES

Kid, Silk Lisle Thread and Merino Gloves of the new colors and shapes in great variety.

Lord & Taylor's Kid Gloves, 2 buttons, warranted, at $1.00 per pair, price last season $1.50.

ALSO,

Lace, Cambric, Linen and Silk Handkerchiefs and beautiful Neckerchiefs, all prices from 25c. upward, and all kinds Dress Trimmings to match our Goods.

MOURNING DEPARTMENT;

French and English Crapes, Grenadines and Organdies, Bombazines, Henrietta Cloth, $1.00 up, French Cashmere, 50c. up; Biarritz Cloth, Serges, Australian Crapes and other desirable fabrics at very low prices.

We make up full suits of MOURNING from measure at short notice. Mourning Jet Jewelry, and all small articles of Mourning in variety.

DOMESTIC and HOUSEKEEPING GOODS

Sheetings, Pillow Cloths, Blankets, Quilts, Comfortables, Flannels, and in fact every article required in this line, we always sell at manufacturers prices.

White Goods and Linens, from the finest White Cambric to the best Linen Damask of all grades and qualities and at satisfactory prices.

FURS

Alaska Seal Sacques, from $65 00 up.
Alaska Seal Muffs, from $6.00 up.
Alaska Seal Boas, from $6.00 up.
Mink Muffs and Boas, from $12.50 apiece, up.
Silk Fur-lined Garments, from $65.00,
Alaska Sable Sets, from $7 50.
A good set of Furs as low as $5.50.

☞ Our goods are all first-class. We make a point to fill all orders exactly and to the interest of purchasers. We guarantee all purchases to be satisfactory to buyers and stand ready to remedy all errors. We invite orders, convinced that a first trial will insure us the regular custom hereafter.

All orders for Goods to be accompanied by the money, or where parties wish, Goods will be sent by Express C. O. D. Where the remittance is too large we always return the difference.

—:O:—

Broadway and Twentieth sts., Grand, Christie and Forsyth streets, NEW YORK

nov6-3m

GOULD'S HOTEL.

Terms reduced to Specie Basis.

THE undersigned takes pleasure in announcing to his many friends and patrons that he has taken the management of the above Hotel, where he would be pleased to meet them. This Hotel is furnished with fine suits of rooms, also a large number of single rooms handsomely furnished and well ventilated. Elegant Parlor, Reading Room, Hot and Cold Baths free for guests. We have added a fine Billiard room with the most approved style of tables. Our sample rooms contain the choicest liquors and cigars. Messenger Call and Telegraph in the Office and with a excellent table, polite and attentive servants every endeavor will be made to satisfy the wants of all who may favor us with their patronage. We have adopted the following low schedule of prices:

Transient Rates, $2.00 per day.
Transient Board and Room $7 to $10 per week.
Table Board, $5 per week.
Dinner, 50 cents.
Rooms, 50c to $1 per day.

WM. WHITNEY, Manager.
Late of Ridgway House.

Philadelphia, Pa., nov6-3m

No Quinine!

Dr. Berg's German Ague Pills!

Are strictly Vegetable, being entirely free from Quinine Mercury and all other deleterious substances. They have been tested for years in private practice, and have never been known to fail to cure Fever and Ague in its worst stages. Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Headache, Foul Stomach, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Neuralgia, Liver Complaint, Nervous Debility and all diseases arising from a change of climate and impurity of the blood, greatly benefitted by their use. All I ask is a trial of these valuable Pills, and they will convince the most skeptical of their merits. Ask your Druggist for them and if he has them not, inclose 50 cents by mail to us, and they will be sent free of charge, by the next mail, with full directions for use.

Address,

GEO. H. WILLIAMS & Co.
Sole Proprietors and Manufacturers,
918 Spring Garden st., Phila., Pa.

nov6, 77-yr

KELLER'S

VEGETABLE LIFE TRADE MARK DROPS

Why we become Sick

Aside from hereditary pre-disposition to many diseases, there are four prominent causes of much of human disease, and these are; Impure air, which causes poisoning of the Blood and Pulmonary diseases; unhealthy water, which is a great source of Typhoid and kindred fevers; improper food, which is the cause of Stomachic and Intestinal derangement; and sudden changes of climate and temperature, which induce congestive disorders. Thus, the absolute essentials of life are often charged with the principles and poisoned with the germs of disease and death. Whenever the proportional principles of the Blood become disturbed from any of the causes named, impoverishment or poisoning of this fluid follows; if the digestive organs act improperly, Dyspepsia and its distressing effects manifest themselves; any cause that tends to excite the unusual action of the Liver is certain to produce Bilious diseases; and whenever there is a torpitude or sluggishness of the bowels—Constipation, with its host of attendant evils, establishes itself.

From these universally accepted truths it becomes comparatively easy to explain "Why We Become Sick." By neglecting the laws of nature, and eating unsuitable food, or eating wholesome food in an improper manner; by immoderate drinking at meals, by many other improprieties of eating and drinking, and particularly by that one health-destroying habit peculiar to the American people—rapid eating—Indigestion or Dyspepsia is established with all of its distressing consequences; immediately the Blood lowers its standard and begins to deposit its impurities in the weakest parts of the system, causing all manner of discomfort and diseases according to the degree of impurity and the point of deposit. The great organs become involved; the Brain feels the bad influence; the Liver, the Spleen, the Heart, the Lungs, the Kidneys, the Skin—all are affected, and unless the impurity be removed, the whole volume of the Blood will become so poisoned that existence will be impossible.

How to Cure Sickness

Nature's method of purification and consequent cure is founded on the rational principle of judicious purgation; and when it is considered that the best physicians pursue the practice of attention to the stomach and bowels as preliminary (and often the only) treatment of disease, it is not difficult to perceive that a remedy possessing all the requisites of a purgative and alterative, in addition to other and valuable remedial influence, must obtain for itself more than ordinary consideration and favor. Our remedy combines every quality required for the treatment of disease on the above-named rational principle.

It is a pleasant Cathartic, active or gentle, according to the dose; it is a Blood purifier, toning and enriching this fluid by its alterative property; its action on the Liver is soothing and certain, promoting the Biliary secretions; it is a safe and reliable Emmenagogue, acting specifically upon the uterine system; it affords the greatest attainable relief in Dyspepsia, and cures whenever used as directed; and in conjunction with hygienic means is the best preventive of Constipation that can be suggested.

From the above it would then appear that the simplest method to cure sickness is that one which combines judicious purgation with physical sustenance, and the observance of hygienic measures; the head should be kept cool, the feet warm, and the bowels open; and when treating diseases on the principles exhibited in the manual referred to below (which every one should read) the strength should be sustained by nourishing (not stimulating) food of the kind adapted to the complaint while the remedy is removing the disease.

To Prevent Sickness.

The pronounced opinions of the ablest Therapeutists indicate that most diseases are the direct result of vitiated Blood; and as their successful treatment of disease is founded on the principle and practice of eliminating this blood poison by judicious purgation, so this same principle, by reasonable adaptation to any case, is the surest means to prevent disease.

Keller's Vegetable Life Drops are an absolute preventive of diseases caused by impurity of the Blood, of Liver diseases, of diseases of the Stomach, Intestines, etc. Its corrective influence will prevent or shorten attacks of Dyspepsia, Jaundice, Nervous Debility, Uterine disorders, Fever and Ague and all that numerous class of diseases induced by malarial poison. To prevent disease, then, purify the blood if needed by using a reliable alterative and purgative; this, conjoined with the observance of hygienic directions, will establish a condition of body in which health will be the rule and disease the exception. A careful perusal of the "Manual of Purgative and Depurative Medicine," will fully illustrate the subject of which the above is a mere outline, and will clearly indicate the method of using Keller's Vegetable Life Drops. To be had at Drug Stores or sent to any address on receipt of 3 cent stamp, by W. L. KELLER, Chemist, Baltimore

Fall and Winter Goods

S. KANN,

154 and 156 Broadway street,

BALTIMORE, MD.

Dealer in Foreign and Domestic

DRY GOODS,

Has now in store a complete stock of

Black Silks, Dress Goods, *Shawls*, *Blankets*, Flannels, Cassimeres and Domestic Goods

of every description. *Prices warranted lower than anywhere in the city.* This is the

Largest Dry Goods Store in Baltimore.

oct. 9.77-1yr

FRESH ARRIVAL OF

BOOTS & SHOES.

A. A. Hughes has just received a new supply of Ladies' Gaiters, Misses' and Children's Boots and Shoes. Will sell cheap

MARTIN & CO. Bake daily all kinds of cakes and bread. Country stores supplied by Steamboat, Rail, or their wagon, which runs regularly.

AUTUMN.

By the laggard sun I greet,
By the crispen leaves so fleet,
Hither, thither 'neath my feet,
Whirling, whirling.

By the jay's metallic note,
By the spider-webs that float
From the tree-tops to the moat,
Shining, shining.

By the dim mysterious haze,
By the forest all ablaze,
Crimson leaves with golden rays
Entwining.

By the soughing of the air,
Note of joy or moan of care,
Fairy laugh or spirit prayer
Interweaving—

All are now the waning power
Of the sunny-summer hour
Over tree and shrub and flower
Perceiving.

Nature, prodigal of treasure,
O'er the vangtage ground of pleasure,
Pours her harvest without measure,
In golden light.

The fulfilment, O how grand!
But, as falls into the hand
Luscious fruit with autumn brand,
Burning, bright.

Memories of the days gone by
Will awake a bitter sigh,
And we turn a tearful eye
At that call.

In our heart's sad retrogression
Bursts upon us the confession:
Pursuit is sweeter than possession
After all.

Aunt Prue's Dinner.

"Sour bread again, dear," said, or rather growled Walter Allison, a rising young lawyer, as he pushed his plate away.

"Do you think it is sour, Wally? It seems to me only to taste a little of the yeast."

"Yeast?" There's always an excuse, you know. It wasn't yeast that made the coffee bitter yesterday."

"But it hasn't been bitter before for months."

"It should never be. It seems to me a woman has time enough to attend thoroughly to all these trifling matters. I never knew my Aunt Prue to make a mistake. Pray, write to her, and get her receipt for bread. It was the lightest, sweetest——"

He looked up in astonishment. Bessy, his loving little Bessy, had rushed from the room.

"Always Aunt Prue! Always Aunt Prue!" cried Bessy, walking the floor of her chamber, distractedly. "I'm so tired of fault finding, when I'm doing my best. I'm almost sorry——. But no; I will not say that. "For better, for worse." Oh, dear me! I'll write to Aunt Prue, and tell her all about it."

As she sat down to her little writing desk a thought occurred to her that provoked a perplexed and yet amused smile, and her pen was speedily at work. We will only copy a sentence or two:

"I know that "Wally" is the apple of your eye, as, indeed, he is of mine; but he has been so accustomed to your excellent house-keeping, to "be cooked and cured for," as he says, by his dear Aunt Prue, that he is a little, just a little exacting. I know I was a poor housekeeper when we were first married, then he was so very patient that I could but try my best to improve; and having put heart and will in the work, I think my efforts have been successful. Indeed, I do my best to please him, but——

You cannot tell with what delight I look forward to your long promised visit. We have talked of it for weeks—baby, Walter and I—and our little one has learned some sweet words of welcome for Aunt Prue. They sound so prettily from her cherry lips.

But to the point. Walter is a good husband. Oh, don't think that I like to speak of a single fault; but I must tell you he disheartens me. When I think I have seasoned some favorite dish entirely to his liking, he is sure to find that I fail in something. "Wait till Aunt Prue comes." "Just ask Aunt Prue how she does this or that," or "I'd give half I'm worth," which ain't much, poor fellow—"to taste one of Aunt Prue's nice dinners." Now, Aunty, as we expect you here next week for the New Years holidays, I have been thinking of asking you if you will cook the New Year's Day dinner, without Walter's knowledge, of course.

"Saucy minx!" I fancy you will be tempted to say; and indeed believe it is a little impertinent; but nevertheless, I hope that you will accede to the request, because you see I am almost desperate.

There is some humor in the arrangement, too, as I look at it, and I know you enjoy fun, so please say "Yes." When we shall see if Walter's criticisms are just, or whether that odious wolf habit has fastened his fangs so strongly upon my dear, good husband, that he is almost or quite unconscious of his fault."

Such was a part of the letter received by Miss Prue Webster, and which she read by her cheerful open grate.

"The poor child," she murmured, taking off her spectacles. "The pretty, proud little thing! Wally must have transgressed, indeed, to bring out a complaint like that, for under all the playfulness there is a cry that goes to my heart. I know how it is, for my father was so before him. Yes, he must have a lesson, and Bessy has hit upon just the thing. How much I shall enjoy his criticism, either way!"

So she wrote to her neice she had never met in person, that she would cook the first dinner, and then refreshed her imagination by looking at Bessy's photograph.

She had well called her a proud, pretty little thing. Such sweetness and such pride are seldom combined in the same countenance. Every feature was replete with beauty of its kind; the nose straight and delicate, the lips firm, yet tenderly arched; the eyes smiling and lustrous; the face a perfect oval; and to crown all, the soft, wavy hair thrown carelessly from the low brow, and braided in a massive coronet. This was the picture of which Walter had written just two years ago, as follows:

"It is not half as beautiful as the original; color, motion and grace are wanting. But oh, Aunty, she is a thousand times too lovely and too good for me. Shall I ever be worthy of such a treasure?"

"And now, since she has condescended to step down from the pedestal of worship, and care for him, he must needs find fault with every effort she makes to please his fastidious palate," she said indignantly. "I'll give him a lesson." And she indulged her sense of amusement by contemplating the sort of punishment she intended to mete out to her erring nephew.

The thirtieth of December came, and when Walter returned home, at night, he said:

"I had a telegram this morning. Aunt Prue will be here by the seven o'clock train to-morrow. I suppose you have everything ready?"

"Quite ready," was Bessy's reply, "and very anxious to make her comfortable. Would you like to see her room?"

"Well, yes, I don't care if I do," said Walter, who had come home in an exceptionally good humor; and taking little Lulu upon his shoulder, the child crowing with delight, he followed his wife up stairs, thinking that very probably he might be able to suggest some improvement. It was his way rather to suggest alterations, than to speak well of what was already done. "Don't you think you've looped the curtains too low?" he queried. "And isn't it rather childish to tie them with blue?"

"I thought blue was your favorite color," said Bessy, who had fancied her arrangement of the one lay window a masterpiece.

"Yes; but—you see the hanging basket in the centre being necessarily composed of green plants and vines, making the contrast unpleasant."

"True enough," said Bessy, with the least possible tinge of sarcasm in her voice. "I might have looped them with green. But then, you see, I have draped the toilet with blue; and the carpet, happening to be blue and fawn, perhaps the contrast might have been still more unpleasant. Shall I take the basket down?" You know you said your aunt was fond of plants."

"Perhaps, if she is, she may not like them in her bed-room. However, let the thing go," he added graciously. "I would loop the curtains a foot higher, though."

"And spoil it all," said Bessy, almost petulently, for she often of late found herself inclined to "chafe" under the constant succession of mildly irritating criticisms, in which her husband indulged.

"No—render the effect a hundred times prettier. But no matter. I am a man, and I suppose my opinion goes for nothing. Still, I would like to see the curtains changed.

Little Lulu, meantime, applauded her mother's handiwork with loud exclamations. "Pitty, pitty!" she cried, pursing up her rosy mouth, and clapping her baby hands, as she looked from point to point.

"Wouldn't blue have looked better upon the bed?" asked Walter, whose wide glances could find no fault in all the other arrangements.

"It seems to me white is more appropriate," Bessy made answer; "but if you prefer the blue, I will put it on."

"Most decidedly!" said Walter, delighted with this concession. I knew the room wanted something, and that was it. I am sure you will be better pleased yourself. It won't be much trouble. You've all day to-morrow, and I particularly want Aunt Prue to be pleased. From what I have said of you, she will have no ordinary expectations as to your taste and ability. So do me the honor."

It was always *me* with lordly Walter Allison. Bessie looked up in the face of her tall, handsome, stalwart husband, as he stood there, so kingly in his beauty, the lovely babe still smiling from his shoulder; one chubby arm encircling his neck; one dimpled, white fingured hand hidden in his luxurious whiskers.

Superb in his royal privilege as dictator and commander, how could he fathom the expression of that too pale, yet tender face, whose sweet serenity his thoughtless fault-finding so often clouded? And yet he was grieved that moment because he so seldom praised her.

The next day Aunt Prue came punctually at seven in the evening. Bessy, the baby, everything looked charming by gaslight. As to Aunt Prue, Bessy's first longing was to fall on her bosom, and feel herself encircled by such an embrace as she fancied her mother would have given her; for Bessy's mother had been in heaven many years.

Aunt Prue was very weary, being unused to traveling, and declined supper, taking only a cup of milk, and retiring immediately.

"How do you like her?" asked Walter.

"Very much. I am sure I shall love her dearly, before long."

"I think you will. Has she not a lovely face? She is not as beautiful as my mother was, but she has always seemed like a mother to me. We must try to make her visit enjoyable. The only thing I tremble about is the table—the fare. Of course, you will do the best you can, but there is a knack about these things, I might almost say a genius, which only the favored few possess. I was glad she declined the supper; she is so very particular about her tea. I dread to-morrow's dinner more than I can tell. It will be New Year, and we ought to have something fine.

"Why should you dread it?" asked Bessy, looking up.

"Oh, I am sure you will do your best. I believe you always do your best," he repeated, in a way that intimated quite plainly "but that best is so poor!"

Bessy smiled, but he did not see her.

"You think I am very particular about my food," he went on. "Wait till you taste some of Aunt Prue's dishes, and you will understand why. Food well cooked and assimilated has much to do with the spiritual, as well as the physical being of man. It makes the monster good natured too. Why, I have tasted a bitter cup of coffee all day, and likely as not been cross to my clerks on account of it. So you see how much depends on the *cuisine*. Now, suppose we make out a bill of fare."

The next morning, at breakfast, Walter made a wry face three times, and quite as many excuses for everything that was served. Aunt Prue said nothing, though she enjoyed her meal. But she took mental notes.

Bessy did not look as well by daylight; an expression of fatigue pervaded her whole being. The baby had been restless; Walter's way evidently annoyed her. She had worked too hard at this well arranged breakfast.

"I will go, now, and make up New Year's calls," said Walter, as he rose from the table. "That will give you, Bessy and Aunt Prue, a good long morning together."

"It isn't possible that you do all the cooking!" said Aunt Prue, as the two women left the dining room, Bessy holding the heavy baby.

"The girl helps me a little," was Bessy's reply, "and is willing to do more, but Walter is always dissatisfied with her cooking. Indeed, Aunt Prue, it is a great pleasure for me—if I could please him; but since baby came, it is not always possible. I had a nurse for a time, but Walter objects to a nurse; and it is hard to get a good one."

"How often do you go out?" asked Aunt Prue.

"How often? Oh, dear me! I have not been outside the house for months, hardly," was the answer, with a nervous laugh.

"How men do yoke and goad their angels!" said Aunt Prue, half to herself.

"What did you say, Aunt Prue?"

"I was thinking of an expression in one of Walter's love letter."

"Oh!" and Bessy's cheek grew radiant with a girlish blush.

"I mean one of his letters to me, when he was in love, in which he makes mention of a certain angel."

"Indeed!" and Bessy laughed in her olden fashion.

"We must take him in hand," said Aunt Prue, seriously. "This 'all work and no play' will never answer. I'm sure, my dear, if you always give him half such nice meals as that of this morning, he has no right to complain."

"But you saw——" said Bessie timidly.

"Yes, yes, I saw that he was trying to make the food seem more palatable by underrating it. Now, to-day I'll get up one of my best dinners, and you shall do nothing but look on. Just give me a kitchen apron, my dear, and wish me good speed."

They had a merry time of it that morning. Baby was happy and jolly under the superintendence of her mother; she even worked to a charm, and everything was in readiness for the lord of the household, who awaited dinner with more than a little trepidation, quite unconscious that aunt, parlor than usual from exertion, and the wife overflushed from anticipation, had changed places expressly on his account.

So they sat down to dinner, each one more or less expectant. Walter ran his eye over the table.

"Bessy, dear, I don't think it's an improvement to stack the knives and forks over the napkins like a parcel of guns," he said. "Tell Mary I like the other way best. Ah, quite too rare, I'm afraid!" as he plunged his knife into the beef. "Aunt Prue, I'm afraid I can't suit you to-day. I remember how thoroughly your roasts were always done, and yet, were juicy. The gravy is browner than usual," he added, dipping into the dish, "I don't know about the butter beans, yours were always delicious." And so on to the end of the chapter. For every dish there was some hint or glance of disparagement, and it was all Bessy could do, with her almost painful sense of the ludicrous, to keep from laughing outright, as occasionally Aunt Prue's speaking eyes met hers.

"I'm sorry, Aunt Prue," said Bessy at last, mustering all the gravity she could command, "that after having taken the trouble to get up this nice dinner expressly for Walter, he should have found fault with everything you have done."

"What?" cried Walter, explosively, half-rising, and looking from one to the other.

"My dear, after your cooking, I expected he would," said Aunt Prue quietly. "The sample you gave of your powers, this morning, was quite beyond my poor efforts."

Then a bright red flush covered the man's face, even to his brow. Were those two women making sport of him? In his own opinion he was one of the most acute men alive. That nobody could deceive him had always been a favorite maxim of his.

"I wanted to make the experiment," said Aunt Prue, in the most innocent manner imaginable, "and I find, Walter, that you have been quite spoiled by your wife."

"Bessy! Aunt Prue! why don't you tell me? Oh, hang it!" And he turned away, too deeply mortified to express himself fittingly.

"Pray don't mind it," said Aunt Prue, "you know, my dear, I am getting a little old fashioned."

But Walter had received his lesson. He was too keen not to see that it had been purposely given, and he was man enough to feel profoundly ashamed of himself. Indeed, in time, he confessed as much, and applauded the ingenuity that had so completely taken the ground from under his feet.

Aunt Prue's visit proved so delightful all parties that she made arrangements to remain with them for an indefinite time, and henceforth Bessy's cares were lightened, and she became as in former days, the angel and blessing of home. But she always maintained that she owed something of it, at least, to Aunt Prue's New Year's dinner.—*Peterson's Magazine.*

"Speed the Plow."

SALTING WHEAT.

This is a matter that is again exciting the rural mind; not simply wheat alone but other crops as well. Just now it is wheat, as that is the crop now being put in. We have several queries concerning it—when to apply salt for wheat and on grass land and how much per acre? For wheat it can be applied before or after sowing. We should prefer before sowing, harrowing in with the wheat. The quantity depends upon conditions, but three to five bushels per acre is enough, perhaps. The case of a man in Michigan who applied a ton per acre, by a mistake of his hired man, is exciting considerable comment. The result in that case proved good, and now some are wondering whether salt is not, after all, just the thing needed. From experiments that have been made at different times we learn that a large quantity of salt can be applied to land without apparent injury, but that a smaller quantity serves the purpose just as well. In experiments made a long time ago in England, as much as forty-four bushels were applied without injury. On one plot sixty-two bushels per ac