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FROSTBURG JOURNAL.

J. B. ODER, Editor and Proprietor. AN INDEPENDENT PAPER. $1.50 per annum—IN ADVANCE.

SEVENTEENTH YEAR.—No. 41. FROSTBURG, MD., SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1888. WHOLE No. 873.

New Business Locals.

Brace Up.—You are feeling depressed, your appetite is poor, you are bothered with Headache, you are fidgety, nervous, and generally out of sorts, and want to *brace* up. Brace up, but not with stimulants, spring medicines, or bitters, which have for their basis very cheap, bad whisky, and which stimulate for an hour, and than leave you in worse condition than before. What you want is an alterative that will purify your blood, start healthy action of Liver and Kidneys, restore your vitality, and give renewed health and strength. Such a medicine you will find in Electric Bitters, and only 50 cents a bottle at I. C. Lambert Drug Store.

Shiloh's Catarrh Remedy.—Shiloh's Catarrh Remedy, a marvelous cure for Catarrh, Diphtheria, Canker Mouth, and Head-Ache. With each bottle there is an ingenious Nasal Injector for the more successful treatment of these complaints without extra charge. Price 50 cents. Sold by I. C. Lambert.

Their Business Booming.—Probably no one thing has caused such a general revival of trade at I. C. Lambert's Drug Store as their giving away to their customers of so many free trial bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. Their trade is simply enormous in this very valuable article from the fact that it always cures and never disappoints. Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, Croup, and all throat and lung diseases quickly cured. You can test it before buying by getting a trial bottle free, large size $1. Every bottle warranted.

May Brothers, Nurserymen, Rochester, N. Y., are in want of good Salesmen to sell their Choice Varieties of Nursery Stock either on salary or commission. To the right men steday employment the year round. Write them for terms. [May 26—8t

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.—The Best Salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by I. C. Lambert.

New Advertisements.

Notice to the Taxpayers
—OF THE—
Town of Frostburg.

TAXES FOR CORPORATE PURPOSES for the year 1888-9

ARE NOW DUE.

The Mayor and Council have fixed the following rates of discount on all Taxes paid between:

July 1 and August 1.....5 *per cent.*
August 1 " September 1.....4 " "
September 1 " October 1.....3 " "

D. J. WILLIAMS,
June 16—3m Collector.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

UNDER and by virtue of three writs of *fieri facias* issued by the Clerk of the Circuit Court on three judgments rendered by Henry R. Atkinson, J. P., and recorded in the office of said Clerk, wherein Jacob Hansel was plaintiff and Mary E. Semler and Conrad Semler defendants, I have levied upon and taken in execution the following

REAL ESTATE,

Situate in the town of Frostburg, to wit:

Lot No. 12 of the First Addition to Frostburg.

Beginning at a stone standing at the beginning of No. 13, and running thence north 26 degrees, east 165 feet; then north 64 degrees, west 33 feet; then south 26 degrees, west to the National road, and thence south 64 degrees, east 33 feet to the beginning, together with the improvements thereon.

And I hereby give notice, That I will sell at public sale the right, title and interest of the defendants therein in front of the Post-office in Frostburg at 11 o'clock a. m. on

Tuesday, July 24, 1888,

To satisfy said judgments and costs.

Terms of Sale - - - - - - - CASH.

OTTO HOHING,
June 30—ts Sheriff.

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

FESTIVAL

The Ladies of the M. E. Church
—WILL SERVE—
Icecream, Cake, Fruit and Confections

IN the LECTURE ROOM of the CHURCH on the

EVENING OF JULY 4.

Admission, - - - 5 cents
June 23

FARM FOR RENT.

A SHORT distance from town. To a man who understands farming an excellent chance will be given. JAMES KANE.
March 10

TRUSTEES' SALE
—OF—
Valuable Real Estate
—AT—
Eckhart Mines, Md.

BY virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for Allegany county sitting in Equity, dated June 9, 1888, and passed in a cause in said Court wherein Kate B. Coyner and others are complainants and William McMillan and others are defendants, being No. 3738 Equity in said Court, the undersigned Trustees named in said decree will on

Tuesday, July 10, 1888,

AT 11 O'CLOCK A. M.,

SELL AT PUBLIC SALE

In front of William H. Evans' store in the town of Eckhart, Allegany county, Md., the following REAL ESTATE, viz:

All that **Lot or Parcel of Ground** lying in said town of Eckhart which was conveyed by William L. Oss and wife to Lewis B. McMillan by deed dated August 3, 1870, and recorded in Liber H. R., No. 32, folio 425, one of the Land Records of Allegany county, being a Lot 60x160 feet.

This Lot is improved by TWO GOOD FRAME DWELLINGS—one a Single dwelling, the other a Double dwelling.

TERMS OF SALE—*as prescribed by the decree*—One-third the purchase money cash on the day of sale; the balance at one and two years with interest from date, to be secured by the bonds of the purchaser.

D. JAS. BLACKISTON,
BENJ. A. RICHMOND,
June 16—4t Trustees.

SOME have regarded the JOURNAL's criticism of our scholastic administration as involving "abuse of teachers."

A palpable mistake. The JOURNAL has not criticised a competent teacher. It is the squeezing-out of the competent and the employment of the incompetent—the policy of depressing our working ability to a level lower than a certain official standard that we have attacked.

But what do the teachers' employers think of them? How do they rate teaching services? Do they pay salaries in the "competent" ratio? Do they allow teachers any say in the matter of pay? When they want to build a schoolhouse in some "cool, sequestered spot," do they ask permission of the teachers to lay the burden on their shoulders?

Let the few competent teachers in the county study this matter a moment and determine how far their option is consulted in matters very close to them and their families.

Let many incompetents look back and recall how easy their efforts to crawl into place over influential shoulders. Let many others of equal demerit, but without "influonce," remember how vainly they labored to the same end.

Among competent teachers there are grades. Some are low; others are higher; others are highest. But their standing in the sight of the Board is not the true figure. The more independent the teacher the lower his rating, and it has occurred that a teacher, superior to the examiner, has been accorded a grade below one who never stood a public examination at all.

Edgar Allan Poe in his merciless criticism of Rufus Dawes said:

> The laudation of the unworthy is to the worthy the most grievous of all wrongs.

Among incompetent teachers there are no grades, neither indeed can be

It is to be doubted, in fact, whether the term, "incompetent teacher," is not a paradox.

Now, if teachers of both classes, teachers and those who profess to teach, were honest, there would be little or no question concerning the JOURNAL's attitude toward them. The JOURNAL is *for the pupil directly*; for the teacher indirectly—through the pupil. The surest road to the parent's heart is through the child. So the most certain route to the teacher's welfare lies along the pathway of his pupils' advancement. All such tutors (may their tribe multiply!) enjoy their greatest reward in the outspoken appreciation of the people they serve.

But so many essay to do work above their capacity; so many assume labor which taxes their love of leisure, and so many undertake it while professedly studying for admission to some other vocation—all backed by that invisible but invincible power called "influonce"—that many of the evils of the system react directly upon a profession which does not deal honestly with itself.

It is therefore believed that, as a rule, those aspirants to the command of schools who have worked up unaided, who have enjoyed no "boosting," and who are generally "left" when the "divvy" is made, are the most meritorious and capable.

This leads to two suggestions—the object of this article.

To teachers we would say—do not employ or seek any aid whatever to obtain place. Stand upon your acquirements, competency and merit alone, but to the whole extent of these demand all your rights.

To the school authorities—employ no man or woman who has a "backer," especially a political "backer."

For it is certain as the night follows day that claims that must be supplemented by influences which have nothing in common, or in interest, or in sympathy with the system and object of public education, are unworthy of gratification.

THE gentleman who is doing the editorial for the Cumberland *Times* must get very warm at his work these rare June days. A suit of clothes made of mosquito bar might remedy his morbid thirst for "proofs," but it would not do to go to church in. Hence, the JOURNAL meanwhile recommends total abstinence from public worship.

THE gentleman who runs a daily paper hasn't much time to think, especially if he doesn't know how to think. *Vide* Cumberland *Times* of last Tuesday.

JUSTICE LAMAR has had his photo. taken in the robes of office, and he looks nice. But if he would only have his hair cut like J. J. Robinson Lucius Quintius Curtius would be a star.

THERE is a fortune to the Gilbert & Sullivan who can write the proposed comic opera entitled "The Cumberland *Times*, or the Frost-bitten Crank that Goes by the Board."

THE outfit which does up the "Original Revelations" for a Cumberland misnomer is informed that his or its notion that the JOURNAL "*abuses an organization* of workingmen" is quite correct. It is the "organization" we are after—not the "workingmen."

THE Cumberland *News* says "if Frostburg wants to play ball with Cumberland Frostburg must furnish a better club." In the first place the metropolis is not playing ball this year as a metropolis with any of the outlying provinces. In the next, as a metropolis it has no club, and, thirdly, it remembers with undying pleasure the time when, with a club, it thrashed the provincials at home and abroad, including an occasional umpire who moved in a mysterious way his wonders to perform.

THE Lonaconing *Review* is displeased with inspector Browning's administration, and, as usual in such cases, charges him with responsibility for the philosophy which follows:

> A large number of miners are compelled to work in black damp everyday, and not a day passes but what some of them are sent home or cannot work on account of the presence of bad and the absence of good air. Such in the case with some of the mines in this town.

Sometimes the company is blamed for "compelling" men to work in black damp; sometimes for not "compelling" them to work in bad air.

Sometimes it is an immense hardship to be required to work under unwholesome conditions. At other times it is equally tough to be "sent home" to escape the deadly environment.

If the company is despotic, it is condemned. If it is humane, it is denounced.

All such censors, however, have but one eye, and that is blear. To this lone, lorn, rheumy optic the employing element, like the malefic moon, shows but one side. Its *ex parte* view starts with the exotic notion that the companies are here under some imperative law—some inviolate obligation to provide work for the Knights of Labor, and easy, comfortable, delightful work at that.

From this on how natural it is to conclude that every condition, every circumstance, every provision should bend to the wishes, convenience and profit of the miners in general and the Knights of Labor in particular.

But there is another side, invisible, as we have said, to these one-eyed, also *"onion-eyed" fault-finders—a side, however, which we never hear of, because the companies do not make a business of showing the public their sores and "hollering" for the Legislature to come and lick them.

If the conditions complained of by Knights of Labor bring loss to them, they do the same thing for the companies, and in such volume that, if removable by any bearable expenditure, would not remain a day longer than the work of removal could be done.

But the latter have no more control over the natural evils which afflict them than over the artificial ones which, when the air is good, depopulate their mines of the most captious and fastidious devotees of the Noble Order. They never complain aloud nor publish in the papers their disgruntlement when a day of good, sweet, fresh air is thrown away on a spendthrift picnic or a gambling footrace.

To observant people outside the forbearance of the employing element with such trifling is a standing wonder.

*The Cumberland *Times* can find this compound in Shakespeare as a suffix equivalent of a candid statement befitting its own ego on the school question.

IN the course of his or her strictures upon the alleged attack of the JOURNAL upon native teachers "A Native Teacher" in the *Times* of Wednesday makes use of this remark:

> If he (the JOURNAL) does not, then he (the JOURNAL has made an indecent haste.

Good for "A Native Teacher!"

But "*an* indecent haste," to say nothing of the JOURNAL unqualifiedly represented by the pronoun, "he," is not up to the standard outside of Allegany.

Better information prevails even in Garrett county.

We are glad, therefore, he or she is "A Native Teacher." His or her letter confirms all that we have insisted upon—that the quality of our home grown and home-woven goods is below par—that much of it should be exported, the rest retired from service. It indicates correspondingly our need of imports.

The latter, carefully invited and selected, the balance of trade will crelong be in our favor.

T. V. Powderly, General Master Workman of the Knights of Labor, will soon publish a book on the origin of the organization. The book will contain information for those who wish to know when, why and where the Order organized; when, where and with whom the preamble organized, and what is hoped for in the organization of the Order.—Lonaconing *Review*.

If Mr. Powderly could manage to get in a thrilling chapter on the elevation and depression of the N. O. of N. A. on Georges Creek it would be an opportune warning to the generation now on the rise. There would be no popular impulse among the youth to go out west and supply the government with dead Indians, nor furnish the Cumberland *Times* with a stock of deceased issues, but it would inspire them with a determination to avoid the moral wreckage and financial crushage which overtook their sires during the middle age between 1878 and 1888.

A FROSTBURG gentleman, who has lately built an addition to his experience, informed the JOURNAL that the cry of reform as a popular *desideratum* is a humbug. He has found that the people who do the yelling take precedence in the procession which marches up and demands subsidies. His idea now is—it is useless for reformers to elect reformers unless the party of the first part exemplify reform by letting the reformers-elect do their legal duty.

In other words, it is the duty of every citizen to be his own reformer—an idea parodied on the JOURNAL's celebrated maxim—

Let every workman be his own Knight of Labor.

DURING the campaign this year the JOURNAL will dish up local politics in a style that will make it as dear to a man's heart as the scenes of his childhood, which fond recollection brings to his view. Those who are so busy that they can't give the Cumberland dailies their undivided attention should cleave to the JOURNAL with a cleft which is reported to be closer than a brother's.

SOME of the school authorities appear to be burdened in mind about the significance of the word, "limbo."

> O, for a cycle of Cathay!

Or, two minutes with Van Horn!

The latter is a victim of the freezing-out policy, now in exile. He is a celebrity, however, among school authorities because he once discovered a chunk of faulty grammar in the JOURNAL.

"THE average watch," it is said, "is composed of 175 different pieces and upward of 2,400 distinct operations in its manufacture." This does not include the Cumberland *Times* which, like the "Waterbury," comprises only the stem by which it is wound up by the School Board.

THE Cumberland *Times* did the JOURNAL up in immense shape last Tuesday, which leads to the observation that the *Times* has a great head for controversy, though not too great. What it wants is a little longer head—long enough to eat its liquor out of a churn.

THIS school discussion occasions a terrific drain on the Cumberland *Times*' intellectual resources, and more of its morals have been wrecked than could be loaded on a two-horse dray.

THE following quotations embody discrepancies of opinion among prominent democrats which ought to be harmonized some way in a "straddle:"

> Public office is a public trust.—*Grover Cleveland.*
>
> Public office is a private trust.—Cumberland *Times.*
>
> Public office is a quiet trust.—*Ditto*, second hand.
>
> Public office is a secret trust.—*Compound of the private and anti-racket notions.*

A CRUCIAL QUESTION.—In the House of Representatives Tuesday the following colloquy took place:

> Mr. Laird (Neb.) indignantly resented the attacks which had been made on the cattle breeders and other Western citizens. He said they were held up to the public as were the thieves on the cross, only there were three instead of two of them—the settlers were thieves, the cattle-men were thieves, and the syndicates were thieves.
>
> Mr. Weaver (Iowa) replied that the thieves on the cross repented, and these people did not.
>
> Mr. Laird retorted that they did not repent, for they did not admit that they were thieves.

Mr. Weaver wanted to know, then, as the JOURNAL does of the Cumberland *Times*, "what ails the gentleman?" Evidently getting no response Mr. W. continued the inquiry thus:

> Is it worms?

The newspaper record states:

> But the gentleman made no reply.

There is as much likeness between Mr. Laird and the Cumberland *Times* in the matter of crucial questions as between two bumblebees.

> FUEL that chestnut, for it's hoary:
> Weeks ago it lost its glory,
> And the man who sprung the story
> Soon should hear its funeral chimes;
> 'Tis that tale so dull and dreary,
> Coming on its journey dreary
> From the School Board and the *Times.*
>
> —*Spakesheare.*

The Cumberland *Times* of Tuesday undertakes a reply to this paper of last week. With an affection apparently surpassing its love of orders *nisi*, that ought to be published in Frostburg for obvious reasons, it clings to its idol of 1 official against 400 citizen petitioners.

But as Mr. McCulloh is not an issue in this controversy, and never has been, there are but few points in the *Times*' impertinent effort to engage attention at this stage of school affairs.

One of these appears in a pet metaphor entitled "Leveling a Shaft."

Let us see whether the last one, said to have been trained on the unassailable bench, struck anybody.

Six or seven years ago a Cumberland paper—the *News*, we think—stated at a time when the appointment of a board of school commissioners was under extra-judicial consideration that "the judges were seeking men without personal interest in the schools." This is the language as remembered. At any rate, they were found—then as in every similar exigency before and since. All school administrations with which we have been contemporary have been dominated by men, or a majority of men void of parental interest in popular education. They have been conducted by the childless and by those who, having children, were too "tony" to expose their silken-haired progeny and blue-blooded prodigies to association with the bristles and brawn of plebian offspring.

The public schools of Allegany county have never been in the hands of their friends!

This policy, strange and illogical as it is, has held on under the *ipse dixit* of two judges of a bench of three—the chief justice declining to exercise a prerogative which he deems unconstitutional.

So that while the propriety and wisdom only of the judicial policy have been questioned in these independent columns, Judge Alvey practically impeaches the right of his associates to appoint commissioners at all.

There is one judge at least whom our "shaft" did not strike, and there are two unhurt since Judge Alvey's stroke has had no visible effect.

As to the matter of "proofs." The *Times* has become so gangrened with dislike of the people of Frostburg and correspondingly infatuated with Mr. McCulloh that it would not know a "proof" if it were to meet one in the narrow path between the gate and the pump. It did not recognize William R. Percy's "intimation" (which it regards as the "meanest kind of a way") of Mr. McCulloh's complicity in the Purnell appointment. Nor did it deign to observe the difference of statement which sprung up between Owen Hitchins and Mr. McCulloh, the odds being against the latter. It did not even apologize for its *protege* when the prolongation of this trouble was charged by Mr. Hitchins to Mr. McCulloh's denial of the right of petition.

What guarantee have we, then, that the *Times* would know a "proof" if it were offered one?

But this is not the time to make matters worse for the *Times* by citing "proofs." The JOURNAL was favored Tuesday with a voluntary assurance from the examiner that, "with patience up there, all will be satisfactory." He emphasized the remark by "intimating," (which the *Times* regards as "the meanest kind of a way") that a collection of papers in his hand bore upon exactly that matter.

This is all we ask. *Nous verrons.*

Pending this happy result any offer of "proofs" would be impolitic, indelicate, dishonest—though we cannot hope that any consideration of this character will weigh a whit with the *Times*. The welfare of our school, not Mr. McCulloh's sacred individuality, is at stake. That secure, the *Times* may ignore crucial questions; it may bray itself hoarse with asinine logic; it may crawl under and around the legs of official *Colossi* as much as it likes.

Meantime it must remember that this paper was born, bred and reared in an atmosphere too rich for the blood of those who—

> Crook the supple hinges of the knee
> That thrift may follow fawning.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS.

Masonic Observance.—St. John's (the Baptist) day fell this year on Sunday (June 24,) and the Masonic Order generally observed it by attending church as an organization. In Frostburg Mountain Lodge, No. 99, assembled in the Temple at 10, donned regalia, formed procession, marched to St. John's P. E. Church and listened to a pertinent and eloquent discourse by the rector, Rev. A. C. Haverstick. The church was well filled and much interest taken in the services. The following synopsis of the sermon will be taken by those present as an accurate though concise report:

Text—Heb. xiii, 1—"Let brotherly love continue."

I stand here to-day, "high noon of this year of grace, the day of light and roses," in a double capacity; (1) as a priest of a christian church, whose foundation was the Son of God (and it is a coincidence that this edifice is dedicated to one of the holy Saints John of Jerusalem); (2) as a member and in the presence of a society whose origin is lost in the misty ages of antiquity, but whose purpose is to increase reverence for God and knit men together in fraternal intercourse. In ancient times all nations possessed esoteric associations with social aims, where pure forms of worship were preserved alongside of the prevailing idolatry. Of all these Masonry has alone endured the test of time. Thus to-day it remains as the oldest secret organization. It is the only survival of the past, the best-respected of the present, with the brightest hopes for the future.

Standing here in this double capacity, my theme shall be the points of resemblance between the two institutions. In doing so I must go back to the primitive and united church, to the records of councils and writings of the Fathers, rather than to divided christendom of to-day. These points of agreement will be found both in ritual and doctrine. Unfortunately, many of them must be referred to, so that only the fraternity will appreciate them, and many we gladly blazon forth to the world.

However free the Gospel was, and is, and however men were urged to accept its terms for the salvation of their souls, once in the Church they were under vows to obedience, secrecy and brotherly love. There were two reasons for this secrecy; (1) to unfold the faith to any before preparation was compared to casting pearls before swine; (2) everywhere in the broad expanse of the Roman empire persecutions of Christians abounded. They were compelled to meet in secret for worship, and to have means of recognizing each other. The rites of the Church were called mysteries. Baptism, Confirmation, the Eucharist, Liturgy, Creed and Lord's Prayer were concealed even from Catechumens until sufficiently advanced in elementary instruction. The babes in Christ were fed with milk, not meat. Our Lord said—"I have many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now."

At meetings for worship the doors were guarded by an Ostiarius, who thus acted as a Tiler. At more sacred parts of the service the Deacon sent away all not fully initiated, as Fellow-Crafts retire when a lodge in the second degree is closed, and one in the third is opened. All worshiped towards the east. There were secret signs, prominent among which was crossing the breast. The church has her three great lights—Holy Bible, ministry and sacraments. As we find in all lodges the letter G, so the Church symbolically represents her Lord by the A O, N P, and I H S. A Masonic Chart exhibits squares, compasses, the scythe, beehive and hourglass; so the Church uses the sheaf of wheat, bunch of grapes, a fish, or Agnus Dei.

There were several degrees in the Church called Catechumens, Competentes and Illuminated, now known as Baptised, Confirmed and Communicants, and answering to Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason. A candidate for Baptism had sponsors, who led him to the font, and answered for him, indicating that he had not the password, but his guide had it for him. He was presented with a white garment, as a Mason is with a lambskin, and was cautioned to keep it unspotted by the innocency of his life. Baptism is called an illumination, opening the eyes of a candidate. The first verses of Genesis symbolically refer to this rite. Baptism is a new creation. A soul is brought out of the chaos of sin. The Holy Spirit moves on the waters, by whom God says "Let there be light." Baptism is a death unto sin, a new birth unto righteousness, a burial with Christ, and the candidate is raised to his new life by the paw of the Lion of the tribe of Judah.

Leaving external details, look at the spiritual intent of these two societies. Both were founded upon the idea of universal fraternity. Christianity likewise destroyed national barriers, and its creed says, "I believe in the Holy Catholic," of all races and for all ages. The seven corporal works of mercy greatly resemble a Mason's obligation, to which the church has added her seven spiritual works.

But the grandest idea common to these two institutions is the building of mankind into one temple to become the habitation of God, on the divine plan of charity. The Mason builds in obedience to the laws of truth and virtue laid down by the Grand Architect on the trestle-board. His working tools are the square, to square his actions; the compass, to circumscribe his desires. God's Son, like Hiram Abiff, was slain, buried, but restored to life. His chosen people first gave symbolism to this habitation in the tabernacle of the wilderness. When Solomon built the temple he carved in stone the principles of our noble Order. So the Church is the temple of the living God, "built upon the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being chief corner-stone." As Babel was the work of Satan, where confusion reigned, so in the church peace prevails and the first disciples "spake with tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Here is a lesson for Masons or christians. In this spiritual edifice we are all stones taken from the quarry of the human race. This building is like an arch to span the ages. At either end is eternity. Underneath roll the centuries. Whatever we do strengthens or weakens the whole. One evil member, one defaced stone mars all. The whole is judged by a part. It may not be logical to do so but people do. Hence, one brother's act reflects on another; each is interested in the other's virtues. Lastly, my life as a christian is the temple of the Holy Ghost; as a Mason because, possessing the secrets of the Order, I am a pattern of what is found on the tracing-board. Every individual life is an arch spanning from cradle to grave. Every act is a stone to adorn or mar, being set square or out of plumb. The All-Seeing Eye knows every defect of character. Be careful, then, how you build; it is for eternity. We are building with others, but for ourselves. May we be "lively stones built up of a spiritual house, an holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God, by Christ Jesus!"

The Lodge was much pleased with the discourse.

Entertainment.—"Maud Irving, or the Little Orphan," an operetta in five acts, was given in Ravenscraft's Opera House Monday evening for the benefit of the Welsh Baptist Church. The house was well filled by an appreciative audience. The singing was excellent and the performance well rendered throughout. The following is the cast of characters:

Little Maud, an orphan...Miss Sarah Griffith
Walter Travers, adopted child of Mrs St Clair —George Harris
Mrs. St Clair, a wealthy lady— —Miss Mary A. Bradly
Widow Helper, a kind-hearted apple-woman— —Miss Maria Lewis
Molly Kidder, a child stealer— —Miss Mary J. Bradly
Neighbor Green, the widow's friend— —Miss Mary A. Bradly
Mrs. Grosper, landlady...Miss Mary J. Rees

The following is a synopsis:

ACT I—Little Maud in her orphan home. She has been weeping over the loss of her mother.

ACT II—Out in the street begging.

ACT III—Park scene. Maud helping the widow at her apple-stand.

ACT IV—A room in Mrs. St. Clair's house. The widow and neighbor Green gossiping over their tea.

ACT V—A parlor scene in Mrs, St. Clair's house after an interval of one year. Walter returns and claims Maud as his wife. The curtain dropping on the happy couple. Tableau. A wedding scene with chorus—"The Little Brown Church."

Personal.—Misses Helen and Rose Percy have returned from a pleasant visit to friends in Baltimore.

Harry K. Wingert, who has been attending college in Gettyburg, Pa., is among Frostburg friends.

The Westminster (Md.) *Advocate* reports the recent visit to N. I. Gorsuch, of that place, of L. M. Gorsuch and wife, of Frostburg. The gentlemen are brothers.

N. M. Dean and family have returned from a pleasant visit to the Dean homestead, at Addison, Pa.

Some time ago Philip F. McMahon, boss miner at Ocean, ran for a magnificent gold watch at a Lonaconing church fair and won by a large majority. Wednesday evening he won another gold watch at Lonaconing. These incidents prove that Mr. McMahon, besides being a first class mining manager, is both popular and lucky.

Religious.—Rev. L. R. Markwood and family are on a visit to his mother, a few miles south of Keyser, where they will remain for a week or two. Mr. M. is not well, and as his surroundings are most favorable, he proposes, with the consent of his congregation to improve the opportunity. Consequently, there will be no preaching in his church to-morrow.

Rev. James Miller, Baptist pastor, has so far recovered from his recent illness that he expects to preach at 10½ a. m. to-morrow (Sunday) at Eckhart, and at 7½ p. m. in the English Baptist Church, Frostburg.

Excursion News.—The B. & O. R. R. will sell excursion tickets to Gettysburg June 28 to July 3, inclusive, good to return July 6, *via* Harper's Ferry, Washington and Baltimore only with stop-over privileges at each of the above named places at $6.80 from Cumberland and return.