THE KENT NEWS:
PUBLISHED WEEKLY
CHESTERTOWN, KENT COUNTY, MD.,
OFFICE IN MASONIC HALL.

JAS. H. PLUMMER. WM. B. USILTON.
PLUMMER & USILTON,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

SUBSCRIPTION: $2 PER ANNUM.

LOCAL CORRESPONDENCE solicited, but all articles must be accompanied by responsible names.

Kent News.

Vol. 51. CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND: SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1891. No. 46.

ADVERTISING AND JOB-PRINTING.

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—SUCH AS—
HAND-BILLS, CIRCULARS,
BLANKS, BILL-HEADS, &c.,
executed with neatness and dispatch at satisfactory prices.

Legal Notices.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

In the Circuit Court for Kent Co., Maryland. Chestertown, March 6, 1891.

To the Creditors of Elizabeth R. Burgess.

TAKE notice that MRS. ELIZABETH R. BURGESS, of Kent County, an insolvent debtor, having filed her petition to be discharged from all her debts and liabilities, under article 48 of the Code of Public General Laws of the State of Maryland, as amended by the Act of 1880, chapter 172, and such petition being now pending, a meeting of the creditors of such insolvent debtor will be held on the 16th day of March, 1891, at 12 o'clock M., at the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Kent County, Md., for the purpose of proof of claims, propounding of interrogatories and the selection of permanent trustee. CHAS. T. WESTCOTT,
March 7, 1891—2t. Preliminary Trustee.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Kent county letters of administration, on the personal estate in Kent county, Maryland, of

JAMES H. PLUMMER,
late of Kent county, Maryland, deceased.

All persons having claims against said deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the proper vouchers thereof, to the undersigned, on or before the 1st day of September, 1891, otherwise they may be excluded by law from all benefit of said estate. All indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the subscriber. Given under my hand this twenty-fourth day of February, 1891. BENJAMIN F. FLEMING,
Feb. 28, 1891—4t. Administrator.

RATIFICATION NOTICE.

Charles B. Tracy.
versus
James A. Spry and wife.

In the Circuit Court for Kent Co., in Equity.

ORDERED, this 6th day of March, 1891, that the sale of the Real Estate of James A. Spry, made and reported by CHAS. T. WESTCOTT, attorney and trustee, under the power in the mortgage from said J. A. Spry and wife to Chas. B. Tracy dated October 16, 1886, and recorded among the Land Records of Kent county, in Liber S. B., No. 8, folio 289, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 8th day of May next;—Provided, a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper printed and published in Kent county, once in each of three successive weeks before the 8th day of April next.
The report states the amount of Sales to be $900.
SAMUEL BECK, CLERK.
True copy, Test:—
March 7, 1891—4t. SAMUEL BECK, CLERK.

RATIFICATION NOTICE.

The Chester Loan Association of Kent County,
versus
Sir Walter Rawleigh, Mary M. Rawleigh, his wife.

ORDERED, this 21st day of February, 1891, that the sale of the Real Estate of Sir Walter Rawleigh and Mary M. Rawleigh, his wife, made and reported by MARION DEK. SMITH, attorney under a power in a mortgage from the said Sir Walter Rawleigh and Mary M. Rawleigh, his wife, to the Chester Loan Association of Kent county, a body corporate, dated the 22 day of April, 1888, and recorded among the Land Records of Kent county, in Liber S. B., No. 10, Folio 473, &c., be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 30th day of April next;—Provided, a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper printed and published in Kent county, Maryland, once in each of three successive weeks before the 30th day of March next.
The report states the amount of sales to be $310.
SAMUEL BECK, CLERK.
True copy, Test—
Feb. 28, 1891—4t. SAMUEL BECK, CLERK.

RATIFICATION NOTICE.

Thomas V. Brundige and John W. Martin Trustees,
versus
Matilda R. Murphey.

In the Circuit Court for Kent Co., in Equity.

ORDERED, this 24th day of February, 1891, that the sale of the Real Estate, made and reported by THOMAS W. BRUNDIGE, the attorney named in a mortgage from Matilda R. Murphey to Thomas V. Brundige and John W. Martin, Trustees, dated the 16th day of February, 1880, and recorded among the Land Records of Kent county in Liber D. C. B., No. 5, Folios 587, &c., be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 30th day of April next;—Provided, a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper printed and published in Kent county once in each of three successive weeks before the 30th day of March next.
The report states the amount of sales to be $7,000.
SAMUEL BECK, Clerk.
True Copy—Test:
Feb. 28, 1891—4t. SAMUEL BECK, Clerk.

RATIFICATION NOTICE.

Aaron W. Taylor,
versus
Samuel Taylor.

In the Circuit Court for Kent Co., in Equity.

ORDERED, this 21st day of February, 1891, that the sale of the Personal Property made and reported by AARON W. TAYLOR, mortgagee under a power in a mortgage of personalty from Samuel Taylor to Aaron W. Taylor and others, dated the 4th day of April, 1888, and recorded among the Chattle Records of Kent county, aforesaid, in Liber S. B., No. 2, Folio 270, &c., be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 1st day of April next;—Provided, a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper printed and published in Kent county, once in each of two successive weeks before the 14th day of March next.
The report states the amount of sales to be $427.55.
SAMUEL BECK, CLERK.
True copy—Test:
Feb. 28, 1891—3t. SAMUEL BECK, CLERK.

RATIFICATION NOTICE.

Hope H. Barroll and James J. Archer, Trustees,
versus
Henry W. Archer, of Robert.

In the Circuit Court for Kent Co., in Equity.

ORDERED, this 16th day of February, 1891, that the sale of the Real Estate made and reported by HOPE H. BARROLL and JAMES J. ARCHER, Trustees, under a deed of trust from Henry W. Archer, of Robert, dated the 28th day of March, 1890, and recorded in Liber S. B., No. 13, Folio, 481, a Land Record Book of Kent county, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 23d day of April, next;—Provided, a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper printed and published in Kent county, Maryland, once in each of three successive weeks before the 21st day of March next.
The report states the amount of sales to be $3,100.
SAMUEL BECK, CLERK.
True copy, Test—
Feb. 21, 1891—4t. SAMUEL BECK, CLERK.

WM. H. LAMBERT. ARTHUR M. BROWN.

Butter Makers, Attention!

—THE—

Breakwater Churn

LEADS THEM ALL IN BUTTER MAKING.

Makes Butter in from One to Five Minutes, and More Butter from Same Quantity of Cream, and Works all Butter-milk Out Better Than Any Other Churn.

Below we give a list of prominent farmers and Butter Makers of Kent and Queen Anne's counties, who have used and endorse the Breakwater Churn:

J. M. J. Byron,	Thos. Anderson,
Thos. Blackiston,	Geo. W. Hatcherson,
J. Thos. Bradley,	Edw. W. Hephron,
Samuel Nickerson,	A. L. Corey,
Edw. W. Emory,	Robert Comly,
Samuel Mann,	Elwood Morris,
E. B. Emory,	Wm. S. Walker,
Geo. W. Rodenhizer,	L. R. Shewell,
James P. Hatcherson,	Thos. C. Parsons,
John P. Nicholson,	Thos. A. Hudson,
Thos. W. Skirven,	Johnny Wood,
J. Walter Skirven,	James Wood,
Wm. Bryan,	W. H. Coleman,
R. S. Emory,	Benj. Colburn,
Albert Strong,	Horace Willson,
Aaron Welsh,	J. W. Hubbard.
Wm. DeFord,	

Use one of the Breakwater Churns and save time and Butter.
LAMBERT & BROWN,
j24. CHESTERTOWN, MD.

H. FAYTER'S Hand and Machine-Made SHOES in Congress, Lace and Button,
f14. For sale by T. G. WROTH.

A NICE assortment of GLOVES for both Men and Ladies, just received and very low.
n8. WM. R. ALDRIDGE.

Commission Cards.

Established 1862.
SAMUEL M. LAWDER & SON,
General Commission Merchants
For the sale of Fruits, Fish, Wool, Poultry, Live Stock, &c., &c.
No. 206 South Charles Street,
jan5-y. BALTIMORE, MD.

ESTABLISHED 1836.
R. GROVES,
—WITH—
THOMAS BOND & SON,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
No. 216 Light Street, - Baltimore, Maryland.

DAVID B. STEWART. GEORGE W. BERRY
D. B. STEWART & CO.,
General Fruit and Produce
COMMISSION MERCHANTS
118 East Pratt Street, Balto., Md.
Were to our present shippers among whom are many of the most successful fruit growers in this county; also the Merchants' National Bank of Baltimore.

JAS. W. STEVENS. R. NELSON STEVENS.
STEVENS BROTHERS,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
—FOR THE SALE OF—
Grain, Fruits, Live Stock, Wool and Country Produce Generally.
Special attention given to the sale of GRAIN and FRUITS.
No. 303 South Charles Street, Baltimore, Md.
Reference—Merchants' National Bank.

WRIGHT & LONEY,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
FOR THE SALE OF
Grain, Fruit, Hay, Poultry, Live Stock Hides, and all kinds Country Produce.
No. 215 S. Charles Street, Baltimore, Md.
REFERENCE.—Drovers and Mechanics' National Bank, cor. Eutaw and Fayette sts. ja29.

JAMES W. JEROME. J. HARRY VICKERS.
JAMES W. JEROME & CO.,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
FOR THE SALE OF
GRAIN, FRUITS, LIVE STOCK, WOOL and Country Produce Generally.
SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO THE SALE OF GRAIN AND FRUITS.
18 East Camden Street, *Near Light St. Wharf*, Baltimore, Maryland.

PHILADELPHIA.

E. C. CROW. CHAS. W. WILKINS.
Established 1882.
E. C. CROW & CO.,
124 Dock Street, Phila., Pa.,
Wholesale Produce Commission Merchants
—SPECIALTIES:—
BERRIES, PEACHES, PEARS.
REFERENCES:—Produce National Bank, Bradstreet's Report, the Trade, and by request, responsible growers in different localities. fe21-6m

J. A. BR... J. E. HENDRICKSON.
J. E. HENDRICKSON & CO.,
Produce Commission Merchants
IN ALL KINDS OF COUNTRY PRODUCE AND LIVE STOCK.
328 North Front Street, Philadelphia, Penn
Consignments solicited. Returns promptly sent on sale of goods. Orders promptly filled and inquiries cheerfully answered. fe12-y

S. F. CREW,
late of J. P. Moyer & Co.
M. L. COULBOURN,
late Manager of Egg & Poultry Department of J. H. Coulbourn.
CREW & COULBOURN,
Wholesale Produce Commission Merchants
—IN—
POULTRY, EGGS, GAME, DRESSED PORK, GREEN AND DRIED FRUITS, &c.,
No. 318 North Front Street, Philadelphia.
REFERENCES:—Dr. Samuel Beck, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Kent Co., Md.; Stevens Bros., 303 South Charles Street, Baltimore, Md.; Dey & Kugler, 58 Thompson Ave., N. Y.; Produce National Bank, 104 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

P. E. CREW & CO.,
(Successors to CREW & IRELAND,)
FRUIT, PRODUCE & LIVE STOCK
Commission Merchants,
324 North Water Street, Philadelphia, Penn.
Strict attention will be given to all consignments or communications. Check and account statement immediately on sales effected. Berries and Peaches a specialty in their season.
Consignments solicited. Attention given to all orders. P. E. CREW.

Professional Cards.

JOHN D. URIE,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.
Office adjoining T. W. Ellason, Jr.'s
Will practice in Kent and Queen Anne's Counties

HARRISON W. VICKERS,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

DR. W. FRANK HINES,
FRONT STREET AND MAPLE AVENUE, CHESTERTOWN.
OFFICE HOURS:—8 to 9½ A. M.; 4 to 6 and 8 to 10 P. M.

DR. H. L. DODD,
Homeopathist,
CHESTERTOWN - - - MARYLAND.
OFFICE at his mother's residence.

DR. THOMAS H. COOPER,
HOMEOPATHIST,
Chestertown, Maryland, opposite Voshell House.
Office hours from 9 A. M. to 12 M., 3 to 4 P. M. and 6 to 9 P. M., Sunday excepted.

DR. C. P. GILPIN,
DENTIST,
CHESTERTOWN, MD., MAIN ST., ADJ. CAHALL'S STORE
Office Hours, 8:30 to 12 A. M., and 1 to 4 P. M.
Having enlarged my office and added many new conveniences, I am able to offer my patients much greater comfort while under treatment than in the past. d1-tf.

BENJ. B. OWENS,
Architect,
N. W. Corner Lexington and Charles Streets
BALTIMORE.
Reference:—"KENT NEWS." n24-tf.

WOULD YOU LIKE
A NICE GARDEN?
If so, raise PERFECT VEGETABLES with
POWELL'S SOLUBLE PHOSPHATES
For GARDENS
Which are clean and inodorous. Put up in suitable quantities for *small and large gardens*. No trouble to use. Not expensive. For sale by general stores, Druggists and Seedsmen. An interesting circular telling how to make a good garden, sent Free. W. A. POWELL & CO. Chemical Fertilizer Mfrs. Baltimore, Md.

1837. 1891.
FREDERICK FOUNTAIN,
Agent for R. J. BAKER & CO.,
—MANUFACTURERS OF—
HIGH GRADE FERTILIZERS,
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

As the season for planting approaches it behooves the farmer to exercise great care in the selection of Fertilizers suitable for their various crops. Special Fertilizers for all crops are claiming general attention; no one Fertilizer will suit every plant. We have Fertilizers suitable for any and all crops. Conscious of the merits of our goods, and gratified, too, for the liberal patronage bestowed upon us in the past, we can, with confidence, offer to our customers and the public generally our carefully prepared brands of

Ammoniated Bone Superphosphates,
Corn and Oat Phosphate, Peach Tree Phosphate,
Asparagus Phosphate, Truck Phosphate,

and in fact anything farmers may want in the form of Fertilizers or Fertilizing Material, we can supply at Bottom Prices. Orders solicited. We do not publish certificates, our goods speak for themselves. Correspondence by mail promptly attended to.

FREDERICK FOUNTAIN, Agt.,
Feb. 14, 1891. Chestertown, Maryland.

THE FRUIT GROWER!

TRADE MARK

A FEW WORDS TO SENSIBLE PEOPLE.

AS THE WORLD grows older and the people wiser, there is a growing demand for a better and more perfect quality of goods of all kinds. The people today are not content with the manner in which their ancestors fertilized their orchards, but are striving to reach the heights of perfection.

THE PEACH IS of Asiatic origin, was introduced in this country in 1635, and in 1796 the yellows made their first appearance near Philadelphia. Subsequently large orchards were planted for profit, then for years fertilized with barnyard manure, but it was found that in this way the orchards abounded in weeds and insect.

THEN THEY TRIED a Peach Tree Phosphate in which acid was used to make it available; this was also found detrimental, as several years' application of an acidulated goods caused the trees to deteriorate, leaves twist up and turn yellow. Thus was seen the necessity of a non-acid goods, and ground bone was resorted to; this was good, but slow in action.

FINALLY T. R. Hubbard & Son offered O. B. Guano, a natural bird manure found in the West Indies, and introduced here after their senior's return from that place in 1882. This goods is the base of their Fruit Grower. In appearance it is like old Peruvian. In analysis it runs higher than dissolved animal bone. In action has eclipsed all competitors. In sales more than any other Peach Manure.

THEN TAKING into consideration the quality, price, guarantee, our success, satisfied patrons, increased trade, our reputation, together with the fact that you have this season the prospect of a crop, we think further comment from us unnecessary, as a trial will convince you that the goods speak for themselves.

Pomona, Kent Co., Md., Jan. 4, 1891.
MESSRS. T. R. HUBBARD & SON—Gentlemen: The seven consecutive years' use of your FRUIT GROWER has thoroughly convinced me as to its merits. Years ago, when Colonel Wilkins lived, and we farmed together, we used amost everything as a Peach Manure, but your O. B. is the best I ever tried. On the Island Farm, where 14 tons of FRUIT GROWER were used in 1888, on two-year-old trees, we had in 1889 6,000 baskets, on the other farm we only had peaches where the trees had been fed. I invariably have had fruit in the past by fertilizing my trees, and I believe, in order to have fruit, that is the way to do it. Very truly yours, JOHN A. GROVES.

Anne's Hermitage, Q. A. Co., Nov. 11, 1889.
GENTLEMEN:—In the spring of 1887 we had an old orchard which had not been fertilized for several years and which the tenant was anxious to dig up. I said, give it another year's trial. We used your Peach Tree Fertilizer, about 225 pounds to the acre. That year the orchard netted us about $1.00 per tree. We had a fair crop and got as high as $3.00 per box for some of them. We used your goods on the same orchard in 1888 and got a very full crop. We used it again last spring, applying about 250 pounds to the acre, and for the third successive year got a fair crop, and the fruit was generally of fine quality. The orchard will be 17 years old next spring, and it now looks healthier and more vigorous than it did five years ago. Very truly, CASPER G. WOODALL.

We have on file at our office 263 Testimonials and References concerning Fruit Grower. Please call or send for some regular circulars concerning.

T. R. HUBBARD & SON,
Feb. 14, 1891. MANUFACTURERS, CHESTERTOWN, MD.

A. FRIEDMAN'S
Great Semi-Annual Slaughter Sale.

OUR inventory is over, and having given our stock a careful examination, we find more Medium and Winter Weight Goods on hand than we intend to carry over, and in order to make them go we have marked them down to such a figure that those with limited means can wear a suit that is respectable anywhere, for the low price of $7.75, in either Sack or Frock. These are good quality and good style garments. We have them in medium and heavy weights. Goods that you can wear for several months yet, and if predictions come true, you will need them, as the coldest weather is to come. Our stock is limited, but if we can fit you our loss is your gain. In FINER SUITINGS, such as Imported Cheviots, English Diagonals, Harrison Cassimers, &c., we have cut in proportion, and if you get here early you can get a good selection at a very small cost, as they must and will be sold to make room for spring stock.

BOYS' and CHILDREN'S SUITS

must go in like proportion. We have marked some good, solid serviceable Suits for Children down to $1.75 and $2.00, and better grades will be closed on the same line. Come and see these goods while we can give you a variety to select from. The prices are right as we are determined to make this the most attractive bona fide reduction sale of clothing ever offered to the people of Kent and Queen Anne's counties.

Overcoats and Furnishing Goods.

We have had a large trade this season on Overcoats and necessarily have a good many of different paterns left, if there is among the line anything to fit and please you, we will not stand on price. A Great Reduction in Furnishing Goods, Over Shirts, Underwear, Hosiery and Gloves. You cannot afford to pass these by, for we have the same low figures on these also.

SHOES! SHOES! SHOES!

Our sale of Men's Fine Shoes has far excelled our expectations. We hear every day the gratifying testimony that the pair of hand-made shoes bought of us are the most comfortable and best wearing in the market. Then we are making a great many to measure for the most fastidious trade, consequently they must be correct. All grades of Men's, Youths' and Boys' constantly in stock. Our sales are steadily increasing on the Celebrated Riveted Shoe. Same prices, $2.50 and $2.75. We have had a remarkable season on Boots, but very few left. If we can fit you the price will be made to fit, as they must go. Come early while the assortment lasts.

A. FRIEDMAN,
Opposite Stam's Hall. *The Leading Clothier.*

Read! A Big Cut Sale. Read!

In order to close out what heavy stock I have on hand in LEATHER and RUBBER GOODS

For the SPOT CASH

I will sell 20 inch leg Men's double upper three sole Oyster Boot at $1.85!
Former price $2.50.
20 inch leg full stock Boot at $1.90. *Former price $2.50*
One lot Men's Calf Boots, sizes 9, 10 and 11 at $1 90, former price $2 50 and $3 00; Twenty-inch Men's Fine Veal Kip $3 00, former price $4 00; Men's Medium and Heavy Weight $1 40, old price $2 00; Horner's Snag-proof Rubber Boots, regular price $3 50, now $3 15; Men's Woonsocket, regular $2.75, now $2 40; and Boys' $2 00; Men's Rhode Island $1 90, regular price $2 50; Ladies' Rubber Shoes 25 and 35 cents, as to quality. One lot of Pell's & Pollock's Straight Goat, Hand Sewed Shoes, former price $3 50, now $2 40; Machine Sewed of same make, former price $2 50 and $3 00, now $1 90, first-class goods, but a little too heavy for spring. Lot of Misses Shoes, lace, 11 to 2, at 50 cents per pair. These broken lots must be sold if prices will do it. This is not a catch penny advertisement. Call and be convinced.

Very respectfully, THOS. G. WROTH,
Leader in Boots and Shoes.

N. B.—A Large Assortment of SPRING GOODS ordered and to arrive in a short time.

A FAMOUS GEM.

"Eh!" said Uncle Venable. "You—want—to—get—married?"

"If you don't mind, sir," said Verbena, drooping her pretty head, while a blush like the lining of a pink sea shell crept over her face.

"But what nonsense that is!" said Mr. Venable, shutting his cabinet drawers, leaning back in his chair and looking at Verbena with eyes like gimlets. "Who is the young man?"

"Please, uncle, it's Fritz," whispered Verbena, half inclined to run away and hide herself.

"Fritz!" roared Mr. Venable. "That farmer fellow?"

"He's a farmer," admitted Verbena, "but he owns his own farm, sir, and his mother is very anxious for me to come there, because"——

"Oh, I can imagine that!" said Mr. Venable with a sneer. "You, a Venable, talking about marrying a farmer! You, the heiress of the Malmaison emerald! You, that might take any place in society that you wish when once the value of the gem is known, to talk of allying yourself to a clodhopper like that, who doesn't know an opal from a moonstone!"

Verbena burst into tears.

"He isn't a clodhopper," said she. "And I wish there wasn't any such thing as the Malmaison emerald."

Mr. Venable tranfixed his niece through his spectacles with a glare that might have paralyzed her.

"Silence, miss!" said he; "do you know it is on the reputation of the Malmaison emerald that the Venables will go down to fame? The Empress Josephine"——

"I don't care for the Empress Josephine," said Verbena, who, having drawn the sword, was now minded to cast the scabbard away. "And I'm not particular about fame, and I don't suppose I shall be a Venable forever"——

"This sort of talk won't do, Verbena," said the old gentleman, solemnly. "Where would society be if every one refused to bear the responsibilities and shoulder the cares of his station? You are not merely my niece, Verbena. You are the representative—the last surviving representative—of the Venables. To you in my will is left the guardianship of the Malmaison emerald"——

"I'm sick of hearing of it," vehemently protested Verbena.

"And," went on Mr. Venable, "I desire you to give up all idea of marrying this young man. It's entirely out of the question—entirely."

* * * * *

"But what is this about the Malmaison emerald?" asked Fritz Elcombe, in a bewildered way, when he found Verbena crying by the sitting room window a few hours later. Her blue eyes sparkled through their veil of tears.

"You don't mean," said she, "that you have never heard of the famous Malmaison emerald?"

"That's my meaning exactly," admitted Fritz. "Do consider in my behalf that I've only been here a year, and have much still to learn."

"Well, listen," said Verbena, half crying, half angry. "It's a famous unset gem."

"Oh, it is, is it?"

"And it used to belong to the Empress Josephine."

"Did it, indeed?"

"And she wore it in those days at Malmaison."

"Hence the name, eh?"

"I suppose so. And Queen Hortense gave it to some one who sold it to somebody else, and it was finally given to one of the Venables who was a surgeon in the English army by a dying officer out in Hindoostan, to whom he had been able to tender kind offices, and so it has come down to us. It really is a wonderful stone."

"I should suppose so," politely incredulous.

"They say," went on Verbena, "that when uncle kept it in the little iron safe let into the guest chamber wall, whoever slept there used to dream of a beautiful, sad-faced lady, who walked up and down in a marble terrace under the trees and wrung her hands. That was Empress Josephine, of course."

"Of course," still more incredulously.

"And my uncle declares that the color in the stone is always dim and turbid when the anniversary of the poor lady's death comes around," further added Verbena.

"Yes, that is exceedingly probable," dryly observes Mr. Elcombe.

"My uncle has been offered a great deal of money for the gem," said Verbena with a sigh, "and I wish to goodness he'd sell it. But he won't. And what is worse, he wants me to marry a hateful, spectacled little old man in New York, who, next to himself, is the best judge of jewels in New York, and who owns a green ruby which is a dead match to Uncle Venable's unset emerald. He calls it an archæological alliance."

"Well, I should think it partook somewhat of that nature," said Fritz thoughtfully.

"He is going up to New York to-morrow to a lapidaries' convention," said Verbena. "And I suppose he will bring Mr. Twistleton back with him. Oh, Fritz!"

"Don't be alarmed, heart's dearest," said Fritz, consolingly, encircling her waist with his arm. "The only way in which we can guard against this complication of ills is"

"Yes, Fritz?"

"To get married while Mr. Venable is gone."

"Oh, Fritz! I wouldn't dare openly defy him like that. He has been very good to me," fluttered Verbena.

"I'll be good to you, too, my darling."

"Nonsense, Fritz! You're spoiling my hair. Do stop, Fritz!" protested the girl.

"Then promise me, Verbena."

"No, I'll promise nothing."

* * * * *

At the lapidaries' convention there was a stormy session that year. Herr Heidelgrun was there, a stuffy, dried up old man, of great age and still greater arrogance, who had apparently come out of his spider web in Vienna for the sole purpose of discomfiting all the antiquaries of the western continent.

"De Malmaison emeralt!" said Herr Heidelgrun. "Dat ish a mistake. Vat you call one big lie. It occupies all your time to chase dese lie and den nail him down. I haf the Malmaison emeralt in mine collection."

"How can that be," said Mr. Venable, choking with rage, while Mr. Twistleton stood by ready to espouse his friend's cause, "when here it is—the very stone itself?"

He opened the velvet casket which contained the drop of green fire. It blinked at the circle of eager faces above it like a baleful eye. Herr Heidelgrun laughed a shrill cackle of derision.

"Dat de Malmaison emerald?" said he. "O how easy are some folks hoodwinked! A ferry good imitation, I grant. O, yes, I can tell you all about him. But de genuine Malmaison emeralt it was sell me in 1850, at Vienna, by one Capt. Giles Venable"——

("Verbena's father," thought Mr. Venable, with a start and a sinking of the heart.)

"For de gracious Empress Augusta, who was den making de collection for a necklace which should outshine all the courts of Europe. I pay Capt. Venable 3,000 florins for him, and I engage my best workmen to make him an imitation Malmaison emeralt which shall deceive ze very jeweler himself. I t'ink I make my fortune, but I am wrong. De captain he pockets his florins and he rides away. De gracious empress she change her mind. She get tired of emeralts and she t'inks she will haf pearls. But I know dere will some day be market for de Malmaison emeralt. I keep him; I haf him yet. Here he is, and here is ze letter from Capt. Giles Venable which proves his genuineness. Eh? Are you to be satisfy now?" And the green blaze of the real gem put the artificial imitation to shame at once.

Mr. Venable came home without waiting for the adjournment of the lapidaries' convention. He did not bring Mr. Twistleton with him.

"A man who couldn't even tell a bogus stone from a real one," sputtered Venable, "and calls himself a judge of gems! Verbena, come here."

Verbena came accordingly, with the teapot in one hand and a pan of hot graham muffins, fresh from the oven, in the other.

"I've got something to tell you," said Mr. Venable.

"Yes, uncle," murmured Verbena, her little heart giving an ominous throb under the cluster of roses she wore.

"The Malmaison emerald is a—humbug!" said Mr. Venable distinctly.

"Oh, uncle!"

"And Caleb Twistleton is a charlatan and an adventurer." And he proceeded to impart to his niece the whole revelation of Herr Heidelgrun. "Your father, my dear, has wrecked the family fortunes and broken my heart. Henceforth I will give up the study of gems. I'll donate my collection, such as it is, to the Middleville museum. It may serve as a nucleus for something greater in time. And I'll devote myself to roses. They can't imitate flowers! And, Verbena"——

"Yes, uncle."

"You may marry young Elcombe, if you choose. After this, Twistleton don't deserve a wife."

"Thank you, uncle," said Verbena, demurely.

S'PRISIN' 'LIZA.

BY WILLIAM EDWARD PENNEY.

John Hardhack was a rough, close fisted tiller of
the soil,
And had become quite well-to-do through hard
and constant toil,
The only tender spot about him was his buckskin
purse,
To hit him there would make him squirm, you
could not hurt him worse.
A ragged suit of army clothes had served him many
years,
In vain his wife had begged him to dress decently
with tears,
But one day, when he went to town, he took a notion to
Invest a dozen dollars in a bran new suit all
through.
"I'll bet nine dollars I'll s'prise 'Liza!" chuckled
he,
"Thar ain't no insects on ye now, old feller, no
sir-ee!
Wall, du'em up, and be very quick about it, tu," he
said,
"Fer I've got nineteen cows tu milk afore I go tu
bed!"
He jumped into the wagon, put his bundle on the
seat,
And sent the old mare homeward at a gait 'twas
hard to beat;
The shades of night were falling fast as out of town
there passed
A man who muttered softly "I'll s'prise Eliza Jane
at last!"
And when he reached the river that ran close beside his house,
He stopped his horse and listened, all was quiet as a
mouse,
Said he, "I guess I'd better shuck myself right here
and now,
It's a very queer purceedin' but I'll s'prise her any
how!"
So one by one his garments old he pulled off with
a grin,
And as the river ran so close he calmly tossed them
in;
Then, as he gave the last old rag a sort of farewell
flirt,
He stood up clothed in rectitude and a short cotton
shirt.
"Now, presto change!" he gayly cried, and reached
for his new clothes,
They were not there! He was surprised as you may
well suppose.
He searched the wagon o'er and o'er, and crawled
beneath the seat.
It was in vain. His language I would rather not
repeat.
The night wind seemed to snicker as it dallied with
his brief
And simple costume, while he stood and shivered
like a leaf.
At last he grimly muttered as he took the homeward
track,
"If I don't s'prise Eliza yit my name ain't John
Hardhack!"
His dog came at him in the yard and made him
climb a tree,
And when his good wife cried "Who's there?" he
howled "Gol darn it, ME!"
But not until the hired man had dressed and got a
gun
Would she admit him, and then she was half inclined to run.
Eliza was surprised no doubt, but when John Hardhack rose
Next morning and went out doors in his hired
man's old clothes
And found his missing bundle hanging safe as on a
shelf,
Upon the brake rod where it caught, he was
"s'prised" himself.

OUR fireside conversations, our thoughts as we pass along the streets, our spirit in the transaction of business, all have some amount, small though it be, of moral value.

A TRUE perception of the gospel is the entire forgetfulness of self, utter absence of any pretention, and the complete and utter refusal to accept the world's praise or judgment.

THE deepest peace is to rest in the thought that to be true to duty is more than all earthly gains or honors, and to have a consciousness of having chosen that better part.

Down With Useless Fences.

The Salisbury *Advertiser* heartily favors the no fence policy for Wicomico county. Many Kent farmers have been advocating it for years and some headway has been made. The *Advertiser* says: If you will take the trouble to ride through some of the stock-law districts of the county, you will see at a glance the difference between "fence" and "no fence." A few years ago our farmers at this season of the year, were busily engaged "splitting rails" and making fences, spending thousands of dollars in labor and material *uselessly*, to keep out the public. Now where these fences stood, in many places, are large compost heaps, made of stable manure and fence row mould. This looks as much like business as anything we have seen. The tide completely reversed; instead of an outlay there is a postive income. The quality of timber used for rails is such as would bring two dollars and fifty cents per cord if cut into wood and delivered to this place. Every dollar's worth therefore put into rails is that much sunk. It costs no more labor to put it in wood than is does into rails. Why then should we waste it on fences? The fact is we need no fences, either to keep other people's stock out or our own in. Time is well spent in cutting grass to feed to stock in the pound. Your clover or crab-grass crop is worth twice as much cut and fed as it is if grazed. We are happy to say that nearly every district in the county now has what is termed a stock law. The two remaining will no doubt soon see the virtue of it."

The *Farm and Fireside* has the following article under the caption "Down with Useless Fences: Nailed to the topmost of the *Rural New Yorker* is a flag bearing the motto, "Down with Useless Fences!" That is a very sensible motto, and one that every sensible farmer will adopt.

Let him take the time some winter evening and figure the amount of money invested in the fencing on his farm and what it costs annually to keep it in repair. He will probably be surprised. Then let him spend a number of evenings in planning a better system of husbandry that will reduce necessary fences to the minimum. Having formed definite plans, he can gradually rearrange his farm fences so that in the course of two or three years his fields will all be of better shape and larger size.

A little calculation will show how the number of rods of fencing depends on the size and shape of the field. It is less for a square field than for an oblong one of the same size. It is less in proportion to the number of acres contained for a large than for a small field. To illustrate: An oblong ten-acre field 20 rods wide and 80 rods long has 200 rods of fencing, 20 rods per acre. A square ten-acre field is 40 rods each way, and has 160 rods of fencing, 16 rods per acre. An oblong forty-acre field 40 rods wide and 160 rods long has 400 rods of fencing around it, 10 rods per acre. A square forty-acre field is 80 rods each way, and has 320 rods of fencing, 8 rods per acre.

A little further calculation will illustrate the difference in cost. Assume that the average cost of good fencing is one dollar per rod. Then the cost of fencing a 160-acre farm divided into *oblong ten-acre* fields of the dimensions given above would be $3,200. Divided into *square forty-acre* fields the cost would be $1,280. The extremes, of course, illustrate most forcibly the difference in cost of fencing.

As there is a strong, natural antipathy to taxation, the way to make anything odious and to bring about change or reform is to show it up as a tax. Well, that is what every rod of useless fence is, a needless, burdensome tax. Assuming the average price of good farming land to be $50 per acre, the cost of fencing it, using the same figures above, is a tax of from $8 to $20 per acre, 16 to 40 per cent., payable every ten, twelve, or fifteen years, the life-time of an ordinary fence, leaving the yearly repairs out of consideration. Every single rod of useless fence, even on the most economical system of fencing, is a tax of 2 per cent. or over on each acre. To get rid of this oppressive tax, "down with the useless fences!" Farm fencing should be reduced to the actual necessities of agriculture economically administered.

The village fence is even worse than farm fences, comparing cost and benefits. In communities that possess the highest type of civilization, front-yard fences are being "downed" to stay. And in some places, both village and farm fences have been almost entirely abolished.

The principle on which most stock laws are made, that every man should be required to fence in his own stock instead of fencing out his neighbor's, is a sound one and aids to down useless fences.

Facts for Farmers.

The red spider is best kept in check by free syringing or washing with a wet sponge.

See that the outside as well as the inside of your butter packages is clean. Have them neat also.

While hogs do not require a high temperature, they should have comfortably warm quarters in winter, especially the young sows.

Farmers can not afford to manage their business by guess-work. The margin of profit on their products is too small to admit of it.

In the experiments now in progress at the Ohio Experiment Station, potash seems to have no effect on wheat, whether used alone or in any combination.

Don't forget the growing calves while crowding the cows for milk; see that they have dry quarters, at least reasonably warm, and a daily ration of oats or wheat bran.

Oats that are to be cut for feeding to cows may be sown thick and should be cut as green as possible and have them cure without molding, is the doctrine, and "practice" of a successful feeder we know.

The cost of a quart of milk at the New Hampshire Station, says the *Dairy World*, averaged for the herd 2.74 cents. The best cow on good feed made milk for 1.59; milk from the poorest cow on the same food cost 4.26. On a rich ration the best cow reduced the cost to 1.32. The same cow fed on a poor ration raised the cost to 5.35 cts. a quart. Good and judicious feeding pays.

A HEN on the farm of Mrs. Hanna, near Easton, Md, has made a nest in a tree. She appropriated a squirrel's nest and flies up to it every day to lay an egg in it. This is a remarkable circumstance as domestic fowls seldom build nest in trees.

POULTRY RAISING.

How to Care for Young Chickens—How to Feed the Fowls for Eggs, Etc.

In poultry culture the beginner generally imagines that the most important question to be solved is how to hatch the chicks. He studies both the natural and artificial methods of incubation, and as a rule concludes to make use of the artificial hatcher, if he intends to hatch a large number of chicks. After the chicks come he is met with the question, "how to raise them?"—a question that has vexed the soul, and tried the patience and purses of every one who has attempted to raise chickens. We have gone through this experience, and after years of experiment, disappointments and failures, we have discovered a way to feed that will raise from ninety to ninety-five per cent. of all chicks hatched and keep them strong, healthy and vigorous until they meet with death from old age or the hatchet. To begin with, we never at any time, under any circumstances, feed hard-boiled eggs. The hard-boiled egg theory exploded with us long ago. We found this food gave chicks diarrhœa and other forms of indigestion, which disappear as soon as we discontinue the use of hard-boiled eggs. We do not feed chick for twen