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

WM. B. USILTON. FRED. G. USILTON.
WM. B. USILTON & SON,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

SUBSCRIPTION: $1 PER ANNUM
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SIX MONTHS, 60 CENTS; THREE MONTHS, 40 CENTS
LOCAL CORRESPONDENCE, solicited, but all articles must be accompanied by responsible names.

Kent News.

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ADVERTISING AND JOB-PRINTING.

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

Great FEBRUARY Slaughter SALE!
—OF—
FINE CLOTHING!
and Shoes.

WE have concluded our inventory and have given stock general examination and find more Winter Goods than we care to carry over. In order to make a Clean Sweep we have

Put Them Down to Such Figures

that a man of limited means can get Suit or Overcoat for Self or Boy at a price that will be inviting to a close buyer and by coming early you can yet get a good selection. The goods are all ours—paid for—and we can sell them as we please. They must be sold in order to carry out our Spring Arrangements.

Respectfully,

A. Friedman & Co.,
OPPOSITE STAM'S HALL. LEADING CLOTHIERS.

DURING THE YEAR 1892,
---to the---
Persons Guessing Nearest the Number of Beans
in a GLASS JAR, I will award:
1st—A New Parlor Stove,
2d—Nice Oak Centre Table,
3d—Fine 16th Century Oak Rocker.

All of these presents are on exhibition at my store. One guess with every pair of shoes sold.

T. G. WROTH,
Jan. 9, 1892. UNDER STAM'S HALL.

A. F. HUEY,
MASSEYS, MD.

A. W. Stevens & Son's Engines and Threshers,
REEVES & CO.'S STACKERS,
EUREKA WIND MILLS,
Also, a Full Line of Agricultural Implements
always on hand.

CASTORIA
for Infants and Children.

"Castoria is so well adapted to children that I recommend it as superior to any prescription known to me." H. A. ARCHER, M. D., 111 So. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

"The use of 'Castoria' is so universal and its merits so well known that it seems a work of supererogation to endorse it. Few are the intelligent families who do not keep Castoria within easy reach." CARLOS MARTYN, D.D., New York City. Late Pastor Bloomingdale Reformed Church.

Castoria cures Colic, Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhœa, Eructation, Kills Worms, gives sleep, and promotes digestion, Without injurious medication.

"For several years I have recommended your 'Castoria,' and shall always continue to do so as it has invariably produced beneficial results." EDWIN F. PARDEE, M. D., "The Winthrop," 125th Street and 7th Ave., New York City.

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 77 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK.

BALTO. 1864 SADLER'S BRYANT AND STRATTON COLLEGE
FOUNDED 1864 by the present executive—Occupies four buildings—Unrivalled in facilities for educating YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN for success in life. The outlook for the New Year is most favorable for business opportunities. The demand for our graduates is unprecedented. No vacation; pupils can enter at any time with equal advantage. Never attend a school because the tuition is cheap, for CHEAP is very dear; it means cheap surroundings, inferior facilities, and offers NO opportunities for securing POSITIONS for its pupils and graduates. This school, owing to its HIGH standard of excellence, has placed in business more young men and women from Md., Va., N. C., S. C. and Ga. than all similar institutions combined. Catalogue and particulars mailed. W. H. SADLER, PRES.,—F. A. SADLER, SEC'Y, BALTIMORE, MD.

1892! 1892!
Seasonable Goods
—IN GREAT VARIETY AT—
W. A. Whitaker's
GALENA, MD.
—COME AND SEE OUR—
LARGE STOCK
CLOTHING
For MEN, BOYS and CHILDREN.

Ladies' Coats and Newmarkets,
Shoes for the Large and Small,
Dry Goods, Notions, Blankets,
Furniture, Carpets, Groceries, &c.

—We are selling the—
Domestic Sewing Machine
AT LESS THAN CITY PRICES.
WM. A. WHITAKER,
Dec. 19, 1891. GALENA, MD.

We Just Have What ALL THE LADIES WANT at This Season of the Year:
Hamburg Edges,
—LACES—
AND
White Goods!
All New and of the Best Styles and at Very Low Prices.
We respectfully invite you to call and examine our stock.
WESTCOTT & DODD.
Feb. 6, 1892.

MAUD S. IN KENT!
MAUD S. STILL HOLDS HER RECORD AND
—SO DOES—
Urieville Mills!

HAVING recently added extensive improvements, I am enabled to give 35 lbs. of PATENT, 36 lbs. of STRAIGHT, or 40 lbs. of SECOND GRADE Flour and a ½ bushel of Bran for 60 lbs. of first-class wheat.

—CORN GOODS—
With the new cleaning machines that I have lately added, I feel safe in *guaranteeing a cleaner* and *purer* line of Corn Goods than can be produced by *any mill* in the county.

Seed Wheat.
I have just placed a machine, by the use of which I can *thoroughly clean* SEED WHEAT of all foreign matter, for the cost of only 5 cents per bushel. My long experience in handling grain justifies me in saying that the use of this machine on SEED WHEAT is the only method by which the highest standard of excellence can be obtained. I can clean it for you while you wait, and you can take it right back with you. All screenings returned with wheat.

I am thankful for all past patronage and ask the continuance of the same.

WM. W. McKNETT,
s12-ti. Urieville Roller Mills.

HORSE-SHOEING
Headquarters!
General Blacksmithing,
WHEELWRIGHTING, &c.

SAMUEL HICKS, near the Court House,
Gives Special Attention to HORSE-SHOEING, and having enlarged his shops and procured a full supply of material and skilled workmen, is now prepared to do general Blacksmithing, Wheelwrighting, &c. My Wheelwrighting Lumber has been examined by good judges and pronounced to be of the very best and thoroughly seasoned.
NEW WORK kept on hand and made to order, and all kinds of REPAIRING done at short notice at the most reasonable rates.

COLORED OVERSHIRTS at low prices. A good Unlaundried Shirt at 50c. J. H. SIMPERS.

OYSTERS.

Opposition to Giving the Public Fisheries to Private Owners—Existing Laws to Encourage Planting—Tables of Wages in the General Trades.

Mr. Thomas C. Weeks, chief of the bureau of industrial statistics and information of Maryland, has completed his fourth biennial report to the Governor and General Assembly of the State. It shows a great deal of intelligent and painstaking labor and skill, and possessses a high value as a work of study and reference.

"Taken as a whole," says Satistician Weeks, "the industries of Maryland have increased in number and prosperity during the past two years. Wages have had an upward tendency, and employment has been reasonably certain. There are few States which, for situation and natural advantages, are so well adapted to the support of an industrial community. Yet while her lands and waters, so easily reached and so prolific, invite the multitude to labor, how many pass by her gates and wander abroad on the barren and uncultivated territory of the West.

THE OYSTER INDUSTRY.

"Within recent years workman have had a tendency to regard their particular trade as of paramount importance. Happily, a broader spirit previals today in the army of labor. A moment's thought will suggest how important to the welfare of the people of this State is the preservation of the oyster supply; how important to the labor of the State is the preservation of their individual rights in these common fisheries, and how the wealth derived must, in its distribution affect the condition of all other branches of our State industry. No industry gives employment to so many workers as this."

Mr. Weeks here speaks of the general desire of those in the industry to preserve the interest, and say: "All agree in protesting against the private ownership of beds, but there is a uniform acceptance of the cull law. The tongers in Talbot county secured an act providing that the man and not the boat shall take out license. Out of the increase two vessels were chartered to serve as police-boats. The men in charge received commissions as constables. I everywhere heard this method of policing well spoken of by the oystermen. The tongers of St. George's, St. Mary's county, expressed the wish to have a local inspector appointed to see that oysters are properly culled and measured into the purchasing boats. They complain that the tub is against them, but they must sell by the buyer's measure or not all. These men expressed a willingness to pay one cent a bushel as fees for the support of such an officer on the island.

DECREASE OF THE CATCH.

"An examination shows that the conclusions reached by the commission of 1882 are largely correct. A computation of the catch in the last four seasons shows that the yield has decreased: Tonging, 38 per cent.; scraping, 47 per cent.; dredging, 47 per cent.; while prices have increased 63, 92 and 120 per cent. These facts cannot be ignored. They are partly explained by the cull law in 1890-91, but the evidence shows that the falling off was going on long before the cull law."

To secure a record of the pack in country districts Mr. Weeks recommends a law to compel boat owners to render a sworn statement of their season's catch to the clerks of county courts, and in case of dredgers to the State comptroller. A table is given such, as the statistician says, has never before been made. It gives the catch by each method from 1887-'88 to 1890-'91, showing as follows: 1887-'88, 5,642 boats, 14,879,363 bushels, $3,906,207.75 value; 1888-'89, 5,888 boats, 16,331,989 bushels, $5,359,178.69½ value; 1889-'90, 6,557, boats, 13,307,914 bushels, $5,501,298.67 value; 1890-'91, 7,607 boats, 11,201,993 bushels, $8,624,454.71. "If ever a just estimate was arrived at," he continues, "it is here presented, and no nearer results can be obtained to the actual figures until the State adopts some measure which will secure the actual count of every boat.

"As an evidence of the falling off of the industry I give a table to show that dredge boats are going out of use. Tong boats have increased, as have scrape boats Many boats formerly used in dredging find a more profitable occupation in buying from tong boats.

PRIVATE OWNERSHIP OF BEDS.

"I present the opinions of the people whose interests are in the business when I say that the suggestion to grant the natural oyster beds of the Chesapeake to private owners is repugnant to their sense of justice and right. It is generally conteneded that there is a complete provision in the law for the encouragement of planting and farming, and if the systems of propagation now in vogue are to be relied on, then such systems ought to be applied to the public beds, through the agents of the government, for the benefit of the community rather than to part with the State's ownership by surrendering it as a special privilege to the few."

Then follows a table showing that 7,334 acres have been taken up under the "five-acre law" since 1868.

"In St. Inigoes district, St. Mary's county, and on the Patuxent, land has been more generally taken up by colored tongers. Seven acres are taken up where there was one four years ago. Great complaint is made against the pillage of oyster grounds. It is an easy matter to scrape a five-acre lot clean in one night. Public sentiment is not long in condemnation of such trespass and the law produces few results.

RETURN OF SHELLS.

"I have no hesitation in saying that I believe such a patch of land would afford a comfortable support to an ordinary family. The return of the shells fresh from the shucking-house to the waters would save an enormous crop of otherwise useless, undeveloped oysters. Untold quantities of these shells go out of the State every season to be utilized in Virginia and eastern waters. So large a quantity were shipped from Crisfield the past season at 1¾ to 2 cents a bushel that none were to be had at the close of the pack there.

"There are three causes for the increased appropriation of oyster land during the past two years. First, the passage of local laws in Somerset; second, an agitation of the subject of planting, suggesting to residents on the water front that their present right to secure the water privileges bordering on their land might become valuable; third, the fact that the supply of oysters has diminished.

"The tonger is by no means a more virtuous man than the dredger. Any one making a study of this industry will observe the facility with which the small canoes of the tonger slip out of shallow inlets and depredate forbidden grounds, catching seed oysters out of season for transportation to other States, and the ready way in which they evade arrest by retreating into the shoal waters, where heavy-draught vessls cannot pursue. I am, however, convinced that heavy punishments engender defiance of law rather than respect, and I suggest the limitation of punishments within more reasonable grounds. I have found the majority of men in the oyster fisheries are ready to respect restrictive laws passed for the good of the whole industry. A tonger will not steal—he will 'take' oysters. His social life is a credit to the State. More than one hundred thousand souls live in independence on the products of the rivers and bays. Yes! An independent, fearless people—American citizens in all that the name implies. I have journeyed far aboard, but never under any government have I come into contact with so marked an inviduality as among the oystermen of the bay counties of Maryland. To do anything by legisation which would tend to alter this condition would be an intolerable wrong. The laws should be made to perpetuate this condition.

COMPTROLLER'S REPORT.

The annual report of ex-Comptroller Baughman for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1891, gives the following interesting figures: The total revenue received into the Treasury during the fiscal year 1891 was $2,827,568.29, and the balance in the Treasury Sept. 30, 1890, was $666,845.94, making the total amount in the Treasury during the fiscal year $3,494,414.23.

The amount of receipts in the Treasury for 1891 is less than that for the year 1890 by $3,033, 036.65. This large decrease is mostly due to the sale of the bonds of the "Exchange Loan of 1889," which occurred during the fiscal year 1890.

The total disbursements during the fiscal year 1891 were $2,953,083.93 being less than the disbursements of the fiscal year 1890 by the sum of $2,731,402.08.

There was received from licenses to dredge for oysters, $50,275.03; high liquor licenses, Baltimore City, $512,016.26; oyster fines, $47.50. There was paid out to Washington College and Millington and Shrewsbury Academies, $5,675; oyster fund—for salaries, rations; supplies, repairs, fuel, etc., $73,645.81. Kent county received of the free school fund and the sinking funds, $1,628.41. The county holds $3,000 of stock of the Easton National Bank; $370 in the Mechanics' Bank, and $1500 in the Commercial and Farmers' Bank for the use of the school fund and Agricultural College. The State holds $110,450 of unproductive stock in the Kent and Queen Anne's railroad. The assessed value of property in this county for State purposes for 1891 was $7,759,640 and upon this a levy of 17¾ cts. on the $100, produced $13,773.41. Clerk, Samuel Beck, paid in during the year, $2,932.58, of which $2,287.36 were from traders' licenses; $257.30 from hawkers' and peddler's licenses; $255,55, from exhibition licenses: $5.70, tax on Civil commissions and $126.-67 cigarette licenses. The receipts into the treasury from this county on account of the public school tax was $13,883.69 and the disbursements were; $13,597.12, Register of Wills, T. Romie Strong paid in during the year, $421.24, tax on commissions to executors and administrators. The receipts from tax collectors on account of public school, defence redemption, treasury relief, exchange loan, hospital loan, deaf and dumb, bounty, direct and southern relief taxes were as follows: William H. Coleman, for 1889, $447.99; G. O. Roeder 1888, $1.523.17; G. Oliver Roeder, 1889, $2,504.53; James M. Ivens, 1889, $1,082.03; William H. Ford, 1889, $1.203.87; James T. Lamb, 1886, $153.30; Medford M. Rasin, 1887, 814.41; George S. Biddle, 1885, $348.20; J. Frank Wheatley, 1888, $1,291.47; William B. Usilton, 1890, $452.-05; William B. Usilton, 1891, $12,850.11; Eugene Gooding, 1888, $911.13; total, $23,582.26.

There was received from tax on gross receipts of corporations, $15.22 from the Kent county telephone company. There was received on tax on incorporated institutions: Baltimore and Philadelphia steamboat company, $313.17; Chestertown National bank, 1890 and 1891, $222.11; Chestertown water company, for 1890, $13.32; Chester river steamboat company, for 1890, $112.13; Centreville and Corsica river steamboat company, for 1888 to 1890, $114.93; Chestertown Straw-board and Manufacturing Company, for $1883, $45.75; Kent County Telephone Company, for 1890 to 1891, $3.56; Second National Bank of Chestertown, for 1891, $71.66. Charles Estes, notary for Kent county, paid into the treasury, $73, from tax on protests. James A. Casey, late sheriff, paid $111.10 for fines and forfeitures; Samuel Comegys, sheriff, $10 for fines and forfeitures. Balance to be accounted for on account of public school, defence, redemption, etc., by Wm. B. Usilton, collector, $246.98. Balances, exclusive of interest, due by collectors of State taxes from Kent county, are as follows: Edwin Crouch, 1867, $1,097.96; John W. Dwyer, 1867, $136.82; William A. Thomas, 1871, $2.91; Geo. S. Biddle, 1885, $272.13; Jas. T. Lamb, 1886, $212.57; G. Oliver Roeder, 1888, $76.63; G. Oliver Roeder, 1889, $627.36; James W. Ivens, 1889, $31.27; total, $2.505.26.

Balances are due from Kent county sheriffs as follows: John W. Parsons, for 1885, $25; J. P. Hatcherson, for 1887, $127; James A. Casey, for 1889, $339.90. Balances due by incorporated institutions are: Chester river steam boat company, $148.97; Chestertown water company, $7.99, Kent Mutual Building Association, $352.61; Kent County Telephone Company, $1.78. The report of Samuel Beck, clerk, showed: Total receipts, $3,742.60; expenses, $1,200; so much on clerks' salary, $2,542.60. Register of Wills, T. Romie Strong had made no report for year ending November 30, 1890. State's Attorney M. deK. Smith's report showed total receipts, $541.60. Samuel Comegys, sheriff for year ending Nov. 30, 1890, showed total receipts, $443.88.

It will be remembered that this report extends only to November 30, 1891.

The Colored People Moving.

A largely-attended meeting of colored citizens of the State was held at Annapolis Friday, at which resolutions were adopted setting forth the need of a higher education and the condition of the public school system in the counties and State, and requesting the General Assemby of Maryland to make better provisions for the colored people. The resolutions state that, as humble tax-payers and law-abiding citizens of Maryland, the petitioners feel aggrieved at the indigent condition of the colored public schools of Annapolis, of Anne Arundel county and through the State. Continuing the resolution says: "In many of the school districts there are no schools established for colored children. Some school-houses are unfit for use, and the sanitary condition of the others is detrimental to health. It is a common practice to close colored schools before the end of the scholastic year of ten months. We see a great need for the establishment of a high school or college in this State for the colored youth, who have not the privilege to attend and study at St. John's College and other high educational institutions in the State for the white youth, which are being supported by the revenue of the State to the amount of $31,300 annually."

A copy of the resolutions will be sent to the Legislature and to the Governor.

The meeting was presided over by Richard E. King, the colored lawyer of Annapolis, and was addressed by Rev. I. F. Aldridge, W. H. Butler, Jr., and others.

Report of the Executive Committee
—OF THE—
WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION
For Maryland,
TO THE LEGISLATURE, 1892.

To the Honorable,
The Members of the Legislature of Maryland:

GENTLEMEN:—The members of the Executive Committee appointed by the State Board of Promation of the World's Columbian Exposition, in presenting to your Honorable Body the draft of a bill to appoint a commission, and to appropriate a sum, in their opinion sufficient to make a proper representation of the State of Maryland at Chicago, beg to submit herewith an itemized statement showing the purposes for which the money is required:

Approximate Estimate of expenses for the Maryland Building at the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago, in 1893.

Building	$35,000.00
Furniture and fittings	5,000.00
Electric lighting and fuel	5,000.00
Help—Female, $600; Two Men, $1,200; One Man, $1,000	2,800.00
Freights	5,000.00
Clerical force, stationery, printing, etc	1,200.00
Maps—Book of State, 100,000 copies	27,000.00
Raised map of State, for inside of building, scale about seven by thirteen feet	4,000.00
Resignation of Washington, in wax, 32 figures	5,000.00
Total	$90,000.00

The first and largest item, $35,000, you will note is set apart for the building, and the reason for this is that it should be our aim to erect such an edifice as will, by its unique and classic exterior, first, fix the attention of the passer-by, and by its interior embellishments serve as an advertisement of what our State possesses in the way of natural wealth, that immigration may be attracted thereby to swell the ranks of our agricultural laborers to the great benefit of our farms and farmers—if they prosperous, the cities cannot languish.

This building is to be a model of our State House at Annapolis, with its facade of a style strictly colonial, and with a dome of colored glass, which shall be of orange and black, the colors of our State. This dome it is proposed to illuminate at night by electric lights, so that it would prove an object always prominent and attractive.

The next item, $5,000, is for furniture and fixtures; this includes all the fittings for the building we have chosen, and is a modest sum when we expect with it to present the best efforts in our native woods of our wook-workers, the best efforts of our metal-workers and creditable specimens of our mechanics' skill in many other branches. Besides, cabinets will have to be erected for the classification of our products, as well as heating appliances and all other things that go to make up a well-arranged and comfortable public building.

The estimate of $5,000 for lighting and fuel has been ascertained by inquiry on our part, to be an amount which will not more than suffice for the purpose. We have designed the dome of our building to attract attention at night as well as during the day; electricity is the only method of lighting that will be obtainable, and the cost of this alone will be $400 per month. The sum set apart for fuel will go to provide a most essential item of comfort to our visitors, for there is not a month during the period of the Exposition, with the exception, perhaps, of July, when fires will not be occasionally needed in Chicago.

For the keeping in proper order of such an establishment as we have designed, a permanent superintendent, who will have to be present during the entire day to explain the State exhibit and receive guests officially accredited, will be necessary; his salary, with the salaries of those who will be needed to do the work of keeping the building clean and presentable, it has been ascertained will cost not less than $2,800.

The item of freights, $5,000, will be an absolute necessity for the carrying to and fro of our exhibit, without advancing anything to private exhibitors. The exhibit will be bulky and the distance being great, the amount is well within the needs of the occasion. Clerical force, stationery, printing, etc., will be most economically treated if $1,200 is to do it all. There must be no little advertisement, no little pain taken in the collection within our State border of our exhibit. For the performance of a great deal of correspondence, clerks must be employed during the interval from the present to the time when the Exposition opens, and it will be at the cost of much intelligent labor that this amount of wor can be crowded into even that period.

The second largest item, $27,000, is to be devoted to the preparation of a manual which shall contain maps of every county of our State, accompanied by a full and explicit account of each particular county, setting forth their several advantages and thus making known to thousands of visitors to the Exposition the desirability of our State as a place of residence, which must appear in strong contrast to the rigid climatic conditions against which the western farmer struggles. These maps will be strictly accurate in detail and will show every cross-road and undulation of our State, will define our mineral lands, our water courses and our mountains, and must prove to the State a work of immense value for all time.

The entire world will be represented at the Exposition, it is to be the largest ever held, and surely no more fitting place or time could be chosen for the placing, before so miscellaneous a public, of an advertisement that will find its place in almost every country in the world. It is proposed to distribute 100,000 copies of this manual during the six months of the Exposition, and we deem it the most important factor in the work of inducing immigration of the kind we most need and will most gladly welcome. Should this seed, sown with a liberal hand, find any resting place at all, the entire amount of the appropriation will be returned to us increased an hundred-fold.

The $4,000 asked for to devote to making a raised map of the State, will be a feature that will be valuable, as it will show at a glance what great possibilities our State possesses; it will, during the Exposition, occupy a prominent place in the main hall of our building, and will always be an object of interest to our citizens, even after the Exposition is over, if put into such a museum as is proposed by His Excellency the Governor, or should it be desirable, hereafter, to establish a Bureau of Immigration, with headquarters in other lands, such a model as we suggest could be transported and be used as a valuable adjunct for such purposes. If we are to make our State great and prosperous and wealthy, we must fill up her waste places with farmers; this will add value to our thousands of acres of now valueless lands and build up many of our dilapidated villages and finished towns into active, bustling business communities. It has been suggested by His Excellency the Governor, and the suggestion has met with much favor, that the old Senate Chamber of the State House be reproduced in our building, and that a group of 32 figures be made to represent the surrendering by Washington of his Commission, which took place in that historic hall. Such a tableau would attract many visitors and serve as a feature of great interest. The act is almost unique in the history of the world—a successful general, in the flush of victory, laying down his sword and retiring to the duties of a homely and quiet life, after vanquishing the greatest power on earth in a long and bloody war—and is something to be admired as well as wondered at, and every son of our grand old Common-wealth should feel a personal pride when he thinks that a deed so noble was done on the soil of his native State, beneath the roof of his State Capitol.

The summing up of the various items is found to amount to $90,000—every expenditure has been as closely estimated as could be done in the premises, and it is the honest belief of the Committee that, if anything, the estimates are too low rather than too high. Every dollar of this sum, $90,000, will be necessary, and a contingent fund of $10,000 should be provided; this would cover any disaster that might overtake our building in the course of erection, or provide for such an occasion or occasions as State of Maryland Day, a general review of State Militia or any emergencies.

The appointing power under the bill is left to His Excellency the Governor, who will doubtless see that the Commission to be created will be composed of such men as will deem public office a public trust in the strictest sense and who will leave in the hands of the State every dollar of the appropriation not needed for the proper presentation of our State's interests among those of her sister States. The functions of this Committee are ended when your Honorable Body shall have determined upon the disposition of the bill now before you. We can only add that we are sincere in saying that after careful study and honest efforts we have asked at your hands a reasonable and necessary sum, and that a smaller amount will ill befit the dignity of our State and be of little use in attaining the objects for which we would striave—viz.: To benefit every city, every village, every farm that is embraced within our borders.

Very respectfully yours,
F. C. LATROBE, *Chairman.*
WM. H. LOVE, *Secretary.*
J. OLNEY NORRIS,
JOSEPH D. BAKER,
FRANK R. SCOTT,
JAMES T. PERKINS,
FRANK S. HAMBLETON,
DAVID HUTZLER,
H. H. DASHIELL,
FRANK N. HOEN, *Committee.*

To Poultry Raisers.

Having repeatedly tried leaves as a litter for poultry houses and noting the good results arising therefrom I wish to recommend their use, writes George Etny. They not only furnish a nice, clean, elastic litter, but generate considerable heat and thereby help to moderate the temperature in very cold weather.

I learned from an old hunter friend of mine a good many years ago of the value of white oak leaves as a protection from cold when placed in your hunting boots.

"If your boots will keep out water," declared old Jim, "the day never was that cold that a good lot of dry leaves would not keep your feet warm."

I find that five or six inches of leaves all over the floor of the house make a good litter for a month. Thus three or four changes during the winter are all that are needed.

With a couple of rakes, a boy and two very large, wide-mouthed coffee sacks, I can gather enough leaves in two or three hours to litter the houses for 100 hen one winter. They can be kept in a few barrels, or a bin made especially for them.

The leaves from the orchards trees will answer almost as well as oak leaves. They will not last quite as well.

Where turkeys are to be kept confined for some time, it is a very desirable plan to put leaves in their pen, and feed on wheat, oats and corn, scattering it among the leaves and making the birds hunt it out from among them. It will keep them employed during the large part of the time. Turkeys lose flesh very fast if not kept contented.

For laying hen all of us know how important it is to keep them employed. I have got eggs almost as regularly in winter, when the pullets and hens were kept in a good house and kept busy, as from the same flock in summer.

And after all, there is no better tonic for getting fowls in good shape than just these same leaves. It gives a lustre to the plumage, and a glow to combs and faces that take the eye of the judges at the shows.—American Poultry Yard.

Saved by a Dream.

An instance in which a dream was useful in preventing an impending catastrophe is recorded of a daughter of Mrs. Rutherford at Ederton, the granddaughter of Sir Walter Scott. This lady dreamed more than once that her mother had been murdered by a black servant. She was so much upset by this that she returned home, and, to her great astonishment and not a little to her dismay, she met, on entering the house, the very black servant she had met in her dream. He had been engaged to her absence. She prevailed upon a gentleman to watch in an adjoining room during the following night.

About 3 o'clock in the morning the gentleman heard footsteps on the stairs, came out and met the servant carrying a quantity of coals. Being questioned as to where he was going to mend the mistress's fire, which at 3 o'clock in the morning in the middle of summer was evidently impossible. On further investigation a strong knife was found hidden in the coals. The lady escaped, but the man was subsequently hanged for murder, and before his execution he confessed that he intended to have assassinated Mrs. Rutherford.

LEGENDS OF LEAP YEAR.

The advent of "leap year" and the break in the regular order of days make anything in regard to the "bissextile" or "leap year" of more than ordinary interest. Leap year has always been regarded with awe and superstition by the people of all countries. The peasantry of England affirm that peas and beans grow the wrong way in their pods—that is, the seeds are set contrary to the way they are in ordinary years. In Belgium the rural folks maintain that leap year is not only unpropitious for all farming operations, but that throughout the year the young of the domestic animals will not thrive as at other times.

A similar fatality, they argue, extends to every kind of grass and plant, which becomes stunted or is blighted before attaining its normal size. The same peculiar ideas prevail in Russia, Turkey, Tartary, India and Arabia. The Russian proverb says: "If St. Cassian (February 29) looks on a cow she will wither." In Arabia they say: "As week as a bissextile camel," and, in Turkey and Tartary they call all hunchbacks dwafs and other deformed men, women and children "leap-year freaks," but there are exceptions to this as well as to all other rules, for we find that in Italy, Greece and Sicily the rural proverb says, referring to leap year: "Plant much corn and vine, it's (the year) good for bread and wine."

The ancient Romans considered February 29 a most critical season, always reckoning it among their unlucky days. That this belief has not by any means lost ground is evidenced by a deep-rooted dislike parents have to a child being born on leap day, it being a popular notion that to come into the world at such an odd time is ominous as signifying the babe's speedy exit. A variety of this superstition exists in Tuscany, and, according to a piece of the folk-lore of that country, when a child is born on leap day either it or its mother will die before the end of the year.

Hampson, in his "Medii Œvi Kalendarium," quotes the following from an old Saxon treatise: "Some assert that the bissextus or leap day comes through this, that Joshua prayed to God that the sun might staad still for one day's length that he might sweep the heathen from the land. It is true that the sun did stand still, but the bissextus is not through this as somd do think."—*St. Louis Republic.*

Their First Disagreement.

"If you had known, madam, that you expected to call yourself Mrs. Slodgers-Barnaby——"

"Well, sir, if you had known it, what then?"

Mr. Barnaby got up and walked the floor with his hands in his pockets and a cold, blighting sneer spreading itself over his face.

"This hyphen business," he said, "is a fad. 'Slodgers-Barnaby!' Isn't it a lovely combination?"

"Did you expect, sir, that when I married you I was going to sink my own individuality and become merely an appendage of Barnaby family?"

"I didn't expect anything of the kind, but if I had such a name as Slodgers and had a good chance to sink it, I'd sink it."

"And if I had been born with such a name as Barnaby, I should never go round boasting of it. Barnaby! Isn't it a darling of a name?"

You seemed willing enough to take it, at' how, madam."

And you didn't see anything wrong in the name of Slodgers when you used to come hanging around the house where the Slodgerses lived."

"That is true," assented Mr. Barnaby, mournfully. "I was there, as a regular thing, about three or four times a week."

"You were."

"And you were generally at home."

"I was," sighed Mrs. Slodgers-Barnaby.

Mr. Barnaby continued to walk the floor.

"I can see some excuse for a man parting his name in the middle," he said, "if the circumstances justify it. If my parents had christened my Epaminondas George, I should write my name E. George Barnaby. But this hyphenated way of stringing out a surname I don't go a cent on, madam—not a cent."

"It needn't worry you. Slodgers-Barnaby isn't your name. You don't have to carry it."

"No," he snorted, "I simply have to carry the proud consciousness of being the husband of Mrs. Slodgers-Barnaby."

"If you get tired of carrying it, sir—"

"Look here, Huldah, how would you like it," he broke in, "if I should go calling myself Mr. Barnaby-Slodgers?"

"It would be your own affair. If you could stand it I think I could worry along. How would you like it I should insist on your dropping the name of Barnaby and calling yourself Mr. Slodgers?"

"If that were the custom I think I—no! by the bones of Tilgath-Pileser, I should draw the line at Slodgers!"

"Then—"

"Just because one of the women in your set calls herself Mrs. Murgatroyd-Haggerty, and another one wants everybody to speak of her as Mrs. Montmorency-Snodgrass, you think you must—"

"Roger Barnaby have a care how you—"

"Just because that friend of yours in the green front on the next corner, expects to go thundering down the ages as Mrs. Christerfield-Baker you must—"

"Roger Barnaby, I'll sink the name of Slodgers that you detest so much on one condition."

"Name it!" exclaimed Mr. Barnaby, eagerly.

"That you quit wearing creased trousers."

"Mrs. Barnaby, you are presuming entirely too much on—"

"This thing of wearing creased trousers is merely a fad. Just because Fitz-Simper is in the habit of wearing them you think you must—"

"But look here! I—"

"How would you like to see me going round with my dresses creased for and aft like a—"

"But don't you see—"

"It's nothing but fad, I tell you. If Mr. Pomeroy Cordelle, who has just come back from Europe, with an eyeglawss and a drawl, chooses to go thundering down the ages with a pair of creased trousers on, let him do it. But by the bones of Tigiath-Pileser, I wouldn't—"

"Huldah," said Mr. Barnaby, feebly, as he threw up his hands and sank into the nearest chair. "I cave! You can keep your hyphen, Slodgers-Barnaby goes!"

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