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

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

SUBSCRIPTION: $1 PER ANNUM
strictly in advance. If not paid in advance $1.50 may be charged.
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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JOB-PRINTING:
—SUCH AS—
HAND-BILLS, CIRCULARS, BLANKS, BILL-HEADS, &c, executed with neatness and dispatch at satisfactory prices.

--THE PLACE--

TO BUY HARNESS!

in CHESTERTOWN is at

JNO. F. HOWARD'S

ON CROSS STREET.

WE HAVE A FULL LINE OF
NEW HARNESS,
SADDLES, BRIDLES,
COLLARS, WHIPS, Etc.

We have just received a new lot of ROBES, LAP BLANKETS and HORSE BLANKETS.

ALL KINDS OF REPAIR WORK
DONE AS NEAT and AS CHEAP
as at any other place. Give me a call.
JOHN F. HOWARD,
Oct. 8-tf. Chestertown, Md.

No. 24.

A BOX OF CIGARS for 25 CENTS

CAN BE BOUGHT AT

WM. S. McDONNELL'S.

NEW LOT OF TOBACCO AT 25 CENTS.
CIGARS WITH MATCH ON END—Self lighters.
Opposite the Chestertown, National Bank, where he also keeps a fresh line of

CONFECTIONERY.

The Greatest Leap Yet!

MAUD S. HAS BEEN BEATEN BUT

URIEVILLE MILLS

holds the lead in superior work. Giving better flour and more of it than any other mill in the County. Over 7,000 bushels of custom work alone booked in three months. How much better proof of our superior workmanship do you want?

CORN GOODS.

Our work in that line needs nothing more than a pleasant reminder that we are still keeping pace with the times.

SEED WHEAT.

Convince yourself that you will get your money back by looking over your field where you sowed wheat, CLEANED BY OUR IMPROVED PROCESS.

I am thankful for past patronage and ask for th same in the future.

I remain yours respectfully,

WM. W. McKNETT.

COURT ST.

Shoe and Grocery Store

THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO CALL AT THE

OLD STAND

ON COURT STREET., CHESTERTOWN,

and examine the FRESH and NEW STOCK o GOODS just bought for cash by

JAMES A. SHAW

which consists of Leather
BOOTS AND SHOES
TO SUIT ALL CLASSES.
Gum Boots and Shoes, Body Boots, Hip and Shor Boots, and Boots for Men, Women and Children.

GROCERIES.—Flour by the Barrel or Bag, Hominy, Beans, Sugar, Coffee, Baker's Chocolate, Tea, Soap, Soapine, Soda, Rumford's Yeast Powder, Lamp Chimneys and Burners, Coal Oil, Salt and many other things. All of which can be bought of me as cheap as at any place on the shore. Give us a cap and we will try to please you.

Also, TOBACCO and CIGARS.
JAMES A. SHAW,
j12. Court Street, Chestertow

HEADQUARTERS!

HORSE-SHOEING!

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 Wheelwright 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.

New Store in Still Pond!



MR. A. LEVINE,

—HAS OPENED A—

Jewelry Store

AND WILL KEEP A NICE LINE OF
WATCHES, JEWELRY, SPECTACLES, etc.,
A FINE LINE OF CLOCKS
always for sale. He also guarantees to give satisfaction in all kinds of REPAIRING. Give him a trial. apr30.

At Private Sale!

ONE OF THE BEST AND MOST PRODUCTIVE FARMS IN KENT COUNTY.

ALL that finely located farm, in the Second Election District, known as "BUCKINHAM," on Chester River, with steamboat landing on the place, in Morgan Creek Neck.

For particulars apply to
WILLIAM ROBERTSON,
a6-6m.* Chestertown, d.

150

Suits of Clothing

—FOR—

MEN and BOYS!

WORTH $7.00, $8.00 AND $9.00,

WILL BE SOLD FOR $5.00!

DURING THE BALANCE OF THIS MONTH.

200 SUITS!

Worth $10, $12 and $13,

Will Be Sold for $8.00.

I want to make room for the Largest Stock of Fall and Winter Clothing ever shown in Chestertown.

THOMAS S. BORDLEY.
Aug. 20, 1892.

Enlarged Store!

INCREASED STOCK!

I HAVE ONE OF THE LARGEST ASSORTMENTS OF SUMMER GOODS IN TOWN
CONSISTING OF

DRY GOODS, NOTIONS,
Mattings, Neckwear,
Straw Hats, Groceries,
BOOTS AND SHOES!

My line of Straw Mattings is very large and embraces all the latest designs in Checks, Mixed and Stripes. A choice selection of Neckwear, made to order from material of my own selection. Straw Hats in all the lattest styles. Give me a call before purchasing and I think I can please you.

WM. R. ALDRIDGE,
July 16, 1892. Chestertown, Md.

CHOLERA!

The Cholera Baccillus has attacked the Pout; try of Kent county, and is playing sad havoc. Many thousands of dollars are lost to the farmers by this dread disease. We claim we have discovered the remedy and we put the name in big letters so you may see it.

POULTRIBINA!

Our word, our preparation. Do not delay in getting a package. IT WILL CURE. If your Chickens or Turkeys are sick, give to them at once. If they are not sick, a package used in time will keep them healthy, and you will thank us on Thanksgiving day for the fine, healthy Turkeys bringing you the best market prices.

25 Cents Per Package.

COLIN F. STAM, DRUGGIST,
Oct. 1, 1892. Chestertown.

WM. S. CULP,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

Coal and Wood

—ALSO—

LIME AND BALED HAY,
COAL ALL SIZES.

WOOD SAWED and SPLIT for cooking and kindling, delivered at short notice.

Yard and office at railroad.

Orders left at CHARLES S. SMITH'S Cigar and Tobacco Store will Receive Prompt

Coal and Wood.

ORDERS IN ANY QUANTITIES LEFT AT D. A. BACCHUS' GROCERY STORE, OR AT

J. D. BACCHUS' YARD

will receive prompt attention at Prices Guaranteed to be as LOW AS THE LOWEST.

Building and Whitewash Lime,
Cement and Plastering Hair,
AT CITY PRICES.

Anthracite and Bituminous Coal

Dilivered at any station on the Baltimore and Delaware Bay Railroad at Low Figures.

Come and see us before buying.

m17. J. D. BACCHUS.

COAL and WOOD!

OWING to the scarcity of money we will sell Coa at a very small advance above cost FOR THE CASH. Remember we sell

The Lea Coal

WHICH IS THE BEST WHITE ASH COAL FOR GENERAL USE.

Probably it will be to your advantage to get our rices and examine our stock before you purchase.

2240 Pounds for One Ton.

Office on Cannon St., near Princess.

J. T. TWILLEY.
July 17, 18 90—tf.

We Have Just Received
a Full Line of

FALL GOODS!

and will continue to replenish the stock throughout the season. We have now in stock the best line of
BLACK HENRIETTAS, BLACK QUAILS,
COLORED FLANNELS, DRESS FLANNELS,
AND CAMEL'S HAIR.
Canton' Flannels cheaper and heavier than ever. Ginghams 5, 6, 8, 10 and 12½ cents. Cassimeres and Flannels. Complete line of Underwear of every kind. A complete line of

Boots and Shoes,

GUM BOOTS, Best Quality.

A more complete stock than ever of every kind and price. The largest line of CARPETS ever shown here. Hats and Groceries. We must not forget to mention our celebrated line of Douglas Shoes, they knock all others out in low prices and best quality.

Call and look over our stock, we will do everything to entertain you and guarantee you a bill as cheap as the cheapest.

WESTCOTT & DODD.

SCHOOL BOOKS!

—AND—

School Stationery

Largest Stock,
Lowest Prices.

All ready for the opening of the schools. Parents will find it to their advantage to make their purchases at our store for all they need in the school line. Grand opening Saturday morning Aug. 27.

COLIN F. STAM,
a27-tf. DRUGGIST

Farm Implements!

ONCE MORE WE ARE PREPARED TO FURNISH THE FARMERS OF KENT AND QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTIES WITH

PLOWS,

Rope and Chain Traces,

BACKBANDS, FARM BELLS,
GRUB HOES, VISES, FORKS, SHOVELS, SPADES, GRINDSTONES, AXES,
FARM and GARDEN BARROWS,
WAGON HAMES, PLOW HAMES,
HATCHETS, GATE HINGES, &C.

ROOFING and SPOUTING a Specialty!

NORTHERN EARLY ROSE SEED POTATOES,
" BEAUTY OF HEPBRON SEED POTATOES.

Don't buy FENCE WIRE until you get ou prices.

J. K. ALDRIDGE & CO.,
a12m. Chestertown, Md.

C. M. LUCAS

has a Beautiful Selection for the

HOLIDAY TRADE!

such as Waltham, Elgin hnd Waterbury Watches, Chains, Finger Rings, Ear Rings, Scarf Pins, Sleeve Buttons, Collar Buttons, Breast Pins and Baby Pins. A nice assortment of Clocks. We still keep the old reliable 18K Wedding Rings. Those who have bought them with the W. as trade mark on the inside, can recommend them to be just what we said about them. Also, the famous

Rogers & Bro. Triple Plated Ware,

such as Tea, Table and After Dinner Coffee Spoons, Cake Basket, Breakfast and Dinner Castors, Cream Pitchers and other things in silver.

Will REMOVE the first of the year next door, the ame now occupied by W. H. Lambert. n21.

STIEFF PIANOS

GRAND AND UPRIGHT.

Highest grade instruments manufactured. Endorsed and preferred by the best schools and musical authorities. Only Upright Piano on the market today equal to the Grand. Reasonable terms. Old Pianos taken in exchange. Pianos for rent. A large assortment of Organs constantly on hand. Send for Illustrated Piano and Organ Catalogue. Inducements on Second Hand Pianos. Tuning promptly attended to.

CHAS. M. STIEFF,
WAREROOMS { Baltimore, No. 9 N. Liberty St., Washington, 417 11th St., N. W., Chicago, 178 Wabash Avenue, Philadelphia, 1204 N. 5th St.

About Spectacles!

This Summer Weather Steel Spectacles Rust, Nickel is Heavy and is Easily Bent, and Gold is Expensive.
Aluminum Fills the Bill, Looks Like Steel, Wears Like Gold,
Is the Lightest Frame Made and Will Not Get Out of Shape Easily. Does Not Rust or Tarnish, and Costs But Little More Than Steel.
You can get these goods
at D. T. WILLIAMSON'S,
JEWELER AND OPTICIAN,
j18-tf. Chestertown, Md

JERMAN & COSGRIFF,

(Successor to W. M. Bell)

MANUFACTURERS OF

Porous Drain Tile.

Egg-Shaped, 2 to 8 inches calibre. Round, with collar, 2, 2½ and 3 inches calibre.

Send for price-list and circular.

Address, JERMAN & COSGRIFF, SMYRNA, DELAWARE
or T. R. HUBBARD & SON, Agents, Chestertown, Maryland.
fe20-y.

Attention Ladies!

WE ARE NOW PREPARED TO PLEASE YOU IN —EVERYTHING IN—

DRESS GOODS,

WRAPS and
DRY GOODS.

Examine Our Blankets and Comforts.

FLANNELS, All Wool, at Low Prices.

HENRIETTAS, BROCADES,
CHINA and INDIA SILKS,
SATEENS, VELVETS. SILKS, Etc.,
in large assortment.

—Magnificent display of—

Fall & Winter Millinery

NEW SHAPES, NEW SHADES,
NEW MATERIALS, NEW STYLES
in greatest variety and prices to suit everybody.

R. BERGEN,

Smith Building, Chestertown.
October 15, 1892—tjl.

N. C. CROW.

Is Still on the Corner of Kent and High Streets, Up Town.

Where you can at all times find a seasonable line of

DRY GOODS, NOTIONS,
GROCERIES, PROVISIONS,
Gentlemen, Ladies and Children's Shoes,

CIGARS AND TOBACCO,

We keep the WM. LEA & SONS' FLOUR for sale by the barrel or sack, we think as cheap as you can get it from the city, and we think their flour has no superior. Come and see us and be convinced that our goods are good and cheap. Country produced wanted and taken in exchange for goods.

N. C. CROW,
March 21. Up Town

LOW GRAIN PRICES!

DRESS GOODS,
WHITE GOODS,
MATTINGS, &c.,

ARE NOW BEING OFFERED AT

R. F. PARKS'.

Full Line Hosiery,

GLOVES AT LOW PRICES,

COTTON DRESS GOODS.

Prices are leaning towards you most temptingly.

French Organdy Lawns

Black or Delicate Tinted Grounds, with handsome design, &c., &c.

Our Linen Department and White Goods are up to the best. Mattings of all kinds and at low prices. SHOES as cheap as the cheapest.

Call and examine my stock.

R. F. PARKS,
July 16, 1892. CHESTERTOWN, MD.

SCHOOL BOOKS!

SCHOOL BOOKS

—AT—

Toulson's Drug Store

AT SCHOOL BOARD PRICES.

Headquarters for everything used in the school room. We cordially invite you.

Aug. 25, 1892. M. A. TOULSON.

Special Notice!

DO you want your WHEELS HOOPED or CARRIAGE REPAIRED? If so call and see SAMUEL HICKS. He does ALL KINDS OF WORK at reasonable rates and satisfaction guaranteed.
SAMUEL HICKS.

SHOVELS, Forks, Spades, Rakes and Hoes.
LLOYD McFEELY & CO.,

Facts for Fall

Our preparation for Fall and Winter '92 has eclipsed our best previous efforts. Never before has there been such an immense stock of Clothing, Hats and Furnishings held under any one roof, and at such low prices that they will surprise you.

MASTERPIECES

of the Tailor's skill in the shape of Superb Suits for Men are stacked high on our counters, all newest and best fabrics represented. Beautiful line of Suits at $10 $12 and $15.

OEHMS

10,000 OVERCOATS

could not afford you a more ample assortment than our mammoth stock. Everything bright and new is represented. Prices $7, $10, $12, $15 and upward.

OEHMS

YOUR BOYS

are richly provided for in our grand gath'ring of Juvenile Wear. There's no excuse for keeping your boy in a shabby rig when so little money will dress him like a prince. Handsome Suits and Overcoats $2.50, $3.50, $5 and up.

ACME

INDIVIDUALITY IN DRESS.

finds graceful expression through the medium of our celebrated Order Annex which occupies the building 6 & 8 S. Charles St. Our $20 and $25 lines of Business Suits to Order are the exclusive tailors' $35 grade.

ACME

HANDSOME HEAD-DRESS.

When you come to our store you cannot afford to pass by our Hat department. At $1.98 you can get the regular $3 Derby or Soft Hat, pay nothing for the name or surroundings here.

HALL

Large lines $1.24, $1.49, $1.69.

MEN'S UNDERWEAR

in enormous variety. Soft, cosy and comfortable Suits that won't scratch the skin at $1 for both garments. Our matchless laundred Dress Shirts 50 cents, matchless elsewhere under $1. Neckwear, Sox, and all other possible needs for stylish dressers in magnificent profusion at very moderate prices.

HALL

Send for Samples, Price List and Self Measurements.

OEHM'S ACME HALL,

CLOTHIERS, HATTERS & FURNISHERS

5 & 7 West Baltimore Street,

Annex, 6 & 8 South Charles Street.

Chestertown Bakery!

MRS. D. GRUBER

Is Still Up Town,

and prepared to furnish the people of Chestertown —and Kent county with—

FRESH BREAD,

BUNS, CAKES, PIES, &c.,

in any quantity.

WE ALSO HAVE A

NICE LINE of CONFECTIONERY.

Call and see us.

—THE—

Marseilles Power Sheller,

the Pioneer of Self-Feeders, now using

THE WONDERFUL CYCLONE FEED,

which is peculiar to this machine, is now offered for the consideration of those interested in threshing machines, by the undersigned. I also have a Second-hand KEYSTONE SHELLER, which I will put in complete order and sell low, on easy terms.

Respecfully,
J. R. WILSON,
s24-2m. GALENA, MD.

FARMERS PREPARE FOR 1892!

Wheat Harvest, Hay Crop

MOST COMPLETE STOCK OF IMPLEMENTS TO —BE FOUND IN THE CITY—

W. A. Wood's Steel Frame, New Improved Binders Reapers and Mowers; Tiger Mowers, Hay Tedders Loaders, Carriers, Horse Rakes, Stevens Thresher and Engines, Studebaker Steel Skein Farm Wagons also Apairy or Bee Hive Supplies, Wind Mills, etc, Quality Best. Prices Lowest. Every Implements Guaranteed.
BALTIMORE FARM IMPLEMENT CO.,
j4-1y. 209 South Charles Street, Baltimore, Md

LARGE COLLECTION

OF VERY DESIRABLE GOODS IN FINE

JEWELRY--WATCHES--DIAMONDS

CLOCKS, BRONZES, &c.

LOWEST PRICES!

J. S. MacDONALD,
Nos. 6 and 8 N. Charles St., Balto., Md.

Will remove next door, corner Baltimore and Charles street, about June 15th.

SCOTT'S HEROINE.

FACTS ABOUT THE ORIGINAL OF THE NOVELIST'S REBECCA.

She Was a Resident of Philadelphia and Was the Dearest Friend of Washington Irving's Only Love—How Sir Walter Scott Heard of Her.

Of all the women Sir Walter Scott has drawn Rebecca and Rowena are the best known and best beloved. The tender strength of the one, the tender sweetness of the other, the romantic story through which they move and the perfection of the contrast between them—all contribute to fix them firmly in the hearts of all readers. It has been said that Rebecca is the great novelist's finest character. If this is so it is of all the more interest to us, for her prototype was a Philadelphian. The original of Rebecca, the daughter of Isaac of York, was Rebecca Gratz, born in this city in the last century and still living after the two great novelists who succeeded Scott had been gathered to Walhalla.

I stood the other day by her forgotten grave in the little old grass grown Jewish cemetery on Spruce street, just south of the Quaker meeting house, between Eighth and Ninth streets, and I read the simple inscription on the tomb—"Rebecca Gratz. Born March 4, 1781. Died Aug. 27, 1869."

Miss Gratz was a conspicuous member of an honorable Jewish family. She possessed in early years—indeed even to the day of her death—a singular beauty of face and form. Her eyes were of exquisite shape, large, black and lustrous; her figure was graceful and her carriage was marked by quiet dignity. Besides these attractions she had elegant and winning manners.

Gentle, benevolent and accomplished, Rebecca soon became the center of a brilliant circle of men and women—Christians and Jews. Her parents died when she was very young, but the Gratz mansion, presided over by Rebecca, continued to be known far and wide for its hospitality. One of the most intimate friends of her brother was Washington Irving, who was then in the early freshness of his literary career, and in this way a cordial friendship and admiration were established between the author and Miss Gratz, which lasted as long as life. Matilda Hoffman, who was the object of Irving's only love, was also Rebecca's dearest friend, many of her younger days being passed with the Hoffmans and other old families in New York. During Miss Hoffman's first illness Rebecca was her constant companion, sharing with the family the cares of the sick bed and holding Matilda when she died in her arms.

Scott and Irving met for the first time in 1817, the American visiting Sir Walter with a letter of introduction from the poet Campbell. He was most cordially received at Abbotsford, and there Irving passed several of the most delightful days of his life listening to the many tales, told as no one but Scott could tell them, and rambling about the beautiful hills. During one of the frequent conversations between the two authors Irving spoke of his own and Miss Hoffman's friend—Rebecca Gratz, of Philadelphia. He glowingly described her beauty and related the story of her firm adherence to her religious faith under the most trying circumstances, but particularly did he tell of her zealous philanthropy and loveliness of character.

Sir Walter was very deeply impressed and interested and conceived the idea of embodying a character like hers in one of his novels. He was then revolving in his mind the story of "Ivanhoe." And on the strength of Irving's vivid description, he determined to introduce a Jewish female character.

Scott composed this story during moments of intense physical pain, yet at times he became so interested in the character of Rebecca, for he even adopted her name, that he rose from his couch and walked up and down the room while he dictated the story to his amanuensis.

He finished the book in December, 1819, and immediately sent the first copy to Irving. In the letter accompanying it, he asked: "How do you like your Rebecca? Does the Rebecca I have pictured compare well with the pattern given?"

The resemblance of the character to that of Miss Gratz, it is said by those who knew her, was closely marked. Although the source of the character was known to the Jewess, her modesty made her shrink from the publicity of it, and when pressed upon the subject she would deftly evade the matter by changing the topic.

When a young girl, it is said, Rebecca Gratz won the regard of a gentleman of good position and wealth, but as he was a Christian the difference in their religious faith proved a hopeless barrier to their union. She consequently never married. Instead she devoted her life to charitable deeds. She founded the orphans' asylum of this city, and as early as 1811 her name appeared as an officer of the female association. In 1838 a mission school for Hebrew children was started by this noble woman. At this school prayers of her own composition were used daily. Miss Gratz lived to the advanced age of eighty-eight, when she died universally regretted.

The ancient graveyard where her mortal remains repose has been closed for burial purposes almost ever since her death, although previous to that time it was extensively used.—Philadelphia Times.

An Author's Feelings.

The author of "The Turkish Spy" tells us he would rather meet a lion face to face than feel a spider crawling over him in the dark. This he humorously attributes to transmigration. "Before I came into my present body," he says, "perhaps I was a fly." This is quite as reasonable an explanation of his antipathy as can be given for any of them. Even Shakespeare, though he gives several examples of this riddle, offers no solution of it.—London Illustrated News.

The Love of Fine Linen.

In the German household the love of linen is a passion. During the French wars under Napoleon, when from every town and hamlet the terror stricken people fled before the approaching armies, before all else they sought to save their many chests of homespun linen, and when peace returned what had escaped the Argus eyed enemy was tenfold more precious because of the horrors witnessed and the dreadful pangs endured. And even today the German woman prizes far above rubies her piles of snowy linen, the labor of many happy hours.—Garden and Forest.

Not Much Difference.

Little Boy—I wish I had a rabbit.
Mr. Fourthfloor—What would you do with a rabbit in a flat?
Little Boy—Well, I guess a rabbit could get along here 'bout as well as I can.—Good News.

AYESHA.

High on a camel's hump she sat,
Couched on a silky Fezzen mat,
And sailed along the waste of sand
More like the ocean than the land.
Ayesha!

And many an armed and valiant man
Guarded that glittering caravan.
His turban, snow white in the sun,
Where ostriches and zebras run.
Ayesha!

A troop of Bedouins with their spears
In the Sahara quick appears;
And, spurring with sirocco speed,
Each Moslem strides a fiery steed.
Ayesha!

A furious charge—a broken line—
Above the sands their crescents shine.
Onward the fierce marauders dash
To clang of hoof and falchion's flash.
Ayesha!

Her cries unheard, her convoy slain,
The Paynims scouring o'er the plain
Praise Allah for the prize this sent
A captive to their chieftain's tent.
Ayesha!

But he, a shick of stately mien,
Swore by his beard that ne'er was seen
So fair a maid since Mahmoud's day,
And sent her scathless on her way.
Ayesha!

Upon a courser fleet she rode!
Unconscious of its lovely load,
With precious gifts of silk and gold,
Her slave the Arab chieftain bold.
Ayesha!

—David Graham Adee in Washington Star.

THE TOAD AND ITS JEWEL.

Interesting Superstitions About a Very Harmless Little Animal.

Many remarkable legends and folklore stories cluster around the natural history of the common garden toad. All early writers on the characteristic habits of this harmless little creature make it a point to never allude to it without interjecting a few cautionary notes on its "extremely venomous bite," or the awful effects of "inhaling the direful creature's breath." The facts in the case are that it cannot bite at all, and if it should it has no "venom" with which to inject the wound. When irritated the toad may exhale an offensive secretion by means of follicles on the neck and other parts of the body, but to suppose that this secretion is poisonous is the height of folly.

Another toad belief—one that was rife 300 years ago—was that the ugly little batrachian's head was set with a priceless jewel. Shakespeare alludes to this curious belief where he says:

"Sweet are the uses of adversity,
which, like the toad, ugly and venomous,
wears yet a precious jewel in its head."

The belief in the "toadstone" was not only current in England and the other countries of Great Britain, but was known to learned men as one of the popular fallacies of all Europe. In Hungary it was believed that the toad ate dust and drank dew as his only food and drink. The action of the dew on the dust and the dust on the dew was supposed to cause a secretion to form in the animal's stomach which was vomited up each spring during molting time.

The Jaques de Mahen collection of oddities at Rouen has a tray containing a dozen or fifteen of these so called "toadstones." But, as hinted above, the British belief was that the "toadstone" was to be found only in the head of the warty little animal. Fenton, who lived and wrote in the Sixteenth century, says, "There is to be found in the heads of old and great toads a stone they call borax or steton, which, being used as rings, gives a forewarning of venom."

Lupton, writing about the year 1633, says: "The crepandia or toadstone is very valuable. Touching any part envenomed by the bite of a rat, wasp, spider or other poisonous beast ceases the pain and swelling thereof." During that uncertain period of time classed as the Middle Ages people in general believed that the toad had the power of charming its prey, as well as men and larger creatures. In classical times it was thought that no man could live who had the misfortune to be looked squarely in the eyes by a toad! In some respects this latter belief partakes of the nature of the legend of the basilisk.—St. Louis Republic.

The India Rubber Worm.

The latest triumph of Yankee inventive genius is an india rubber fishworm. It is said to be a remarkably good imitation of the common earth worm, is indestructible and in actual use proves as alluring to the fishes as the genuine article. The old fisherman will be quick to perceive its advantages. One can equip himself for a day's sport without digging over a whole garden in his search for bait. A handful of India rubber worms will last him a whole season, and there will be no necessity for pulling up the line every few minutes to see if the small fry nibblers have left the hook bare.

Possibly the greatest admirers of the new bait will be the feminine fishers, who, however expert with the hook and line, have never reached the point where they can impale an angle worm without a series of shudders. The only one who will find it a drawback will be the girl whose chief delight in fishing comes from the excuse it gives for keeping some young man at her side to handle the horrid worms. The invention of the rubber worm turns angling into an exact science, with no room for flirting accessories.—Troy (N. Y.) Times.

Sisal Grass.

Sisal grass is likely to prove a very important source of wealth for Mexico. It grows in long, narrow blades, often to the length of four or five feet, and these, when dry, curl up from side to side, forming a flexible string stronger than any cotton cord of the same size ever manufactured. It is in great demand among florists and among manufacturers of various kinds of grass goods, and it is said to be capable of being applied to many new uses. Ropes, cords, lines of any description and size may be manufactured of it, and a ship's cable of sisal grass is one of the possibilities of the future. It is almost impervious to the action of salt water, and is not readily decayed or disintegrated by moisture and heat. It takes its name from the port of Sisal, in Yucatan, through which it was formerly exported. —Board of Trade Journal.

Traveling Stones in Nevada.

The curious "traveling stones" of Australia are paralleled in Nevada. They are described as being perfectly round, about as large as a walnut and of an ivory nature. When distributed about on the floor, table, or any smooth surface within two or three feet of each other they immediately commence traveling toward each other and meet at a common center, and there lie huddled in a bunch like eggs in a nest. A single stone removed to a distance of four feet, upon being released returns to the heap, but if taken away as much as five feet remains motionless. It is needless to say that they are largely composed of magnetic iron ore.—Grass Valley Union.

One or two slight circumstances may bend the twig and thus incline the tree. A Christmas gift bent Dr. Schliemann, the discoverer of buried Troy, to his life work.

RETTY AND SHE KNEW IT.

A Figure in a Shop Window Made the Old Man Think of Other Days.

"Well, I'm gosh darned, M'randy!"

"Do you jest come along, Jesse, an you been a-married nigh onter forty years."

The twain were from the interior manifestly. He was of conventional rural dress, baggy pantaloons and coat sleeves too short, and a hat that half concealed his features. He wore huge glasses, and was peering through them with all his might and main at a revolving female dummy in a State street window. She wore a plain, black frock, short in the skirt and high in the neck, and a very plain bonnet of antique architecture. While he stared she tugged at his sleeves.

"Well, I'm goshed darned!" he repeated, giving no heed to the entreaties of his wife.

"Jesse, Jesse, do come away," she urged. "Why, everybody's a-sighting of ye."

"Well, I'm gosh darned!" he repeated for the third time. "If that thar gal don't top anything fer looks I ever see. Wonder what wages they give her fur spinnin around all the time. Not much, I reckon. Most any purty gal 'ud be glad er a show er p'inted at 'n praised by every feller 'at comes along, er thousand er more a day, I'm thinkin."

"Jesse, Jesse," pleaded the wife, pulling at his elbow more vigorously, "them youngsters is laughin at ye."

"She's docked purty, 'n she knows it," he added as he regarded her more critically. "Yaas, she knows it. W'at purty gal don't know that? I shud think her feller 'ouldn't like it, though. But, law, M'randy, she hain't a-mindin him, w'at wi' all the oglin 'n winkin she gets. Most er young wimmin has big enough heart fer more ner one till she gits settled down. Law, Suz, blamed if she don't smile sweeter nur a peach on that ther' redheaded chap yander. I guess the shop folks gin her that frock, fur its beyond her pile.

"It's pow'ful funny w'at store young wimmen does set on finery. Think o' her standin ther all day jes' fer fine shop clo's 'n ter be shined at 'n admired. It do beat all. I bet she kain't cook a chicken pie to save her gizzard. Yaas, she's purty enough ter be looked at, but when it comes ter gittin a wife"——

"Jesse," interrupted his spouse firmly, as she gave him a jerk that caused his teeth to rattle, "if you do not come right straight erlong I'll have you tuk up fer a lunytic, that I will."

"All right, M'randy, all right," said the old man meekly and with a sigh, as he dragged himself along after her. "It sorter tuck me back ter old times when I were a youngster around among the purtiest on 'em," and he licked his chops in apparent enjoyment of ancient days.

"You're what you allus was, Jesse—an old fool—'nther'll be no stoppin afore winders in this here wicked city," and she quickened her steps as she spoke and forced him to keep pace with her.—Chicago Mail.

Icebergs in Glittering Array.

There are few more interesting things among the perils and wonders of the ocean than icebergs. They are interesting not only for their gigantic size, their fantastic shapes, their exceeding beauty and their ability to cool great masses of water and air in their neighborhood, but also for the manner in which they array themselves.

Icebergs often show a tendency to form both clusters and long lines, and these groupings may arise from the effects both of ocean currents and storms.

Some very singular lines of bergs, extending for many hundreds of miles east of Newfoundland, are shown on an iceberg chart issued by the hydrographic office in Washington. Two of these cross one another, each keeping on its independent course after the crossing. In several instances parallel lines of bergs leave long spaces of clear water between them.

The Prince of Monaco, who has taken a lively interest in experiments with floating bottles in the ocean, urges in an address to the British association, the desirability of more systematic study of ocean tides and currents. A record of the groupings and alignments of icebergs in the North Atlantic might be of some use in such an investigation.—Youth's Companion.

Legal Verbiage in an Old Document.

An old deed recorded in Pettis county, Mo., over fifty years ago, contains a good illustration of the legal verbiage common in such instruments in early times. In addition to forty acres of land, sold for a consideration of fifty dollars, the document conveys "all and singular—appurtenances, appendages, advowsons, benefits, commons, curtilages, cowhouses, corncribs, dairies, dovecots, ensements, emoluments, freeholds, features, furniture, fixtures, gardens, homestalls, improvements, immunities, limekilns, meadows, marshes, mines, minerals, orchards, parks, pleasure grounds, pigeon houses, pigsties, quarries, remainders, reversions, rents, rights, ways, water courses, windmills, together with every other necessary right, immunity, privilege and advantage of whatsoever name, nature or description."—Chicago Herald.

Her Mood Changed.

A young man passing through a crowd in a great dry goods store found himself side by side with a timid looking little man, and exactly behind a lady. A movement of the crowd forced the young man to step upon the hem of the lady's skirt. She turned quickly around, with a furious look, and was evidently about to address some fierce remark to him, when a change came over her face suddenly: "Oh, I beg your pardon, sir," she said; "I was going to get very angry. You see, I thought it was my husband!" —San Francisco Argonaut.

About the Fruit Season.

Teacher—How long did Adam and Eve remain in the Garden of Eden?
Boy—I don't know.
Teacher—They remained in the Garden of Eden until—until——
Boy (gleefully)—Oh, yes, until the apples were ripe.—Texas Siftings.

How One Painter Was Started.

The Pall Mall Gazette tells a story of a British—or was it an American?—collector, who paused before a picture by the late Belgian artist, Mauve, for the first time, having been struck by its beauty. He asked how much it cost, and was told $125. "Nonsense," he said, "it's too cheap. Make it $500 and I'll take a dozen more from him at the same price." Thus was Mauve's financial success begun.

Corsican Bandits.

Corsican bandits have friends in every village, who supply them with what they want, and those who have only taken a life or two out of revenge are not regarded as criminals. We have seen a girl scarcely out of her teens flash up with anger if anything were said against the vendetta.—London Saturday Review.

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