The Kent News.

CHESTERTOWN, MD.....FEB. 4, 1893

OYSTERS.—Mr. Edw. W. Emory says the river is sufficiently open off Quaker Neck wharf to allow the oystermen to ply their tongs. The price ranges from sixty to seventy-five cents. He predicts that when the ice is floated away the bivalves will begin to get fat and the oystermen will pronounce the cold weather a God-send in more ways than one.

MAIL CONTRACTS.—From Baltimore, by Kent Island Wharf (n. o.) Queenstown, Overton and Rolphs, to Chestertown, fifty-eight miles and back, three times a week, or daily, except Sunday, when such trips are made by steamer, leaving Baltimore Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 11 A. M., arriving at 5.45 P. M. Leaving Chestertown Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 8 A. M., arriving at Baltimore by 2 P. M. Awarded the Chester River Steamboat Company, George Warfield, Baltimore, president, at $850 per annum.

From Baltimore to Rock Hall, 30 miles and back, six times a week, from July 1 to October 31, and three times a week from November 1 to June 30, and as much oftener as boats may run, awarded the Chester River Steamboat Company at $250.

From Baltimore to Tolchester Beach, twenty-six miles, and back six times a week, from June 1 to September 15 each year, leaving Baltimore at 8.15 arriving at Tolchester Beach at 10.30 A. M., leaving Tolchester Beach on return at 10.30, and arriving at Baltimore 12.45 P. M. Awarded John M. Naudain, secretary of the Tolchester Steamboat Company, at $550 per annum.

IN this issue we display a cut of the "Page celebrated woven wire fence" now being extensively used by farmers throught the state. The claim set forth by the manufactures of this fence, is that it is perfect stock proof in every particular, besides being able to resist changes from heat to cold the master of contraction and expansion. In Queen Anne's Co., the agents have sold over 30 miles in the past two months, a great saving is in the posts, only three being used to the 100 feet. J. K. Aldridge is the agent here and will furnish full particulars respecting it.

THEIR CONFESSIONS SACRED.—The Rev. Henry Sargent, of the Protestant Episcopal Order of the Holy Cross, who ministered to the four colored men who were hanged at Chestertown for the murder of Dr. J. H. Hill at Millington, writes to say that he did not reveal any part of the general confessions which the men made to him in preparing for death.

"Whatever the men may have confessed to me as a priest," writes Father Sargent, "was held sacred."

He also opposes the publicity of hanging, as at Chestertown, and says a public sentiment must be created that shall compel a respect for the law and its officers. He thinks hangings should take place in well-protected places into which crowds could not intrude. So do we.

A MOMENTOUS (?) QUESTION!—"Does the man go round the squirrel?" was the last subject for discussion by Vandegrift's Debating Club. More fully, the question is: Whether a man walking round a tree—in the effort to get a shot at a squirrel—and the squirrel going round exactly at the same time, the former goes round the latter. After an exciting debate the subject was laid over without a decision—the "boss" deferring to learn the views of some other "societies" in town. The matter was thereupon transferred to the clubs, which tackled the momentous question. The heat of the debate is almost at fighting point at times and the "intermissions" very frequent. It is not yet settled. Will not Washington College or the Johns Hopkins come to our rescue? Does the man go round the squirrel?

Warwick Items.

Fifty dollars reward for George Matthews, the negro who fired Mr. W. K. Lockwood's out-buildings, has been offered. He is a dark mulatto, about five feet, eight inches high, with part of three fingers off. He has been traced for several years back and is suspected of having burned seven or eight other parties out, and probably, if caught, he will be lynched, as the people are rather hot-headed about now. He is formerly from Kent county.

Our school held its annual entertainment on Friday evening, Jan. 27th. We thank the people of our neighboring counties for their attendance.

Wm. A. Hendricks has opened the shops formerly occupied by J. A. Jamison, and is ready for business. Mr. Hendricks is well known by all business men in this locality, and we hope those near will patronize him.

There are two cases of scarlet fever reported in Odessa, Del., and two deaths from the plague. W.

Items From Rolph's.

With the advent of milder weather, your scribe's ink thaws again. As regards this cold spell, let us say at once, that no colder one is remembered by any of the "oldest inhabitants" in this neighborhood, and that the concensus of opinion is that peaches are unhurt.

The river always presents a fine view from Rolph's, but of late it seems to have surpassed itself. For two weeks it lay an unbroken sheet of immaculate white, and now presents a most attractive picture as the water in places comes into view.

The fleet is still occupying the berths at the granary pier.

The "Virginia" leaves Baltimore to-day for Norfolk, carrying 45000 bricks in the hole, and on deck the little steamer "Gracie" of Chestertown, which is so familiar an object to every resideut along the river. The Virginia will bring back to Chestertown from Norfolk a full load of Virginia pine, for Mr. T. W. Eliason.

The son of Mr. Buchanan our mail carrier, who has been seriously ill, seems to mend slowly.

Mr. Chas. Kibler, of Catlin, has broken the Queen Anne's record as a breaker and trainer of high class canines. Mr. Kibler received last week fifty dollars ($50) for his red setter "Dash," the buyer being Mr. Black a Philadelphia sportsman.

Mr. Chas. Jefferson paid a visit to Tuckahoe Neck, Caroline county, last week, to be present at the marriage of a relative.

Mr. S. R. Hurlock was in Snow Hill last week, having journeyed thither to see his brother who met with a serious loss by fire recently.

Our fishermen are preparing to take advantage of the present hungry state of the finny tribe. We expect to have them on our tables long before those living inland have thawed out their pumps. Great is Rolph's!

We extend congratulations to Dr. S. E. Ford and his bride (*nee* Estella Potts.) Though somewhat late in tendering our good wishes, we are none the less sincere.—*Correspondence Centreville Observer.*

PERSONAL MENTION.

Prof. E. J. Clarke is visiting his mother in Pocomoke City. While away he will act as usher for Mr. Lloyd who is to be married at Norfolk. Mr. B. F. Perkins is attending to his duties at the college.

Mr. John H. Greenwood attended the execution of Stout in Elkton last Friday.

Among those present at the Russell-Shuster wedding Wednesday was Mr. R. Nelson Smith and wife, bride and groom of a few weeks, of Queen Anne's, Mr. Wm. T. Elliott and wife, Mr. Arthur Elliott and Miss Covington, all of Queen Anne's, Mrs. Robert T. Stevens, of Mt. Pleasant, Del., Miss Ada Orem, Crumpton, Miss Hattie Brown, of Baltimore, Benj. F. Flounders, Esq., of Elkton.

John M. Simonson, Esq., of Crisfield spent several days this week in Chestertown visiting his son who is a student at the college.

Miss Nora Myers, of Hanesville, is visiting friends in Camden and Philadelphia.

Mr. Jos. Parsons was the guest of Mr. A. I. Dugan this week.

Mrs. M. E. Rollison, of near Millington is visiting her neice, Mrs. W. L. Rutter, of near Locust Grove.

Mr. Frank H. Wright, of Baltimore, spent several days in Kent this week.

Mr. L. S. Fowler was slightly improved yesterday.

Mr. John Gruber is making a two weeks visit to his friends and relatives in Philadelphia.

Mr. John Hodgkins, of Washington, is at home for a short vacation.

Miss Nellie Dale, of Pocomoke City, is the guest of Miss Clare Vannort on High street.

Mr. Wilbur Morris has been visiting friends at Queenstown and elsewhere.

Miss Pearl Smith, of Queen Anne's, is the guest of the Misses Baker near Pomona.

Mr. J. H. Groves spent several days on Paca Island this week.

The wedding of Mr. W. Bradford Copper, Cashier of the Second National Bank, and Miss Sallie E. Carroll, daughter of Mr. A. P. Carroll, is announced to take place in Christ M. P. Church, Chestertown, next Thursday, February 9, 1893, at 12.30 o'clock, Revs. D. L. Greenfield and J. W. Easley officiating.

Miss Loula Loud, of Delaware, has been visiting her sister, Mrs. J. P. Hendrickson, near Urieville. A surprise was given her by a party of friends last week.

John M. Hennick, chief of the Baltimore city fire department, died at his home, Wednesday morning. Death came while he was seated in an easy chair, suffering great agony.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Harris arrived home by train Wednesday and were driven to the home of the bride's parents. When they arrived at the depot a shower of rice was turned upon them and "Tom" says they came near hitting him in the head with the old shoes. A remarkable incident in connection with their trip was that the same pair of shoes that was tied to the carriage when they left town last Wednesday was dangling under the carriage when they reached Chestertown. If the shoes could talk they would tell the following story: "We were tied to the carriage on Front street and rode to Price's station. We were then tied behind the car and rode to Philadelphia. At the latter city Mr. R. Irving Walker untied us, packed us in a box and expressed us to Conductor John D. Welch, Clayton. After staying at Clayton several days we were again tied to a car and arrived in Chestertown Wednesday. We rode to Front street behind the same carriage as we did the previous week." The report that Mr. and Mrs. Harris was in the Bingham House when it took fire was a mistake. They changed their quarters on the day preceding the fire.

A NOVEL AFFAIR.

The United "Y" Introduce Something New in Social Pleasures.

One of the most delightful entertainments yet held under the auspices of the "United Y" was given in Fairlee Hall. The regular routine of business was thrown aside and the whole evening devoted to most enjoyable fun. This society is hard to be outdone in numbers, good results or in wise management, and they are equally successful in arranging amusements for such an occasion as Monday evening. The hall was neatly trimmed with evergreens, etc., and there were present about one hundred persons. Miss Ida Crew, the efficient president, called the company to order and announced a part of the program as follows: The young men present are expected to place a piece of calico in a basket and wear a similar piece on the lapel of their coats. The young ladies will draw out the calico and make a necktie for the one who placed the special pattern in the basket. But the most amusing part was reserved for the young men. The cravat making was easy. "The young men," said the speaker, "are expected to come to this table, select a hat, bonnet or frame and trimmings, and trim the hat." Each one looked at the other in astonishment and when the word was given work was commenced and such an interesting or amusing spectacle would be difficult to find. Here was a young man trying to thread his needle, there one hunting for furs, and another trying on his hat, etc., while the ladies were busily engaged in making cravats. One-half hour was allowed for the work to be done and when the time had passed each gentleman, *wearing* his newly made bonnet, was requested to stand before the judges. Accordingly each one donned a lady's headgear and escorted his lady, who wore the necktie she had made, to the judgement bar. Of course it was a ludicrous sight as each succeeding rival appeared before the judges, and such trimming would make our most tasty and skilled milliners envious of such excellent artists, but each one announced that they were not to be employed. The first prize was awarded to Mr. Fred. G. Usilton and the second to Mr. T. E. W. Crew. The first prize was a pretty match safe and thermometer, while the second was a toy donkey. The judges were Mrs. B. L. Legg, Mrs. A. L. Corey and Mr. J. Walter Skirven. After this remarkable proceeding the company were escorted by Miss Ida Crew to the refreshment tables where ice-cream, lemonade and elegant cake were amply provided for all. Miss Bessie Miller succeeded in rivaling her competitors in reaching Jerusalem. The orchestra, composed of Miss Hallie Usilton, Messrs. Enoch H. Roland, David Ford, George Roland and William Whitely made excellent music. The next meeting will be held Monday evening to which the public is cordially invited.

DOUBLED.—Postal Agent Lambert learned from Superintendent Stacy e Tuesday that the weight of mails four years ago was five hundred pounds. Tuesday Mr. Lambert says the mails weighed more than one thousand pounds!

THE eighth grade at the public school, Chestertown, will hold a public entertainment in Stam's Hall next Saturday evening. Be sure and attend.

LIFE'S BRIGHT SIDE!

The Social Season in Kent Has Never Been Surpassed.

Chestertown has never enjoyed a more lively social season than that of 92-93. It has been one continued round of pleasures that rivaled each other in many particulars. It would be impossible to pick out the occasion that afforded the most pleasure or presented the most charming surroundings. They have each one evidenced the fact that Kent county possesses ladies competent of entertaining in the most delightful and graceful manner. The adorning of the table and of the parlors have been most artistic and beautiful and the critical eye could not find a single decoration that was not in harmony with the occasion.

A reception was given Thursday evening at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. S. Walker to Mr. and Mrs. Allen Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Edward W. Emory and Mr. and Mrs. J. Fletcher Rolph, of Centreville. It was a delightful affair.

A magnificent dinner was served at Mr. and Mrs. Edw. W. Emory's pretty home on Chester river Friday to twenty or more guests in honor of Mr. and Mrs. A. Harris. It was a highly delectable occasion and one of rare enjoyment to those present.

Miss Ellen Fisher will give a tea this evening to Mr. and Mrs. Harris from five to eight o'clock.

A party of *young* people gave Miss Mamie Clothier a complete surprise Friday night. The evening was spent in amusements of various kinds and all retired at a late hour leaving their hostess with many regrets.

A brilliant gathering took place at Crumpton last Wednesday evening it being the annual ball of the young people of that town. There were about thirty couple present among whom were four or five from Chestertown. The music was furnished by Mr. Robert Godwin and Captain Ware, son, and two daughters, Misses Sallie and Carrie and it was excellent. Refreshments were served during the evening.

The crowning event of the social season will be the annual ball to be given in Stam's Hall next Thursday evening, February 9, by the young men. The committee consists of Messrs. George Brice, P. B. Hollis, John D. Welch, Frank H. Gilpin, Eben F. Perkins, Jr.

Quite a large number of the "United Y" turned out on Friday evening last, to surprise the worthy president, Miss Ida Crew, at her home near Lankford. As the large number of the guests were masked, she was indeed surprised to see so many among the crowd, with whom, seemingly she had no acquaintance. Chief among these strange characters was, "The Devil." Certainly Mr. Will Whiteley's conception of that king of evil was vivid enough, and, would you believe it strange as it may seem, no one—not a single one—had the least difficulty in recognizing that horrible countenance with its flaming eyes and pretending horns. So, he at least, must be known to us all. Our attention was next drawn to King Lear, as represented by Percy Hendrickson, and surely, never in his worst moments, could the mad king roll his eyes farther up into his head than did his representative. Mr. Joe Watson as the darkey preacher, and George Hendrickson as wife were quite taking; Misses Maggie Hendrickson and Florence Shepard, as the two widows, were discreet enough and demure enough to forever silence all newspaper jokes about frisky widows; Dave Ford was an active baseball player, while Sue Ford took the character of Japanese girl quite well; Jimmy Deford had the fattest cheeks, and was altogether the plumpest looking apple-boy you ever saw, and he wasn't at all stingy with his apples; Stockton Startt as beggar man, quietly solicited alms, while E. Roland, as old Aunt Sallie, sang jubilee songs. The Irish must suffer terribly with neuralgia, as Budget and Katie (Grace Hatcherson and Blanche Smyth) both wore heavy woolen hoods, despite the heat of the rooms. We had the pleasure of introducing Columbus, with that immortal ruff of his to "The Scarlet Letter" (Sadie Hendrickson) and, despite the few hundred years between their ages they seemed glad to meet. Many more were masked but were so over come with shyness as to refuse to give their names to your reporter, hence must place them on the "No Name Series." About eleven o'clock refreshments were served and shortly after the guests left, having spent a pleasant evening, due largely to the worthy president who knows well how to entertain.

From Fairlee.

I read with interest the interrogatives of Buyer. As I am not a merchant I will not attempt to answer any of them. I scarcely think that the writer intended to have the questions located, as they were by being under "Fairlee News." I have not any doubt but what nearly all merchants in the country have had just such experinces as Buyer's questions suggest, and not particularly those of Fairlee. You know people will talk, and some times some of us go out of evenings to the stores for that purpose, but I tell you, if one of those "active buyers," by stumbling over the feet of some of the "tardy ones," should strike a sore corn there would be trouble right then and there, and a combat might make the merchant miss a sale. Corns are painful and are not to be stepped on. I believe that "Buyer" must be a different kind of a fellow, and not fond of *society*. If so, he had better keep away from stores or he will come in contact with the intellectual thinkers of the "19th century," and if he should happen to be drawn to conversing, he would soon wish for a "screen" to dodge behind to hide his confused appearance. For him to attempt to converse with those use to store life, out side the counter, would be simply an absurdity. Why! *he is not up with the times*, doesn't even know of the joke Mr. —— played on Mr. ——. I would suggest to "Buyer," not to carry too much cash along with him or somebody in the store might see it, and way-lay him. Give your check and avoid any such risk. Now! if you don't want to be heard ask *for credit* take the merchant behind your "screen" or out in the grocery room, for if you are within ten feet of the "*tardy Buyers*" they will be sure to hear you and when they tell to some one else your statement, they may not epitomize, however, as a rule they are "good natured," and seldom get frustrated, except when that fellow with the "push of the 19th century" strikes the painful corn, or that Buyer writes a few sensible questions to be answered through the columns of the NEWS, then they are hardly desperate. Now I will stop, and I always go upon the maxim "if the cap fits wear it." I think hereafter I will remain at home of evenings with my "pleasant family."

MR. TARDY.

THURSDAY was ground hog day. He did not see his shadow, therefore winter has broken!

MILLINGTON ITEMS.

Ex-Gov. Biggs on the Peach Prospect—Death of Edw F. Hurtt—Personals—Accident and Items Picked Up by News Hustlers.

This is the time of the year that farmers have nothing to do but sit around the stores and other loafing places, and discuss the weather, the coming peach crop and other topics, and make predictions for the next winter, etc. Some of their stories are almost equal to the fish story told by our friend, Jack Easy, in last week's KENT NEWS.

Although the peach crop prospect in this section is not very bright just now, it does not follow that we will not have peaches next summer. Ex-Gov. B. T. Biggs, of Delaware, and the peach king of this community, was in town a few days ago, and says that there will be more than a half crop in this section, provided that they don't get destroyed later in the season; while other good authorities say we will have a full crop, and some few others say the entire crop is already destroyed and there will not be a blossom on any of the trees. It must be remembered that at a peach convention held at Middletown, Del., in the early part of July, 1891, some friends of ours from our sister county, Queen Anne's, reported there would be 400,000 baskets of peaches at Price's Station, 300,000 at Sudlersville, and only 20,000 at Millington, but the railroad statistics show we shipped more peaches from Millington, that year, than both Price's Station and Sudlersville together, and further more shows there were more peaches shipped from Millington in 1891 than any station in the United States, or in the world; so that goes to show we cannot always count our chickens before they hatch, nor count your peach money until you have got it safe in your pocket, as the peach is an uncertain as well as a precarious product.

George Turner, an industrious colored man, about 45 years of age, met with a very painful and sad accident on Monday afternoon, at about 3 o'clock. He was out alone in the woods on the farm of Wm. A. Cochran, cutting cordwood for Mr. James Voshell, when his axe glanced and cut a deep four inch gash in his left foot; his home was about three-quarters of a mile distant, and no aid being at hand, he managed, with much suffering, to crawl to it, but when he reached there every member of his family had gone to Millington with his only team and it was after 7 o'clock when he was brought into Dr. Wm. M. Pippin's office in an unconscious condition, caused by loss of blood. At this writing he is getting along as well as could be expected.

Among those of our town who have attended the Moody & Sankey meetings at Wilmington we note Rev. E. E. White and wife, Misses Cynthia Nelson, Etta Rash, Annie Bottomley, Mrs. Ida Price, Messrs. T. J. McWhorter, Frank Smith, Howard West and C. W. Hurtt.

Miss Julia Cacy is visiting friends in Baltimore.

Miss Willie Moffett is visiting her sister, Mrs. Lena McGinniss, of Wilmington, Del.

Mr. Theodore Mullikin, of Philadelphia, spent Sunday in town with his sister, Mrs. H. S. Cook. H.

We expect quite a lively time here the next few weeks. The adventists have rented the town hall for a month and will hold meetings therein. They believe that Saturday is the Lord's Day and should be observed as such.

Mr. Edward F. Hurtt died at his home here on Monday morning, aged about 40 years. He has been a sufferer of consumption for a number of years and has been confined to the house for several months. For awhile he accepted a position in Wilmington, but his health would not permit him to hold on to it. The funeral was held Wednesday and was largely attended. Mr. Henry Hurtt, of Chestertown, and Charles F. Hurtt, of this town, are brothers of the deceased. He leaves a large circle of friends in Kent.

Mrs. Emma Whittington has accepted a paying position in the Baltimore Hospital.

Miss Flora Scotton is visiting friends in Easton.

This community is incensed over the burning of barns by Matthews and it will not be well for him to appear in this neighborhood. A subscription of $150 was raised Tuesday for a reward to anyone who succeeded in catching him. Among those who are anxious to have the man arrested are R. S. Griffith, Andrew W. Woodall, A. F. Huey, H. J. Grey, C. S. Hurlock and many others and they have contributed accordingly. The last heard from the man he was at Mr. Cochran's, in Delaware. He left there Thursday. F.

I see by your last issue that the county has many good citizens anxious to serve their country for the country's good. Happy is the State that has such a large number of patriotic voters to select her public servants from. I see that our worthy and consistent Democrat, Dr. E. J. Clark, is named for legislative honors. He would be a very acceptable candidate to those who know him best (his neighbors.) To know him is to respect him as a gentleman of culture. He has been frequently urged by his neighbors to serve as a candidate for the House, but has often refused. May the public have better luck this time. W. H. Ford is named for sheriff; his name is frequently associated with that of county commissioner, an office that he would fill with credit to himself and profit to the tax-payers. A. F. Huey is named as one able to look after interests of the county, and a gentleman of capacity and strict integrity. John S. Newnam would be an acceptable candidate to his many friends. Our old commissioners, Charles P. Loper and James R. Jones may be put in the race. Their past services are frequently spoken of, their economy and faithful services are well known and remembered. Wm. C. Rolph will give Mr. Ireland a hustle for the sheriffalty—both good men. I have named a number of good men for the office of county commissioner, but sirs, if it is the pleasure of the voters to nominate the old board, I say let it be. They have proven themselves well qualified and deserving. The murder trials have increased expenses, which they are compelled to meet.

Miss Annie Power left here on Monday last for Jacksonville, Florida; she has relatives and friends there; her little protege, Kina Sozinskey, accompanied her; they will not return before the last of April or first of May. Her sister, Miss Helen, is teaching her school. CITIZEN.

THE HEAVENS IN FEBRUARY.—The winter constellations will still be in their glory during the shortened nights of February. The principal astronomical events of the month will be the conjunctions, the moon with Venus on the 14th and with Mercury on the 16ih. On the 20th and 21st Jupiter and Mars will be in close proximity to the moon, and the celestial spectacle will be even finer than the recent galaxy of the moon and these two planets. Mars and Jupiter are still the evening stars, and Venus, Mercury and Uranus are morning stars.

Piney Neck Items.

Our pastor, Rev. W. Major Lister, has returned from a visit among his friends in Caroline and Delaware. He states there never were more stronger proofs of cold weather in the vicinity of Denton as he saw while on this visit. The ice is not only ten inches in thickness in the channel of the Choptank, but fast running streams had ice that would bear heavy loads and some of them were entirely blockaded notwithstanding the fact of being as much as 80 feet below the common level of the surrounding neighborhood and protected by the forest. About six weeks ago Bro. Lister was summoned home to see an invalid sister who died within a week after his return to Piney Neck. Just one month after the loss of the first he was made the unfortunate loser of a second. The death of the latter was caused by taking cold on the meales. Among the calls of welcome he made in Delaware we would mention the hospitality with which he was received at Rev. Mr. Green's at Greenward, and at the Conference Academy in Dover, of which he was a student before becoming the pastor of Piney Neck charge.

Presiding Elder Smith preached at Piney Neck Church last Sunday at 3 P. M., and held the fourth quarterly conference on Monday at 1 P. M.

Postmaster Crosby says that he hopes to have from now until next September to paint the other side of his sleigh and then not get to use it.

Mr. George E. Leary & Son have made a road over the channel of Grey's Inn creek with a two horse sled hauling wood, and the many paths which are made in all directions over the creek and cove resemble so many paths over a barren field.

As it is impossible for the people to get coal, many of them are resorting to the woods for fuel.

It has but recently been learned that Miss Emma Crouch and Mr. Harry Hudson have been happily made man and wife. They will go to Baltimore to live.

The people of this vicinity are anxious to get out on the river to work; they go from home to shore every morning to look out on the river.

Mr. Harry Lake is a business man. He has many to work for him cutting wood.

One day last week, Emory Crouch and R. Crouch, F. Colison, F. Crouch, J. Colison, Walter Elburn, James Glenn, Drage Kendall went across Chester river to Queen Anne's to mend their fish traps. They found the ice in the channel of the river 10 inches thick.

The vessels are laying in Long Cove harbor waiting for the ice to break up.

The police schooner Annie B. Smith, commanded by Capt. Thomas W. Hyland, Jr., is frozen up at Steelton. They have a good time there and walk from boat to boat.

Blessed is he that considereth the poor the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble.

Mr. E. H. Strong has been very sick but is better at this writing.

Mr. Walter Elburn is visiting his sister at Queenstown, Queen Anne's.

The singing school will meet every Monday night.

Mr. Robert McNeal came up Chester river a few weeks ago in the ice and cut a large hole in his boat, the Sarah A. Hemling, Mr. Burgess' brother put a plank in her where the ice cut her. E.

Averages for January.

The following averages have been made upon the basis of the French marking system, which has worked admirably in our schools. Prof. T. H. Topping pronounces the system a decided success, and states that the new method is as popular with pupils as with the teachers.

EIGHTH GRADE.

Annie DeFord	91	Tillie Reiche	85
Maud Bramble	88		

SEVENTH GRADE.

Mamie Thompson	99	Pearl Shuster	88
Mamie Carroll	98	Minnie Peregoy	87
Amy Russell	98	Eddie Boston	86
Tannie Willis	97	Rose McIntire	82

SECOND-SIXTH GRADE.

Lillie Crow	92	Mamie Kirby	86
May Hill	91	Fred Russell	84
Georgia Thompson	91	Maggie Joiner	82
Dora Staats	89	Allie Wright	82
Harry Anthony	87		

FIRST-SIXTH GRADE.

Grace Whaland	95	Sadie Hendrickson	86
Frank Smith	94	Bertha Bryan	83
Katie Shuster	88	Sophie Beck	81
Sallie Beck	87	Harry Fallowfield	81
Owen Crow	87	Susie Ford	81
Annie Brice	86	Robert McWhorter	81
Susie Culp	86	Waters Russell	81

SECOND-FIFTH GRADE.

Adele France	97	Freddie Strong	91
Mary Brown	95	Lemont Thompson	89
Sophie Rose	95	Mamie Copper	86
Ethel Perkins	95	Raymond Simpers	85

FIRST-FIFTH GRADE.

Bessie Wheatley	95	Ollie Hill	85
May Crow	94	Charles McWhorter	84
Dollie McWhorter	92	Walter Wright	83
Bessie Coleman	91	Milton Peregoy	82
Frank Hines	91	Harry Barnes	82
Hallie Toulson	90	Nellie Eareckson	81
Zoa Elliott	89	Earle Simpers	80
Barbara Anthony	86	Blanche Cox	80
Carl Biscoe	86		

FOURTH GRADE.

Lizzie Willis	98	Clarence Coleman	85
Staunton Brown	97	Nora Boston	84
Lottie Blackway	95	Hallie Westcott	84
Benia Dill	92	Lula Downey	83
Olive Beecham	91	Harry York	82
Florence Green	88	Maud Thompson	82
Dora Thompson	87	Lizzie Quelette	82
Fannie Smith	87	Ada Barnett	81
Carl Russell	87	Pearl Hendrickson	80
Harry Bramble	87		

THIRD GRADE.

May Jones	98	Earle Barnes	90
Burtie Burchinal	98	Bessie Twilley	89
Ethel Coleman	97	Godfrey Westcott	89
Allie Elliott	97	Polk Bramble	87
Hallie Connelly	97	Iris Anthony	85
Gussie Friedman	95	Blanch Elliott	85
Lillie Greenwood	94	Jessie Willis	84
Mabel Toulson	93	Effie Lynch	84
Mabel Comegys	93	Frank Duyer	80

SECOND GRADE.

Louise Usilton	96	Roland Parks	87
Jennie Hines	95	Alice Walmsley	86
Elsie Fallowfield	95	Elmore Wright	85
Gussie Lambert	93	Maggie Chlicutt	85
Bennie Boston	93	Lottie Rose	84
Morgan Matthews	92	Ned Westcott	84
Rachel Copper	91	Burchinal Brown	83
Charlie Hines	90	Bessie Thompson	83
Howard Dodd	90	Elwood Biscoe	82
Anna Bryan	89	Edna Dugan	82
Arnold Dugan	89	Garfield McCaig	81
Allie Lambert	88		

FIRST GRADE.

Nellie Jones	91	Clara Thompson	83
Louis Roland	90	Duke Brown	82
Romie Harris	87	Frank Greenwood	80
Clifton Rawleigh	84	James Bartlett	80
Sadie Gardner	83	Charlie Dodd	80

Kennedyville School.

The following are the averages of the pupils of Urieville school during the month of January; Kent McKnett, 98; Florence Melvin, 95; Grace McKnett, 92; Blanche Stouffer, 90; Mary McKnett, 88; Laura McKnett, 85; Bertha Hendrickson, 83; James Shinn, 82; Eddie Stouffer, 79; Willie Shinn, 77; Mattie Stouffer, 63.

Hanesville School.

The averages of the pupils of Hanesville school for the month of January are as follows: Susie Holdson, 98; Nellie Walker, 97; Corinne Mathiot, 91; Parks Rasin, 97; Harrod Mathiot, 97; Merritt Rasin, 96; Nannie Mathiot, 94; Marie Mills, 94; Mary Miller, 94; Herman Holdson, 93; Carl Myers, 92; Harry Trimble, 92; Maggie Walker, 91; Frank Reed, 90; Sarah Hessey, 90; Howard Bowers, 88; Sam'l Reed, 86; Walter Taylor, 85; Fannie Hill, 85; Lillian Gale, 80; Dollie Boone, 89; Sadie Reed, 78; Raymond Bowers, 76; Samuel Taylor, 75.

Flatland School.

The following averages of the pupils of the Flatland school for the month of January: 7th grade—Katie Wood, 99; 6th grade, Sallie Bigelow, 98; Horace Nicholson, 94.5; Etta Vansant, 93; Chas. Bigelow, 93; Nellie Vansant, 90; Walter Fowler, 86; 5th grade—Ruthie Wood, 95.5; Holt Eliason, 82; Bessie Nicholson, 96; Hattie Lecates, 93; Paul Vansant 92.5; John Eliason, 94; 3rd grade—Mary Nicholson, 81; Thos. Fowler, 82; Elwood Fowler, 83; R. Page Hickman, 91; Katie Fowler, 79; Ella Bacon, 90; Pierson Bigelow, 88; Charlie Coleman, 95.

Religious Items.

Quarterly conferences have been held at the M. E. Churches in Kent the past month and the reports were specially gratifying. The Chestertown congregation asked for the return of Rev. Mr. Easley and it is quite certain that he will be returned to his appreciative congregation. New hymnals and psalm books have been placed in the pews and has added very much to the singing.

Rev. C. S. York is as popular as ever at Fairlee and the official board represented a large membership when they requested the presiding elder for the return of Mr. York.

The people at Pomona have never been better suited than at present.

Rev. Mr. Mowbray suits them exactly and he is doing a grand work in that section. He has been there four years and his return will be asked but some fears are entertained as to his return. He is an able preacher and a grand pastor.

At Galena Rev. Mr. Nelson has given the people perfect satisfaction and his return is also desired.

Millington has in Rev. E. E. White one of the grandest men in the district and if he does not return it will not be the fault of the people, and the same may be said of Rev. Mr. Roe at Rock Hall.

A Senior Christian Endeavor Society has been formed at Christ Church with twenty members. This is the only *senior* C. E. S. in the world. Thursday was observed all over the world as Christian Endeavor Day. At Christ Church last night a very interesting program was presented and the anniversary day appropriately celebrated. February 2, 1881, Rev. Francis E. Clark organized in Williston Church, Portland, Me., the first Endeavor Society. A successful revival, during which a large number of young people had joined the church, had just closed at Mr. Clark's charge. Mr. Clark called a meeting of the young people and submitted to them his plans for a society of pledged Christian workers. They heartily approved the plans, and at once organized with fifty members. Mr. Clark had no expectation of his plans being adopted by other churches, and yet to-day there are few Protestant denominations without Christian Endeavor societies. The organization is interdenominational. There are now enrolled 24,200 Endeavor societies, of which 21,600 are in the United States, 1,670 in Canada and 930 in foreign lands, with a total membership of 1,420,000.

Rev. V. S. Collins, who has been pastor of the M. E. Church of Centreville for two years, received a call to Port Deposit, to take effect at the ensuing session of conference. After consulting with the trustees, however, he determined to remain at Centreville, subject to the approval of the presiding elder.

Rev. T. A. King, formerly pastor of M. P. Church, Chestertown, has received a call from Chicago and has acceptad it. He has been pastor of the New Jerusalem Church in Baltimore for several years and has greatly endeared himself to both old and young among his flock. His salary will be $3,500. He accepted the Sweedenborgian faith in 1881.

It is reported that Rev. J. B. Quigg has accepted a call to the Port Deposit M. E. Church for the coming conference year.

The Rev. Chandler A. Oakes, formerly of Wilmington, and more recently of Stroudsburg, Pa., has been appointed the Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage's assistant at the Brooklyn Tabernacle.

Notes from Worton.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In last weeks NEWS I saw mentioned that the political pot has commenced bubbling, also names of several gentlemen in connection with the candidacy for commissioner's office. While they are all first-class men and would reflect credit to the district, several of them have announced themselves as not being candidates. I think our people will be most likely to favor the candidacy of Joseph R. Usilton for commissioner, though the others are first-class men. Also I see that Sheriff Plummer is a candidate for legislative honors from the third district. I think that with all his good qualities if he had made a trip through the district he would not have announced himself so early. We have a gentleman who is the peer of any—a man of sterling worth and a gentleman of undoubted integrity. The man we would have represent our district for legislative honors is Mr. Thos. Gale. A man that no one can say ought against.

The peach prophet has raised his voice and it is heard through the land. Some predict a crop, others a failure, peaches are a very uncertain crop and it would be better for all if half of the trees in Kent county were taken up and the land put to other uses. Hay and corn will pay better than peaches one year with another.

The health of our community has been very good this year so far. The measles have had a run for awhile, but are abating somewhat. Our friend Charles Hurlock has been under the weather for some time, suffering with influenza and grippe. Wishing you a prosperous year. WORTON.

A Mysterous Negro.

Although some of the Hill murderers have been hanged, says the *Morning News*, and some sent to the Maryland Penitentiary for life there is something of a mystery connected with it in the shape of a negro who is just now going about in the lower part of this state whose actions lead those who have seen him and talked to him to believe that he knows more about the murder than would be good for him should he fall in to the hands of the people about Millington, Md.

The negro first appeared in Frederica some weeks ago and remained there until he had some trouble and left to escape punishment. He was known by the name of "Jim," and no one seems to know his other name. Some time after the hanging of the Hill murderers at Chestertown he appeared in Milford, where he was engaged by a family as cook. He had in his possession various papers containing accounts of the execution of the Hill murders, and whenever he had any spare time he would pore over these papers.

When he reached the part of the story which gave the details of the execution he would lay aside the paper which he was reading and with shaking voice, say that he could not read it. When asked if he knew the Hill murders the negro said that he knew them all, and then proceeded to tell the story of the murder with the most minute detail. It is said that at night when he went to his lodgings he would again produce these papers and read them until the one certain point was reached. Finally he left the town taking with him the key to the back door of the house where he was employed.

It was at first believed that the negro was Perry Bradshaw, the man who was allowed to go free because he turned state's evidence, but the description of the man did not agree with that of Bradshaw. The man is a well educated negro and of a much different character from Bradshaw. Who he is or where he has gone no one knows but the people who has seen him and talked with him are of the opinion that he knows more of the murder than an innocent man should.

ROCK HALL ITEMS.

The Church's Condition—A Sad Death—Ice Moving—Oysters Weak—Sandals, New Library, &c.

Last Sunday evening being the fourth quarterly meeting occasion of the M. E. Church here, a large congregation, notwithstanding the incleniency of the weather assembled to hear Rev. Alfred Smith, P. E., of Easton district, who delievered a masterly exposition of the text, "Have faith in God," Mark 11—22. Many well directed illustrations were used setting forth the simplicity of faith, and man's failure to grasp it, which were all well received by the appreciative audience. Monday morning the conference was held, presided over by the P. E., a small number of officials were in attendance; stewards report had a discouraging showing financially, owing to various causes. An effort was made looking to the reunion of Piney Neck and Rock Hall, but is doubtful if our friends over the way desire to reunite. They seem to be well pleased with the seperation made a year ago, and are much attached to their young pastor, Mr. Lister, and if he is not returned to them the ensuing year, there is likely to be a whoop heard in camp that will leave no uncertain sound.

The revival services in the M. E. Church have taken on new life and vigor, resulting in a number of conversions during the week.

The Knights of Pythias are imbued with the spirit of progress. The proposed library scheme