LIFE PRISONERS.

An Interview with Two of the Boys Implicated in the Hill Murder.

There are six life prisoners in the Maryland Penitentiary. They are all negroes.

They were convicted, in every instance of murder in the first degree, and the sentence, of each was commuted to life imprisonment. The number of life prisoners is smaller in this Penitentiary than probably any other known, and neither this fact nor the one that all are negroes can be accounted for by Warden Weyler.

Two of the six are the boys Lewis Benson and Joshua Bainard, who were sentenced to be hanged for complicity in the murder of Dr. Hill, of Kent county and whose sentences Governor Brown commuted. The other two boys who were sent up with Benson and Bainard at the same time succumbed to the confinement of prison life and died.

Through the courtesy of Warden John F. Weyler, *The Hearld* reporter was permitted to see and talk with the life-prisoners the other afternoon. The interviews took place in the warden's office in the Penitentiary yard. As the prisoners stood in the office their eyes would longingly seek the green grass of the prison yard and the blue sky above. Their expressions were those of a caged bird, but, unlike one of those, they had committed crime for which they were paying the penalty, and which penance would not be finished until death had put them beyond all earthly power.

The hum of the city came from beyond the thick walls; the clang of bells, shrieking of whistles and other sounds the convicts could hear, but it gave them no concern, for their part of the world was entirely distinct from all that, and they knew they could never, except by special dispensation, know the places and things to which they had been accustomed in former years.

The warden, in his calm, unimpassioned tones, explained to each one, as he came to the office at the summons of a "trusty," that if he did not wish to talk he need not do so, and it lay entirely with him. They were all too glad, however, to converse with someone from the outer world, and felt no hesitancy whatever in speaking of the crimes for which they were convicted.

The boys Joshua Bainard and Lewis Benson, whose sentences Gov. Brown commuted from hanging to imprisonment for life in Jan., 1893, were seen by the reporter. They were taken to the Penitentiary Jan. 3 of that year. Bainard is 18 now and Benson 17. They are scarcely above the brute in intelligence now, but the warden says they have improved greatly in the two years or more they have been under his care. They are both dark, and Bainard has a sullen, heavy face, with scarce a gleam of intelligence in it. Benson is far the brighter of the two. In response to a question as to what he would do if he got out, he said he would like to "run around a little," as there was not much room in the yard for that. He also said he would "like ter git something good ter eat."

When Bainard was asked questions he remained silent and looked at Benson, as if he was waiting for the latter to answer. The warden said it was hard when they first came to the institution to make understand that they had to work, but they had at last learned it and were doing their tasks faithfully. They work in the shoe department, which is the lightest work in the penitentiary. The warden was of the opinion, strengthened by seeing the boys and having them under his charge, that Governor Brown did the right thing when he commuted their sentences, as they evidently did not know what they were doing when they were present at the murder of Dr. Hill.

WAGES, CITY AND COUNTRY.

An Argument to Prove that Those Paid by Farmers are Higher.

Farm wages look small, but the net return is not so bad after all. A young man of twenty-four was offered the choice this week between a $1-a-week position in Boston and a place upon a farm at $20 per month and expenses. He chose the farm with but little hesitation, because, as he said, he could save more money and because he liked to live in the country.

The necessary expenses of living in the city, he said, according to the Massachusetts Ploughman, were as follows:

Board	$3.50
Room	1.50
Car fare	.60
Washing	.50
Clothing, etc	1.50
Total	$7.60

Thus his salary of $12 melts to $4.40, and but a small part of the remainder is saved because of the expensiveness of city amusements. In the country he reckoned that all these items were provided for, except clothing, and not over fifty cents per week would be needed to supplement his stock of old clothes. In his practical experience of several years of both farm and city work he has found that the net returns of farm labor were the larger. He could save scarcely any of his city salary, while nearly all his farm wages went into the bank, to be kept toward the purchase of a farm of his own.

A Slip of the Pen.

Mrs. S——, a widow of two years' standing, drew a check for $150. Presenting it for payment, she observed an amused expression on the face of the paying teller, but she received her money and departed. A month later her book was written up and her vouches returned, and the amused expression on the face of the paying-teller was explained. Her check of a month previous read:

"The Blank National Bank will pay to bearer one husband and fifty dollar."

The lady is thinking of suing the bank for the balance due, for, as she says, she certainly has not collected all that the check called for.—*Harper's Magazine.*

Bran is an excellent ration for horses, especially if fed with cut hay, as it is not as heating as corn and contains more mineral matter than the whole grain. Bran and ground oats, mixed, make an excellent combination for summer.

Montrose—I have an invitation to Van Million's great dinner.

Osbourne—Going to take it in?

Montrose—Yes, as much as I can of it.

The number of draught dogs in Belgium is probably not less than 50,000.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THRESHING.

The Cyclone Stacker, Self Feeder and Automatic Sacking Device.

The new threshing machines which have come into the field the year 1894 show more improvement than the last ten years put together. Among them the cyclone stacker. This is not the first year it has been in use, but the first that I have had an opportunity of testing it, says a writer in the New York *Tribune.* It is an improvement greatly appreciated, as it reduces the working force by at least four hands, and relieves the men from the most disagreeable part of the work. Ever since the threshing season opened this year the mercury has ranged from 88 to 90 degrees. To work in a cloud of dust on a straw stack sinking into the loose straw nearly to the hips every step, is torment that reminds one of pergatory; but the cyclone thresher stacks the straw without a man on the stack.

A cylinder with a fan attached to the front part of the separator makes a blast which takes straw and chaff, and blows it in a constant stream through an iron tube about a foot in diameter. This tube is made with a pivot so it can be raised and lowered and moved from side to side, and it telescopes so it can be shortened or lengthened. It is operated by an expert, who stands on top of the separator out of the dust, and has it under complete control. The straw can be blown nearly or quite fifty feet, and, with experience, the operator makes a good stack. My wheat was threshed with a machine having the cyclone stacker attachment, and by a little arrangement of the bottom of the stack we have as well shaped stack as I ever had on the farm.

Another improvement is what is called the self-feeder, and in connection with it the cylinders are arranged to cut the bands. With these machines the work of three men is disposed with; for with machines threshing 100 bushels or more of wheat an hour, two men are required to cut bands and one, and sometimes two men, to feed the sheaves into the cylinder. Now a bundle carrier carries the bundles to the cylinder, and knives attached to it cut the bands, and so it is possible to thresh wheat with a force of only six or eight men besides the regular crew that go with the machine.

Still another improvement runs the wheat directly into sacks, instead of into half bushel measures as formerly, and, here we save the work of lifting the wheat and pouring it into the sacks, and the time of the man who held the sacks. There is also a weighing arrangement by which the wheat is weighed automatically. Under favorable conditions, these machines can thresh four bushels a minute.

Contrast for a moment the old flail, with which a man could laboriously thresh a bushel an hour, with one of these machines taking in the bundles as fast as four men can pitch them on a platform, filling a two-bushel sack in thirty seconds, and in a half day putting sixty tons of straw in a stack. All this change has come in the memory of men now living. One fairly holds his breath as he asks: "What will the progress of the 20th century be?"

Nervous Prostration

Could Not Sleep — Had No Appetite

Cured in Body and Mind by Hood's Sarsaparilla



Mr. J. Edw. Riffle
Allegheny, Pa.

"I suffered very much for a long time with nervous prostration. I had about given up all hopes of ever getting better when Hood's Sarsaparilla was recommended to me and I believe it my duty to let other sufferers know the benefit I derived from it. I Could Not Sleep at night, was without appetite, and what little I did eat I was unable to keep on my stomach. After taking the first bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla, which seemed to do me some good, I tried a second and continued to feel better. I got up feeling

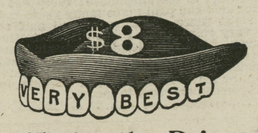
Bright and Refreshed

in the morning. I continued with the medicine and am cured, body and mind, can sleep well and feel better in every way. I gladly recommend Hood's Sarsaparilla to others." J. EDWARD RIFFLE, 154 Madison Ave., Allegheny, Pa.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures

Be Sure to Get Hood's

Hood's Pills cure all liver ills, biliousness, headache. 25c.



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PIES, &c., &c.,
IN QUANTITIES TO SUIT.

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