OYSTER SEASON WANING.

April 25th, the Last Day for Tongers—Poor Prices Realized, Small Catch.

Capt. Jas. B. Willson, one of the best posted oystermen of Rock Hall, was seen by the NEWS reporter Wednesday and gave a gloomy view of the oyster season now closing. He says it has been the most unsuccessful year in the history of the business. "Last year," said he, "we caught thirty-five and forty bushels every day and sold same for 25 and 35 cents while this year we did well to average *ten bushels* and the price was not over 35 cents. We have not averaged over three days a week! In short there have been fewer oysters caught and lower prices realized than ever before."

There are in Rock Hall and Huntingfield about three hundred boats, forty of these have been working in Jones' channel, a large number in Durding's and Church creek and the remainder scattered about wherever a "lump" could be found.

Messrs. Bogle, Akers and Coursey have to appear at Centreville court to answer a charge of oystering with patent tongs in Queen Anne's waters. These are test cases as to the right of Queen Anne's to legislate against Kent countians oystering as they please in waters that are common to the citizens of the two counties. M. deK. Smith, Esq., will represent the Kent oystermen.

The dredgers also report a dull season. The reasons given for this deplorable condition of affairs is the depleted state of the oyster beds and the large number of vessels that have engaged in dredging during the season. Another feature which has labored against the dredgers and which has decreased the value of their efforts, has been the increased supply of "plants," which class of oysters is planted and matured by private firms along the shores of Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina, and were sold at prices considerably lower than those offered by the dredgers. Owing to the severe competition, the latter were compelled to reduce the price on their cargoes in order to dispose of their stock, and in most cases sold at a loss, rather than hold off and run the risk of warm weather while waiting for better prices.

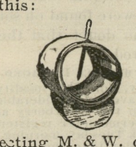
The average prices during the season have been from 45 to 55 cents for what is classed as raw stock, and from 40 to 45 cents for steaming stock. Now, it has cost the captains or owners, it is said, very nearly these prices to get the oysters at the wharves in Baltimore when they have deducted the expense, including wages of the crew, food and occasional damage to vessel. The fitting out of these vessels at the opening of the season is a big item, and much to their regret, all of the dredge vessel owners will wind up this season considerably out of pocket on their venture.

During the cold snap some oysters sold as high as 70 cents, but this price ruled for so short a time that it could hardly be termed the current market value of the stock. Reports from all sections indicate that the beds are badly depleted. Owing to the scarcity down the bay many of the larger vessels were compelled several times to go to Baltimore with only part cargoes, and this, with large crews to pay and provide for, meant heavy loss. The quality of the stock has shown inferiority as compared with previous years In the shell they appeared large, but when opened they were watery and soft, and would not yield profitably.

It is roughly estimated that during the season about 28,000 men have been employed in catching oysters down the bay and in the tributaries on about 7,500 boats of all descriptions. Of number of vessels about 800 are in the dredging class, ranging in tonnage from 10 to 50, and carrying each about ten men, while about 5,000 are tonging boats, carrying five men each, and about 2,000 scrapers, manned by from one to three men each.

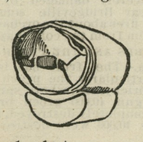
A SIMPLE TIRE REPAIR.

Punctures in the well known Morgan & Wright tire are mended about as easily as a man would close a hole in his finger with a bit of court plaster. Inside of the inner tube of the tire lies a long strip of patching rubber, like this:



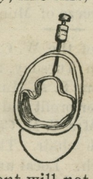
By injecting M. & W. quick-repair cement through the puncture into this inner tube, and then pressing down on the tire with the thumb, like this,

the repair strip inside is picked up by the cement, thus closing the puncture, like this:



Very simple, but—now every rider should remember these two "buts," or he will fail:

Before injecting cement, pump up the tire. If you don't, the inner tube will be flabby, like this,



and the cement will not get inside of it, where the repair strip lies.

When you have a puncture, get right off. Riding a tire flat, when it has a tack or nail in it, may damage it considerably.

WE ALWAYS WIN!

This lady has received a bouquet from the committee who awarded her first prize in the Bicycle contest. She purchased her wheel of J. S. VANDEGRIFT, who has the BEST and CHEAPEST WHEELS on the market. Price $35.00.

Dollars on Wheels

Yes, we will save you a Great Many Dollars if you will buy your Bike from us. We have a house full of Wheels, the largest stock ever shown in Kent county.

All Prices from $15.00 to $75.00.

We can and will save you money. Don't buy a wheel until you see what we have to offer you.

The Chester Special

is a Good, Reliable Wheel, and sold at an honest price. The manufacturers' price is $60.00, but to introduce it we will say

45 DOLLARS.

and give you choice of Tires, Saddles, Handle-bars, &c., fully guaranteed.

We will tell you more about its good qualities later, but in the meantime come in and let us show you our stock.

J. H. SIDES,
a3-tf. Chestertown, Md.

Bicycles.

All Makes of Second-Hand Bicycles at Rock Bottom Prices.

All Wheels in Good Serviceable Condition.

WM. H. COLE & SONS,
13 S. CHARLES ST.,
BALTIMORE, MD.

GARDEN SEED, 1897.

M. A. TOULSON'S
DRUG STORE.

PURE SEED, FRESH THIS SEASON.
IN ANY QUANTITY.
AT THE LOWEST PRICES.

M. A. TOULSON,
m13. Chestretown.

Sanitary Plumbing!

Under the old firm name of

WILLIAM T. SUTTON & SON,
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND,

the undersigned is doing all work in the line of SANITARY PLUMBING. I had considerable practical experience under my father, and since his death have done a great deal of work, and have yet to hear of any complaint.

I take pleasure in referring to my work at "Normal Hall," Washington College; the new M. P. Parsonage, and other buildings in Chestertown, in which I completed the contracts for water supply.

I keep on hand Plumbing Materials, Closets, Electric Bells and Enunciators, Injectors, Boiler Tubes, &c.

Any message left at my shop on Court street (near office of C. T. Westcott, Esq.,) or at my residence, No. 119 Cannon Street, will receive prompt attention.

Jan. 23, 1897. WM. C. SUTTON,

STIEFF PIANOS

THE STIEFF PIANO entertains you. For Music Halls, Churches, Schools and Colleges it has no equal. Admirably adapted for such purposes on account of their CLEARNESS, PURITY and SWEETNESS of tone, and those delightfully VOCAL EFFECTS which give the piano its greatest charm.

From the lowest to the highest note and throughout the whole keyboard there is NO WEAK POINT IN THE SCALE. That's just why the STIEFF PIANOS have such an ENVIABLE REPUTATION in the CLASSIC HALLS of KNOWLEDGE throughout the country.

Terms to suit you. Send for Illustrated Calalogue.

CHARLES M. STIEFF,
9 North Liberty St., - Baltimore, Md.
521 Eleventh St., N. W., - Washington, D. C.

LUMBER!

SHINGLES, PICKETS,
CYPRESS FENCING,
WHITE PINE BARN BOARDS,
DRESSED WHITE PINE BOARDS,
GEORGIA PINE FRAME STUFF,
VIRGINIA PINE FRAME STUFF,
Va. and Georgia Pine Flooring,
JUNIPER PICKETS
FOR WIRE FENCES.
3,000 Locust and Cedar Posts
FOR FARM FENCES.
For Sale by
THOS. W. ELIASON.
March 13, 1897. CHESTERTOWN.

INDIAN
TAR BALSAM!
The Family Doctor!

GUARANTEED TO CURE
Coughs, Colds, Sore Throat,
Hoarsness, Bronchitis, Croup,
Diphtheria, Lung Disease,
Whooping Cough, La Grippe,
Influenza, Catarrh, Cuts, Burns,
Bruises, Lameness, Sprains,
Lumbago, Rheumatism, Piles,
Chilblains, Frosted Feet, Mumps,
Chapped Hands and Lips.

NO CURE, NO PAY!
PRICE 25 CENTS.

—PREPARED ONLY BY—
The Indian Tar Balsam Co.,
322 Light Street, Baltimore, Md.
FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

A BAKERY at ROCK HALL

The undersigned having located at Rock Hall, would inform his friends and the public generally, that he has fitted up a BAKERY and CONFECTIONERY and is prepared to furnish them with anything in that line.

Cakes and Ice-Cream

for Weddings, Festivals and Parties a specialty. WEDDING CAKES as fine as can be gotten in any of the large cities. Three days notice required for large cakes.

Having had twenty-five years experience I feel sure I can give satisfaction.

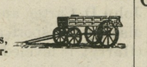
Respecfully,
J. T. ARTHUR,
Feb. 13-6m. ROCK HALL.

Cut This Out for Future Reference!

BUY YOUR HORSES
—AT—
King's Maryland Sale Barn
AUCTION SALES
Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Throughout the Year. We deal in all kinds, from the very best to the very cheapest. 200 HEAD of Horses, Mares and Mules, always on Hand. Visit us, it will pay you. Private Sales Every Day.

FULL LINE OF
New and Second-Hand Carriages, Daytons, Buggies, Carts and Harness Very Cheap.



JAMES KING, Proprietor,
6, 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16 N. High Street,
Near Baltimore St., One Square from Baltimore Street Bridge. BALTIMORE, MD.

FOR SALE:
ASPARAGUS PLOWS.

I used this plow last spring and fall and am satisfied I raised more and better asparagus than formerly, and was able to keep the ground in better condition for the asparagus to come through. Also, with this plow we do not have any trouble in keeping the crowns in the middle of the row, and the plow paid for itself last spring.

F. P. COCHRAN,
f27-2m. Galena, Md.

MASURY and JOHN'S
READY-MIXED
HOUSE PAINTS and LEADS

One Coat Carriage Paints,
One Coat Wagon Paints,
All Grades of Varnishes,
Oils and Brushes.

We carry the Largest Line and the Best Goods that are sold on this shore. You never find these Paints Peeling, Spoting or Blistering. Every one who uses them are pleased. Price as LOW AS FIRST-CLASS GOODS can be sold. We don't bring them in competition with the low grades of Paint. If you want them we have them also at a low price. Call at our Paint Store and examine our goods.

Percy T. McFeely,
Agent for Masury and John's Paints.

Read This!

IT gives us great pleasure to say that we are still in the fight—FRONT RANK—and with

PRICES TO SUIT THE TIMES!

We allow no competitor to stand between us and our customers.

WHAT
Blankets, Underwear and Gloves
we have left are being sold regardless of PRICE. Come and get your share of these Rare Bargains.

Our Complete Line of SHOES
is worthy of inspection. If you want up-to-date PERCALES call on us, we have them, and when you look over our mammoth stock of QUEENSWARE and hear the prices you will be surprised at the Low Prices. If you want

UMBRELLAS, NECKWEAR, SUSPENDERS
or anything kept in a well-equipped general store, we can give it to you, and will do you right.

Make no mistake in the place.

WM. R. ALDRIDGE,
No. 247 High Street.
Feb. 13, 1897.

WILLIAM PARR
Harness and Hardware!

I will, beginning July 1st, sell my goods for the CASH ONLY. Those in need of

Harness, Collars,
Bridles, Pads, Nets,
BOOTS, HARDWARE,
NAILS, HINGES, FORKS,
SHOVELS, HOES, SPADES,
DOOR AND WINDOW SCREENS,
SCREEN AND POULTRY WIRE,
PLAIN and BARBED FENCE WIRE,
WHITEWASH BRUSHES
Machine and Harness Oils!
CASTOR AXLE GREASE,

the best Axle Grease on the Market, and every thing in the line I will sell as sell as low as the goods can be bought.

Give me a call.

Yours, respectfully,
WILLIAM PARR,
June 27, 1896. Still Pond, Maryland.

At MRS. D. GRUBER'S, Up-town

May be found at all times,
THE BEST—THE FRESHEST—
THE MOST WHOLESOME—
AND THE CHEAPEST
Bread, Buns, Cakes,
PIES, &c., &c.,
IN QUANTITIES TO SUIT.

We also have a nice line of
CHOICE CONFECTIONERY!
Don't forget the place.

MRS. D. GRUBER,
Jan. 2, 1897. UP TOWN.

CORN WANTED:
SHELLED OR ON THE COB,

for which the HIGHEST MARKET PRICE will be paid. Delivered either on water or railroad. Can be seen at the store of Mr. Geo W. Smith, Chestertown, on Saturday Morning and Tuesday afternoon. Address

HARRISON NEWNAM,
f27-tf. Rolph's, Md.

NEW SPRING STOCK, Men's, Ladies' and Children's Shoes, at Low Prices.
a3 J. H. SIMPERS.

THE OAK TREE
From the Acorn Grew.

MOODY & LUSBY

YES, even as great accomplishments are to be attained in the Mercantile way; it only requires Push, Square Dealing and Time, and the result will surely come. We opened up our Clothing Business in a small way about six and ahalf years ago on the same substantial basis that it is and will be conducted upon; (Namely Square Dealing), and to-day we're proud of the honorable distinction of being styled by the people of Kent and of our sister county (Queen Anne's.)

MOODY & LUSBY

MOODY & LUSBY
THE SQUARE DEALING CLOTHIERS.

We have added one hundred and seventy one square feet more to our already spacious store room and can assure our patrons of more comfort than heretofore. Our earnest efforts to please the past week were fully appreciated; the compliments we received on our selections of

Men's, Boys' & Children Clothing

were all we could desire and our sales were beyond expectation. YET this week finds us fully ready to meet all demands with new things in all departments, having just returned from the various markets, as we keep in constant touch with any new designs that cloth is moulded into for both old and young.

TROWSERS.

Don't miss the line of separate trousers we are showing, see the New Checks in Black and Brown, and the novel weaves in stripes, some neat Pin Stripes, others of a swell nature. We must have all, for our business demands it for we sell the old and middle aged, the gay young men and the little knee pants toddlers, from 4 to 15 years; and on this line especially we have no competition, double seat, double knee, patent waist band, buttons riveted on, warranted not to rip. Mothers you all know what these points of excellence mean, and all for 50 cts., men's pants low as 38c.

Men's Plaid Suits.

Several more invoices received this week, and added to our already large collection; gives us simply supremacy in SUITS—MEN, BOYS and CHILDREN.

BLACK SUITS.

HAVE YOU SEEN OUR LINE? If not, in justice to yourself, you should. It comprises Clays, Serges, Peacedales, Tibets and all the leading weaves. Either Coat and Vest or Suits.

Men's Neckwear & Shirts.

the destributions by us on these lines speak for themselves. You know where to come for Up-to-date Novelties.

All the Little Things

Carefully looked after. For instance we sell the best Brown Mixed Half Hose in the State for 50c. dozen. Same thing applies to our 45c. White Shirts. 38c. Pants for Men. 15c. and 25c. Cheviott Shirts for Men, &c., &c. No branch of our business neglected. Come and see for yourselves. The Little fellows Suits in Veste, Sailor, Refer, Junior and Middy; the ladies say they are veritable beauties. Don't forget our line of Men's Suits at $4.90, they are Corkers. Respectfully,

MOODY & LUSBY,
Directly Opposite Court House. Square Dealing Clothiers.

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