STARTLING FACTS.

A NEW STUDY IN SCHOOLS.

Learned Speakers Make Some Interesting Statements in Chestertown That Concern Everybody, but Farmers in Particular.

The Farmers Institute was held in the court house Monday and Tuesday of this week, but owing to various circumstances few farmers attended. One of them remarked, "I knew the NEWS would tell us all about it and therefore *made* two days." The NEWS tries to keep the public posted, but there were illustrations on canvas brought there which cannot be reproduced in print here and the farmers should have attended.

The afternoon session opened Tuesday with the following in attendance: John Bell, R. G. Nicholson, Bartus Trew, J. C. Loud, T. D. France and the NEWS reporter. Director Amoss accompanied by three able speakers, Hon. George T. Powell, Profs. Rice and Patterson, whose history was given in full in the NEWS, were at the service of the farmers and an informal meeting was held consisting of asking and answering questions. The first discussion was in referenc to grafting trees. Prof. Rice spoke of a thorn bush bearing pears that were hard and not fit to eat.

One of the most interesting questions was asked by Mr. Loud as to the eradication of what is known as the salt water wire grass, or joint grass. This pest along the tide-water sections of the peninsula is of a most serious nature and is invincible to all ordinary treatment. A farmer recently exhibited three large potatoes which one spear of this grass had completely penetrated. It was stated that shade is fatal to its growth, and smothering crops such as cow peas and scarlet clover were recommended. In answer to the question from Mr. Bell: what uses could be made of rotten corn Prof. Rice, of New York, stated that such a thing was unknown in his section, and that he had never known of the trouble until coming here. Prof. Amoss said that he had seen but little of it except on the lower peninsula, but that Prof. Galloway has taken samples, and an exhaustive report will be made as to the trouble. One farmer stated that geese will eat rotten corn, and he had always heard that geese fattened on it had white meat —possibly on the principle that every time a boundary stone hears a rooster crow it turns round. Of late years a small black flea, said Mr. France, has done immense damage to the young corn plant. Prof. Rice called it the flea beetle, and stated that spraying was an effective remedy on other plants. He could see no other recourse if the trouble grew worse and spread, that farmers would be compelled to spray their corn just as they had been treating their tomatoes, potatoes and other plants for years.

An interesting discussion took place among the farmers as to the actual cost of producing a crop of corn per bushel. Thomas D. France thought that with a good crop it could be done at six cents per bushel. John Bell did not believe that, with the present state of labor, it could be produced at less than twenty cents and Mr. Trew put it at over ten cents. This did not include seed, harvesting or getting to market Mr. Amoss upon a neat calculation and not including seed and putting the yield at forty bushels per acre, said it could not be grown, excluding harvest and putting a minimum of work at less than ten cents per bushel.

Another interesting question was whether or not the climatic conditions of this Peninsula have not changed. Mr. Trew spoke of a fruit tree that had bore fruit until within the past ten years. The tree is healthy and vigorous. Mr. Powell stated that this experience was spoken of at several places on the Peninsula and he thought the climatic conditions should be examined by an expert.

EVENING MEETING.

At night a good audience greeted the speakers, a majority of whom were the teachers in the public school and scholars in the higher grades. The address was by Hon. George T. Powell, of New York, on "Nature Study in the Schools." There is no doubt but what this study will be introduced in our schools and for this reason we give a full account of this interesting address. Every teacher, ladies who contemplate teaching and everybody will learn something from a perusal of this new idea.

Following is an abstract which at best is but a poor report compared to seeing the lessons illustrated on black board or by charts.

"One of the most important problems before the farmers to-day is the education of their sons and daughters. It is a fact too many of our bright young men are leaving the farm. Our educational system is to a certain extent responsible for this condition. It has generally been thought that anybody could 'farm it.' The fathers educated their sons for the ministry, sent them to the law schools, medical colleges, but failed to realize that the son who remained upon the farm needed anything beyond a district school education.

The fact is that a successful farmer today needs as much or more education than most professional men, because of the varying conditions of soil, etc. To hold boys on the farm they must feel a real interest in it; they must see a prospect of money return and enjoy social advantages. We do not need any new text books. The best teaching is from the natural objects themselves. Some day, when the children are tired and restless from long study, the teacher asks the school to put aside the books for 15 or 20 minutes and takes up a nature study. To illustrate how quickly such a lesson was applied: I know of a case where the teacher gave a talk on anatomy and physiology and explained about bandaging a broken limb, and how the food being digested contributed to mending the broken part. Soon after the father discovered a lot of chickens limping about the yard with rags on their legs and soon detected his little son breaking the chicken's legs and then setting them. That son has since become one of the most noted surgeons in the U. S.—Dr. Sweet. These lessons throw children's minds into new lines of thought.

Let us take up a little study of the clover and timothy plant. You will notice that the roots of the timothy branch near the ground and spread in all directions in fine fibres. The stalks grow erect and straight having long, slender leaves. On the summit the flowers are formed in a head. The chemistry and feeding value of the two plants are also interesting. The clover plant grows with a long tap root that goes straight down deep into the soil in search of fertility. From it spring side branches, all over which are seen little nodules about the size of a pin head. In these the tiny bacteria lie that transform the free nitrogen of the air so that the clover can use it. That is why a clover sod when turned always gives a good crop. Timothy has no such power and the land gradually becomes poorer by constant cropping. From this a study of the different clover, there being 250 grasses, could follow.

Entomology is an interesting field for study. If I had known 20 years ago what any child may know today about the insects injurious to my fruit it would have saved me thousands of dollars. On this chart you see the four stages in the life history of the cotton worm. It starts with the moth that flies about and deposited these eggs which hatched into this green worm that does all the damage. After awhile the worm spins a cocoon about himself and quickly transforms during the winter to hatch out a moth again in the spring.

The next illustration is the pear tree psylla the worst enemy that is known to the pear. It lays eggs so small that they can scarcely be seen without a microscope. These hatch into what are called nymphs that suck the juices from the leaves and secrete a honey dew that covers the leaves and fruit. Ants like this dew and are seen eating it in large numbers. Unless these Psylla are destroyed they will kill the trees. I lost 700 beautiful pear trees before we knew how to fight this insect.

The next chart shows the codling moth, the insect that makes so many wormy apples. I would always try to bring before the children some wormy and some perfect apples. This insect is so common everywhere that it has been difficult to find a perfect apple on the fruit stands. Ask the children which apple they perfer and why, what's the matter, and what caused the worm hole, etc. We usually get many bright answers, but few really know much about the worm. Here is the parent, the moth that flies about while the apple blossoms are falling. The eggs are laid anywhere on the little apple. In about ten days if the weather is good these hatch and the worm crawls toward the calyx end of the apple, that is now standing erect and eats his way inside where he remains until the apple drops. Then if a pig or sheep, or the poultry don't get him, he comes out and crawls up the side of the tree under the bark and builds a little covering about himself and stays there until spring when be again comes out as a moth. The way for the farmer to kill this worm before he does damage is to spray all of his trees with Bordeaux mixture and Paris green just as soon as the blossoms fall and again about ten days later. The poison then rests in the open upturned calyx. Soon after the blossoms drop, the calyx in most varieties of apples closes and keeps the poison from being washed out and the little worm gets a dose that kills him on the spot.

After a study has been made, a comparison of the different insects can be made. For instance the cotton worm has four stages in life, and as a worm eats on the surface. The coddling moth has also four stages of transformation but eats as a worm on the inside of the apple, while the Psylla has but 3 stages and instead of eating, it sucks the juices through a bill thrust into the leaf.

Therefore we must spray the former with a poison they will eat, while the latter must be killed by kerosene emulsion that strikes his body. It would be interesting to take up the study of seeds and flowers, but what I have said illustrates the idea. It would come as a God-send to the children, and would be of interest to teacher and of value as well.

James E. Rice, of New York Sate, the lecturer on "Raising Poultry for Profit," told his audience Tuesday afternoon in his address that the barred Plymouth Rock was the best all-around fowl for the farmer, a part of whose business it is to raise poultry for profit. His address was considered one of the leading features of the meeting by everybody who raises fowls, and Mr. Rice's audiences knew enough about him, through the biographical sketch the NEWS published two weeks ago, to consider him authority in this particular field of his. The report of this address will be found in the NEWS next week, as it was crowded out of this issue.

Another important address was made by Prof. Patterson on "Cut Fodder and Ensilage." He showed the varied uses of fodder, how farmers could use it in feeding, etc., and make it one of the remunerative crops instead of otherwise.

Other delightful and instructive addresses were made by the distinguished speakers.

Gunning Accidents.

The Denton Journal reports a number of gunning accidents in Caroline:

John Jewell, aged about 21 years, son of Frank T. Jewell, Esq., was fatally wounded by the accidental discharge of his gun, the load taking effect in the head. He had been hunting with a colored man, and was standing near the big bridge, south of the Brick Mill, about two miles and a half north of Denton. His body was found on the bridge by James Thomas colored.

Harry Ford, who lived near Marydel, was accidentally shot on Saturday, by Jacob Taylor, while on a gunning trip with a party of four or five others. The gun was discharged while the two were only a few feet apart and the load took effect in one of Ford's legs nearly tearing it off. The wound bled profusely, and before medical assistance could be summoned young Ford died. He was in the 18th year of his age.

BOARDERS WANTED:

I have removed from "Radcliffe Manor," near Chestertown, to **1420 McCulloh** Street, Baltimore, and heve opened a FIRST CLASS BOARDING HOUSE for Permanent and Transinet Boarders. We will be glad to entertain the many visitors to the city from Kent and Queen Anne's, at reasonable rates.

n20-3t. MRS. A. M. BROWN.

CHARGED WITH SELLING LIQUOR.

Mr. Wm. H. Wells, a well-known cobbler of Fairlee, was arrested Saturday by Constable Bartus C. Legg on a charge of selling intoxicants. There were two colored witnesses, Wm. Winhurst and Wm. Brooks, who testified that they each put in twelve cents and purchased a half pint of liquor. The hearing was held before Justice Geo. W. Bramble, who sentenced him to jail to await the action of the grand jury. Mr. Wells says the colored men became angry with him because he collected rent from their wives and vowed they would get even with him.

Jeff Willson, colored, of Melitota, was also arrested by Constable Legg on Saturday and carried before Justice Bramble on the charge of selling whiskey. Wilson was held in $900 bail for his appearance at court. The bail was furnished by Mr. Wm. T. Nicholson with whom he worked. Jeff lives in Worton and denies selling any intoxicants.

An Explanation.

MESSRS. W. B. USILTON & SON.

Gentlemen:—In the KENT NEWS of last Saturday you referred in very kind terms to my service on the bench as Judge of the Circuit Court for Kent County. In the article referred to you state that during the thirty years I had presided over that court I had never been reversed by the Court of Appeals in any case in which an appeal had been taken, except in the case of Fleming vs. Coulbourn, in which, although there was a nominal reversal, the Court of Appeals decided the case as I had offer- to decide, if the defendant would appear to the suit, as you stated and fully explained. In that statement you were entirely correct.

Supposing it possible, however, that your statement might be construed to mean that there had never been a reversal of a judgment in any case tried before me, in either of the other counties of this judicial circuit, I deem it only proper to say that there have been some reversals in one or more of the other counties, but I am gratified to add, few in number.

Yours very truly,
J. A. WICKES.

COMMUNICATED.

WHAT SHALL WE DO?

The Management of Chester Cemetery Answers "Visitor."

A writer in the NEWS of last week signing himself "Visitor" to Chester Cemetery, indulged in some unreasonable and illogical criticism of the management of the cemetery. "Visitor" says he "was struck with the great improvement made in the grounds within the past few years." But "Visitor" adds, that he "came away from the sacred place troubled in mind at other discoveries," the "neglect of some lot holders" to beautify and keep their lots in order. "And concludes that the management of Chester Cemetery is not what it ought to be," and the "blame" for permitting "hideous weeds and unkempt bushes" to vegetate and luxuriate on certain graves "lies somewhere, and that somewhere it seems to the visitor is with the officers."

Evidently 'Visitor' is not a lot owner, or he would know that burial lots in Chester Cemetery are *private property*. Every purchaser of a lot receives a certificate in the nature of a deed. Under the terms of the purchase the obligation to improve the lot and keep it in order devolves upon the owner. As a matter of law and legal right the Company has no more right to *weed and trim* a cemetery lot, the private property of another, than "Visitor" would have to weed and trim his neighbor's garden. "Visitor" in his next visit to the cemetery will find Frederick Humbert lives opposite the cemetery in a house provided for him by the Company. Humbert's contract is to attend to the cemetery, to keep burial lots in order, for which service he makes a small charge to lot owners employing and paying him.

There are some lot owners who take pleasure in looking after their own lots. There are other lot owners, and some well-to-do people at that, who not only do not look after their lots personally, but have refused to pay Humbert the small annual charge to keep their lots in order.

There are other lots where the owners are either dead or have removed from the county that receive no attention.

The Cemetery Company has not the means at its command to embellish burial lots (private property), keeping them trim and in order, even if such a course was practical or permissible. The income of the cemetery is derived from the sale of lots and some years does not exceed one hundred dollars. Joel R. Clements is secretary and treasurer and the only salaried officer. His salary of course is small.

The Company was embarassed for some years by the purchase of land to enlarge the grounds. It will require all the money in the treasury to grade new roads, lay out walks and plant flowers and ornamental trees, making the new addition attractive to purchasers.

A practical inquiry is in place just here. When the lots are all sold and the money expended, how then is the cemetery to be preserved from neglect? How are the grounds and fences to be maintained? Here is a subject the "Managers" have been considering for some time past. We think this can be done by providing a permanent revenue, a fund to be invested to preserve the cemetery from decay. The money could be raised by endowments and should be sufficiently large to keep in order the neglected graves of lot owners *who are dead or unable to pay.*

The writer likes the old Saxon idea which called the grave yard "God's Acre," and looked upon the grave lot as a sacred trust.

Is not the present an opportune time for lot owners to take some steps to provide a fund to preserve from neglect the resting place of our venerable dead and the sacred and sweet memories of loved ones?

HARRISON W. VICKERS,
President of Chester Cemetery Co.

HOW CAN .... THEY DO IT?

MEN'S FINE and WORKING SHOES sold everywhere for $1.10, $1.25, $1.50, you can buy them at the

Philadelphia Clothing and Shoe House FOR 90c

We need no dictionary to describe the praise of these Goods. The process by which these goods are manufactured double fastened offers the consumer the greatest amount of comfort and strength, so is the men's fine shoe, 400 pair of these goods assorted sizes from 6 to 11, regular prices $1.10, $1.25, $1.50, as long they will last for **90c** only. 250 Pair LADIES' SHOES, the regular price $1.00, $1.25, $1.50, we are not only offering you; but we'll sell them as long as they will last for **78c** a pair only. WHO CAN BEAT IT? Misses and Boys' Fine Shoes, a good wearing shoe for $1.25, our price **75c.** Children's Shoes almost at your own price.

Yes We Are Doing

and we'll do you as we should be done by—give you the most and the best goods for your money.

For Many Reasons.

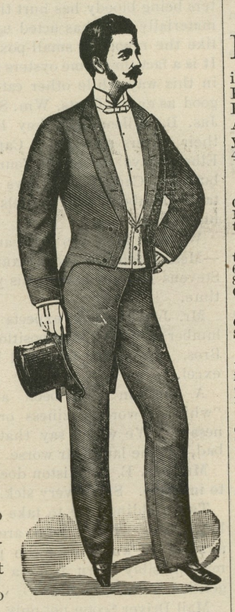
Small expense, least wants, steady, hard work, buying carefully, speedy sales! We don't sit by the stove and wait to sell one suit of clothes and make two days expense, we are in progress always moving. Our wagon goes around all over Kent county, and we are showing you the goods and we sell them in your house for less money than you can buy it in the City.

We have got the Bull by the Horns

We are leaders in Low Prices. Our

MEN BOYS' and Children's!

SUITS!



They fit, and wear like they fit, fit like they wear. "Why," said a well known gentleman when I was to his house at Eastern Neck Island, "you must sell a lot of your suits for you sold me for $10.00 in my house a suit the like of which I have paid $14.00 in the City.

"LOOK"

said Mr. B. to Mr. C. at Pine Neck the other day, "Is not this a hand some suit for $8.50." "Yes, said Mr. C. it is a very nice suit." "Where did you buy it?" I bought it from the PHILADELPHIA CLOTHING HOUSE MAN who comes around here in a wagon to adververtise his store, and he sells good Clothing cheap; most every body in this place bought of him. Hehas got them all prices from $2.00 up to $15.00. You ought to see the suits he sold here for $5.50. How nice they fit and wear good, too. He sold boys suits $1.00 a suit. Well when he comes again I'll buy me a suit or I shall go to his store in Chestertown, he keeps where Mr. H. L. Chew used to keep." Now then a few words about our

GENTS FURNISHING GOODS.

HATS and CAPS, MEN'S OVERCOATS, LADIES CAPES and COATS, MEN'S HALF HOSE, LADIES' and MISSES HOSE at the very Lowest Prices, we respectfully ask the intelligent public come and examine our goods and you'll find that we are not only telling you but we'll DO what we say.

BIG BARGAINS

in BOYS' KNEE PANTS and MEN'S ODD PANTS, we have got them all prices; before buying stop in we will show you our goods and you'll find that we can save you money and you'll get what you want for less money than you can get it elsewhere.

Respectfully, Yours for Bargains,

Philadelphia Clothing House

CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND.

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CHRISTMAS GOODS!
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Beautiful Goods!
Fine Display!
Low Prices!

Full particulars next week.

COLIN. F. STAM,
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Xmas Greeting.

A Merry One to All Our Patrons!

We Want You to Be With Us During the Holidays. We Are Making Preparations for You. Daily Additions to Our Stock Makes It More and More Attractive.

Mothers, Do You Want Comfort at Home?
THEN DON'T NEGLECT TO
Go To Parks'

Look at his Big Line of
NEW CARPETINGS!
in Rag, Jute, Ingrain, Two and Three Ply, also Brussels, in Floor and Step. Parks has the Largest, Newest and Most Attractive Lines and Makes. Prices in your favor. Jute 22½ to 35c., Rag 25 to 40c., Ingrains 25 to 75c., and so on.

Then look at his line of Ladies' Misses, and Children's COATS, Ladies' Plush Capes, &c Must be closed, and Parks is going to Slaughter Prices. Must Move.

OILCLOTHS, Floor and Table. We have the Stock. Prices Right! Table from 5-4 to 6-4 from 15c. per yard up. Floor from 4-4 to 8-4. Then we have Chenille Table and Stand Covers, 4-4 to 8-4. An 8-4 Stand Cover for $1.39.

UNDERWEAR for Ladies', Misses and Children. Ladies' Vests from 16c. up. Union Suits for Misses and Children.

PRESENTS sought for.—Handkerchiefs upon Handkerchiefs. Cotton, Linen and Silk, in Hem Stitched and Plain, Colored, Bordered Etched, from 5c. up. Mufflers in variety for Ladies and Gents.

TOWELS and Napkins, Plain White and Colored Bordered. Napkins from 50c. to $3.50. Towels from 5c. each to 75c. Table Linen and Damasks, in Bleached and Unbleached, ranging from 25c. up.

CLOTH LEGGINGS for Misses, Children and Ladies.

QUILTS and BLANKETS.-Marsalles Quilts from 66c. up to $2.50 each. A perfect beauty for $2.50. Blankets and Comforts in abundance. White and Colored from 47½c. to $7.00 per pair.

HOSE.—We have the Best Misses Hose at 15c., and Ladies at 12½c. ever shown. The ladies can tell you about Parks' Hose.

QUEENSWARE and LAMPS.—Lamps from 20c. to $8.00 each.

CHAMBER SETS, Tea Sets and Dinner Sets.

BOOTS, SHOES AND RUBBERS
Large Line at Bottom Prices.

You can't go astray for Xmas Gifts.

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R. F. PARKS,
Dec. 11, 1897. Chestertown, Md.

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