New Fall and Winter Goods !

—AT—

R. BERGEN'S

We Have Opened the Season with a Stock of Goods that beats the Record for Beauty and LOW PRICES. It Presents an Opportunity for Economical Buying that Nobody Can Afford to miss. My Store is Crowded with the Popular Styles, Late Novelties, Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, Dress Goods and Notions. I also have a Large Assortment of Ladies', Misses' and Children's Coats, also Ladies' Cloth and Plush Capes at astonishing Low Prices.

Millinery Department !

Now for Our Millinery Department that will not be Surpassed by any Season before. We are Showing now the Latest Novelties in Fall and Winter Hats and all Fancy Novelties that Complete a Fine Hat. Our Fine Walking Hats are a Special Feature for Early Fall Wear. Remember we also have Feathers, Wings, Eigrets and all Styles of Fancy Ribbons which are all used in Millinery this Season. Mourning Millinery a Specialty. We keep a full Line of Muslin Underwear, also a Big Assortment of Zephyrs and Germantown of the best make. We are Headquarters for Black Dress Goods. Yours Very Truly,

R. BERGEN, Chestertown.

ADAM F. HUEY.

Massey Vehicle, Implement and Harness Bazar

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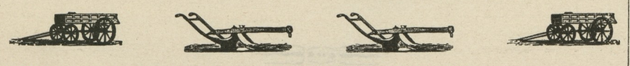

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THE CELEBRATED KENT FARM WAGONS. HARNESS and BICYCLES.
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A FULL LINE OF IMPLEMENTS and FARMERS HARDWARE.
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We claim to sell only genuine goods, and keep in stock both the Highest and the Medium Grades of Vehicle. The record of the past twenty years is the best guarantee of fair treatment and attractive prices. m20-tf.

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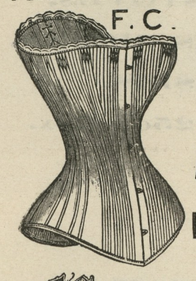

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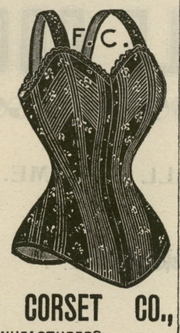
FANCY AND PLAIN.



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SOLE MANUFACTURERS.
SOLD BY

Mrs. S. A. HURLOCK.

Work called for and delivered when requested at 228 Maple Avenue.

The Chestertown Laundry

Is the place where you can get your Laundry Work done, not only at the shortest possible notice, but also work equal to any city laundry, a proof of which we have in the increase of trade the past year. Thanks to our friends and the public in general for the liberal patronage they have given us. We hope, by promptness and satisfactory work to be still favored with their patronage.

WILLIAM GREEN.
Jan. 2, 1897. Chestertown Laundry.

DR. ANNA GIERING

REGISTERED PHYSICIAN,

Twenty-five years' experience. Specialist in **Diseases of Women only. Private Sanitarium** of high repute. Absolute privacy afforded. **Female Regulative Pills** $2.00 per box. Advice by mail.

1603 EAST BALTIMORE STREET, BALTIMORE, MD.

☞Vegetable Compound for female complains, $1.00. Wives without children consult me.

RECEIVING NEW FALL GOODS daily—Our Store is Chock Full. Call and get our LOW PRICES on every thing you want.
Rersp'y, WESTCOTT & DODD.

THE

Kent County Savings Bank

OF CHESTERTOWN, MD.,

Offers to the Citizens of Kent and Adjoining Counties Many Advantages.

It is the Aim of This Institution to Benefit the Depositor as Well as the Borrower !

We are open daily from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M.

We transact a Regular and General Banking Business.

We take large and small amounts on deposit.

We keep all accounts and all business ransactions strictly private and confidential.

We pay interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum on deposits left for 4 months or longer.

We calculate this interest semi-annually and add it to your account which increases your balance.

We make Loans on approved notes and on good Real Estate—In fact we offer Special Inducements to persons wishing to borrow on mortgage. The Borrower may reduce his mortgage euery 6 months by paying whatever amount he may wish or desire. All commissions and other unnecessary charges are saved.

WE ARE A LEGAL DEPOSITORY FOR GUARDIANS, ADMINISTRATOBS, TRUSTEES, and ALL PUBLIC OFFICERS.

We buy County Paper at its face value, less 6 per cent. per annum discount; and stand ready to loan money on any good collateral security.

We offer our Capital and Surplus as a Guarantee that your Account will be carefully guarded.

REMEMBER—A Bank Account is the first step toward business success.

AND ALSO REMEMBER.—The Kent County Savings Bank is ready to open such an account with you.

For further information apply at the Bank, or address,

J. K. ALDRIDGE, President.
WM. F. RUSSELL, Cashier.
Kent County Savings Bank, Chestertown, Md.

THE RETURN.

A CHRISTMAS STORY BY G. T. FERRIS.

[Copyright, 1897, by the Author.]

Frustrated hope threw its blight on the cheery old face as Mrs. Martin read the letter from her son Paul. He had been a wanderer for eight years and now wrote from South Africa. The same feeling haunted Kate Lockwood's fine eyes, though she bit her lip at the conscious revelation. But Mrs. Martin did not see. Her eyes were blurred. And murmuring, "What could have happened to change his mind?" as if it were the presage of some greater blow, she went on with the reading:

"I'd give a few 'sparklers' to be with you on Christmas, as I had planned. But a fellow can't always fulfill his own wishes. It's better to have everything wound up before leaving. South Africa has treated me pretty well up here in its diamond fields, so I shouldn't kick if it keeps me in its clutch a little longer. I shan't be sorry to leave this furnace behind. When my letter reaches, Jack Frost will be abroad with you in Vermont, clad in ice and snow, but here a man will be baking at 96 in the shade. I'm burned as black as any Kaffir in the mines, so that you and Kate would scarcely know my swarthy phiz By the way, you may tell that young woman from me that I don't half like her goings on with the Swinton man. Didn't she promise to wait for me? I shall have a word to say to her about her faithlessness" And so Paul's letter rambled on in a semichaffing tone. Kate's face had darkened to angry scarlet when Mrs. Martin looked up and said: "Why, my dear, you mustn't take Paul's jokes so hard. You know what a 'tease' he was from a boy."

That was precisely the trouble. Paul had always been joking, Kate feared. A distant cousin and reared in the family, ever since she had emerged into womanhood a more tumultuous sweetness had mingled with the calm affection she had once felt for Paul even as she had for his elder brother Will. When he had gone away, she was only 17, and keenly she had quivered with the pang of parting. Year after year had slid by, and the rolling stone found no rest and the girl's sore heart had certainly found no balm in the absent Paul's jocose phrases. Yet she had sometimes fancied a thrill of sentiment and tenderness quickening his sportive allusions. At all events suitors had lacked fuel for their fire, and her friends rallied the young schoolteacher that the only men folk she liked were the lads, with whom she could be "jolly good fellow" in a most fascinating way. Her latest admirer, the head of a prosperous factory and much liked by the Martins, had no better luck than predecessors.

"There was a time," the old lady continued in reminiscent mood as she laid down the letter, "when I hoped you and Paul would come together some day; but, lackaday, that's all done with. I can't understand the girls nowadays. I s'pose you ain't afeared of bein left an old maid, fer, you know, you're good lookin"—and Mrs. Martin peered quizzically at Kate over her glasses—"but still you might never have such a good offer as Mr. Swinton—plenty of money, not too old, and as good as gold. As for Paul's stayin away another year"—

"What's that about Paul's not comin home?" Mr. Martin's jolly red face, now beginning to pucker with years and care, was filled with dismay as he suddenly entered the room. "That scapegrace of ourn oughter be thrashed ef he's a-goin to disappoint us ag'in." So Mrs. Martin again read the letter aloud, while Kate, amid the varied comment of the old couple, escaped for a hearty cry.

Farmer Martin's gloom had a deeper root than ordinary miscarriage of hope. "I'd ruther looked to Paul's help ef the wust comes," said he to his wife, "fer Will's got all he can shoulder. The mortgage on the place has never been easy to meet—what with poor crops and low prices. I met Squire Barber jes' now, and I told him we expected Paul. 'Fer sure,' said he, and laughed with his 'Ho, ho!' like some danged ole hyeny, and then he said he hoped there wouldn't be any delay this year 'bout the mortgage money or somethin might turn up, and then he outs with another snicker. Confound his hide, it's as heartless as his sheepskin books, fer I had allus reckoned him a friend afore."

Though Christmas did not promise any appetizing sauce for its turkey and mince

"WHAT A TEASE!"

pie, active preparation went on as usual, for Will and his children would be there, and their hearts must be gladdened with Christmas sunshine Arlingford had indeed always kept the day with more fervor than is the wont with most New England country towns It was the day before Christmas and the farmer was returning from the woods, whither he had gone to select the Christmas tree The crisp, sweet air was musical with sleighbells, for the earth was sheathed in dazzling white. As he turned into the main street, his bobsled almost collided with a fast cutter spinning homeward from Chester. It was Squire Barber returning from the county seat, some eight miles distant, where his law office was located.

"Merry Christmas, if it isn't too early!" shouted the lawyer, pulling up "What have you got there? Holly, and as I live mistletoe too. I haven't seen any before for an age."

"Yes," said Mr. Martin, "it comes and goes in a curious way. I hain't found it growin fer ten years till I got this from a half rotten apple tree in the upper orchard." And he held up a sprig of it with its yellow leaves and whitish berries shining like crusted silver in the winter sparkle of the sun.

"The old legend says it brings good luck," answered the lawyer. "I'll drop in this evening and see it hanging, for the chance of kissing pretty Kate under the mistletoe, unless Swinton gets ahead of me." And he chuckled heartily to himself as he drove on.

The Martins had attended the early service in the church and were now gathered in the big parlor where the Christmas tree was set loaded with presents and the children were all agog with eagerness. Mr. Swinton was a guest of the occasion, though not much to Kate's pleasure. The tree had been almost stripped of its burden amid the jubilation of the youngsters, and even Paul's absence couldn't quite quench the heartsome glow of the old folk.

"Ow I 'ood like to see Santy Caus hissef 'cn he comes down the chimley tonight!" said little May Martin, her mouth gorged with dripping sweets.

Just then a tremendous clashing of bells rang out as if a whole caravan of sleighs were coming up the road. Louder and louder chimed the silvery music till it stopped before the door amid the pawing of horses' hoofs.

"Who can it be?" they all said to each other. "Perhaps it is Santa Claus," whispered Kate to little May. The child caught

HOW THE OLD MOTHER CRIED AND HUGGED HIM.

at the entrancing thought and rushed to the front door. They heard a scream of terror, and May darted back, gasping and white, to hide her face in her father's lap.

Santa Claus indeed had come to the child's invocation. Framed in the doorway and seeming almost to fill it stood a great, fur clad figure, looking like a gigantic bear on its hind legs. A fur helmet covered the whole face, with goggles in the eyelet holes, and on the furry arm hung a big basket with bulging contents. Amid the breathless silence and wonder the uncouth figure stalked to the Christmas tree and crowded its empty boughs with such a largess of parcels as to bend them low. As the pantomime went on Mr. Martin nodded to his wife and Kate and then toward their guest as if to say, "This little comedy is the pleasant surprise of a rich man's wooing." But Swinton's eyes were bent on Santa Claus with a queer look of dread and expectancy, could they have gauged his thought.

Not a word was uttered till the fur clad image had closed his task, when a hoarse, rumbling voice, as if it had been made raucous by shouting against polar blasts, issued from under the fur hood, calling them by name and summoning them to receive their gifts. The children's turn came first. The trembling youngsters were loaded with such gorgeous and wonderful toys as they had never dreamed could exist. Will Martin got a box containing a sealskin cap and gloves. The wonderful fur cloak which Santa Claus threw around Mrs. Martin was fit for the shoulders of a queen, as she stood there quivering with curiosity and a dumb presage that feared to name itself and stammering thanks that choked in the throat. In the farmer's hands was placed a large sealed envelope, and he blinked and peered as if he would unravel some clew to the impassive mystery which faced him. He itched to tear open the envelope, but waited.

Kate Lockwood's name was called, and her trembling limbs could scarcely carry her forward. A little box was snapped open and a superb diamond ring blazed like a star. She grew dizzy, for a blinding flash of intelligence came even before that furry mask was torn off with a swift gesture and the bronzed face of Paul, twitching with emotions of joy and tenderness, appeared to them. How the old mother cried and hugged him till her arms were weary; how the men folk wrung his hand and overwhelmed him with broken, eager questioning, and how the children made shy acquaintance with the unknown uncle Santa Claus need not be recounted.

"And has my Kate no greeting?" Paul said. She came forward with cheeks of flame from where she had stood aloof, bewildered with a rush of feelings. He gazed at her shining eyes, and her heart leaped at the lover's deep look. Then he happened to notice the twisted vine of leaf and berry that swayed over her head, the time honored symbol of a thousand sweet mysteries.

"Under the mistletoe, too," he laughed. He was the same old teasing Paul. "That is as it should be." And he took his privilege then and there, drawing her sweet face to his and kissing her on the lips before them all.

"Look," he whispered, "at the inner circle of the ring," and there Kate saw engraved, "From Paul to the woman he loves," and that was Paul's proposal, answered to his satisfaction by one flashing glance, veiled as quickly by the modest eyelashes.

"I've been ringing and hammering at the outer door for five minutes, and no one came, so I walked in," said a new voice as Squire Barber entered. "I suppose you've got everything fixed to your wishes now, and that the mistletoe brought good luck."

"You old fox, you knew all about it," burst forth the farmer, and with a sudden thought he opened the envelope and saw it was a "mortgage satisfaction" paper. "So it was Paul and you that put up this Christmas joke."

"Yes, dad," said Paul without a bit of remorse. "I think we did it in pretty good style too. I started from South Africa at the same time I posted that letter as a blind and landed more than a fortnight since. The rest was easily fixed, and I determined to shake you all up with a big surprise. And I have proved such a successful Santa Claus that a certain young woman has concluded to let me play Santa Claus to her for life."

"Where's Mr. Swinton?" said the farmer, with a keen recollection of incivility, for in the agitation of the scene all had forgotten him. Love is sometimes very selfish. Their guest of the early evening had unobtrusively slipped away. He knew he was one too many.

Christmastide.

Some say that ever 'gainst that season comes
Wherein our Saviour's birth is celebrated,
The bird of dawning singeth all night long.
And then, they say, no spirit dares stir abroad;
The nights are wholesome; then no planets strike;
No fairy takes or witch hath power to charm,
So hallowed and so gracious is the time.
—Shakespeare.

Watches, Jewelry, Optical Goods!

To the Public :

We are not located on High street, so 'tis plain we have lower rent and other expenses which, together with the fact that we do all of our work, and buy direct from the manufacturers, thereby saving jobbers profits, enables us to offer our customers A No. 1 Goods at the

Lowest Possible Prices

Our increasing business in

REPAIRING

is ample proof of our widely known efficiency in this line.

We thank you for your patronage and strive to merit a continuance of the same.

WILLIAMSON BROS.,
JEWELERS & OPTICIANS
6 W. Cross St., Chestertown, Md.

MUST BE SOLD REGARDLESS OF COST !

125 PAIRS OF

Men's, Boy's and Youths' BOOTS.

Youths' 13 to 2, Boys' 1 to 6, Men's 6 to 11. Also BIG LINE of LADIES' and MEN'S

Fine and Coarse Shoes

5 AND 10 CENTS.

Call and see our 5 and 10 cent counters of

QUEENSWARE.

You can get most everything made in Glassware from a Toothpick Holder to a Berry Bowl that will hold one Gallon, all for 5 and 10 cents each.

WHITE GRANITE, PORCELAIN and CHINA DISHES, Decorated and Plain, by the piece and set. Largest line and Cheapest Price in town. We bought a big lot of Japanese After Dinner Cups and Saucers which are worth 25 cents each, but will sell them at 10 cents and give you a Fancy Paper Lamp Shade. Also a Big Lot of Bamboo Lunch Baskets which we will sell at 12c., regular price 20c.

Dont' forget we always get a full line of DRY GOODS, NOTIONS and GROCERIES at Lowest Prices.

Men's NECKWEAR and SUSPENDERS a specialty.

WM. R. ALDRIDGE,
Nov. 20, 1897. Chestertown, Md.

S. HICKS. S. HICKS.

Court Street Specials :

WE are offering SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS in Light and heavy wheel hooping and have reduced all kinds of repairing in both wheelwright and blacksmith shops. Have the best

Dearborns and Farm Wagons

ever offered to the public, for sale very low. Also have some second hand jobs on hand will dispose of CHEAP.

OUR reputation as horseshoers speaks for itself. Have your horses shod at Hicks' and I will guarantee they will travel right. He will lengthen your horse's stride or give him more action. Ask for what you want an' you will get it. Will give your horse such bearings as will not sore him.

S. HICKS.

Special Notice !

Something NEW for FARMERS and HORSEMEN !

A COLLAR without a Stitch-strong, neat and cheap. We also have the BEST and largest stock of Collars on the Shore! You will be surprised at our 75 cent Collars, and our $1 make can't be equalled.

We make a specialty of CHEAP HARNESS as low as $5.50, while we also make the FINEST RUBBER HARNESS USED. We make all kinds of Harness and Strap work.

Bits, Bridles, Boots, Pads, Brushes and Combs, Harness Oils, Whips, Blankets, Summer and Winter Robes and Lap Dusters, Fly Nets, Pump Leathers, the latest Dog Muzzle.

REPAIRING PROMPTLY DONE.

Thankful for the past 30 years' patronage we ask a continuance of the same.

JOHN F. HOWARD,
Adjoining Postoffice. Court Street.

LOST! LOST!

THIS is the condition of the man or woman who starts out to buy without knowing what a piece of goods is when they see it. They know what they want, but rely on the MERCHANT to give them GOOD GOODS.

FOUND! Found! FOUND!

We pride ourselves on the reliability of our merchandise and guarantee every one who visits us will find a place where they get honest value for their money.

DRESSS GINGHAMS,
OUTINGS,
DOMET FLANNEL,
CANTON FLANNEL 50c. per yd and up.
RED and WHITE WOOL FLANNELS, all the standard makes of BLEACHED MUSLIN, Good Unbleached Muslin 5c per yard, WHITE and COLORED BLANKETS. Ladies' Men's and Boys'

Gloves, Mittens,

HOSIERY in all grades, beginning at 5c per pair.

Silk Handkerchiefs and Mufflers. White and Fancy Handkerchiefs.

Underwear,

For Men and Boys from the Cheapest to the Best in quality. Ladies' Jersey Ribbed Vests from 25c up.

MENS', LADIES' and CHILDREN'S } **FINE SHOES,**

Heavy Winter Shoes and Rubbers, Men's Boots at $1.50, $1.75, $2.00, $2.25. Boy's Boots at $1.25.

We invite attention to Our Stock of Men and Boys

Hats and Caps,

Newest Shapes at Lowest Prices.

JOHN H. SIMPERS,
Oct. 11, 1897. Chestertown, Md.

N. C. CROW,

UP TOWN.

Ready for Christmas

Fresh Candies,
Variety of Nuts,
Raisins, Citron,
Oranges, Apples,

Fresh Groceries, Etc.

☞CALL AND SEE US.

DUNHAM, BUCKLEY & CO.

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Dry Goods, Notions and Carpets,

340, 342 & 344 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK.

☞Address all orders to

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General Salesmen for Eastern Shore.
Oct. 30, 1897—3m.

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$1.00 Per Day.

Steam-Heating Throughout the House
OPEN DAY AND NITGH,
HOT AND COLD BATHS.

Special Rates for Permanent Boarders.

☞Connection by Cars from all Stations to the Hotel.

610 and 612 East Pratt St., Balto.,
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BUCKWHEAT! BUCKWHEAT!

Our well known BUCKWHEAT has arrived from Rev. J. S. Bowers. It needs no recommending as we sold it last season from Millington to Rock Hall, and filled orders for Philadelphia. Place your order now.

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