A WESLEY INCIDENT.

First Methodist Lay Preacher Followed In a Year by Twenty.

The societies met on Sundays, but never at the hour of church service, and, when neither Wesley nor any other clergyman was present, spent the hour in prayer and religious conversation or exhortation. From exhortation before the society to formal preaching before it was only a step, but to Wesley it seemed a very long step.

While in Bristol he learned, one day in 1739, that one of his converts, Thomas Maxfield, had been preaching before the Foundery society. He hurried up to London to stop it. But his mother, who since the death of her husband had been living in a room of the Foundery building, met him with a protest, "John, take care what you do with reference to that young man, for he is as surely called to preach as you are." Admonished by this counsel from one whose caution on all churchly matters he knew to be quite equal to his own, Wesley reluctantly consented to hear Maxfield preach. After listening, he exclaimed: "It is the Lord's doing. Let him do as seemeth to him good." Convinced in spite of deep rooted disinclination, he sanctioned the first Methodist lay preacher. Within a year there were twenty.—C. F. Winchester in Century.

Professional Trust.

To any who regard the whole legal profession with suspicion I can only answer: "You are probably right in saying that if a lawyer had played the vulture he would not tell of it, yet in truth these evil birds of prey are not the majority in the law. If they were more than a small minority our profession could not sustain the almost boundless confidence it enjoys from the whole business world. Remember, a lawyer is judged day by day, and by his deeds he is justified or condemned. If a significant number of us were traitors to our clients or if by our hypocrisy we undermined the body of professional ethics, the keen and undeceived men of this generation would not be placing in lawyers' hands every day their most momentous interests and trusting implicitly in the honesty of their advice. Suppose we do have our little professional attitudes and poses and pomposities; those are but superficial mannerisms which may make us awkward and tedious when we, too, would write a popular article, but which have nothing under heaven to do with our faithfulness to our clients. On that faithfulness we meet our judgment day six times a week."—Everybody's Magazine.

Beecher's Application.

One Saturday afternoon two Brooklyn men were on their way over Fulton ferry to the City of Churches. Mr. Beecher happened to be on board. As the ferryboat felt its way into the slip Mr. Beecher seemed to be looking on abstractedly. As the boat struck the piling at the side, which creakingly yielded, Mr. Beecher's face lighted up. One of the men, who knew Mr. Beecher's method of sermonizing, remarked to the other: "There will be something about that in tomorrow's sermon. Let us go and see." The men were in Plymouth church the following morning as suggested. Sure enough, in the course of the sermon Mr. Beecher made some such reference as this: "There are in every community men who perform for society the service that yonder piling does in the ferry slip—when they are struck they gracefully yield, yet are not quite swept from their position. They stand for principle, but they tactfully yield in nonessentials. Those buffer souls are valuable members of society."

His Second Stomach.

Smugglers' brains are proverbially fertile, and a clever expedient was once adopted to import brandy into Paris without paying the octroi duties, says the Golden Penny. For several weeks a splendid elephant and his keeper belonging to a circus had constantly gone in and out of one of the Paris gates, when one day a custom house officer suddenly thrust his probe into the creature's side. The spectators were horrified, but the elephant did not appear to feel any pain, while from the wound fell four tiny barrels of brandy. The keeper, considering that a little extra size in the unwieldy shape of his charge would not be noticed, had incased its stomach in the old skin of a larger elephant and had filled out the space with brandy—a very profitable enterprise.

A Desperate Man.

It was in a restaurant, and the young wife looked anxiously at her husband as he devoured a double portion of lobster salad.

"I wish you wouldn't eat that, dear," she urged. "You know it never agrees with you, especially at night."

"It doesn't, but I don't care," he said as he tackled a huge mouthful. "It's my turn to take care of the baby tonight, anyhow."—New York Press.

A Fair Warning.

Mrs. Browne—Don't you think the new neighbor is cute? She has such a coaxing little way about her.

Mrs. Greene—Well, she'll get herself into trouble if she tries her coaxing little way on either of my hired girls.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Where Friendship Ceases.

"That girl with Johnson there—a friend of his, I presume?"

"Nope; used to be, though."

"So? Had a falling out?"

"Not exactly. He married her."—Baltimore American.

Much better results can be obtained by paying a woman a compliment than by trying to argue with her.—Boston Globe.

JAPANESE REGALIA.

Royal Emblems Without Which the Emperor Could Not Rule.

The Japanese royal emblems consist of a copper mirror, symbolic of knowledge; a steel sword, symbolizing courage, and agate jewels, representing mercy. The story of their origin was told thus by a Japanese official:

The sun goddess became angry with the earth and withdrew into a cave, plunging everything into darkness. The other deities could not induce her to come out, so began to make a noise as of great rejoicing, which aroused the curiosity of the irate goddess. She finally came to the mouth of the cave to learn the cause of the uproar and was told that they had found a more beautiful goddess than herself. The sun goddess came out then, demanding to see her rival, and the crafty deities held the mirror before her, which drove all her sulkiness away.

The sword was taken by Susenoo, the brother of the sun goddess, from the tail of an eight headed serpent that had been annually devouring a beautiful girl. Susenoo placed eight great tubs of wine in his way and when he was sleeping killed him and took the sword as a trophy.

The sword is kept in an apartment near the imperial bedchamber and called the Room of the Sword. The jewels have also a room to themselves, and the mirror is in charge of a priestess. The regalia have the highest significance in the eyes of the people, and it is held that no emperor can possibly rule without the three virtues which they represent. He must, moreover, hold the actual tokens, and in the imperial code it is enjoined that on the death of the sovereign his heir must take possession of them.

REPORT of JOSEPH PETERSON, Treasurer of School Board of Kent County, Md., for year ending July 31, 1903:

RECEIPTS:	
Balance on hand July 31, 1903	$ 1,811 35
Free book fund	2,442 88
Free school fund	1,560 99
Manual training department	1,500 00
State school tax	12,540 34
County school tax	20,152 71
Tongers' licenses	1,385 84
Interest	17 42
Books sold	6 26
Contributions to furnish new school, Chestertown	282 00
Sale of old school building, Chestertown	2,492 88
Sale of old school furniture	16 00
Total	$44,218 67
DISBURSEMENTS:	
Teachers' Salaries (white schools)	$25,124 32
Teachers' salaries (colored)	5,011 16
Rent of school houses	245 00
Fuel	1,340 55
Repairs	640 23
Incidental expenses	838 84
Furniture and stoves	1,099 94
Expended for books	2,007 33
Salary secty. treasurer and examiner	1,200 00
Per diem school commissioners	300 00
Office expenses	98 15
Printing and advertising	173 00
Freight and hauling	142 53
Building school house	1,833 43
Total	40,064 47
Cash in bank	4,154 20
Total	$44,218 67

We hereby certify that we have examined the aforegoing report of Joseph Peterson, treasurer of School Board of Kent County, Md., and the books and vouchers upon which it is based, and find it correct.

W. FRANK HINES, Pres.
J. THOS. PENNINGTON,
C. C. BROWN.

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A FIRST-CLASS, RELIABLE FERTILIZER for your Wheat—one that will not gum up or clog in your drill—

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The largest yields of wheat this year have been where these goods were used.

We are also prepared to put up any kind of Fertilizer you desire, from the very best to the lowest price.

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Execute Orders for the purchase and sale of Stocks, Bonds, Wheat, Corn and Cotton on all the leading exchanges. . . .

INVESTMENT SECURITIES A SPECIALTY.

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Time For All Things

TRUE ENOUGH, "we are all creatures of circumstances." Only a fortnight since we needed a Coal or Wood Stove and fuel to keep us warm; but May has come and all is changed. Yesterday our streets and fields were covered with snow and sleet. To-day vegetation greets the eye everywhere, reminding us that we will soon need the following from

J. K. ALDRIDGE & CO.

Cultivators, Cultivator Steels, all sizes;
Garden Hoes,
Garden Barrows,
Hay Forks,
Hay Carriers.
Screen Doors,
Window Screens,
Fly Wire,
Poultry Netting,
SERVICE LAWN HOSE,
CARRIAGE WHIPS a Specialty.
WHITEWASH BRUSHES,
WALL BRUSHES,
STREET and STABLE BROOMS.
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Hold On A Minute

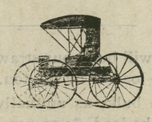
You must be in a hurry if you regard as a sacrifice the time you spend in looking at our stock. It wouldn't be a sacrifice of your time whatever your time was worth, because the surest way of saving time is to know just how rapidly it is flying. Our prices will save time. If you are thinking of buying a Watch we can serve your purposes better than they can elsewhere, and we mean it when we say it.

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LAWN SWINGS $2.98 LAWN SETTEES 50c 75c and $1.10. The LARGE REED PORCH ROCKERS only $1.29.
SCREEN DOORS, any size 60c 80c and 98c.
WINDOW SCREENS, all sizes 10c up.

Do you want a HAMMOCK? We have cut our former underselling price 10 per cent.

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are happily combined in all the footwear we offer. They are pliable, strong and durable. They resist hard usage and return in wear every cent expended in their purchase; and they have style, too, something that every Shoe hasn't got. The cost of good Shoes here is not more than you paid elsewhere for poor Shoes.

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