DISPLAY

Winter Goods

AT THE

MAMMOTH

Clothing Store

OF

Sharrer Bros

Wantz Building,

Main Street, - Near Depot,

Westminster, Md.

OUR LINE OF

READY-MADE

Clothing

Is the largest ever shown.

Business and Working Suits,

School Suits for Boys,

All sizes, styles and prices

OUR LINE OF

OVERCOATS

Cannot be surpassed in the county.

OUR LINE OF

SUITINGS

And Overcoatings, embraces everything in the line of newest material, both Foreign and Domestic.

Latest Styles, - Lowest Prices.

GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS,

SUCH AS

SHIRTS, DRAWERS, SCARFS, TIES, COLLARS, CUFFS, GLOVES, HOSE, SILK AND LINEN HANDKERCHIEFS, &c., &c., &c.

SHARRER BROS.

nr-24

AMERICAN SENTINEL.

VOL. 55, NO. 49. WESTMINSTER, MD., SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 8, 1888. ESTABLISHED 1833.

Public Sale

OF VALUABLE

Real Estate

And Personal Property,

In Pleasant Valley, Carroll County, Md.

BY virtue of the last will and testament of Samuel Lawyer, late of Carroll county, deceased, and by virtue of an order of the Orphans' Court of Carroll county, the undersigned, as Acting Executor of said deceased, will sell at public sale, at the late residence of said deceased, in Pleasant Valley, on

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22d, 1888,

at 10 o'clock, a. m., the following real estate, to-wit:

No. 1. That valuable property in Pleasant Valley, containing

103 SQUARE PERCHES OF LAND,

more or less. The improvements consist of a fine and comfortable weather-boarded dwelling house, finished in the best style and laid off into nine rooms, with fine basement and cellar, and a well and pump of pure water at the kitchen door; spring house, wash house, good stable with carriage and wagon shed attached, hog house, corn crib, and all other necessary outbuildings. A property of this description is very seldom in market, and is worthy the attention of persons wanting a comfortable home, situated as it is in the beautiful village of Pleasant Valley, and on account of its healthy locality and close proximity to church, schools, mills, postoffice, &c. The property is now in the occupancy of John Stuller.

No. 2, containing

19 ACRES, 3 ROODS AND 9 PERCHES

of land, more or less. The improvements consist of a two-story DWELLING HOUSE, in good condition, with basement and cellar under the building and a spring of pure water convenient to the house; a good stable and other outhouses. There is a fine orchard and other fruit on this property and about 2 acres of prime TIMBER LAND. The cleared land is under good fencing and well improved, and fronts on the county road leading from Pleasant Valley to Stonerville, about three-fourths of a mile from Pleasant Valley, and adjoins the land of David D. Myers and others.

No. 3, containing

19 ACRES AND 24 PERCHES OF LAND,

more or less. This lot lies on the stone road, about 1¼ miles from Pleasant Valley, and adjoins the land of John C. Wentz, Francis W. Burgoon and others. About 2 acres are prime TIMBER LAND. The balance is cleared and laid out in fields, is under good fencing, well cultivated, and would make a fine building lot. There is a spring of pure water on the premises.

No. 4 is a Wood Lot, containing

4½ ACRES AND 12 SQUARE PERCHES

of land, more or less, situated on Pine Hill, and adjoining the land of George S. Lippy and others. It is covered with prime chestnut, oak and hickory timber and has a good outlet.

Any persons desiring to see said properties before the day of sale will please call on the undersigned, acting executor, residing close to Pleasant Valley, who will take pleasure in giving all information respecting the same. All of the aforesaid real estate will be offered and sold at the late residence of said Samuel Lawyer, deceased, in Pleasant Valley, on the aforesaid day.

Also, at the same time and place, will be sold the entire personal property of said deceased, consisting of 1 fine Family Mare, 1 falling-top buggy, 1 top spring wagon, 1 one-horse wagon, 1 open spring wagon, 1 wheelbarrow, 1 set of breechbands, 1 set of spring-wagon gears, 1 set of buggy harness, 1 fly net, saddle and bridle, greasing tools, cross-cut and hand saws, maul and wedges, pick, crowbar, scythe and snath, a lot of hay, straw and corn fodder, horse power, circular saw and frame, oats and rye by the bushel, a lot of corn by the barrel, interest of the deceased in 6½ acres of growing wheat and 1 acre of growing rye, about 100 chestnut rails, lot of posts, large ladder, shovels, forks, rakes, 3 good sifters, a lot of empty sacks, lot of lumber, 2 bedsteads and bedding, lot of coverlets and blankets, coal stove and pipe, desk, iron kettle, large rocking chair, one dozen new brooms, barrel and vinegar, meat hogshead, meat cutter, together with many other articles too numerous to mention.

Terms of Sale of Personal Property: On all sums of $5.00 and upwards, a credit of six months will be given, on notes, with approved security, bearing interest from day of sale; all sums under $5.00 must be paid cash.

Terms of Sale of Real Estate: One-third cash on the day of sale or upon the ratification of said sale by the Court; the balance in two equal payments, the one payable in six months and the other payable in twelve months from the day of sale; the credit payments to be secured by the bonds or single bills of the purchaser or purchasers, with sufficient security, bearing interest from the day of sale.

JOHN T. LAWYER,
Acting Executor.

Wm. Brown, Auctioneer.
J. Wm. Earhart, Clerk. no-24-ts

STATEMENT

Of Receipts and Disbursements for Public School Purposes, in Carroll County, for the Year ending September 30th, 1888.

RECEIPTS.

Cash in Treasury September 30th, 1887	$15 66
State School Tax	13,844 79
State Free School Fund	2,126 82
County School Tax	21,000 00
Taneytown Ground Rents: For 1887, $36 17; For 1888, $44	82 17
Fines and Forfeitures	256 00
Book-Fees	4,390 24
Sales of Books and Other Property	149 29
State Appropriation to Colored Schools	1,167 52
County Commissioners for Special Term of School	5,000 00
Sales of Old School-lots and Houses:	
Fairmount	62 70
Cabbage Spring	136 50
West End, Westminster	375 00
Borrowed	5,500 00
Total	$54,100 69

DISBURSEMENTS.

Teachers' Salaries—White Schools	$28,154 52
Fuel	2,542 02
Incidental Expenses of Schools	968 90
Rent	119 50
Books and Stationery	3,822 13
Building Schoolhouses	6,337 98
Repairing Schoolhouses	815 53
Furniture, Blackboards and Stoves	1,034 95
Interest	529 77
Salary of Secretary, Treasurer and Examiner	1,200 00
Salary of Assistant	500 00
Per Diem of Commissioners	500 00
Office Expenses and Account Books	147 28
Printing and Advertising	124 65
Paid to Colored Schools	2,672 10
Counsel Fees	50 00
Insurance	10 56
Auctioneering Sale	5 00
State School Meetings	35 00
Freight, Drayage and Cases	119 37
Paid on Debt	4,000 00
Cash in Treasury September 30th, 1888	11 43
Total	$54,100 69

WESTMINSTER, MD., November, 1888.

To the Board of County School Commissioners of Carroll County, Maryland:

Your Committee, to whom you gave it in charge to audit the accounts of the Treasurer, respectfully report that they have examined said accounts in the most complete and thorough manner, from January 7th, A. D. 1884, when the present Treasurer was first elected, to September 30th, A. D. 1888, the end of the last fiscal year, and have found them correct in every particular and supported by the proper vouchers. Every expenditure made has been authorized by the Board, and every Statement published to the public by the Treasurer is true and sustained by the records in the office.

Your committee report further, that their labors were much facilitated by the fullness and accuracy of the records, and the neat and systematic manner in which they are kept.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

FRANCIS WARNER,
WILLIAM REINDOLLAR, } Committee.
L. P. SLINGLUFF,

Lime! Lime!

HAVING a superior quality of Limestone, and having adopted a new process of burning, we feel satisfied we can accommodate our customers with a good quality of Lime at low prices. Measure guaranteed. Call on or address.

CHAS. E. GOODWIN & BRO.,
fe-27-tf Westminster, Md.

Select Poetry.

BLESSINGS IN DISGUISE.

MILTON AND BEETHOVEN.

I.

Milton sits musing in the porch,
The bright blue sky above him,
But cannot see the light of heaven,
Or smiles of those who love him:—
But though the utter darkness hides
The earthly from his vision,
He sees the bowers of Paradise,
And splendors of the Elysian:
He learns from angels at his side
Creation's awful story,
And looks upon them face to face,
Undazzled by their glory!

II.

Beethoven, Music's great high Priest,
Whose heaven-born fancies capture
The tangled skins of Harmony
And weave them into rapture,
Hears not the voice of human kind
Nor sound of life and motion;
Nor tempests on the echoing hills
Nor moan of restless ocean:—
And yet in silence of his mind
Can hear the throb and thunder,
Of jubilant hymns and solemn chants,
And lays of Love and Wonder!

III.

Thus though relentless Fate may close
The gateways of our senses,
Immortal Spirit overleaps
Their barriers and defenses,
And with celestial recompense
For harm and loss diurnal,
Yields greater joys than flesh affords,
In foretastes of the Eternal!
To blind old Milton's rayless orbs
A light divine is given,
And deaf Beethoven hears the hymns
And harmonies of heaven!

CHARLES MACKAY.

Select Story.

LATITUDE 3°.

BY E. H. STRATTON.

From Yankee Blade.

Sailors have not much chance for making love, and the old saying, that we have a sweetheart in every port, is a false one.

My father was a sea captain, and I was born on board the good ship Nadine, and spent the first eighteen years of my life on her. Then she was declared unfit for service; my father concluded to spend the remainder of his days upon land, and I became the proud Captain of another vessel, which I immediately named for my dear floating home. The new Nadine was a trading vessel, and I was to have a liberal share of the profits, with the prospect of becoming part owner as soon as I had proved my business capacity.

John Nelson was then sole owner, and it was with a flutter of excited anxiety that I welcomed him on board, one beautiful summer morning, three years after I became Captain, and heard his decision to accompany me on that voyage.

"You are to go to Lima for a cargo of sugar and coffee, thence on a trading expedition to the several islands of Oceanica, and finally to Calcutta for a load of China ware, then home. If the voyage is a success, you will be half-owner of the Nadine when we again reach the Golden Gate. Understand?"

"Perfectly, sir," I answered gladly; "and I will do my best."

"I know that," he responded, with a hearty grasp of the hand. "I have watched you for three years, and I am satisfied that you always do your best. We want a lot of looking-glasses and cheap jewelry for savage trade, and you might add a few fireworks to celebrate our national holiday with. Oh, by the way, I want you to have a second cabin in readiness, for my daughter will accompany us.

I guess any one could have knocked me down with a feather, as he made this announcement. The entire twenty-odd years of my life had been spent on board ship with the exception of a day or two in port now and then, and as our vessels were not made to take in passengers, I think I can truly say that I had never even spoken to one of the angelic beings known as women.

My mother had died before I could remember her, and my father had supplied her place as well as his own, and that of teacher; for I had as good an education as others of my age. John Nelson saw, and evidently enjoyed, my embarrassment.

"Bess will not trouble you," he laughed. "Just get a berth ready for her, and treat her exactly as you do me."

"Yes, sir," I answered, in bewilderment, and he went ashore, while I carried out his orders.

Two days later, we sailed, and just before we weighed anchor my employer and his daughter came on board. How shall I describe Bess Nelson? I think it was clearly a case of love at first sight—on my part, at least.

She was tall and queenly, with soft brown eyes and pretty curls. Pretty? I can't tell you that, even now. I know that she seemed the loveliest creature in the world to me.

"Go ahead, boy. Do just the same [illegible] as though we were not here," said [illegible] Nelson. "We don't want to [illegible] any extra trouble, do we, Bess?"

"Certainly not,' she replied; and her voice was sweetest music, while her smile was divine.

You think me silly; no doubt I am on that subject. But you must remember my years of seclusion from all female society and the beauty of my first love, and excuse me as best you can, while I give you the details of that eventful voyage.

We reached Peru in safety, discharged our cargo at a good profit, and took in another, as we had proposed. We went hither and thither among the strange, almost unknown islands of Oceanica, and counting our profits with extreme satisfaction. We saw hideously tattooed men, beautiful though dusky women, rare and unknown animals, fascinating, ugly reptiles; lovely and curious flowers, and dense forests of trees unheard of before.

We lived in a strange world of wonders which rivaled the "Arabian Nights'" entertainment, and, to my Bess and I, the days were laden with the breath of Eden.

Yes, she was my Bess, my peerless treasure. My love had won a coveted return, and John Nelson was to give his daughter to me in marriage when we arrived home. Moreover, she was to be my joint owner of the good ship Nadine.

What wonder that the waves danced as merrily as the sunshine beneath that soft, blue, tropical sky, or that the night winds made such sweet music, as we sat on deck in the brilliant moonlight and planned our happy future?

We stopped at a small island to celebrate our national holiday, and I think that a Fourth of July frolic never had a more astonished audience. The shores were lined with dusky faces, and at nightfall our fireworks made a most brilliant display, arousing the admiration and awe of the natives. It was there that I chanced to save a black little wretch from the sharks; a venturesome little scamp he was, and, as it turned out, the only son of the chief.

That act of impulsive humanity brought me a rich reward, as you will see.

The grateful father gave us freely of the good things which his small kingdom afforded and sent an escort of hideously tattooed savages to fetch me to his place, that he might thank me in person. His place was a hut, and his majesty was about the worst-looking native I ever saw; but I showed him proper respect.

I soon discovered that he was about to give me the highest honor in his power, and one, so far as I know, never before bestowed upon a white man. He motioned to his followers, and they immediately formed two great circles around us, as he stood clasping my hand.

With signs of the greatest friendship—for I couldn't understand a word of his lingo, and the others were not permitted to speak throughout the ceremony—he unfastened and turned back my shirt. A small, dirty boy crept through the circles on his hands and knees, presented a small stone vessel to his majesty, kissed his foot reverently, and withdrew in a way that reminded me of an enormous bullfrog.

That vessel contained a blood-red fluid and a slender, sharp bone instrument. I always objected to the tattooing so common among sailors, but I stood there like a martyr while that savage chief deftly pricked the letters XIIX upon my bare breast.

When it was done he gravely bowed until his forehead nearly touched the ground, placed my hand upon his own head and heart, kissed me on each cheek, and reverently touched the letters he had made; while the dusky circles began revolving in opposite directions, faster and faster, singing a low monotone which ended in a demoniac, triumphant shriek.

I noticed that the bare brown breast of the chief bore the same mystic symbols, only in bright yellow.

Then each one of the tribe, men, women and children (and I will believe that there were more than five hundred of them), advanced, touched the letters reverently, knelt before me, placed my foot upon his or her head, kissed my hand, and withdrew, all in perfect silence. The breast of each male bore the first two letters, in the same brilliant tattooing.

When the tiresome ceremony was over, I was conducted to the hut of the chief, where a sumptuous banquet of native cookery awaited us. I hope I may never have such a feast again, although I tried to do that one justice.

I returned to my vessel the next morning, accompanied by a score of natives, each laden with presents, mostly specimens of coral, and some of them very rare and valuable. I said nothing of the honor which had been conferred upon me, however, and, as soon as the wounds healed, I actually forgot it myself in the business of trading and love-making combined. We soon disposed of our cargo to good advantage, getting in exchange nuggets of gold, and not a few diamonds and other precious stones, as well as tropical fruits and nuts in abundance. The gold and gems we secured in canvas belts upon our persons.

"Shall we go to Calcutta, or shall we go home?" asked John Nelson, one day, as he came on deck and joined Bess and me. "Ah, your faces answer me. Home it is."

"I do not intend to interfere with business, sir—" I began.

"I know, I know. I was young once myself. You and Bess are owners of the Nadine from this day. Head her wherever you wish. I am only a passenger."

And, after further deliberation, we decided to postpone the Calcutta trip, and turn toward home.

"Beg pardon, capt'n. D'ye see them clouds yonder?" and one of my older seamen paused beside me and pointed to a line of pinkish, dusky clouds just visible above the horizon, from which a brazen haze extended nearly to the zenith—a queer looking sky, surely, but I saw no cause for his alarm.

"Well?" I cried impatiently.

"It ain't well at all, capt'n," he said earnestly. "That means a 'quator tornado. We're 'bout in no latitude now, ain't we."

"If you mean we are at the equator, we are pretty near it, I guess," I replied, as I went to look at the chart. "Yes, latitude 3 degrees," I said, as I returned.

"I thought it, sir. I've sailed in these ere waters afore to-day and we're in fer it, sure."

[redacted]

and he carefully fastened her preserver and his own.

What a time of suspense that was, waiting for life or death to win; but it was soon over. With a demoniac howl the tempest was upon us. The rigging was carried away by the first furious gust. It was useless to give orders which could not be heard nor obeyed; we could only wait. Each man wildly grasped a support as the mad waves swept the deck; but more than one poor soul went with the foaming waters, never to be seen again.

John Nelson and I lashed Bess to a strong support between us.

Suddenly the roar of breakers sounded above the noise of wind and wave, and a wall of water, with curling, foamy crest, came sweeping in. There was a sound of crashing timbers, there were shrieks and cries, and our staunch Nadine was wrecked. That huge wave swept everything before it. It swept us over the low sandy bar into comparatively smooth, shallow waters, while the ship sank almost instantly in the rough sea outside. Then, as if satisfied with its destruction, the tempest passed, the warm sun shone out brightly, the forest glittered with purest water gems, and the birds began their joyous songs again.

Of our crew, including ourselves, ten alone reached the shore alive; the others drifted to the land, with white, set faces, staring eyes, and pulseless hearts.

"Thank God that we live," breathed John Nelson, fervently, while Bess embraced us both with speechless gratitude.

We thought we were in a bad enough plight, but we soon found that it could be worse. As if the sands of that hostile shore had suddenly become human beings, dusky forms sprang up around us. My eyes met John Nelson's with silent intelligence as we noticed their joy at the sight of the dead bodies, and of us as living victims. Bess saw the look, and cried—

"Cannibals! Are they cannibals, father?" and he could only answer with a groan.

We were at once led to their village, a little back from the coast, and thrust into dens too vile for a respectable dog to live in. It did not increase our satisfaction to notice, as we did, that Bess was treated with the greatest reverence, and given much better quarters.

"Evidently, they never saw a white woman. Poor Bess!" said her father.

"They will treat her well and make her a priestess," I answered, encouragingly.

"Death—the most horrible death—would be better than such captivity," he groaned in despair, and I felt that he was right.

The savages fed us well. Evidently, they did not want us to lose flesh, and we were safe so long as the dead bodies of our shipmates lasted. They began their horrible banquet at once, and on the morning of the third day they were ready for a living victim.

I was selected as that victim! I bade my shipmates and my prospective father-in-law a brave farewell; but tears filled my eyes as I heard Bess cry out in anguish as I was led by the hut where she was confined.

Not far away, upon a small hill, the whole of that naked, hideous tribe were assembled near a huge, flat stone, beside which blazed a brisk fire. The stone was stained with blood, and the ground was strewn with ghastly bones.

The two men who led me conducted me directly to the stone, where I was anxiously awaited by a brawny savage, fantastically tattooed and painted, who was carefully examining the edge of a stone hatchet. The circle of human brutes began a chant which was to be my death-song, and my conductors began to remove my clothing.

As they unfastened my shirt they recoiled with a cry of amazement. The chant instantly ceased, and a hushed silence succeeded. The executioner and his disappointed assistants touched my breast, knelt before me, placed my foot upon their heads, kissed my hand, and then withdrew to a respectful distance, and each one of that infernal tribe went through with the same manœuvres.

Those blood-red symbols on my breast had done their work! The life of that insignificant savage boy had brought me a rich reward.

"Why did you not tell us about it?" asked John Nelson, an hour later, as, with Bess and the remainder of the crew, we sat in one of the largest huts and feasted upon the best which the eager natives could furnish us.

"I forgot it," I answered truthfully; "but it has served us a good turn. See, each of these greasy natives has one letter of the symbol upon his breast. What can it mean?"

"It's doubtless a sort of free-masonry which exists in these island," he replied; and that was our final decision.

We stayed more than two months on the island before a vessel touched there. Then a Chinese ship ran in for water. So we went to Calcutta, after all, where we took the first steamer for San Francisco.

That was my last voyage. My good wife Bess will not consent for me to follow the sea, and I'm not sure that I want to. It does seem queer on land, but I am getting used to it, and I think that I would perfer this life to the dangers of again drifting towards those mysterious islands, hidden from knowledge of the world, in the strange water of Latitude 3 degrees.

BUTTER KEPT IN BRINE.

Year after year a California dairyman keeps "the best and richest butter—that made in May, June and July"—by a simple process which he describes in a local paper. The directions are good for putting away any good butter: Thoroughly wash before it is taken out of the churn. Salt to suit the taste—half an ounce to the pound is about right. Do up in neat, round balls, of two or three pounds each, just what you have to put down; cover each roll with a clean muslin cloth, large enough to go round it twice or more, that it will be completely enveloped, and sink it in a strong brine, as strong as the best salt will make it. Stone vessels are the best. When the rolls are in, they may be kept down by means of clean, flat stones. When the vessel is full enough and the butter completely covered with the brine, add more salt to insure the strength of the brine.

The total consumption of spirits in Ireland last year was 4,954,428 gallons, or over a gallon per head for every man, woman and child.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON.

From the Sunday American.

The international Sunday School Lesson for December 9, 1888, is "Gideon's Army." Judges vii. 1-8. Golden Text—"Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts." Zach. iv. 6. Joshua had been dead for about two hundred years, during the greater part of which the Israelites had possessed the land in peace and prosperity. But, three times during this period, they had been oppressed by the neighboring nations, from whom they were delivered by the Judges, Othniel, Ehud, Deborah and Barak, whom the Lord raised up. After their deliverance from the Canaanites, by Deborah, a prophetess of wondrous faith and courage, and Barak, the land had rest for forty years. Well it had been, if, while the tribes had rest, they had taken advantage of the cessation from war and walked with God. But in peace and seeming security, they again forgot the Lord, and the old corruption broke out afresh. Then came the fourth invasion, this time from the East. The Midianites, Amalekites and other tribes of Arabia, the natural enemies of the Israelites, whose power they had felt in the days of Joshua, came pouring like locusts into the land, like grasshoppers in numbers and destructiveness. For seven successive years, when the harvest began to be gathered, these wild tribes from the East, with cattle and camels without number rushed in and consumed all the products of the land, and with the approach of winter returned to their own deserts. The Israelites, in terror, at the approach of their enemies, abandoned their fields to the plunderers and fled to the dens of the mountains and the muniments of the rocks. Again in the hour of their extremity "the Children of Israel cried unto the Lord." And, although they had repeatedly forgotten their convenant vows, the Lord, who is not slack concerning His promises, again remembered them in mercy. Among the most conspicuous among the Israelite heroes was Gideon, whom the Lord now raised up for the deliverance of His people. Possessing less of the prophetic fire and massive strength than Deborah, in him was greater military skill than even Joshua exhibited. His was a many-sided character combining caution with decision and rapidity of movement; and carefulness with courage. Slow to accept this call, seeking sign after sign, before he is convinced that there is no mistake, assured at length that he is called to this mighty mission, his eagerness for the work is now as marked as had been his former caution. His two brothers, princes among men, in stature and bearing, had been inhumanly slain by the Midianites on the sides of Tabor, and the remembrance of this fact probably added to the impetuosity of the new general. Then the Midianites and their allies, 135,000 fighting men, were camped in the valley of Jezreel, having come over to their annual pillage of the land; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon, impelling him to go up against them. In response to his summons, 32,000 men of the tribes of Manasseh, Zebulon, Naphtali and Asher, gathered around him ready for battle. Again the Lord manifested His presence and gave Gideon assurance of success.

Verse 1. Gideon, with his small army, less than one-fourth as large as the Midianite host, encamped near the well of Harod, almost within sight of their enemies, lying along the valley "like grasshoppers for multitude." Now the faith of Gideon and his mighty courage were to be severely tested. Well might his heart have been filled with misgivings at the thought of attacking that immense host with his comparatively small army, but they were to be still further reduced.

Verses 2 and 3. The Lord said "the people are too many." Too many to deliver the Midianites into their hands, lest they boast of their own might and fail to recognize the source of the deliverance wrought for them. "God is on the side of the heaviest gun," are words accredited to Napoleon I. "This history disproves. The issues of battles are with the God of Battles," (Baugher). He can accomplish His purpose with the few or with the many. It is a common and true saying that "One with God is a majority." A few cowards in the ranks of an army may create a panic, and to guard against this, a standing rule is found in Deuteronomy xx. 6; and so Gideon made proclamation, "Whoever is afraid, let him return." Twenty-two thousand men accepted the opportunity and left the camp. This is the more remarkable because these men were volunteers. There are many natural reasons to explain their cowardice. They had felt the power of the fray that they did not take time to drink, but lapped up the water from the stream with their hands—possible while marching—were chosen as the instruments for accomplishing God's purpose. Having his faith strengthened and his purpose confirmed by the interpretation of the dream, related by one of the Midianite sentries to his fellow, Gideon prepared for the night attack. Among all the strategems in ancient military history there are none so remarkable as that to which Gideon resorted and none like it in character. His band of three hundred were divided into three companies, and thus they were enabled to surround the camp. Each man carried not the usual arms, but a trumpet in the one hand, and in the other a pitcher, hiding a torch. Gathering round in the darkness, suddenly, at a given signal, pitchers are broken, the lights flash all around the camp, on every side the sound of the trumpets is heard, and the night resounds with the mighty war-cry, "The sword of Jehova and of Gideon." To the Midianites, taken by surprise, three hundred lights around their camp, and three hundred trumpets sounding meant three hundred leaders, each with a body of brave men ready for the conflict, for these were usually carried by the leaders. In their utter demoralization, the sword of each man in the camp was turned against his fellow, and there was fearful slaughter without the Israelites striking a blow. Then followed the tumultuous flight and the remorseless pursuit. Of all that mighty host but fifteen thousand escaped, and the name of the Midianites was blotted from the page of history.

Practical lessons lie at the surface in almost every line of this history. Besides those already indicated might be mentioned: 1. The smallest acts of men are often an index to character. 2. The unbelieving or discouraged cannot do great work for God. 3. Even the faithful and earnest may not be fit for special service. 4. Weakness should never discourage. They on whose side God is will prevail, whether they be few or many.

PRESIDENTIAL VACANCIES.

The electors do not vote for President and Vice President until the second Monday of January. If either Harrison or Morton or both were to die before that time, the Electoral Colleges would elect others. If Harrison were to die between the electoral election in January and the 4th of March, Morton would first qualify as Vice President and immediately become President. If both were to die between the second Monday of January and the 4th of March, the President protem. of the Senate would become President until a new election was held next November and the successful candidate qualified. If Harrison and Morton were to die after they had been inaugurated and selected a Cabinet, the Secretary of State would become President for the full unexpired term, with the succession to the Secretary of the Treasury and down through all the Cabinet.

RULES FOR FAT PEOPLE AND FOR LEAN.

To increase the weight: Eat, to the extent of satisfying a natural appetite, of fat meats, butter, cream, milk, cocoa, chocolate, bread, potatoes, peas, parsnips, carrots, beets, farinaceous foods, as Indian corn, rice, tapioca, sago, corn starch, pastry, custards, oatmeal, sugar, sweet wines, and ale. Avoid acids. Exercise as little as possible; sleep all you can, and don't worry or fret.

To reduce the weight: Eat, to the extent of satisfying a natural appetite, of lean meat, poultry, game, eggs, milk moderately, green vegetables, turnips, succulent acid drinks. Avoid fat, butter, cream, sugar, pastry, rice, sago, tapioca, corn starch, potatoes, carrots, beets, parsnips, and sweet wines. Exercise freely.—*Kansas City Medical Index.*

Sausage Meat.—To thirty pounds of meat put nine ounces of salt and four of pepper; or to ten pounds of meat a gill of salt and a gill each of sage and pepper; or a half-gill of sage and the same of summer savory. Another rule is: For each pound of meat three teaspoonfuls of powdered sage, one and a half of salt, one of pepper. The fat in sausages should be about one-third of the lean meat.

CUSTOMS AMONG RACES.

In Portugal they cure a quick tempered person by inviting everybody to give him a kick.

The Japanese are polite. Their honesty is attested by the fact that the shop is often left by the proprietor with nobody in while he goes to a distant part of the city. There are no bolts or bars on public or private houses.

In Tashkend, says a traveler, the Chinese have imposed a tax on all women who marry. All merchants who visit Kashbar are obliged to take a wife. As soon as they leave the woman obtains another husband, and thus the tax affords a considerable revenue to the Government.

In various parts of China there is a belief that the souls of very atrocious criminals who have either been executed or died in prison are sent back from hades by Yenlo, the judge there, to undergo a further term of imprisonment, one death not being enough to expiate their crimes.

A modern French custom at baptisms is that of presenting all the guests with sugar almonds in a bonbonniere, which has the appearance of a roll of parchment. On this roll are inscribed the names of the child, of the parents, god parents, the date of the birth and christening and the name of the church where the ceremony was performed.

On the Greek Island of Himia no girl may marry until she can dive and bring up the sponge that is known to grow only in the deepest water, as it is not thought before that time she is prepared to support a family. Upon Niarus the rule is reversed—the girl says or does nothing, and her father bestows her out of hand upon the diver who stays longest and brings most sponges.

In Cuba a woman never loses her maiden name. After marriage she adds her husband's name to her own. In being spoken of, she is always called by her Christian and maiden names. To a stranger it is often quite a task to find out whose wife a woman is. Never hearing the wife called by the husband's name, one naturally does not associate them together. The children take the name of both parents, but place the mother's name after the father's.

The seclusion of women in Corea is remarkable. Those of the lower classes wear a green mantle over their faces, and at the sight of a stranger dart into the nearest house. In 1887, when the Duke of Genoa was off the coast with an Italian man-of-war, after vain attempts to open communications with the authorities on shore, an official came off to remonstrate against the indecency of the Europeans in bathing and fishing, which had for some days prevented the villagers from leaving their homes.

It is a fact not well known that native sulphate of baryta is an active poison to rats, mice, and dogs. It is not easy to explain its action, considering its extreme insolubility, but mixed with lard it is readily eaten by them. This being the case, the question suggests itself, whether it might not replace the more dangerous poisons now so much used for this purpose, and do away with the risk attending them.—*Pharm. Journal.*

Pumpkin Pie.—Pare a small pumpkin and take out the seeds. Stew it rather dry and strain it through a colander. Add two quarts of milk, three eggs, and three tablespoonfuls of molasses; let the remainder of the sweetening—to taste—be of sugar; season it with two tablespoonfuls of ground cinnamon, one of ginger, and two tablespoonfuls of salt.

Never allow any one to tickle or tease your horse in the stable. The animal only feels the torment, and does not understand the joke. Never beat the horse when in the stable, as nothing so soon makes him permanently vicious.

It is a belief that an animal that goes into winter quarters fat is half wintered. Perhaps there is none of our domestic animals to which this saying is more applicable than to sheep.

If a spark falls into the water there can be no fire. If a brand is thrown in upon us we need not be a powder magazine and blow up.

It is claimed that quack grass, which is very persistent, can be eradicated by cultivating a crop of sorghum on the land.

It is a powerful hard thing for a woman to wear six-button kids when her husband wears a seven-button pocketbook.

Luck is ever waiting for something to turn up. Labor, with keen eyes and strong will, will turn up something.

It is related of a Lincoln, Neb., man that he journeyed to California in order to see an old enemy executed.

Man is a violin, and it is only when the last chord is broken that he becomes a piece of wood.

The great successes of the [illegible] have been affairs of a second, third, nay, a fiftieth trial.

The daily railroad in Union [illegible] crowded with passengers.

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc2900_scm2296-0596