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THE KENT NEWS,
A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,
DEVOTED TO
AGRICULTURE, POLITICS AND GENERAL NEWS
Is Published every Saturday.
Edward Mansfield,
PROPRIETOR.

Terms:
2 00 payable in advance or $2 50 at the expiration of the first six months. No subscription received for a shorter period than six months, and no paper will be discontinued until all arrears are paid. Single copies 6 1-4 cents.
Advertisements, not exceeding 12 lines will be inserted three times for $1, and 25 cents for each subsequent insertion thereafter. Larger ones in proportion—a liberal deduction will be made to yearly advertisers. Advertisement must have the number of times marked, or they will be published till forbid and charged accordingly.
All communications must be postpaid.

Wilmer & Francis,
WOULD call the attention of their friends and customers, to their large stock of
DRY GOODS, GROCERIES
that they have just received, laid in at the very lowest prices, and will be sold to suit the times. Their friends and the public are invited to call and examine the stock and judge for themselves.
They have also just received a lot of nice Teas, consisting in part, namely:

Young Hyson,	50 cts.	per lb.
Superior "	62 do	do
Fine "	75 do	do
Silver Leaf Hyson,	1 00	do
Extra, "	1 25	do
Fine Imperial,	75	do
Extra, "	1 00	do
Golden Chop Imperial,	1 25	
Gunpowder,	75	
Fine "	1 00	
Extra "	1 25	
Ho plus ultra Green,	1 50	
Superior Old Hyson,	75	
Very fine "	1 00	
Extra "	1 25	
Good Oolong,	50	
Extra, "	1 00	
Ho plus ultra Black,	1 50	
Flowery Pekoe,	75	

February 23. 1850.

1850.
Rich Foreign
AND
AMERICAN SPRING GOODS.
G. MATHIOT & CO. No. 27 North Gay st. are now daily receiving their stock of French, Swiss, Italian, British and American
Dry Goods,
adapted to the spring and summer trade, which will consist of one of the largest assortment of Goods they have ever had the pleasure of offering to their friends and customers. We will now enumerate part of the leading Goods which we have on hand:
Ch. Barages, of the choicest colors and shades; French Mousellines, and Mousselines de Barages; Polka styles of English and French Chintzes, shadings & Chintz Goods of all descriptions, too tedious to mention; scarlet and purple prints; plain (all wool) Mouslin DeLaines; Cambric and single damask Cloths and Cassimeres; Richardson's and Barklie's best Linens; Huckaback, bird eye and other Diapers; Linen Cambric, embroidered, hemstitched and cor. bordered; Linen C. C. Hak'fs; Lace Capes, Collars and Cuffs, Gloves, Hosiery, &c.
Baltimore, March 16, '50.

THE STEAMER
OSIRIS,
CAPT. JAMES TILGHMAN,
Will leave the lower end of Dugan's wharf, (the Steamer Maryland's old berth) every SUNDAY, the 18th instant, at 7 o'clock, for Annapolis, Cambridge, Milton and Oxford and Easton, and return the following TUESDAY by the same route, leaving Easton at 7 o'clock.
The OSIRIS will leave the above wharf every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY Morning, at 7 o'clock, for Corsica and Chestertown, and return same days. Touching at Kent Island WEDNESDAY Afternoon and SATURDAY Mornings.
The OSIRIS will leave the above wharf every THURSDAY Morning, at 7 o'clock, for Annapolis, West River, Wye Mills, St. Michael's, and Easton, via Miles River Ferry, and return on Friday, via Miles River Ferry at 7 o'clock.
March 23, 1850.

THE STEAMER
HUGH JENKINS,
CAPT. J. D. TURNER,
Will leave Light street wharf, Baltimore every Saturday morning at 7 o'clock for Chestertown, Corsica and Kent Island, and return the same day. Passage 50 cents. Excursion passengers taken the round trip for 75 cts.
March 16, 1850.—tf

Just received direct from the importer, 1 case (small) plaid Gingham, following colors, green, blue, orange, purple and brown, which we are selling off at the low price of 12½ cts. per yard.
A. G. MATHIOT & CO.
No. 27, N. Gay st. Baltimore.
March 16, 1850.

THE KENT NEWS.

Frustra laborat, quiomnibus, placere studet:—"He labors vainly, who endeavors to please every one."

VOL. 10. CHESTER TOWN, MD., APRIL 6, 1850. NO. 48.

THE POPULAR
AND
FAVORITE STEAMER

CAMBRIDGE;
CAPT. J. R. GRIFFITH,
HAS been thoroughly refitted with a new boiler and other additions, at great expense, and cannot be surpassed for speed, comfort and accommodation for passengers, will resume her trips for the season, on Monday morning, 11th March, leaving Light street wharf, Baltimore, at 7 o'clock.
For Corsica, Chestertown, Kent Island.—The steamer Cambridge will leave Light street wharf every MONDAY Morning, at 7 o'clock, for Chestertown, Corsica and Kent Island, and return same day. Passage, 50 cents; Excursion passengers taken the round trip for 50 cents.
For Annapolis, West River, Cambridge and Easton—The steamer Cambridge will leave Light street wharf every TUESDAY Morning at 7 o'clock, for Annapolis, West River, Cambridge and Easton, and return on WEDNESDAY, by way of the same route to Baltimore—leaving Easton at 7 o'clock.
For Chestertown, Corsica and Kent Island.—The Cambridge will leave Baltimore every THURSDAY Morning for Chestertown, Corsica and Kent Island, and return same day.
For Annapolis, West River, Cambridge and Easton.—The Cambridge will leave Baltimore every FRIDAY Morning, at 7 o'clock, for Annapolis, West River, Cambridge and Easton, and return on SATURDAY, leaving Easton at 7 o'clock for Baltimore. The above routes will be continued throughout the season.
March 16, 1850—tf

For Georgetown, Fredericktown, Turner's Creek, and Kennard's Landing
THE STEAMER

CECIL,
CAPT. E. G. STURGEON,
WILL resume her regular trips, for the above places, on *SATURDAY*, the 9th instant, leaving the wharf, corner Lee and Light streets, every TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY, at 9 o'clock, A. M. Returning, will leave the above places Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, at the same hour. Fare $1
March 23. 1850—tf

DISSOLUTION
OF
CO-PARTNERSHIP.
NOTICE is hereby given that the firm of MAY & SAVIN is dissolved by mutual consent, on this first day of January, 1850, and that all persons indebted to the firm are requested to call and settle their accounts, by payment or note immediately, which has to be with either of the late partners.
JAMES MAY,
SAMUEL SAVIN.
NOTICE.—The business will still be continued by JAMES MAY. The Machinery is in fine order, and in excellent working condition. The strictest & prompt attention will be given to the business. Pledging himself to a faithful performance of duty, he solicits a portion of public patronage.
J. MAY.
Swantown, Kent Co., Md.
Mch. 9, 1850.——6w

FASHIONABLE
TAILORING ESTABLISHMENT.
J. P. HARTMAN,
No. 163, Baltimore street, between Charles and Light sts.,
BALTIMORE,
BEGS leave to inform his friends and customers that he has now on hand, and is daily receiving a choice assortment of goods adapted to wear; such as Cloths, Cassimeres, Cashmerets, &c. In fact, goods of every description in the above line, and of the very *latest styles*. He flatters himself that he can offer GREAT INDUCEMENTS to purchasers. His stock of *READY MADE CLOTHING* is unsurpassed by none. Doing an almost exclusively cash business, he is enabled to *sell below the market price*; and he would say to those who buy for the ready money, that, by giving him a call, they will *save from ten to twenty per cent.* An examination of his stock is most respectfully solicited.
Balt. Mch. 16, '50——3m

TRIAL
OF
PROF. JNO. W. WEBSTER,
CHARGED WITH THE MURDER OF
DR. GEORGE PARKMAN,
ON 23d NOVEMBER, 1849.

CONVICTION OF PROFESSOR WEBSTER

Mr. Clifford, the Attorney for the government, closed his speech about half past 7 o'clock, on Saturday evening. After this, by permission of the court, the prisoner addressed the jury for a short time.—The jury then retired for about three hours returned and rendered their verdict, pronouncing the prisoner *guilty of murder in the first degree.* The excitement at this juncture was intense and painful.

The prisoner, upon hearing the verdict, sunk back in his chair, with his hands upon the railing and his face on his hands, and so remained for the space of about ten minutes. After recovering from the shock he turned to the officer who had him in charge, and said, "Why are you keeping me here to be gazed at?" He was then forthwith taken to the prison and locked up for the night. His razor, knife, and other implements by which suicide might be perpetrated, were carefully put out of his reach.

Mr. Clelland, one of the witnesses for the defence, has retracted part of his evidence on reference to the day in which he saw Dr. Parkman. The Rev. Mr. Wells convinced him that the note was received on the 22d November, as he had testified.

It is further stated, that Mrs. Rhodes has written a letter to one of the judges, in which she retracts her statement given to the jury, that it was Doctor Parkman whom she saw.

The excitement, until the jury returned to the court room and the result of their deliberations known, was beyond description. Every ear was open to hear the verdict.

The Attorney General having concluded his remarks, Chief Justice Shaw, with much emotion, stated to the prisoner, it was privilege now to address the jury, if he had anything to say, or any explanation to make.

PROFESSOR WEBSTER'S ADDRESS TO THE JURY.

Professor Webster arose, and in a very distinct voice made the following remarks:

I have desired to enter into an explanation of the net work of circumstances, which, by my peculiar position, the Government has thrown around me; and which in nine cases out of ten, are completely distorted, and probably nine tenths of which could be successfully explained.

All the points of the testimony have been placed in the hands of my counsel, by whom my innocence could have been fairly established. Acting entirely under their direction, I have sealed my lips during the period of my confinement, trusting myself entirely to them. They have not deemed it necessary, in their superior wisdom, [this was said in an ironical tone,] to bring forward evidence to exonerate me from the variety of the arts. The government has brought whatever consumate ingenuity could suggest against me, and I hope it will not have an undue influence upon this jury.

I will not allude to many of the charges, but there is one which touches me, and that is the letter which has been produced. It is not the first I had read in the daily prints which have been distributed in my apartments, and various publications which have been made respecting them. One statement was that I had after, the disappearance of Dr. Parkman, purchased a quantity of oxalic acid, to remove stains of blood, and it instantly occurred to me that the parcel might be saved, and produced when necessary. For several days Mrs. Webster had requested me to purchase some acid for domestic use, and as my wife had repeatedly laughed at me because I had not purchased it, I had borne it in my mind that afternoon, and had gone into Thayer's store, under the Revere House, and made the purchase, and waited until the Cambridge hourly omnibus came by and jumped into it with the bundle. I went home and gave the bundle to my wife, and when, afterwards, I heard so much said about the bundle, it flashed on my mind in a moment that this must be the bundle. It was to this bundle, and not to any document, that I referred in the direction to my wife.

As regards the nitrate of copper, in the usual lectures, preceding my arrest I had occasion for the use of chemical agents in producing changes on various subjects—among others on gases. I prepared a large quantity of exolic acid gas. A gallon jar was filled with gas in order to produce changes from a dark color to orange and colors in air; on great heat being applied to the gas was drawn through water. As to the nitrid of copper spilled on the floor of the laboratory, it was spilled accidentally from the quantity used in my laboratory between the day of Dr. Parkman's disappearance and own arrest. So I might go on explaining a variety of circumstances, which have been distorted. My counsel have pressed me to keep calm. My very calmness has been made to declare against me; but my trust has been in my God and my own innocence.

In regard to money, I must say a word. The money which I paid Dr. Parkman on the afternoon of Friday, Nov. 23, I had saved up from time to time and kept in a trunk in my house in Cambridge—unfortunately no one ever saw me take it out, therefore I can only give my word that such is the fact. Several years ago I had students who were in the habit of being in my laboratory, and who injured my apparatus, therefore I prepared every thing for my own use with my own hands. That is the reason why I excluded persons from my laboratory.

As regards my whereabouts from the hour of Dr. Parkman's disappearance, I have put into my counsels hands satisfactory information, which will account for every day I had spent during that week, as well as for every day and hour I never was absent from home. As to being seen by Mr. Saunderson, I was at home every evening. One thing that has been omited by my counsel was, that on Friday, the day on which the alleged murder was said to have been committed, I had purchased Humbolt's new work, Cosmas, and while waiting for an omnibus, I stepped into Brigham's to take a mutton chop, and in hurrying out to take the omnibus, had forgotten my book; but after my arrest, I remembered the place where I had left it, and mentioned it to my counsel. They had sent to Brigham's and the book had been found.

[The Professor here sat down, but almost instantly arose and said:]

I will say one word more. I have felt very much distressed by the production of these anonymous letters—more so than by anything else that has occurred during the trial. I call my God to witness, that if it was the last hour of my life, I never wrote these letters. Since the trial commenced, a letter has been received from this very "Civis," and by one of my counsel. If this person has any spark of humanity, I call upon him to come forward. A notice of this effect has been put in the papers.

[At this point the prisoner again took his seat, having evidently made a deep impression upon all present, by the seriousness of his remarks, and the earnestness of his manner.]

CHARGE TO THE JURY BY JUSTICE SHAW.

Chief Justice Shaw than arose to deliver his charge to the jury, remarking that he had thought proper to continue the proceedings as far as to deliver his charge in the case to them, because the nature of the principles developed in the proceedings were such as would not require him to occupy their attention a much longer time. The first thing to be considered was the nature of the homicide, in the different points in which it was remarked by the law. The destruction of a human being by violent means, under any circumstances, by another human being by violent means, under any circumstances, by another human being, was regarded in the eye of the law as homicide. If the death had been caused by accident, then the law required no punishment to be inflicted upon the one who caused the death. If the slayer had good reason, from the fear of dangerous personal injury, to commit the deed, the law held him justified, and called the act justifiable homicide.

The slaying of one man by another, without any provocation, as for the sake of gain, was considered as the highest offence known to the law, and the offender was punishable by death.

If a man should slay another under sudden provocation, but in the heat of blood, the law, though it did not exonerate the slayer from punishment, yet it holds the offence to have been mitigated by the nature of the said provocation, which caused the offence to be committed.

His honor now reviewad the nature of circumstantial evidence in general, as applied to the case, and linked the discovery of the teeth in the furnace to the discovery of the blade of a knife in the heart of a person, and the handle of a knife that would exactly fit, in the possession or on the premises of another person. It would be held in the law as a good reason to believe that the person in whose possession the handle was found was guilty of the crime of killing the murdered person, as held in the late case.

The alibi, which the defence has introduced in the testimony, must be considered by the jury, and if it should give rise to a reasonable doubt in the minds of the jury, that doubt should be given in favor of the prisoner.

As to the counts of the indictment, the court holds the principles of the law to be as argued by the Attorney General.

The last count charging that death was produced by means unknown to the grand jury, was founded on the acknowledged principles of law, and should be considered as correct by the jury. The burden of proving that the prisoner had committed the crime with violence and motive, lay upon the government.

His Honor then reviewed the evidence at full which had been adduced by the government and the defence, and instructed the jury upon the principles of the law applicable to the evidence. He closed his address to the jury with an injuction upon them to weigh well every circumstance, both for the prisoner and the government.

His Honor occupied two and a half hours in the delivery of his charge, and the jury retised to form their verdict at nine o'clock precisely.

RETURN OF THE JURY—THE VERDICT.

At twenty minutes before 11 o'clock, precisely, there was a movement before the door of the Supreme Court room.—Presently a number of gentlemen came in, among them the counsel for the prisoner, a number of members of the bar, public men clergymen, &c. The gallery was crowded to excess. About 5 minutes after, Professor Webster came in in charge of the constable, and took his seat in the dock.—His appearance was unchanged, except a serious dejectedness, which was apparent in the contraction of the muscles about the mouth. The Court came in five minutes afterwards. The clerk of the Court then said (addressing the jury) Mr. Forman, have you agreed upon your verdict. Mr. Byan, the foreman, bowed assent. The clerk said J. W. Webster hold up your right hand. The prisoner arose and looked steadily and intently upon the forman of the jury.—The clerk then said—Mr. Foreman look upon the prisoner and prisoner look upon the jury, Professor Webster will maintained his fixed and intent look upon the foreman. The clerk continued—What do you say, is the prisoner at the bar guilty or not guilty? GUILTY was the solemn response.

The hand of Webster, which had hitherto been held erect, now fell to the bar in front of him with a dead sound, as if he had lost all muscular action, and his head dropped upon his breast. He soon sat down, his limbs seeming to give evidence of feeling. He put his hands up to his face, and he was observed to rub his eyes with his fingers under his spectacles. He then closed his eyelids and bowed his head towards the Court. The foreman of the jury at the same time held his hands up before his eyes, as if overcome by the powerful duty he had performed. An awful and unbroken silence ensued, in which the court, jury and spectators seemed to be absorbed in their own reflections.

The appearance of the prisoner at this time was painful to contemplate. His eyes were closed, and a deep sigh denoted that there was a load of inexpressible anguish on his soul. Chief Justice Shaw broke the terrible suspense by dismissing the jury in a voice wild with emotion.

Mr. Merrick, the prisoner's counsel, went into the prisoner's dock spoke a few words in his ear, soon after an order was given by the court that the prisoner should be remanded to jail. The whole proceedings did not occupy more than twelve minutes, and was a scene never to be forgotten by those who were present. The prisoner was removed to the Leverette street jail to await his terrible sentence.

LATER.

The result of the trial of Dr. Webster is generally approved by our citizens as in accordance with the testimony in the case, and has been the subject of uninterrupted conversation through all parts of the city since its close. It is understood the jury after going out on saturday night, at first deliberated in silence for ten minutes, then voted on the question whether the remains were those of Dr. Parkman. There was a unanimous yea.

On the second question, whether Webster committed the murder? There were eleven yeas and one nay. The nay come from Mr Benjamin H. Greene. He stated his point of doubt, and after some discussion, he declared it was removed.

The family of Webster was not informed of the verdict on the night it was rendered. Some friends, however, undertook the task of preparing their minds for it.—The awful disclosure was made to them on Sunday morning, by Mrs. Wm. E. Prescott. The scene was most heart-rending. Every effort has been made by their friends to assuage the grief of the afflicted wife and daughters, who up to a late hour, confidently expected an acquital.

A letter of condolence was presented to them on Sunday afternoon, signed by the heads of all the principal families of Cambridge, including Hon. Edward Everett, Jared Sparks, Prof. Morton, Judge Fay, &c. Judge Fay gave it up, that his friend Webster was a *guilty man*, after hearing his own speech on Saturday evening.

Professor Webster was brought into court this morning, at eight minutes to nine o'clock, to receive the solemn sentence of the law. He looked gloomy in the extreme, but collected and calm. The court room was densely crowded. At ten minutes past ten o'clock the Court came in. After some minutes of silence,

Mr. Attorney General Clifford narrated the facts of the indictment, trial and verdict, and moved the Court that the final sentence of the law be now pronounced.

The prisoner rose, and was asked by the clerk what he had to show why sentence of death should not be pronounced against him. The prisoner bowed and took his seat in silence.

Chief Justice Shaw then addressed him in the following words:

JOHN W. WEBSTER.—In meeting you here for the last time, to pronounce that sentence which the law has affixed to the high and aggravated offence of which you stand convicted, it is impossible, by language, to give utterance to the deep consciousness of responsibility, to the keen sense of sadness and sympathy, with which we approach this solemn duty. Circumstances which all who are here may duly appreciate, but which it may seem hardly fit to allude to in mere detail, render the performance of this duty on the present occasion remarkable painful.

At all times and under all circumstances, a feeling of indescribable solemnity is attached to the utterance of that stern voice of retributive justice which consigns a fellow being to an untimely and ignommious death; but, when we consider all the circumstances of you past life, your various relations in society, the claims upon you by others, the hopes and expectations you have cherished with your present condition and the ignominious death which awaits you, we are oppressed with grief and anguish. Nothing but a sense of imperative duty, imposed on us by the law, whose officers and ministers we are, could sustain us in pronouncing such a sentence.

Against the crime of wilful murder, of which you stand convicted—a crime at which humanity shudders—a crime every where and under all forms of society, regarded with abhorrance—The the law has announced its severest penalties in these few simple but solemn and impressive words: "Every person who shall commit the crime of murder, shall suffer the punishment of death for the same." The manifest object of this law is the protection and security of human life, the most important of the first and paternal ends of government. It is made the duty of this court to declare this penalty against any one who shall have been found "guilty," in due course of the administration of justice, of having violated this law. It is one of the most solemn acts of judicial power which an earthly tribunal can be called upon to exercise; it is a high and examplary manifestation of the sovereign authority of the law, as well as its stern and inflexible severity. In its protecting and parental benignity it punishes the guilty with severity, in order that the right to the enjoyment of life—the most precious of all rights—may be more effectually secured.

By the record before us it appears that you have been indicted by the grand jury of this county, for the crime of murder, alleging that on the 23d of November last you made an assault upon Dr. George Parkman and by an act of violence you deprived him of life, with malice aforethought; alleged to have been done within the apartments of a public institution in this city, the Medical College, of which you were a Professor and instructor, upon the person of a man of nature age, well known and of extensive connexions in this community, and a benefactor of that institution. The charge of an offensive so aggravated, in the midst of a peaceful community, created an instantaneous outburst of surprise, alarm and horror; and was followed by universal and intense anxiety to learn, by the results of a judicial proceding, whether this charge was true.

The day of trial came, the court was organised to conduct it; a jury, almost of your own choosing, was selected, in the manner best calculated to insure intelligence and impartially. Counsel were appointed to assist you in conducting your defence, who have done all that learning, eloquence and skill could accomplish in presenting your defence in its best aspects. A very large number of witnesses were carfully examined, and after a laborious trial of unprecedented length, conducted as we hope with patience and fidelity, that jury have pronounced you Guilty. To this verdict, upon a careful revision of the whole proceedings, I am constrained to say in behalf of the court, that they can perceive no just or legal grounds of exception.

"GUILTY!" How much under all these thrilling circumstances which cluster around the case, and throng our memories in the retrospect, does this single word import. The wilful violence and malicious destruction of the life of a fellow man, in the peace of God and under the protection of the Law. Yes, of one in the midst of life, bright hopes and warm affections, mutual attachments—strong, extensive and numerous—making life a blessing to himself and others.

We allude thus to the injury you have inflicted, not for the purpose of awakening one unnecessary pang, in a heart already lacerated, but to remind you of the irreparable wrong done to the victim of your cruelty, in sheer justice to him whose voice is now hushed in death, and whose wrongs can only be vindicated by the living action of the law. If, therefore, you may at any moment think your case a hard one, and your punishment too severe; if one repining thought arises in your mind, or murmuring word seeks utterance from your lips, think, oh think of him, instantly deprived of life by your guilty hand.—Then, if not lost to all sense of retributive justice, if you have any compunctions arising from your conscience, you may be ready to exclaim, in the bitter anguish of truth, "I have sinned against heaven and my own soul, my punishment is just! God be merciful to me a sinner!"

God grant that your example may afford a solemn warning to all, especially to the young; may it impress deeply upon every mind the salutary lesson it is intended to teach, to guard against the indulgence of unhallowed and vindictive passion; to resist temptation to every selfish, sordid, and wicked purpose; to listen to the warnings of conscience, and yield to the claims of duty. And whilst they instinctively shrink with abhorance from the first thought of assailing the life of another, may they learn to reverence the laws of God and society, designed to secure the protection of their own.

We forbear, from obvious considerations, from adding such words of advice as may be sometimes thought appropriate on occasions like this. It lies within our province, on occasions like the present, to address the illiterate, the degraded, the outcast, whose early life has been cast among the vicious, the neglected, the abandoned; who have been blessed with no means of moral and religious culture, who have never received the benefit of cultivated society, nor enjoyed the sweet and ennobling influences of home—to such a one