DENTON JOURNAL.

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VOL. 40. DENTON, MARYLAND: SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 4, 1886. NO. 52.

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6 24	2 54	Trappe,	12 06	6 58
6 41	3 08	Easton,	11 50	6 45
6 54	3 19	Chapel,	11 37	6 33
7 01	3 26	Cordova,	11 30	6 26
7 11	3 35	Queen Anne,	11 20	6 17
7 22	3 45	Ridgely,	11 09	6 08
7 33	3 55	Greensboro,	10 58	5 59
7 44	4 05	Goldsboro,	10 47	5 49
7 51	4 12	Henderson,	10 41	5 43
7 58	4 19	Marydel,	10 35	5 37
8 07	4 26	Slaughters,	10 26	5 29
8 09	4 28	Hartley,	10 24	5 27
8 20	4 38	Kenton,	10 13	5 17
8 30	4 48	Clayton,	10 03	5 07
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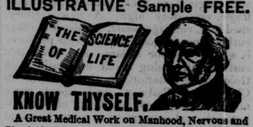

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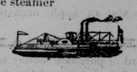

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The Turn of the Tide.

The harbor lights are dim with smoke
Which hangs about the under sky
And wraps the simple fisherfolk
In lurid mists as they go by.
Along the shore the wind blows free,
Keen twilight kisses the wan sea
Far out; steer thither, watch with me
The tender stars come out on high.

The sky is deepening overhead;
The sail flaps loose; the wind has died;
The water laps the boat like lead;
Faint ripples plash against the side,
And shimmer with unearthly light;
The harbor lamps are out of sight;
We drift into a starless night
Together on the ebbing tide.

How still—how strange—the tide is slack,
We eddy round—we drift no more,
What swell is this which sweeps us back
To where the gathering breakers roar
About the pale unlighted land?
Can any tell if we shall stand
Safe in the morning hand in hand
Upon the steep and rock-bound shore?

—C. A. Simeon.

THE PACA RESIDENCE.

A History of the Old Mansion—Some Interesting Historical Reminiscences.

EASTON, August 25.—The American correspondent had occasion yesterday to visit Wye Island, in the flourishing county of Queen Anne's. This island is also known as Bordley or Paca Island, deriving in each case its name from its different owners. Three thousand acres of as probably rich land as there is in the state comprise its area; its length is about five miles and its width about one mile. Its surface is perfectly flat, its fertile acres rising imperceptibly from the waters. Originally one-half of it belonged to Judge John Beale Bordley, and the other half to the Pacas. It is noted as having been the residence of Wm. Paca, the signer of the Declaration and governor of Maryland. Some years ago the old family mansion, built by Wm. Paca, was, through the carelessness of tinners at work on the roof, burnt to the ground. This mansion was one of the finest in the state, and at a distance resembled a large public building, so grand and imposing were its proportions. The same cunning hand that designed the capitol at Washington was its architect. It occupied a position about one-eigth of a mile from the south shore of the island, fronting north and south. It was composed of three parts, a large center structure of two stories, with high ceilings, with wings on the east and west connected by long halls. The main building contained a large drawing-room, extending its entire width, with doors opening north and south into large porticoes, the gable roofs of which were supported by massive columns of brick, covered with mortar resembling stone. Chambers over the main building were for the family, and on either side of the drawing-room for the guests. Shrubbery-girt lawns and courts surrounded the building. The stabling, situated in the vicinity, was built of brick and very extensive. It is said that the Pacas were noted horsemen, and kept the finest carriage teams always ready for service. The late Wm. B. Paca inherited from his ancestors this same fondness for equines, and is said to have been one of the most expert drivers in Maryland. He was often seen with his coach and four, or tandem, himself always handling the ribbons.

Like many of the houses built in the latter century, the Paca mansion was more noted for its imposing appearance than for its convenience or comfort. When the rough, bleak winds of winter swept up the Wye river, this old house needed rousing, crackling fires in every room and plenty of good company and good cider (a stronger article in all probability was used) to make its discomforts endurable. Great bags of sand were placed at the great doors leading to the porticoes to keep the house in a habitable condition.

The mansion was furnished luxuriously, and during the time of its former owners was celebrated for the grand entertainments given within its walls. The drawing-room was a picture of splendor and costliness. The floors were kept highly polished, instead of being carpeted, and here it was that the grandmothers and grandfathers of the present generation walked through the stately minuet. Curtains hung in the six windows of this room that cost $1,000 each; while the mirrors upon the wall were of such immense size as to be considered great curiosities. Over the mantelpiece that surmounted the ample fireplace hung a life-sized portrait of William Paca, copies of which hang in Independence Hall and in the State House at Annapolis. On the walls were many other portraits of the Pacas, Chews, Lloyds and other members of the family connected with the history of the state and country. Nearly all of these old relics were saved from the fire.

The Paca estate is somewhat isolated in its situation. The nearest town is Queenstown, distant eight miles, and Centerville, the prosperous county seat, is distant fourteen miles. A bridge connects the island opposite the Paca mansion with the mainland on the farm of Mr. Chew, one of the decendants of the old Chew family.

The Paca and Bordley families came into possession of the island by bequest from Mrs. Henrietta Marie Dulaney, the mother of Mrs. Judge Bordley and Mrs. Judge Paca, who, in her will, bequeaths to her son, Philman Lloyd Chew, "all that tract or parcel of land in Queen Anne's county, called 'Lloyd's Insula,' containing 1,700 acres, and also that other tract or parcel of land called the 'Purchase,' adjoining the former, and containing 1,000 acres, both of which tracts together are commonly called or known by the name of the 'Island,' or Lloyd's Island, in Wye river." Mrs. Dulaney's name was Lloyd, and her mother had been god-daughter, namesake and maid of honor to the queen of Charles I. Her first husband, from whom she derived a large part of her wealth, was Samuel Chew, son of John Chew, who built the first house in Jamestown. Their daughter, Margaret, married John Beale Bordley and their daughter Mary married William Paca, the first governor of Maryland.

The property is now under the intelligent and thrifty care of John B. Brown, Esq., a prominent lawyer of the Queen Anne's bar. Under his management the financial affairs of this historic place are regaining their former status. The desert has been made to smile; waste places have been transformed into blooming oases, and everywhere is displayed the taste and prudence of a master-mind.

A Curious Marriage Custom.

A singular marriage custom prevails among the French Canadians at Cote de Beaupre, north of Quebec. After the morning marriage service in the church, the bridal party, in caleche or carriole, make a tour of calls upon relatives and friends during the day, and then return again to church for vespers. Before the evening dance at the bride's new home, comes the supper. When the company rise from the table the bride keeps her seat, and someone asks with great dignity: "Why does Madame wait?" "Is she so soon in bad grace?" She replies, "Someone has stolen my slipper; I can't walk." Then they carry her, chair and all, into the middle of the room, while a loud knocking announces a grotesque ragged vender of boots and shoes. He kneels before the slipperless bride and tries on a long succession of old boots and shoes of every variety and size until at last he finds her missing shoe. The groom redeems it for a good price, which is spent in treating the company. If the groom is not watchful, they steal her hat and cloak, which he redeems in the same way; and they have been known to steal the bride, for whom there must be liberal pay. The church forbids round dances, so they content themselves with contra-dances. The event of the evening is a jig, in which a guest volunteers to outdance the bride. If successful, the victor demands a prize from the groom.

Pansies and Forget-Me-Nots.

The language of flowers clings to very few of the garden or conservatory; but this cannot be said of those star-shaped little blossoms which we call forget-me-nots, nor of those many-hued flowers, the pansies. Little faces have the pansies looking at us and nodding from between the sprightly green leaves that are among the first that in April peep through the ground. That their colors are purple and gold; that their texture is like velvet and their odor delicate is not all their charm. They keep their language. So it is that when the young girl receives gifts of flowers—roses, violets, lillies of the valley—they may or may not mean what the poets bid them say, but the pansies with no uncertain voice repeat, "Think of me."

The forget-me-nots, too, never lose the refrain of their legend. Two lovers, says the German story, on the eve of marriage were walking on the banks of the Danube. A flower, blue as the deepest sky, swung upon the waves, which seemed ready to bear it away. The young lady admired its beautiful color and bewailed its impending destiny. The affianced bridegroom leaped into the stream; seized the blooming stem and sank engulfed in the flowing waters. With a last effort he threw the flower on the bank, and at the moment of his disappearance forever, cried out: "Love me. Forget me not!"

The Latest from Sam Jones.

In a sermon at Round Lake on Friday Sam Jones said: "You should not ridicule a man for gettin' an idea in such shape that he can get it in your little puny heads. Brother, say, that's the reason I illustrate. Christ was great at illustrating. Well, brother Grigger was converted at one of my old churches down in middle Georgia. The minister told him if he would do before he got religion what he thought he would do after he got religion he would have religion. Grigger joined the church. He went home, told his wife, and says, 'Get down the Bible, we're going to have family prayer.' 'Why! are you going to have family prayer before you have religion?' she asked. Grigger said he wanted it and the minister said if he'd do before he got it as he thought he'd do after he got it he'd have it. Well, Grigger could not get the idea into his head. But Grigger stuck to it, and in a few weeks Grigger was the finest case of religion I ever saw. It broke out all over him."

The Playhouse and the Conference.

At the minister's breakfast table. Pater familias, anxious to find out how well his daughters keep track of events in the church year—My dear Emily, can you tell me the date of our coming church conference?

Emily—Certainly; Salvini opens his engagements next Tuesday, and conference begins three days after that.

Scraps.

The story of the rattlesnake that swallowed eggs in a Georgia pantry, and was thus caught in a jug handle, is followed by a like tale from Chattanooga. A citizen heard a noise in his henhouse, and investigated. He found that a black snake had swallowed a China nest egg outside of the house, thrust its neck through a knot hole, and swallowed a real egg, and was thus unable to go backward or forward, as the eggs were larger than the hole.

Among the spirits who were introduced at the Niantic spiritualistic camp-meeting last Sunday was that of a man who died six years ago, and whose widow was again married without delay, to the scandal of her neighbors. Evidently this spirit had heard of what had been done and said, for in his communication at the camp he is reported to have come to his wife's rescue, as follows: "I know there was considerable talk among the neighbors about my wife's marrying so shortly after my taking off, but I paid no attention to such nonsense. I approved of it at the time. I ratify and confirm it now. It has my hearty endorsement. In change of circumstances I would have done the same thing myself, neighbors or no neighbors."

The Hartford Times, in an editorial, says that the late Prof. Calvin E. Stowe had more than a faith in life hereafter; he had knowledge, derived from actual personal experience. He was aware of the reality of the spirit world and of its nearness to the earth life through his own experience. To him the veil was often withdrawn, and he was permitted to see and hold communion with those who had gone before. He was entirely satisfied that he often saw and conversed with, in the privacy and quiet of his own home, those who were no longer the occupants of earthly bodies. This gift of spiritual clairvoyance and clairaudience was potent to take away much of the sense of bereavement, and to fix his thoughts habitually on the higher realities.

"What is Life?"

"What is life?" someone asked Montford, and he beautifully replied: "The present life is sleeping and waking; it is 'Good-night' on going to bed, and 'Good-morning' on getting up; it is wonder what the day will bring forth; it is rain on the window as one sits by the fire; it is to walk in garden and see the flowers and hear the birds sing; it is to have news from the East, West, North and South; it is to read old books and new books; it is to see pictures and hear music; it is to have Sundays; it is to pray with a family morning and evening; it is to sit in the twilight and meditate; it is to have breakfast and dinner and tea; it is to belong to a town and have neighbors, and to become one in a circle of acquaintances; it is to have friends and love; it is to have sight of dear old faces, and with some men, it is to be kissed by the same loving lips for fifty years, and it is to know themselves thought of many times a day in many places by children, grandchildren and many friends."

Another Canadian Crank.

The Rev. C. A. Johnson, of Canada, has discovered that Pittsburgh is to be destroyed by a meteoric shower toward the end of September. As to his character and ability, he speaks modestly, as follows: "I am the only man who found the secret place of thunder, and established the fact that it was thunder and not lightning that killed. I am the only man who discovered the hiding place of the wind when not in motion—its origin and starting place—as well as the materials which compose wind and electricity. I claim to have no superior or equal as a natural scientist in this country. I am a natural born scientist, and it is no more difficult for me to handle those subjects than it is for you to walk up the street. I also denied that the earth was round. The theory of the earth's rapid revolutions is erroneous. If an eagle were to fly away from its nest, and that theory were correct, he would never be able to overtake his nest again."

Tight-Lacing a Cruelty.

A London lecturer on female attire said recently: "Dressed as women are, the less exercise they take, the better for their health. In fact they are seldom fit to stand erect or walk a block, but should be rolled around or carried on a palanquin. Not one woman in 10,000 has room inside her clothes for the rise and fall of the ribs in breathing, and there is not one in 10,000 whose vital organs are not displaced by external pressure. While this is so, the less exercise they take the better for themselves.

Woman's Pet Oath.

The study of oaths and expletives is very interesting. We have never yet met a person who was not addicted to the use of oaths, though many people use them unwittingly. The ladies, for example, have a pet oath in the words "dear me;" they think it means "dear I," but it doesn't. "Dear me" is a corruption of "Dio mio," meaning "my God!"

"This is a very healthy place," observed the boarding mistress. "Yes, for chickens," said the city boarder; "I have been here two months and haven't seen a dead one yet."

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