THE EASTON STAR,

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING AT EASTON, MD.

T. K. ROBSON, Editor & Proprietor.

TERMS:

Two dollars cash in advance, or two dollars and fifty cents if not paid in advance. Clubs of twenty, thirty dollars in advance.

☞ No paper will be discontinued, except at the discretion of the proprietor, until arrearages are paid. No subscription will be taken for a shorter period than six months.

☞ Books received free of postage will be promptly noticed under the editorial head.

The Easton Star.

DEVOTED TO POLITICS, LITERATURE, AGRICULTURE, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC NEWS.

NEW SERIES. EASTON, MD., TUESDAY, MAY 3, 1870 VOL. 5. NO. 34.

To Travelers.

MARYLAND STEAMBOAT CO.

SPRING ARRANGEMENT.

ON and after April 18th, 1870, the Steamer SAMUEL J. PENTZ will leave Pier 3, Light Street Wharf,

For Annapolis daily, Sundays excepted, at 7.30 A. M.; and returning, leave Annapolis at 3.30 P. M.

For West River, Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 7.30 A. M., returning same days and stopping at Annapolis each way.

For St. Michaels and Miles River Ferry, Easton, Tuesdays and Fridays at 7.30 A.M., returning same days, and stopping at Annapolis each way. ap19

On and after Saturday, April 23d, the Steamer HIGHLAND LIGHT leaves same Pier, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, at 10 P. M., for Easton, Cambridge, Dover Bridge, and intermediate Landings, returning Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights, connecting with the Maryland and Delaware Railroad at Easton, and Dorchester and Delaware R. R. at Cambridge, both ways.

Maryland & Delaware

RAILROAD.

ON and after MONDAY, April 11th, 1870, trains will run as follows:

PASSENGER TRAIN.

GOING NORTH.

Leave Easton	6 00	A. M.
" Woodland	6 15	"
" Cordova	6 25	"
" Hillsborough	6 40	"
" Ridgely	6 50	"
" Greensborough	7 05	"
" Goldsborough	7 15	"
" Henderson	7 25	"
" Marydell	7 35	"
" Slaughter's	7 45	"
" Kenton	8 00	"
Arrive Clayton	8 10	"
" Wilmington	10 15	"
" Philadelphia	11 40	"
" Baltimore	12 50	P. M.
" New York	4 54	"

GOING SOUTH.

Leave New York	12 30	P. M.
" Baltimore	2 40	"
" Philadelphia	5 00	"
" Wilmington	6 25	"
" Clayton	8 25	"
" Kenton	8 35	"
" Slaughter's	8 50	"
" Marydell	9 00	"
" Henderson	9 10	"
" Goldsborough	9 20	"
" Greensborough	9 30	"
" Ridgely	9 45	"
" Hillsborough	9 55	"
" Cordova	10 10	"
" Woodland	10 20	"
Arrive Easton	10 35	"

FREIGHT TRAIN WITH PASSENGER CAR ATTACHED.

GOING NORTH.

Leave Easton	10 30	A. M.
" Woodland	10 50	"
" Cordova	11 05	"
" Hillsborough	11 20	"
" Ridgely	11 35	"
" Greensborough	11 55	A. M.
" Goldsborough	12 15	P. M.
" Henderson	12 25	"
" Marydell	12 50	"
" Slaughter's	1 05	"
" Kenton	1 25	"
Arrive Clayton	1 55	"
" Wilmington	3 50	"
" Philadelphia	5 25	"
" Baltimore	8 10	"
" New York	10 20	"

GOING SOUTH.

Leave New York	12 00	A. M.
" Baltimore	3 25	"
" Philadelphia	8 30	"
" Wilmington	10 10	"
" Clayton	12 10	P. M.
" Kenton	12 20	"
" Slaughter's	12 35	"
" Marydell	12 50	"
" Henderson	1 05	"
" Goldsborough	1 15	"
" Greensborough	1 40	"
" Ridgely	1 50	"
" Hillsborough	2 00	"
" Cordova	2 15	"
" Woodland	2 30	"
Arrive Easton	2 50	"

By the above arrangement, close connections will be made both ways, and passengers will arrive early both in New York and Baltimore, and will be able to visit Philadelphia or Baltimore, returning same day.

All Freights must be at the various stations at least thirty minutes before starting of trains, otherwise they will lay over twenty-four hours.

J. L. CALDWELL, Superintendent.

jan18

Easton Livery Stables.

FRANKLIN G. WRIGHT, PROPRIETOR.

Office next door to The Easton Star Office.

TRAVELERS will deposit their whips, robes, blankets, &c., at the office. Stable accommodations for 100 horses. Horses received on livery by the day, week, month or year. Horses and carriages for hire at all times. Travelers promptly sent to any part of the county or adjoining counties. Hacks run regularly to the steamboat landings, to convey passengers with dispatch.

The highest market price paid for corn, hay, oats, Maiden and straw.

A NEW STAGE LINE TO THE RAILROAD was started on the 1st of July, 1868. The stage leaves Easton at 7 A. M. every day, Sundays excepted, connects with the morning train of cars at Hillsboro'—leaves the latter place on the arrival of the afternoon train, and reaches Easton at 5 P. M. Good horses and carriages and passengers made comfortable. Fare $2.00. Passengers leaving Easton in the morning arrive at Baltimore and Philadelphia in time for dinner.

In hiring horses, 12 hours is considered a day, 6 hours a half day. For extra hours an extra charge will be made.

Easton, Md., sep32

ACCOMMODATION LINE OF STAGES.

CARRYING THE U. S. MAIL DAILY BETWEEN ST. MICHAELS AND EASTON and THREE TIMES A WEEK TO BAY HUNDRED.

Smith & Ford, Proprietors.

THE above line is now in operation, and is provided with excellent teams, commodious stages, safe drivers, and every other requisite for carrying passengers with dispatch. Travelers by this line can rely upon being conveyed safely, comfortably and rapidly. By arrangements with this steamer, Urbana, passengers from Baltimore can purchase through tickets for Easton, via St. Michaels, and return to St. Michaels, for $2.25, giving 2 hours in St. Michaels in the morning, 2½ hours in Easton, and 8 hours in St. Michaels in the afternoon, in time to return to Baltimore same day, or can remain in Easton and take the Night Boat from Easton Point. Passengers by the Highland Light to Easton Point can have 7 hours in Easton, be conveyed by this line to St. Michaels, have 8 hours there, and return to Baltimore by the Night Boat from the latter place.

Packages will be carried to any point on the route at charges depending upon size of package and trouble of delivery.

FARE—From St. Michaels to Royal Oak $ 50
" " " Easton 1 00
Round trip the same 1 50
From Easton to Bay Hundred Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays $1.50
Fare must always be pre-paid.

N. B. Horses and Carriages for hire, and passengers conveyed to any part of the county, or to the nearest railroad depot. jy14

Auctioneering.

JAMES M. RATHELL,

AT TRAPPE,

OFFERS his services to the public as AUCTIONEER and CONSTABLE. Orders left with him at Trappe will receive prompt attention.

Jan. 26, 1870-1y

Professional Cards.

CHARLES H. GIBSON,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

Office opposite the M. P. Church, Easton, Md

P. T. KENNARD,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

Office opposite the M. P. Church, Easton, Md

A. A. TOWNSEND,

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,

EASTON, MD.

Especial attention given to the COLLECTION OF CLAIMS.

Office on Washington street, Easton, opposite the residence of Thos. J. Clark, Esq. jy7 1y

EDWARD B. BATES,

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.

PROMPT attention to COLLECTION OF CLAIMS and purchase and sale of REAL ESTATE.

Office with I. C. W. Powell, Esq., Easton, Md. aug11-1y

JOHN F. PRESTON. R. H. GOLDSBOROUGH

PRESTON & GOLDSBOROUGH,

Attorneys and Counsellors at Law,

NO. 45 SAINT PAUL STREET,

Baltimore.

ap26-1y

CHAS. E. SHANAHAN,

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,

EASTON, TALBOT CO., MD.

Especial attention to Collection of Claims, purchase and sale of Real Estate, Conveyancing, &c. Also, Surveying in all its branches.

Orders, by mail, from a distance, promptly attended to feb23-6m

Auctioneering.

JAS. A. ROE,

EASTON, MD.,

OFFERS his services as Auctioneer, and will promptly attend sales whenever called on. feb26-1y

Auctioneering.

WM. K. RATHELL,

AUCTIONEER, EASTON, MD.,

OFFERS his services to the citizens of the county, and will promptly attend sales whenever called on. His long experience in he business is a guarantee that satisfaction will be given

Easton, Sept19-1y

N. E. NICOLS,

GENERAL AGENT FOR THE

Colection of Claims,

AND THE SALE OF REAL ESTATE

PETITIONERS, FARMING MACHINERY, &c., &c.,

EASTON, MD.

REFERENCES:

James Ll. Martin, Att'y-at-Law, Easton, Md
Capt. E. L. F. Hardcastle, " "
Jos. Graham, Esq., Peller Easton Bank, " "
Wm. S. Fawson, Com. Merchant, Baltimore, Md
Upshur Lloyd & Bro. Com. Merchants, " "
Pitts & Co. Grocery Merchants, " "
Hon. Eli Saulsbury, Att'y-at-Law, Dover, Del.
mh24

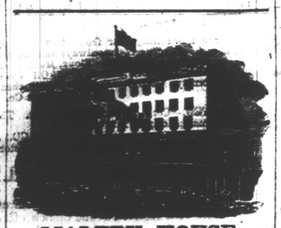
WM. B. WHEELER

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE,

EASTON, MD.,

HAVING removed his office *to his old stand*, NEXT DOOR TO THE EASTON STAR OFFICE, will attend promptly to all business entrusted to his care.

mh16-1y J G



MALTBY HOUSE,

BALTIMORE, MD.

C. R. HOGAN, - - - - - Proprietor

REDUCTION OF FARE.

IN consideration of the general decline in cost of all necessaries appertaining to Hotel Keeping, the price of Board will be Reduced on and after January 1st, 1870, to

$2.50 Per Day,

being determined that nothing will be left undone in the future to make the "MALTBY" what it has been in the past—second to none in the city. jan25-1y

CHEAP

PORTABLE GAS

FOR COUNTRY HOUSES, CHURCHES, &c.

THE subscriber having obtained the agency for the sale of the PEERLESS GAS MACHINE, in this State, is prepared to contract for putting in Machines, piping, &c., on reasonable terms. The above machine is undoubtedly the cheapest, and most perfect in use, and has given great satisfaction wherever used.

Persons ordering machines may return them, free of cost, if they do not give satisfaction, after a fair trial.

The public are invited to witness its practical working at the residence of the subscriber. L. C. COX.

dec7-tm J G C

PUMPS.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the subscriber is prepared to sink new wells or clean out old ones, or make new Pumps, or repair old ones. All orders left with Frank Wright or the Easton Hotel promptly attended to. Work solicited in Talbot and the adjoining counties.

PRICE:

Digging and bricking wells, 50 cts. per foot. Boring and putting in pumps 50c per foot.

jan4-1y R. H. GOLDSBOROUGH.

Furniture, &c.

HOUSE FURNISHING STORE IN EASTON.

SAMUEL PATCHETT, under the Odd Fellows' Hall, next door to his old stand, respectfully announces that he has just opened a HOUSE FURNISHING STORE, and offers CHEAP for CASH, a great variety of articles in the housekeeping line. Particular attention is directed to his large variety of city made FURNITURE, such as

BUREAUX,
SIDEBOARDS,
WARDROBES,
STANDS,
TABLES,
CHAIRS,
WOODENWARE,
BUCKETS,
LOOKING GLASSES, BEDSTEADS,
MATTRASSES, CARPETING,

and a undred other articles too tedious to mention.

He in ites his old friends and the public to give him a call, satisfied that he can sell them goods as cheaply as they can be bought in the city for cash. feb15

JOHN MASON,

Cabinet Maker

AND

UNDERTAKER.

I WOULD inform the public that I am still carrying on the above business. I have in my ware-rooms the largest lot of FURNITURE ever offered for sale in Easton, both of my own and city make, comprising everything in the Furniture line, which will be sold at a very small advance, and as cheap as can be bought in the city. Call and see my prices, and you will be convinced of what I say.

Furniture made to order.

Repairing done neatly and at short notice.

UNDERTAKING

Attended to promptly at all times, when called on. I have two good Hearses and a pair of gentle horses, and will attend funerals at all times in person, either in town or country. My prices for undertaking will be as moderate as the price of materials and the times will admit.

I return my thanks to the public for their patronage for the last twenty-three years, and from my long experience in the business, and a determination to attend strictly to the same in the future, I hope to merit a continuance of the same generous patronage.

All orders left at my warerooms, or residence, next to M. E. Church, will be attended to night or day.

IN store and for sale one fine Walnut Bed Chamber suite, very cheap.

JOHN MASON.

IN store and for sale several Cottage Chamber suites, very cheap.

mh1-tf J

FURNITURE, FURNITURE.

JUST received from Philadelphia a large lot of NEW FURNITURE,

COTTAGE SETS,
BUREAUS, BEDSTEADS,
LOUNGES, SETTEES,
MATTRASSES, TABLES,
STANDS, CRIBS,
TOWEL RACKS,
ROCKING-CHAIRS, Cane-Seat and Plain CHAIRS,
Children's CHAIRS, &c., &c.,

which will be sold at city prices for cash. The public are invited to call.

S. B. HOPKINS'
General Agency and Commission House,
Dover st, Easton, Md.

Carriages, Carriages.

HARNESS, HARNESS,

TWENTY new and second-hand CARRIAGES, and several new and second-hand sets of HARNESS, single and double. Also, new and second-hand POLES, on hand and for sale at reduced prices, by

S. B. HOPKINS'
General Agency and Commission House,
Dover st, Easton, Md.

"HOPKINS' ANTALGIC LINIMENT"

FOR the cure of Rheumatism, Neuralgia in all its forms, Gout, Headache, Facesche, Toothache, Lumbago, Sciatica, Bronchitis, Sore Throat, Chilblains, Sprains, Bruises, &c., &c. Call and see certificates of wonderful cures from the most respectable citizens of the State. Price 75 cents per bottle. For sale by

S. B. HOPKINS,
Proprietor and Manufacturer,
Dover st, Easton, Md

AGENT FOR THE CELEBRATED

"FLORENCE SEWING MACHINE,"

the best machine now in use. Instructions given free. Call and examine the article and specimens of work. S. B. HOPKINS,
Dover st, Easton, Md.

CONSIGNMENTS respectfully solicited. Storage *free*.
S. B. HOPKINS'
General Agency and Commission House,
dec21 1y Dover street, Easton, Md.

CABINET MAKING.

A. B. PRITCHETT, Cabinet Maker, is prepared to accommodate the public with all kinds of work in his line, including COFFINS, &c Shop his residence, in Easton. feb2-1y

LOOK HERE!

IF you have any Pictures that you wish framed, bring them to the House Furnishing Store and get them framed.

Furniture repaired. Lamps repaired.

Upholstering in all its branches, done by

mh22 SAML PATCHETT.

To the Ladies.

WE take pleasure in informing the Ladies of Talbot and adjacent counties that we have just returned from PHILADELPHIA and BALTIMORE with a magnificently beautiful stock of new

SPRING AND SUMMER

DRESS GOODS,

SHAWLS, &c.

to an inspection of which we invite one and all. It will always give us pleasure, ladies, to meet you at our counter, and to show you through our stock.

Very respectfully,
THOMPSON & KERSEY.

GENTLEMEN,

We are now ready to show you a very beautiful stock of

FRENCH CLOTHS,
FRENCH CASSIMERES,
ENGLISH and AMERICAN do.,
COATINGS,
CASSIMERES,
VESTINGS, BOYS, SCARFS, &c.

Our stock is entirely new and of the latest styles, bought at the lowest prices, and will be sold at correspondingly low prices. Call through the week promptly attended to.

THOMPSON & KERSEY.

Millinery.

NEW AND

FASHIONABLE

SPRING & SUMMER MILLINERY,

AND

FANCY GOODS.

MRS. E. A. MASON has just returned from the city with all the latest novelties in MILLINERY, FANCY GOODS and TRIMMINGS of the season, comprising the largest and cheapest stock ever offered by her, to an inspection of which she invites the Ladies.

Her stock comprises in part, latest styles Bonnets and Hats, Sundowns, and Shakers; Ribbons, all styles and widths, beautiful Sash Ribbons, French Flowers, Blond Lace, Illusion Bonnet Crepe (black and colored), splendid lot of Black Crepe Veils, Love Grenadine, Donna Maria, Barege and Dotted Net Veils.

NEW STYLE PARASOLS, Pongee and Silk, and Sun Umbrellas.

Lace Handkerchiefs and Collars, plain and fancy Linen Collars and Cuffs, Mourning Collars, Black Lace Shawls, Hoop Skirts and Corsets, Ladies' Ready-Made Skirts and Aprons, latest styles Ruffilings and Pique Trimmings, and all the most fashionable Dress Trimmings.

Dress Making.

She has all the latest patterns for Dress Making and will carry on the business in all its branches. Thankful for past favors, she respectfully solicits a continuance of the same.

Fluting and Plaiting.

Having purchased the right for the county of the Watson & Freeman Fluting and Plaiting Machine for her own use, she will do Fluting and Plaiting for others, by the yard.

Fluting and Plaiting Machines for sale at $10. Every Dress Maker should have one.

PINKING and STAMPING done to order. ap26

New Millinery Goods,

Fancy Goods and Notions.

MRS. MARY A. STEWART has just received from the city a general assortment of all *kinds* of Goods in the above lines She most respectfully solicits a call from her old friends and the public generally, and thinks they cannot fail to be pleased with Price, Quality, and Beauty, or to get anything they may desire. Thankful for past favors, she hopes to merit a continuance of them.

BONNET WORK

of all kinds done with neatness and dispatch.

WATCHES,

CLOCKS & JEWELRY

REPAIRED.

CHAS. H. STEWART,

Stand on Washington st., above the Bank Easton, ap26

NEW SPRING AND SUMMER

MILLINERY,

Trimmings & Notions

MRS. E. A. LYNCH, one door from the corner of Dover street, announces to her friends and customers that she has just returned from the city with a splendid new stock of fashionable MILLINERY, TRIMMINGS and NOTIONS—As her stock has been purchased since the great fall in goods, she will be able to sell it much cheaper than ever before. She invites the ladies to call and see the new styles of hats, bonnets, ribbons, flowers, &c., which are very pretty. She flatters herself that she cannot be undersold by any similar establishment on the Shore.

Easton, April 19th, 1870.

REMOVAL.

E. Whitman & Sons,

Manufacturers and Dealers in

Agricultural Implements & Machinery

SEEDS, FERTILIZERS, &c.

Have Removed to

No. 146 West Pratt Street,

Opposite the Maltby House,

Formerly the Balt. & Ohio Railroad Depot.

BALTIMORE, MD.

Where they will have increased facilities and conveniences for extending their business, and a larger and more complete stock than ever before

We have for sale

Agricultural Implements and Machinery

of every description at low prices.

5,000 Tons of THE ANDREW COE PHOSPHATE, at $60 per ton of 2,000 lbs. Of our own manufacture, and the best fertilizer known.

800 Tons Pure GROUND BONE, at $41 per ton of 2,000 pounds.

200 Tons Pure BONE MEAL, at $47 per ton of 2,000 lbs.

1,000 Tons Prepared LAND PLASTER, at $2.25 per barrel of 320 pounds.

DRESS-MAKING

MRS. H. M. DAWSON respectfully informs the ladies of Easton and vicinity that she has taken rooms at Mrs Walker's, in the rear of the Hardware store of Messrs. Trippe & Mason, and offers her services to do all kinds of

MANTUAMAKING.

She will receive monthly the latest styles and patterns from New York, and is prepared to make dresses in the most fashionable style. She flatters herself that her long experience in the business will enable her to give entire satisfaction to her customers.—She hopes to merit and receive a share of the public patronage.

Easton, jan25, 1870.

AMERICAN SEWING MACHINE CO.

Capital Stock $250,000.00

The American Sewing Machine is the best, most reliable, and effective machine in the world. Price $30, being less than half the sum charged for the Wheeler & Wilson, Grover & Baker, and other so called first-class machines. It is of large size, with stand, treadle, guages and hemmer, complete in every respect, adapted to all kinds of work, and capable of being used either upon the heaviest or most delicate fabrics. It is uniformly admitted to be the best adapted for all family purposes, being easily worked and not liable to get out of repair. The American Embroiderer. Price $12.50, a smaller machine, making a stitch peculiarly adapted to ornamental sewing, braiding, quilting, &c., but can be used for all purposes, and will effectually perform the sewing of a small family.

Address

AMERICAN SEWING MACHINE CO.,
feb22 4m No. 599 Broadway, New York.

BRICKLAYING.

THE subscriber is prepared to contract for Brick Work of all kinds at the lowest cash prices. Being a practical workman, he can guarantee that he will give satisfaction to all who may choose him with their work. Orders through the mail promptly attended to.

THOMAS H. OSBORNE.

Easton, jan14-tf

Select Poetry.

MY MOTHER'S GRAVE.

BY GEO. D PRENTICE.

The trembling dew drops fall
Upon the blushing flowers; like souls at rest
The stars shine gloriously; and all
Save me are blest.

Mother, I love thy grave!
The violet, with blossoms blue and mild,
Waves o'er thy head; when shall it wave
Above thy child?

'Tis a sweet flower, yet must
Its bright leaves to the coming tempest bow?
Dead mother, 'tis thine emblem; dust
Is on thy brow.

And I could love to die;
To leave unstained life's dark bitter streams;
By thee, so first in childhood, lie.
And share thy dreams.

And must I linger here,
To stain the plumage of my sinless years,
And mourn the hopes in childhood dear
With bitter tears?

Aye, must I linger,
A lonely branch upon a withered tree,
Whose last frail leaf, untimely sere,
Went down with thee?

Oft, from life's withered bower,
In still communion with the past, I turn,
And muse on thee, the only flower
In memory's urn.

And when the evening pale
Bows like a mourner, on the dim blue wave,
I stray to hear the night-winds wail
Around thy grave.

Where is thy spirit flown?
I gaze above—thy look is imaged there:
I listen—and thy gentle tone
Is on the air.

Oh, come, while here I press
My brow upon thy grave—and in those mild
And thrilling notes of tenderness,
Bless thy child!

Yes, bless, thy weeping child;
And o'er thine urn—religion's holiest shrine—
Oh, give His spirit undefiled,
To blend with thine.

Select Story.

THE ROMANCE OF THE MAIDENS.

AN IRISH STORY.

In the summer of 1858 I visited the northeast corner of Ireland, and there witnessed the closing scene of romance not less improbable than the creations of fiction.

Just where the shores of Ireland and Scotland most nearly approach each other, and the proverbially stormy waters of the Irish Sea rush impetuously through the narrow channel, as though impatient to join the swelling waves of the North Atlantic, there stand off the coast of Antrim two huge sister rocks, known as "The Maidens." Situated about three miles from the shore, and a quarter of a mile asunder, they are in mid-track of vessels bound for Londonderry and the Clyde, and form a dangerous impediment in the way of the weather-beaten bark seeking a refuge in the safe harbor of Larne.

These rocks may described as irregular, blunted cones, the summit of each is a rugged platform raised thirty feet above the highwater mark; the sides steep and inaccessible as a builded wall. Many a goodly ship, with every soul on board, has her gone down to swift and certain destruction—many a fishing boat been drawn into the deadly current between the rocks and swamped or dashed to pieces.

On each of these desolate pinnacles a lighthouse has been erected, with dwellings for the family of the lightkeeper and his assistants, and year in and year out the twin lights beam across those stormy waters, the once terrible Maidens friendly guiding stars and harbingers of safety.

Ah! what sacrifices does the welfare of our race demand of many of its units. In order to minister to our need, profit, pleasure, some drive the engine of the midnight train, facing the biting blast and cutting sleet—some labor in the scorching breath of the furnace—some toil in the mine, rarely beholding the fair face of day—and some spend in the lowly, wave-washed light tower the long hours of the wintry night. The dwellers in these weird habitations have surely need to be furnished with more than ordinary mental resources, and to be fortified by a thousand inner compensations

The light-keepers of the Maidens in fair weather hold daily communication with the shore and with one another by means of the large, strong built boat, with a crew of three men, which conveys to them food, stores and water, for which last there is in each rock a hewn reservoir, capable of holding sufficient for three weeks.—Sometimes, in winter and rough weather, the water-boat can not put out for days together, and at such times the sojourn on the rocks must be a very epitome of dreary isolation. It is at all seasons hazardous to attempt the passage from the main land in a small open boat, ever liable to be capsized by the sudden squall of wind so frequent in these narrow seas, while it is all but impossible to pass in one between the two islets. Standing, relatively to each other, southeast and northwest, diagonally opposed to the strong current of the channel, the waves, striking upon one rock, recoil towards the other, boiling, foaming and roaring in that narrow strait with inconceivable and grand fury. Thus no boat is kept upon either rock, as it could be of so little use, and would prove a tempting source of danger. At the time spoken of, the light-keeper of the North Maiden was a man whom we will call Sheil. His family consisting of a son, who had arrived at man's estate, and a second wife, the mother of three young children.

Michael Sheil, acting as assistant to his father, was qualifying himself for a similar post. Besides cleaning and tending the lamps, their duties comprised looking after several buoys, placed off the coast for the guidance of navigators, and maintaining in perfect order the apparatus for rescuing the crew of any unfortunate vessel which might be driven against the inhospitable bosom of those cruel Maidens.—Plenty of work, therefore, filled their hands and formed the best preventative against the *ennui* so often complained by of their more happily situated, but less busy brethren

Michael was looking forward to period yet some months distant when his time of probation having expired, he should receive an appointment, and take with him, perhaps to a less isolated abode, sweet Ellen Byrne, daughter of the keeper on the South Maiden, for on the ancient style fiddle itself with sublime indifference to time and circumstance.

The hope and desires of the young folk were known and approved by the parents of both, and the time spent in the several visits which Michael was permitted to make to the mainland were seasons of unalloyed happiness to the lovers. These sunny days were, however, of brief duration.

The test of true love, which is said to be applied in some form, or other to every genuine courtship, was speedily to be applied to theirs in a sharp and decisive manner. The elder Sheil was a man of angry and jealous temper. Hearing that certain small privileges, for which he had sued in vain, granted to Byrne, his junior in the service, by the superior officers, Sheil vowed eternal vengeance against the entire family on the South Maiden, forbidding, in terms of insult and outrage, all further communication between them and his own household.

Bright and fair dawned the morning after this command has been issued; yet, when the boat reached the foot of the rock-hewn stair, no ascending step of Michael was heard by her who stood coyly hidden behind an angle of the wall at their accustomed meeting place. A second and a third day, yet no Michael—not even a written line to explain his absence; and Ellen, whose pride forbade her making any inquiry of the boatmen on the subject uppermost in her heart, pursued her household tasks, now wondering and silently weeping, now brushing away her tears, and tossing her brown locks with a spasm of indignation

At last the captain of the water-boat, a rough man but a kindly, sought Ellen in the house for she came to the landing place no longer, and saying with a meaning tone: Cheery, now, lass!" handed her the letter penned by Mike during his watch in the tower, to tell her the story of their present separation, and closing a lover's passionate lamentations with an exhortation to trust in him and be faithful Many a missive between the pair was conveyed by the sympathising captain during the long months of the weary winter that succeeded. With the lapse of time came no signs of relenting on the part of Sheil, and by taking every means in his power to annoy and injure his neighbor, he at last aroused in him an equally implacable hatred. Byrne bade his two daughters never again to mention the name of Sheil in his presence.

Poor Ellen dropped at first; but, helped by the loving sympathy of her younger sister, grew after a while composed, and apparently contented. Her father began to think that Mike Sheil had no great hold on her heart, and was confirmed in his opinion by observing that Captain Morris came always, now, to the angle by the landing place, and was received by Ellen with a ready smile. The captain was a widower, had a pleasant cottage at Larne, was part owner of a small coasting vessel, and being a hale, hearty, man, of little more than forty, was esteemed by Byrne no ineligible husband for his elder daughter, though she had numbered scarce nineteen summers.

While thus it fared with one of the plighted lovers, the other pursued his daily avocations in a silent, resolved, clock-like manner, that might have been suggestive to a more acute intelligence than his father's, of the existance of an under-current of thought more engrossing than the labor that occupied his hands.

Now Michael Sheil, motherless child of a stern father, had early learned to take counsel with himself, and determined, even during the first ebulition of the light-keeper's wrath, while apparently acquiescing in his fiat, to take secret measures for defying it.

By leaving his post he would retard his gaining a position, of which in due time he was tolerably certain He had just entering the last year of his assistantship, and a friend, who had influence at headquarters, promised Michael to press for his appointment, at its expiration, to a light station in a distant part of Ireland.

In the meantime he determined to build a boat, wherein, hazarding the dangers of the wild sea, he might pay stolen visits to his beloved. But how could this design be accomplished without discovery within the circumscribed limits of his Island home? Whence should the needful materials be obtained? How should he find time for such prolonged labor? Love, like faith, laughs at impossibilities, and oftentimes converts the most impracticable designs into achieved facts.

On the opposite side of the rock to the landing stair, and consequently free from observation from the water, Michael had long ago discovered a little cave-haunt of the sea-birds, into which he had penetrated to rob their nests of their treasure of eggs, gaining access to it by means of a rope-ladder secured to the rock immediately above the cave's mouth—a mode of descent and ascent practicable only to a slight and active man, while to miss his footing involved a fall into the troubled water, and a dash against the pitiless granite wall The upper part of the cavern was some feet above high water; its floor, sloping upward as it receded, was for the most part dry, but at the entrance invaded by the waves of each returning tide.

Hither Michael at once began to convey his slender stock of material—driftwood drawn from the sea—a few remaining planks left behind by the carpenters, who had recently erected a shed—all these were lowered down the rock into the water; thence drawn with slow and painful effort into his strange workshop by the unaided strength of the solitary worker.

During the winter months it was customary to divide the long night into two watches—the elder Sheil taking the first watch from sunset until midnight, when he was relieved by his son, who extinguished the lamps at sunrise. The interval until nine o'clock, the family breakfast hour, was Michael's precious opportunity for descending into the cave to continue his secret labor, often interrupted, however, by a foggy morning, rendering it necessary to burn the light far into the day; and by the periodical recurrence of high tide at the hour of 9AM.

Fortune favored the brave and patient lover by casting upon the rock a swamped boat; this, ostensibly breaking up for firewood, he took carefully to pieces, stowed away the ribs in the cave, and found them a most valuable contribution to his store. The friendly boatmen, who ignorant of their destined use, brought a few other indispensable articles, such as nails, and nails. Little by little, gaining more rapidly with the lengthening mornings of the spring, the work progressed all the slow of nine long months, a fair skiff was completed, and the faithful lovers united only perhaps, and momentarily, by the twilight of an autumn eve, would be audible in the tower above the ceaseless sound of even the most placid summer sea. So having determined to set out at midnight, when his father was on duty, and return in the early morning, when he had retired to rest, Michael apprised Ellen of his intention of being at their old meeting place next morning between two and three—a somewhat early hour for a love tryst.

Wonder, fear and joy contended with each other all day in Ellen's bosom, and many were the whispered discussions between the sisters as to the manner in which this unlooked-for visit was to be accomplished Katie decided in favor of Michael imitating the feat of Leander; Ellen entertained the soberer notion that the captain had been prevailed upon to make a night trip with the waterboat. Ill fared it that day with Ellen's cookery and the thousand occupations of a solitary household. It needed all her younger sister's ready wit and light hearted drollery to divert attention from her abstracted looks and frequent blunders.

Having vainly tried to sleep, Ellen arose while it was yet not far past midnight, and sat at her window gazing intently towards the North Maiden. At last she descried a dark speck crossing the shining track cast by the light-tower on the usually calm water. Making a wide circuit to the southward, to avoid the current of the strait and the broken water which indicates the site of a submerged group called the Shearing Rocks, the little boat, named by her builder, "The Hope," advanced bravely over the waves and was at length brought to at the foot of the landing stair on the South Rock before the admiring eyes of both sisters

A tender and tearful greeting was exchanged between the long parted lovers—for there is a bitter as well as a sweet taste to the stolen morsel—and the joy of their meeting was shaded by a sense of danger and a fear of present discovery. As the story of the building of the little bark was poured into Ellen's wondering ear, her cheeks blanched at the thought of all the perils so unwearyingly incurred for her sake.

"And now, darling," said Mike, "read this letter that I got this morning from Uncle James."

The letter informed Michael that his appointment was secured to the — Light, on the southern shore of Ireland—a good berth, but only available for a married man, and the duties were to be entered upon at midsummer. "And sure, Mike," wrote his uncle, "ye know some fair colleen that ye can persuade to share it with ye, though it is so short a notice."

With downcast eyes and burning blushes Ellen returned the letter to Michael, leaving her hand within his. No words were needed to assure him of the possession of the entire trust he had so well earned.

As he saw the buoyancy of the boat during the passage to the rock, "What," thought Michael, if she can carry both of us?" Ellen was easily persuaded to step in, and it was evident, the little vessel was capable of sustaining the double burden. Ere the brief hour of interview had expired Ellen had agreed, at the end of a month, to trust herself to "The Hope," and her lover's skill, for the passage to the shore. Michael in the meantime making all the necessary arrangements for their marriage The girls anxiously watched the receding skiff until a white handkerchief was waved for a moment from the rock, the prominent token that Mike had reached home safe and undiscovered.

During the short period which remained to the two sisters to spend together they sewed industriously at Ellen's wardrobe, and having obtained permission of their father to accept an invitation to visit some relatives in King's county, they had the better pretext for making various purchases and preparations. Parcel by parcel most of the girl's personal possessions were sent ashore to the house of a grand aunt, whither it was arranged Katie should go a day or two before the journey, and pack them for travelling, her sister following her on the 21st, the day fixed for the wedding.

The law requires that marriages should take place between the hours of eight and twelve A. M. As the water-boat would not return from the rocks till late in the day, and as, moreover, Byrne announced his intention of going with Ellen to see his daughters comfortably started on their trip, the success of their plan depended on the lovers being able to make the voyage in the early morning by "The Hope."

On the 16th of June wild weather set in: a stiff breeze blew continually from several days, at times swelling into a fierce gale; the angry sea lashed foaming against the rocks, sent up a blinding spray that made one lower invisible from the other by day. For three days the water-boat could not resume out. Gloomy fears and foreboding hearts dwelt on both the Maidens

On the fourth morning, the weather having somewhat moderated, Captain Morris fulfilled his wonted service, but not with difficulty persuaded to take Katie back with him. Perceiving at length, by the eagerness of her entreaties, that she had some especial reason for desiring to face so stormy a passage, he made every possible arrangement for her comfort, and placed her in the most sheltered position of the vessel allotted. Waving an adieu thence to Ellen, who watched the departure from the stair, but faint hope remained in their hearts for the accomplishment of their plans on the morrow.

At sunset, however, the breeze subsided, lulled, died, like a child, wearied out with the force of its own passionate waywardness, sinking into calm slumber. The summer moon and stars shone out one by one in a sea as blue, and almost as motionless, as the heavens above. Thus on the brief twilight hushed into early dawn. "The Hope" was pushed out from her native cave by the strong and resolute hand of her builder. Again the perilous surf was safely crossed, and the skiff moored at the South Maiden. Pale, but inflexible, Ellen stood ready, and almost without word was assisted by Michael into his post in the boat, which, once in deeper water, was sunk in the water very nearly to the edge. Even in that calm and with the more steady rowing, it was necessary to keep unceasingly to bail out the water taken in by the tiny boat. The distance from the south, or Easton end of the rocks, to the nearest point of the shore is full four miles, running with the tide

[illegible]

would be unable in the tower above the ceaseless sound of even the most placid summer sea. So having determined to set out at midnight, when his father was on duty, and return in the early morning, when he had retired to rest, Michael apprised Ellen of his intention of being at their old meeting place next morning between two and three—a somewhat early hour for a love tryst.

Wonder, fear and joy contended with each other all day in Ellen's bosom, and many were the whispered discussions between the sisters as to the manner in which this unlooked-for visit was to be accomplished Katie decided in favor of Michael imitating the feat of Leander; Ellen entertained the soberer notion that the captain had been prevailed upon to make a night trip with the waterboat. Ill fared it that day with Ellen's cookery and the thousand occupations of a solitary household. It needed all her younger sister's ready wit and light hearted drollery to divert attention from her abstracted looks and frequent blunders.

Having vainly tried to sleep, Ellen arose while it was yet not far past midnight, and sat at her window gazing intently towards the North Maiden. At last she descried a dark speck crossing the shining track cast by the light-tower on the usually calm water. Making a wide circuit to the southward, to avoid the current of the strait and the broken water which indicates the site of a submerged group called the Shearing Rocks, the little boat, named by her builder, "The Hope," advanced bravely over the waves and was at length brought to at the foot of the landing stair on the South Rock before the admiring eyes of both s