The Easton Star.

T. K. ROBSON, Editor. | Devoted to Politics, Literature, Agriculture, Foreign and Domestic News. | $1.50 per Annum, If Paid in Advance.

NEW SERIES. | EASTON, MD., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1887. | VOL. XXII.—NO. 21.

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Having just received a new and fine Hearse, of the latest style, made to order, with an extra set of white cloth curtains for young persons, and a new and complete assortment of Caskets and Coffins, of Cloth, Rose Wood and Walnut, Children's Caskets of P. K. and White Gloss Finished, also Burial Robes for Ladies, Gentlemen and Children, and everything else necessary. I am now prepared to fill any order for burial that may be entrusted to me. Bodies placed on ice when desired. Guarantee satisfaction in every respect, as I expect to attend all business entrusted to me in person.

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Call at your druggist and take no other. If he has not got it let him order it. Price $1 per bottle.

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Inventor and Proprietor, Washington, D. C.

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Nov2-6mos

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Governor's Hog Cholera Remedy.

The Hog Cholera is prevailing in nearly all parts of the county to an alarming extent. If you wish to save your hogs use "Governor's Hog Cholera Remedy." A great many persons, in this county have used it with marked success. For sale at TRIPPE'S drug store.

READ THIS

TWICE.

In addition to our premiums of music and "Mik do" cards, we have just issued a beautiful panel picture, in colors, 14x26, a fac-simile reproduction of one of the Paris salon paintings for 1884, entitled "Two Sisters." It is a perfect gem, and will well worthy a place on the wall of any of the patrons of Dobbins' Electric Soap. We have copyrighted it, and it cannot be issued by any other house than ourselves. The edition is limited, and will be issued gratis to readers of this paper in the following manner only:

HOW TO GET ONE.

Save your wrappers of DOBBINS ELECTRIC SOAP, and as soon as you get twenty-five wrap them up like a newspaper, and mail them to us. (Postage on them thus wrapped is only two cents.) After addressing the package to us, write across the left hand corner of it "Return to," etc., adding your full name and address. And we will mail you "The Two Sisters," mounted ready for hanging, free of all expense.

The soap improves with age, and those who desire a copy of the picture at once, have only to buy the twenty-five bars of their grocer at once. This will insure the receipt of the wrappers by us before the edition is exhausted. There is, of course, *no advertising* on the picture.

I. L. CRAGIN & CO.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

GEO. L. MILLIMAN,
Wholesale Agent,
Baltimore, Md.

oct19-6m

For The Star.

CATTLE SHOWS IN TALBOT:

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE INDUSTRIAL ANNALS OF THAT COUNTY.

"Hæc super arvorum cultu pecorumque canebam,
Et super arboribus."—*Virgil, Georg.* IV: 559.

IV. CATTLE SHOW OF 1827.

The Trustees of the Agricultural Society for the Eastern Shore had resolved to continue the annual shows at Easton, and made the usual preliminary preparations for the one of 1826, but before the time had arrived for the exhibition it was discovered that many of those persons who had subscribed to the fund for defraying the expenses of the show of 1825, had failed to meet their engagements, and there was great reluctance upon the part of many of those who had been prompt in paying their obligations to the renewal of the same. It was therefore concluded to postpone the fair until the following year. For the purpose of arousing the flagging interest Mr. Nicholas Hammond, the chairman of the Board of Trustees, inserted in the papers of the county a long communication, written in his usual stately and formal style, in which he remarked upon the benefits that had already resulted from the increased interest in farming which had been engendered, or at least greatly nourished by the Agricultural Society and the exhibitions held under its auspices, and upon the improvement in husbandry that was so marked as to escape the notice of no one, even the most careless, "mainly produced by the scenes that have been exhibited by the interchange of sentiment and good will among the visitors and attendants, and by the laudable emulation excited by the distribution of rewards." He thus concluded his address to the members of the Agricultural Society for the Eastern Shore: "We hope, however, gentlemen, that you will feel the true spirit of husbandmen and are perfectly alive to the interests of agriculture; that you will cheerfully continue members of the society and persuade your neighbors and friends to unite in our Association; and that sharing in our mortification in the necessity of the present postponement, which might have been avoided by small but more numerous contributions, you will enable us by a generous support during the ensuing year to make such a display of the produce of crops, of animals, of domestic manufactures and implements of husbandry as shall attract a respectable assemblage of farmers and visitors and make ample amends for the deficiencies that have occasioned the disappointment we announced." But the Agricultural Society contained many zealous members, who were determined not to allow the year to pass without offering encouragement to farmers; so it was ordered that the following advertisement should be made of their purpose to pay premiums according to its tenor.

"MANURE THE BASIS OF ALL BENEFICIAL AND ADVANTAGEOUS AGRICULTURE."

"The Land Renters stand most in need of encouragement and our rented lands of the stimulus. Therefore as one of the best means of promoting the interests of this valuable class of our citizens and increasing the quality of all our staple productions, the Board of Trustees of the Maryland Agricultural Society, for the Eastern Shore, offer the following premiums to the whole body of land-renters.

"A Premium of 50 dollars to be awarded to the tenant of any rented land or farm on the Eastern Shore of Maryland who according to his means and resources shall put out thereon the greatest quantity of manure between the 15th day of January, 1827, and the last day of September following.

"A Premium of 30 dollars to the tenant who shall put out the next or second greatest quantity.

"A Premium of 20 dollars to the tenant who shall put out the third greatest quantity of manure within the period above mentioned.

"These Premiums will be severally awarded and delivered to the successful competitor the last day of the next Cattle Show to be held at Easton November 1827."

In this advertisement were named gentlemen of each of the counties who were to decide who were the successful competitors. The committee for Talbot was constituted of Messrs. Tench Tilghman, Robt. H. Goldsborough and Robert Banning. Rules regulating the competition were also published, and those substances falling within the meaning of manure are named. A list of these substances is sufficiently curious to deserve repetition. "All substances and matter which will improve and increase the crops of Corn, Wheat or Tobacco, as lime and calcareous matter in the forms of shell marl, oyster shells, &c., sea ouse or salt grasses, marsh, salt or fresh, the alluvial soil collected in the heads of drains or valleys, rich swamp earth, beds of old fences, clays carried and applied to sandy or very light soils, rich light soils carried and applied to heavy clay lands, &c., &c., as well as dung and the production of the farm yard and compost heaps, will be considered and counted as manure."

It would appear from such imperfect records as remain, that during the year 1826 a number of persons of the county had agreed to contribute a specific sum annually for five years to pay the expenses of the cattle shows that were to be held at Easton. This subscription seems to have been independent of the fees of membership in the Agricultural society which was evidently losing its membership under the influence of that great depression that existed in the farming interests at this period.

The time for holding the Show was appointed for the 7th, 8th and 9th of November 1827, but was subsequently changed to the 31st of October, and the 1st and 2nd of November, so that there might be no interference with a Cattle Show (the third of the series) that was proposed to be held in the neighboring county of Dorchester. No record of the place of holding the Show of 1827 is preserved, and it is only conjectural that it was upon the ground used by the shows that had preceded it, namely that now devoted to burial purposes, and called at the time the "cool spring lot."

The following are the committees appointed as judges of the merits of the objects exhibited, and to award the premiums that had been offered for competition.

I. COMMITTEE ON HORSES AND MARES.

John Edmondson, Edward S. Winder,
James Denny, Thomas Hemsley,
Charles C. Blake, S. C. Pascault,
Perry Robinson.

II. COMMITTEE ON ASSES AND MULES.

Robt. H. Goldsboro, Henry Hollyday,
Horatio L. Edmondson, Emalie Martin, Jr.,
Thomas B. Cook.

III. COMMITTEE ON CATTLE.

William Farquhar, Frederick Purnell,
William H. Tilghman.

IV. COMMITTEE ON OXEN.

Philip Wallis, Charles Goldsborough
John Dawson, Hugh S. Hambleton,
Henry Spencer, Nich's. G. Singleton,

V. COMMITTEE ON SHEEP.

William Grason, Lambert Reardon,
Lambert W. Spencer, Jos. P. Richardson,
William H. Hayward.

VI. COMMITTEE ON SWINE.

Theodore Denny, Richard Feddeman,
Thomas Martin, Nicholas Martin.

VII. COMMITTEE ON HOUSEHOLD MANUFACTURES.

William Baker, William Jenkins,
William Clark, William H. Groome,
Severn Teackle.

VIII. COMMITTEE ON IMPLEMENTS.

Edward Tilghman, John W. Battee,
Fayette Gibson, John S. Martin.

IX. COMMITTEE ON BUTTER.

John M. G. Emory, Robert B. A. Tate,
William W. Moore, Wm. H. DeCoursey,
J. Nicols.

X. COMMITTEE ON FERMENTED LIQUORS.

John Leeds Kerr, Thomas Murphy,
Tristram Thomas, Thomas C. Earle,
John D. Green, Anthony Banning,
William M. Hardcastle.

XI. PLOUGHING MATCHES.

Jas. C. Hayward, Lambert Reardon,
Peter Webb, Edward Tilghman,
James Chambers.

Reports of the several committees were made, duly published in the county papers and the American Farmer, but need not here be recorded, as they contain nothing illustrative of the industry of the county, further than was done by previous shows; There is no record of the award of the prizes to the "Land renters" for superior diligence in hauling manure, so it is impossible to determine whether any was made. The difficulty of determining a problem containing so many elements of uncertainty and variability, may have deterred the committees of the several counties from giving their decisions. The fair does not seem to have awakened as much interest as those that had preceded it, the novelty of such shows having worn off, and the resources of the county for new objects for exhibition having been exhausted. Similar shows were held in other portions of the State, and the enthusiasm, so to speak, which were concentrated had made the shows successful, if not diminished was now dispersed. It should be noted, too, that the feature of the modern cattle show which attracts the most attention and which never fails to awaked interest, for it appeals to a passion that admits of no satiety the bone of contest, had not at that period been introduced. Besides, the question of their practical utility began to be discussed with the powerful argument upon the negative side weighing upon the minds of the people of county, that notwithstanding the cattle shows and agricultural societies, the profits of farming were never less and the products of the land never so little, for prices were exceeding low, owing to our production and little foreign demand, and in the year 1826 the county had been visited with one of those disasterous droughts that from time to time affect this peninsula. There were indeed intelligent men who did not hesitate to say through the public prints that the instrumentalities that had been employed to promote the material interests of the farmers, had been actually deleterious to there interests, by the inculcation of theories of culture which had the recommendation of novelty only; by the introduction of methods of culture which had not received the sanction of experiment, and by the substitution of products of culture ill adapted to the soil, climate, and other circumstances of this region * But whatever may have been the cause of the decline of interest in the cattle shows, that of the year 1827, was the one which enjoyed the least attention, and it was in fact the last to be held in this county for many years.

*It may be well enough to note that at or about this time the culture of cotton was warmly advocated by writing and speaking farmers, and quite generally adopted by working farmers. But it was soon found to be unsuited to this section of the country.

(To be continued.)

MRS. BURKE'S PUDDING.

BY MARY N. PRESCOTT.

It had always been the custom in Mrs. Capulet's day to bake one of her best plum-puddings during Christmas week for the char woman, Mrs. Burke, who was never likely to taste such a dainty at other seasons. "Why should we keep all the good things to ourselves," she used to ask, "eat plum-pudding whenever we fancy it, and this poor, hard-working woman never know the taste of such a morsel?" It was also the custom of the house "to build," as Harry Capulet used to say, several of these rich puddings at the same time; they would keep for weeks or months without spoiling, and there they were, at a moment's notice, if dinner company arrived unexpectedly on washing or ironing days, when it was inconvenient to concoct nice desserts. When Mrs. Harry Capulet took the management of affairs after his mother's death, her husband's cousin, who had been regent during the interregnum, said to her at Christmas-time: "I hope, dear, you will continue Mrs. Burke's pudding; she has received it for so many years, she will feel injured, I'm afraid, unless you do."

"O, certainly," answered Mrs. Harry, who was of an economical turn of mind; "I shall give Mrs. Burke a pudding, but not one of these. What are you thinking about—waste all these delicacies on a char-woman?"

"Gingerbread pudding, with a few raisins added, will satisfy her quite as well," put in Mrs. Harry's sister.

"What they call a poor man's pudding?" asked Mrs. Harry.

"Yes—the very thing."

"But, my dear," expostulated Sue Capulet, "Mrs. Burke will know; she has been accustomed to the best. I have made it a principle to send her as good as I kept; I hated to scrimp her at Christmas time."

"Oh, you're too extravagant, Cousin Sue. Besides, you give an old ignorant char-woman credit for all your own virtues and tastes. I don't think it worth while to waste so much money upon her; a poor man's pudding is more appropriate for the circumstances."

"Noblesse oblige," insisted Sue. But Mrs. Harry laughed, and ordered the poor man's pudding to be baked the same size as her own plum puddings.

"I can hardly tell them apart, cook has given them all such a rich brown. Surely the proof of the pudding is in the taking as well as the eating."

But Sue sighed. "Mrs. Burke is English. You won't be able to deceive her about an English plum-pudding."

"I am not going to label it, and she can take it or leave it. Beggars shouldn't be choosers, I've heard," cried Mrs. Harry, who couldn't keep her temper as well as she could keep other things.

"That was a pudding!" said Mrs. Burke, one morning after Christmas, having come in for some work. Mrs. Harry looked at Sue. "I think," continued Mrs. Burke, "they grow nicer every year, Mrs Capulet. This one just melted in yodr mouth; it was too good for poor folks."

"There!" cried Mr. Capulet, as soon as Mrs. Burke's back was turned, "what did I tell you, Sue! After educating Mrs. Burke up to the English plum-pudding! This is all the good it does to educate the lower classes, you see."

"I hope it isn't blarney in Mrs. Burke," hazarded Sue.

"A man convinced against his will,
Is of the same opinion still."

quoted Mrs. Harry.

After this, whenever Sue and Mrs. Harry disagreed, her sister would say, "Remember Mrs. Burke's pudding, Sue." However, the matter faded out of their minds in time, and perhaps they would never have thought of it again if Mr. Gus Blake hadn't happened to drop in upon them. Now, Mr. Blake was somebody worth while in Miss Lily's eyes. She had met here and there, danced with him at germans, yachted with him, picnicked with him, lunched with him; once he had even sent her some flowers; she had some of them now, pressed in a book of love sonnets. He was one of those cordial people who shake hands as if they were making love. Miss Lily was more than fond of his society: she meant to marry him. But it was a pity that he should arrive on the only day in the week when they had a picked-up dinner.

"There is one of the Christmas puddings left, at any rate," said Mrs. Harry; "that will redeem the dinner."

Mr. Gus Blake was very affable as usual. He and Lily sang duets together before dinner; they hunted for four-leaved clovers together, and she told his fortune with a daisy. He was complimentary and gallant. Lily felt as if a crisis was at hand. They met Sue, with her hands full of wild flowers, coming from school.

"A neighbor?" he asked with his most indifferent manner, as she just nodded and hurried by.

"Oh, no. That is Sue Capulet, Harry's cousin. She used to keep his house before he married."

"Indeed."

"Yes. She's rather prim in her ways, and opinionated, like all country people."

"Ah! she must be very disagreeable."

"Perhaps; but one needs to live with her to know her."

"And you live with her?"

"Yes. She will live here I suppose till somebody marries her."

"Then she has a lover?"

"I never heard of one."

"And yet she is not precisely ugly," with a wicked twinkle in his eyes.

"No, not at all; only commonplace," conceded Lily.

The dinner progressed as far as the dessert. It was a picked up one to be sure; but what could any one expect who came without announcing himself, Mrs. Harry assured herself. Mr. Blake was a famous diner-out; he knew, moreover, how to make himself agreeable over a dinner of herbs, and then there was her English plum-pudding; to top off with. How plump and delicious it looked as it came upon the table, and what a royal odor it emitted. She cut it with pride in her mien. Sue tasted it and shot a quick glance at Mrs. Harry, but said nothing. The guest was quietly nibbling at it and talking brilliantly. Presently Lily who had been listening to him, attacked it. She turned pale, and gave her plate a little angry push. Then Mrs. Harry, having helped every body else, settled herself to the enjoyment of her pudding. Sue, regarding her saw a look of consternation gather upon her face. She uttered an exclamation as if she had been wounded.

"Sue," she exclaimed angrily, "you carried the wrong pudding to Mrs. Burke. This is the poor man's pudding," regardless of her guest.

"I carried the pudding the cook gave me," retuned Sue.

"No wonder Mrs. Burke thought it too good for poor folks!" put in Lily, sourly.

They both glowered at Sue. They were obliged to repress their wrath before their guest, but they were too full of indignation to talk rationally or coherently. If Mr. Blake guessed that there was thunder in the air, he was as facetious and anecodotal as usual, ignored the atmospheric changes, and did not hurry away. But when he was obliged to take his train at last, the thunderbolt burst about Sue's head.

"So you carried your point, after all my directions to the contrary, says Mrs. Harry; "Mrs Burke had her English plum pudding in spite of me."

"I had nothing to do with it," returned Sue; "it was as much a surprise to me as to you."

"Pity Harry hadn't been here," said Miss Lily, ignoring Sue's version. "If his wife isn't to be mistress in his house, it is time he knew it. A poor man's pudding to set before Mr. Gus Blake, one of the most fastidious of men!"

"I'm very sorry," said Sue, "it wasn't a nice pudding."

"Nor a nice thing for you to do in another's house."

"Mrs Capulet, I had nothing whatever to do with it," protested Sue

"Susan Capulet, I don't believe a word you say."

"And if I were sister, you or I should leave the house."

And so it happened that Sue packed her trunks, and Harry Capulet had such a version of Mrs. Burke's pudding that he did not dream of recalling her.

Sue went to a friend's house in the city, who had promised to find her a situation.

In the meantime Mrs. Capulet's servants confided the story of the plum pudding to Mrs. Burke herself, and Gus Blake's part in it.

Mrs. Burke felt it her duty to write Mr. Blake and repeat the whole affair, and through him to help sweet Miss Sue, who would never hurt a fly, out of her trouble.

Mr. Blake smiled over this letter. So they had made it hot for Miss Sue. He had suspected as much. He went to call on his friend, Mrs. Barnes, and requested her co-operation. He was shown into the the music-room, and met Sue.

"So," he said, shaking hands, "this is the result of Mrs. Burke's pudding." And then Mrs. Barnes entered.

"I came," he said, "to consult you about the affairs of a friend of mine who has come to grief. Her case is even worse than that of the man in the South who burst his mouth eating cold plum-porridge.

The upshot of the consultation was that Sue had a position, a little later, where Mr. Blake was intimate enough to drop in at his pleasure and carry the governess off to the opera, or for a few hours' recreation in the Park behind his span; and so it happened that one day Lily and Mrs Capulet received the wedding-cards of Miss Susan Capulet and Mr. Gustavus Blake, which was all owing to Mrs. Burke's pudding.

FERGUSON'S BOY FREDDIE.

I dined with Ferguson the other day. Ferguson has a little boy named Freddie. Freddie is a boy about nine years of age, and is considered very bright. He is; he is positively brilliant. But if he were my boy I think I could polish him still more At all events I should try.

Freddie came into the parlor soon after my arrival, his face shining from a recent vigorous application of soap and water, and his yellow hair plastered down to his head so that every bump was plainly visible.

"You don't remember Mr. Johnson, do yod?" said his father, taking the young cub on his knee.

"Yap," was the reply.

"What's that?" said Ferguson reprovingly.

"Yap," repeated the boy, with a surprised look.

"Haven't I told you to always say yes sir?"

"Yessir."

"That's better. So you remember Mr. Johnson, eh? It's nearly three years since Freddie saw you last," added Ferguson, turning to me. "It's astonishing what a memory the boy has. What do you remember about Mr. Johnson, Freddie?" he inquired.

"I remember," replied Freddie ingeniously, "that his hair was white at the root and black at the ends, and mar said she guessed he hadn' dyed it this week."

This remark produced a feeling of constraint, so to speak and Freddie was banished from the parlor. I did not see him again until I went into dinner.

Ferguson asked a blessing. As soon as he had finished Freddie burst out with:

"Par what's the reason you never do that 'cept when we have company!"

Ferguson made some facetious remark, but I saw a light in his eyes which told me that there was trouble ahead for Freddie, and I rejoiced in secret.

"Mar," said Freddie presently, "don't you wish Aunt Maria was here?"

"'Cause you said the other day that you wished she an' Mr. Johnson could meet, 'cause he'd be such a good catch for her, an' it was about her last chance, an—"

"Frederick!" shouted Ferguson.

"Why, Freddie Ferguson!" exclaimed his mother.

The subject was quickly changed. I felt that it would be wise to send Freddie away from the table, but Ferguson dared Fate, and permitted him to remain.

'Gimme another piece of cake!" said Freddie presently.

"You have had three already," said his mother, gently.

"I know I have, an' want another."

"But—"

"I want another piece of cake!"

"What can you possibly want of more."

"Wanter eat it, of course. What'd yer s'pose I wanted ter do with it—put wheels on it an' use it fer a wagon?"

It struck me that this would be a good time to remove Freddie and inflict corpora punishment upon him, but Mrs. Ferguson thought differently. She regarded Freddie's remarks as laughable.

"It's astonishing what a fund of humor that boy his got" she said, as she gave him the biggest piece of cake on the plate. "He's always making quaint remarks like that. Par and I think he'll become a great humorist."

"Mr. Johnston" said Freddie, as we rose from the table "can I feel of your di'mun pin?"

"What a singular request" said Mrs. Ferguson. "But please let him do it if you don't mind, Mr. Johnson. He's got some funny idea in his head and we shall see what it is."

We did. After rubbing the diamond several times with his forefinger (incidentally coloring my immaculate shirtfront with currant jelly), he said wonderingly:

"Why, it ain't sticky at all."

"No, Freddie, of course not" said Ferguson smilingly.

"Why should it be sticky? Diamonds are not sticky."

"No, I s'pose not," said Freddie "but I heard mar say that she thought it wasn't a di'mum at all but only paste an' I knew that paste—"

But at this point Freddie was hustled out of the room by his father and in a few moments my heart was gladened by the sounds of dismal yells in the distance.

I saw no more of Freddie that evening. I do not intend to dine at Ferguson's again at present.

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