### THE ISLAND OF KEY WEST.

A Panorama of Interesting Sights Unfold Before Us-Sponges by the Thousand-Live Fish Market, etc.

+ NO. 9.

We left Miami on the "City of Key West" at midnight and steamed out the Bay of Biscayne headed for the only "foreign town" in the United States. The steamer makes the "inside" trip, between the mainland and the many keys or islands. The first sight that seemed strange to our eyes was the . milky color of the water through which we were passing and which we learned was caused by the coral that appeared in large quantities here. The chain of small islands that constitute a portion of Florida are mere beds of coral rock, elevated only a few feet above the water, and in places covered with coral sand but the porous and soluble nature of this rock, and the collection of sand in its interstices, render it capable of supporting a most luxuriant vegetation, as is attested by massive trees of mahogany, mastic, Indian flag, and other species, and by the rank growth of vines and other herbaceous plants, which often is impenetrable. As we pass near these islands boatmen come to us and receive the mail for the islanders. The freely of pineapples, limes, tomatoes and other vegetables. In fact, the shipments of pineapples have attained the last few years to very important proportions. Most of this fruit comes to Miami by schooner, and is handled by commission men and shipped North.

It was while on this steamer that we met Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Preston and two intelligent and pretty daughters, Misses Edith and Florence Preston, of Orange, N. J., to whom we are indebted for much pleasure and congenial companionship. Mr. Preston is a member of the Ocean Grove Association, well versed in affairs generally, while his family have traveled over the Old World and profited thereby. The remainder of our sojourn in the South was with Mr. Preston's family and W. S. Russell, Esq., of New York, whom we had met at Richmond and who remained with us to the end.

We arrived at the city of Key West after a ten hours' trip. Key West differs from the other Keys in that it is the seat of a large and progressive city. The population is made up in equal parts of Bahamians, Cubans and negroes from Cuba and Bahama. The Bahamians, white and black, are called Couches, either because they eat the shellfish of that name, or because, like Couches, they have been washed ashore from the sea. It is a foreign people, and has its foregn speech, dress and ways. In the morning the milkman drives his cow from house to house, and milks her at the door; in the evening men go through the streets with milk cans, whence is ladled green turtle soup. There is no good hotel there and but one good loding house, the Key West Hotel. We tried four restaurants and but one was any account, it being kept by a New Orleans lady. The food was not half cooked and they had no idea of what cleanliness means. "Delmoinco's" was the leading eating house and it was conducted by a Chinaman.

The Island is seven miles long and two and a half wide and here at the Key of the Gulf is an important strategic point; it has one of the largest naval stations in the country, and defended by Fort Taylor.

Cigar making is one of the large in dustries here. We visit a factory where there were 500 Cubans busy making cigars. The packer gets \$45 per week while the makers get from \$12 to \$25. While we were at the factory brands employes are allowed tour cigars per day, as they will get them even if they have to filcher. A reader is employed by the hour to read to the man as they are busily employed making the cigars.

The sponge industry was an interesting study to us as this is the port of the Florida sponge fisheries. The reef on it begins at about six miles from the land and extends indefinitely into waters too deep to be worked; in area NOW A FEW WORDS ABOUT it covers 3,500 square miles. A sponging schooner is manned by a crew of five men, and is equipped with two dingeys. Arrived at the reef, one man keeps ship, while the others, two in each dingey, gather the sponges; one sculls the boat; the other searches the bottom with a sponge glass. This is in effect a bucket with a glass bottom through which, when it is partially submerged, one may see to a great depth. The sponge is brought up by a hook or a The Leading Merchant of Chestertown. pole. The sponges are spread on deck, and the gelatinous matter decayes. sponges are placed in crawls, through which the tide ebbs and flows, and in a week they are clean. They are then beaten free of sand and grit, washed, bleached in the sun and collected into bunches of twenty for sale. The sponge market is held every day at 3.30 P. M. 851 and the different heaps sold like fruit by commission merchants. F. G. U.

FRANK A. ROEDER,

-With-LIKES, BERWANGER & CO., 10 and 12 E. Baltimore St., Near Charles, Baltimore, Md.

Clothiers, Tailors, Furnishers.

Likes, Berwanger & Co., have established a reputation for manufacturing the best Clothing possible of construction, and their prices are always fair.

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SPECIAL SALES OF

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S

### Keys that are under cultivation yield & Furnishing Goods.

Underwear, Gloves, Hosiery, Shirts.

At Prices from One-Third to One-Half Less Than Regular

If not convenient, it is not necessary for you to call for any of these goods, much as we would like to have you do so, because all Mail Orders will be Filled Promptly and Accurately. Your Money Back if You Are Not Satisfied.

One Special in Women's Summer Underwear

Is mentioned to show the downward trend of prices throughout this superior stock.
Women's Pure White Lisle Thread

Vests, Swiss ribbed, low neck and sleeveless, silk taped and crocheted at neck and arms; made to sell for 25c. Special 17c

Summer Underwear for Boys. Comfortable weight, well made and finished Balbriggan Shirts Drawers, all sizes; reg- 19C ularly 25c. Special at... 19C

Two Important Special in Men's Summer Underwear.

Thin, Cool, durable and well made. Economy lovers will appreciate these offerings. \* Men's Balbriggan Shirts and Drawers, lightweights; shirts have short sleeves, drawers reinforced; actual 39c 29c quality, for...... 29c

Men's 50c Balbriggan Underwear, medium and lightweights, long and short sleeves shirts, made 

Special Sale of Women's Summer Hosiery. Five distinct and fashionable styles in perfectly made Stockings

at a great saying. Women's Fast Black Dropstitch Lisle Hose; Women's Fast Black Lace Lisle Hose; Women's Fast Black Plain Lisle Hose; Women's Fast Black Gause Cotton Hose; Women's Imported Fancy Lisle Hose, dropstitch and plain 35c, 39c and 50c values

A Sale of Women's Summer Gloves. Just two lots - they aggregate several thousand pairs - all the maker had after a busy season. He was anxious to dispose them, therefore promptly accepted our

very low offer. Here they are:

100 dozen Women's Pure Silk and

Fine quality Silk Taffeta Gloves; Women's Pure Silk Milanese Gloves Black, White and colors, high-grade imported 39c goods, 50c, 75c values

Women's and Children's Hemstitched Handkerchiefs. Plain White and fast color border; cotton, of course, but very good, sell regularly for 5c; spec- 3c ial at.....

Men's Imported Fancy Half Hose. The correct styles to wear with

low shoes. Vertical stripes and embroidered effects, full fashioned, spliced heels and toes, regular-25C ly 50 the pair; special 25C

Negligee Shirts,

In which both Men and Boys will be interested, because it means greater values than so small an amount of money ever before secured.

Men's Woven Madras Negligee Shirts, with separate cuffs to match, worth 75c.; pretty strip-Boys' Negligee Shirts, made of good quality, fast color Percales, neat patterns, well made; actual 39c value; spec- 29c

STEWART & CO. [FORMERLY POSNER BROS.]

## >BERGEN'S While we were at the factory brands that costs \$33 per thousand were receiving the attention of the men. The

### SUMMER GOODS

\_\_\_IN\_\_\_

We have a very large stock of Colored Madras and other Colored Wash Goods which we are selling at Great Bargains. In White Goods we can not be in Neckwear, Hosiery, the southern extremity of the peninsula to St. Marks, on the West Coast;

Waists. Also a full line of Plain Colored Silks for Waists and Dresses.

Which the sponges grow extends from undersold, such as India Linens, Persian Lawns, Organdies, Plain and Fancy Striped Madras. 2000 yards of the newest and latest styles in Wash Silks for Waists and Dresses.

### Millinery! Millinery!

kinds. For Bargains Remember

R. BERGEN, Chestertown, Md.

When a given quantity has been gatherded the crew goes to land, where the The New Central Hotel. Dr. A. M. BOBBITT,

Terms-\$1.50 a Day.

J. C. ARMSTROMG, Proprietor,

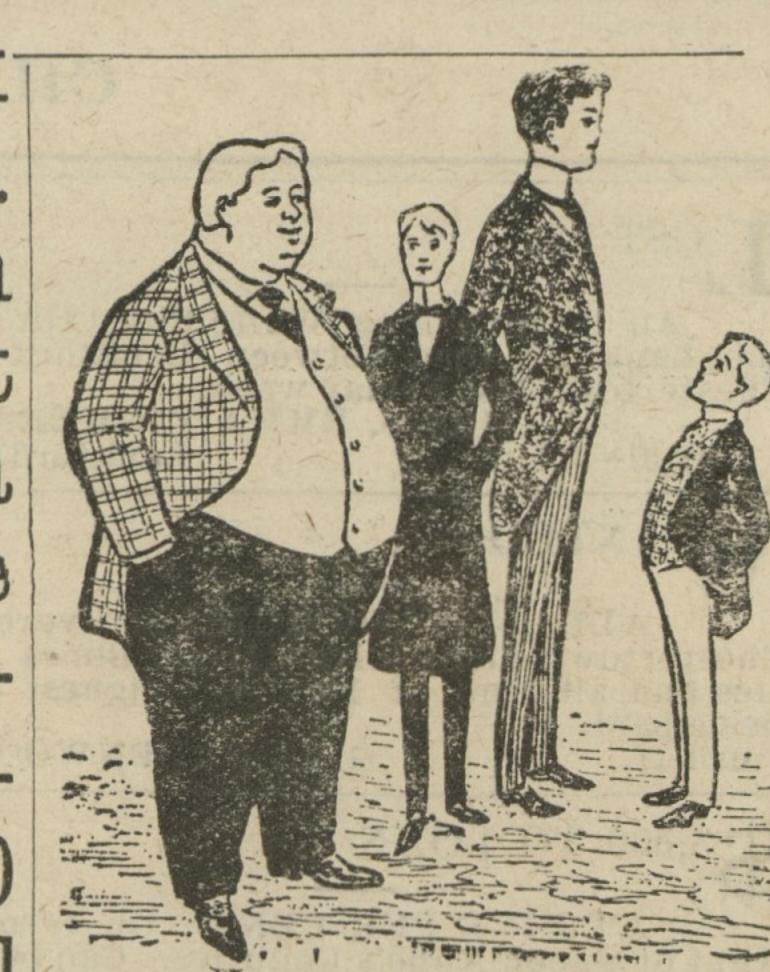
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

CHURCH HILL, MARYLAND. MILLINGTON on WEDNESDAYS.

-DENTIST.-

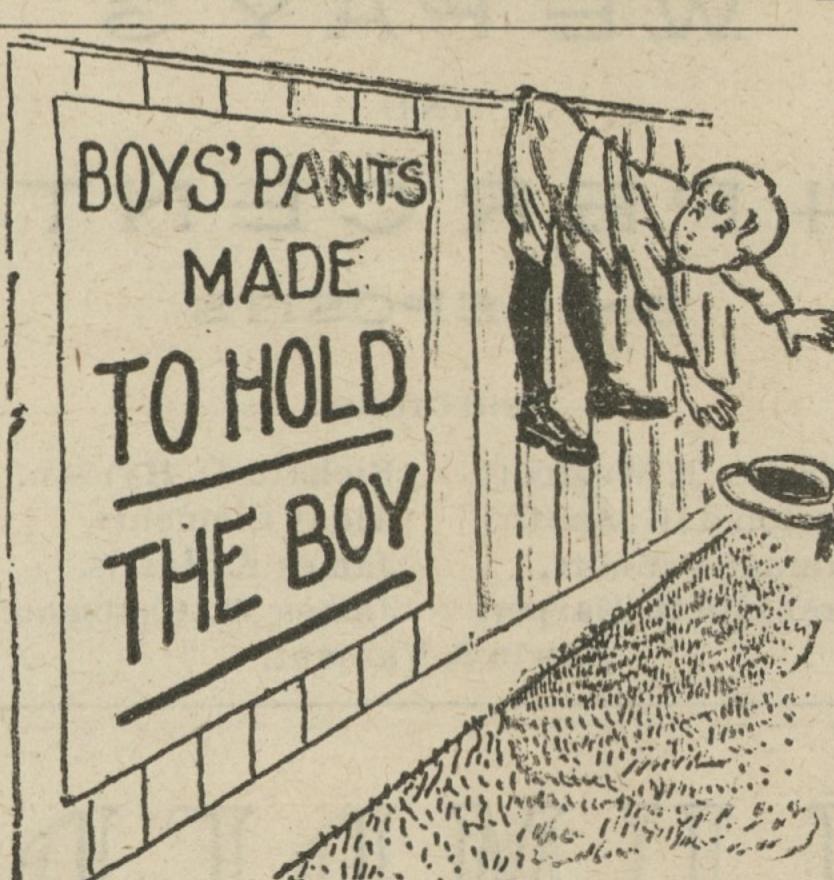
MOODY & LUSBY.

that actions speak louder than words. This may be true in some cases but it would never do for a live business house to play this pantosults. BARE FACTS AND and WEDNESDAY will be Bargain Days again. Start the Ball,



knock all such sayings into splinters. Our well earned and thoroughly established reputation for good merchandise at the closest 5c. 1b. possible prices has rightfully resulted in such a large output that Choice Large Layer Prunes, 3 lbs. we can afford to accept a small Babbitt's Best Lye, 3 boxes, 25c. margin on each individual pur- One doz. Clark's Best Spool Cotton chase. Hence ours is a satisfac- lo bars Good Laundry Soap, 25c. tory business to our patrons and a pleasure to ourselves.

The season has been backward, Matting Matting yet our distribution has been Walliy Walliy even greater than ever. The patterns, fit and finish of our Men's days save you 25 per cent on Suits at \$7.50, \$10 and \$12, have many patterns were bought for the won for us many new customers in conjunction with our established patronage. Come look for your- 48c dozen. selves. We can fit most any shape. Gent's Gauze Shirts and Vests



dren's Clothing in weaves and the famous Mrs. Hop-patterns good, this occasion 150 kins make is still per yard. pre-eminent for Dimities 10 and 121/20 quality, now workmanship and 61/4 and 8c to close. durability.

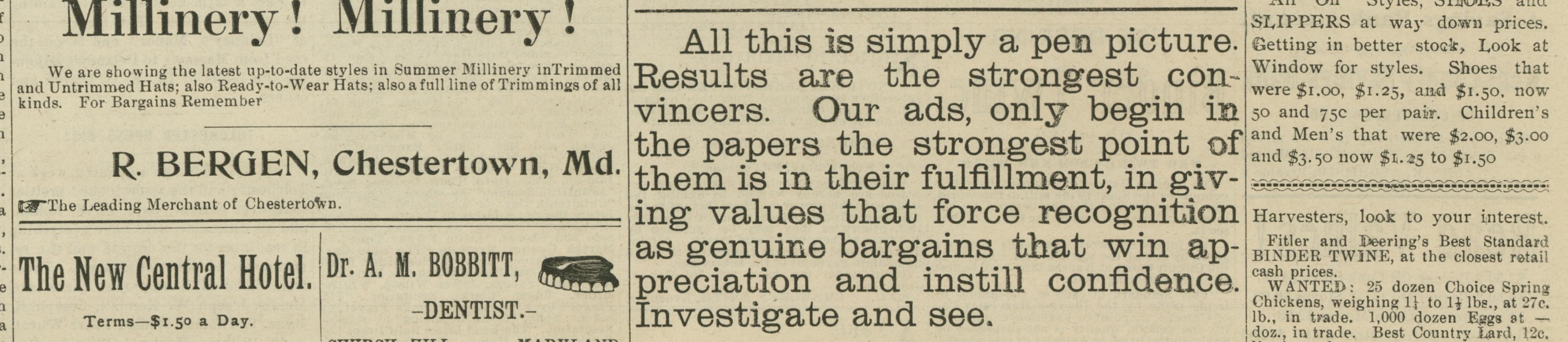
our large selling there is left some odd sizes which will be closed low.

All the latest shapes, styles and colors which the hat artist has conceived are here for your choosing. COME GET A BECOMING HAT—for

> Virtue may flourish in an old cravat, But man and nature scorn the shocking hat.

### Novelties

and meeting with popular favor.



## MOODY & LUSBY

Directly Opp. Court House, Chestertown Maryland.

R. F. PARKS & SON.

NEW FRONT! NEW LIFE! NEW ENERGY!

### Spot Cash Down, and the prices are:

Pure Amer. Granulated Sugar, Enterprise Choice Roasted Coffee,

6 bars Babbitt's Best Laundry Soap

# 5000 YDS.

25 dozen Clark's Spool Cotton at

Boys' and Chil- start them at 5c each, purchased

12 Sets Fine Glass Water sets leading 6 Tumblers I Pitcher and Tray, all for \$1.10. Others ask \$1.50 for. 5 Rolls 51/4 Table Oil-Cloth,

300 yards last year's Lawns and

New line Lawns and Dimities Hrom beautiful new patterns, start them 8, ro, and 12 1/2 cents.

Nice new lime embracing Persiam Lawn's, Organdy's, Lawns, Mansooks, Madrass, etc., India Linens, nice quality, start at 8c.

# Harness

Our \$9.98 Carriage Harness-is a prize. Our \$12.25 Sets a rare beauty, and our \$12.45 Double Magon Harness, cant be beaten.

All "Off" Styles, SHOES and SLIPPERS at way down prices. were \$1.00, \$1.25, and \$1.50, now

Chickens, weighing 11 to 11 lbs., at 27c. lb., in trade. 1,000 dozen Eggs at doz., in trade. Best Country Lard, 12c.

Yours for Business,