

Middletown Department.

NOM DE PLUME, EDITOR.

SATURDAY, AUG. 5, 1882.

Venor says we will have an early winter.

After a dry spell we have had a refreshing rain.

Lemons are dropping again to their former prices.

Daylight is now growing shorter and less at both ends.

Mr. C. E. Sperry is covering the M. E. Church with a tin roof.

Some people go to church and have queer texts on their minds.

Middletown has a surplus of worthless dogs. Does Stephens City want any?

A young lady of Middletown is so cruel that she actually took an ax to kill a fly.

Several of our farmers have raised on an average thirty bushels of wheat to the acre.

The scythe has been used but little this year, improved machinery having taken its place.

Harvest is over and much of the 'harvest money' spent, but we got little or none of it.

The members of the Young Men's Prayer Meeting met last night (Friday) to re-organize.

Our folks say we don't "practice what we preach"—alluding to pulling weeds in the garden.

Last Monday morning bushels and bushels of people picked dozens and dozens of berries near this place.

Green apples, corn and watermelons commence the groan season; so says a lad who indulged in the former.

The building committee of the M. E. Church met last Monday night at the school house to transact business.

Next week we will give some Meadow Mills items reported for the STAR by a special correspondent at that place.

A subscriber of the STAR says he has been eating roasting ears for a month. He must have raised them in the house.

Our friend Mr. Thomas A. Ogden informs us that he threshed 900 bushels of wheat in a single day. Who can beat it?

Among the improvements of last week we notice Mr. Jacob Willey's yard fence has received a beautiful coat of whitewash.

We lately noticed several parlor tables of beautiful design and workmanship made by one of our skillful mechanics, Mr. Murray.

The ravages of the toy pistol is alarming the country and already a prohibition of its manufacture and sale is agitating some of the lawmakers. But what are the ravages of the toy pistol to the ravages of rum?

We are informed that a delightful serenade was given us the other night by the String Band, but we were locked so soundly in the arms of Morpheus that we did not hear the enchanting strains the boys know so well how to render.

Mr. E. C. Ridings has lately built an addition to his large shop which is to be occupied by his machinery.—As Mr. R. has machinery to make any kind of cabinet ware, our friends will do well to give him a call before purchasing elsewhere.

An artist of this city has been engaged the past week painting beautiful figures, &c., on buildings and fences, crying "Phosphate!" We were always under the impression that the different brands of fertilizers were strong enough to speak for themselves.

M. Lanck Walton, Esq., of Woodstock, delivered a very interesting address before the M. E. Sunday School in this place on Sunday last. His address was full of facts, and as Mr. W. is a very fluent speaker the large audience listened to him with marked attention.

Jones went into the country a day or two since, and helped the hands pitch hay, but he got disgusted when one of the help remarked to another that he "tossed grass like an old woman." It is not to be expected, says Jones, that a city man can have the products of the field like men of muscle and strong feet, who have been raised on the farm. It is enough for city men to drink up all the milk and eat chicken and waffles.

For the Star.]

Mary Quantrell.*

Over the meadows green and fair,
Where the ripe grain in the summer air
Stood waving its richness like gold in the sun,
Which proved a reward by labor won,
Over the meadows green and fair,
Came a band of men to do and dare.

On through the streets of Frederick town
Bravely they marched, up and down;
Cheers for the southland greeted the ear,
Cheers for the southern hosts, far and near;
Tattered banners all grim with smoke,
A hundred stories of battle bespoke,
While the halting step of the worn-out men
Told of the march over mountain and fen.
Suddenly from a window near
Waved the folds of a banner bold and clear;
The stars and stripes, endeared to all,
Glimmered for a moment before "Stonewall,"
"March on!" cried the chieftain who, with
bowed head,
Passed by the window—not a word more
said;
But one of the men, in maddening scorn,
Rush'd up to the window on that bright
morn,
And struck from the hands of the lady fair
The loved old banner which she waved in
the air.
With true Southern spirit, which cannot die,
From the ranks stepped a soldier, with the
flag borne high;
With uncovered head to the lady he came,
Presenting the banner for her to reclaim.

Over the meadows rich and fair,
Breathed the sweet-scented summer air,
But the tramp of a thousand feet is still;
Many hearts are quiet which once did thrill
With unspeakable joy at the sound of that
voice
Whose right it was to command them re-
joice
Over camp-stories at eve when, the battle
o'er,
They talked of the morrow, and the trials
in store;
And still is the heart which with pride did
thrill,
On that golden morn, before Mary Quant-
rell.

*The above is simply a statement of the facts in the case. Mary Quantrell is the true heroine of Whittier's poem, "Barbara Fritchie," and she herself waved the flag before Jackson as he and his men passed through the streets of Frederick City.—Barbara Fritchie being confined to her bed at the time of the raid of the Confederate soldiers, was unable to perform the deeds of heroism ascribed to her in the celebrated war-poem.
V. MERIDETH BELL.

Personal.

We learn that Mrs. Belle Kearney, who has been visiting her friends in this neighborhood, started for her home in Iowa last Tuesday.

Mrs. Claxton, of Pennsylvania, is visiting her relatives, Mrs. Smith and daughters, in this place.

Benjamin B. Parker, Esq., of Summit Point, is tarrying in this neighborhood, seeing old friends.

Miss Sadie Harris has been visiting her little friends in Stephens City for the past few days.

Mr. Frederick Hottel and wife, who reside near our town, are visiting in Mount Jackson.

Mrs. Wm. Smith, of Woodstock, is visiting her father, D. J. Miller, Esq., near Middletown.

Miss M. M. Gallagher, of Pennsylvania, is the guest of Dr. McCune, near this place.

Miss Edith Neel, one of Stephens City's fair daughters, is visiting Miss Jessie D. Rhodes, in this village.

Mrs. Bessie S. Maslin, of Moorefield, who has been visiting Mr. D. J. Miller's family, has left for a short trip to Charlestown.

We were sorry to learn of the severe illness of Mr. Isaac H. Dellinger, but are glad to say that he is now improving.

Mr. M. Lanck Walton and wife of Woodstock, made the family of Rev. J. H. March a visit on Sunday and Monday.

Mrs. Annie Dellinger, wife of J. H. Dellinger, Esq., is absent from our village paying her father, Dr. Shipley, a visit.

Charles Saum, Esq., of Stephenson's Depot, has been here stopping with his brother, our accommodating jeweler, Hampton E. Saum.

Mr. Jacob Senseney, formerly a resident of Middletown, but now of Chicago, is in this place, after an absence of fourteen months, visiting his friends. Mr. S. says he finds the STAR very interesting in his western home, keeping him well posted in matters transpiring in this section of Old Virginia.

DIFFICULTIES OF FARMING.—It is said that farming is the most, if not the only, independent vocation or enterprise a man may engage in. While we must admit of its independence, yet it is surrounded with difficulties and embarrassments, which, to an extent, cannot be counteracted. They, as a class, have to depend upon the fertility of the soil, the heat of the sun, the fructifying shower and the exertion of their own labor and toil, to seek what they earn. While they can at all times gain a livelihood, they are dependent upon the above sources for the maintenance of their own existence and the perpetuity of their fellow-men. Some of the annoyances to the farming interests is the scarcity of cheap labor, drought, the destruction of crops by insects and worms of various kinds, and the average low price of grain; but with all these obstacles and annoyances the world must be fed, and that can be done only through their labors and energies. To him who may be inclined to falter, let him remember that He who controls the element and holds our lives in His grasp, will care for us if we but do our part and fulfill our mission in whatever capacity we may be called. Have faith, and trust for the result.

KILLED BY LIGHTNING.—During a thunder storm on Wednesday last, near Gainsboro, in this county, Mr. John Adams was killed by lightning. He was a son of the late Isaac Adams, and was about 24 years of age. During the same storm, and in the same neighborhood, a horse belonging to Hiram O. Adams was killed. Thunder storms have been rare this summer, and this is the first instance of loss of life or property from lightning which we have heard of.—Winchester Times.

FASTEN YOUR DOORS AND WINDOWS.—Many people are prone to carelessness in properly securing their premises at night, thereby offering a premium upon crime. As we have done before, we again urge upon our citizens the necessity of securing their doors and windows before they retire at night. At this season of the year this is particularly necessary, because the country is full of the emptyings of our jails and almshouses, who pretend to no other means of livelihood beyond what they can beg or steal.

VISIT THE COUNTRY.—This is a most delightful time to visit the country. The forest trees are regal in their luxuriant foliage; the fields and grassy slopes are as green as plentiful showers and genial sunshine can make them; the birds sing their most glad songs as they revel in the blithe sunshine, and the wild flowers are displaying their prettiest colors and dispensing their sweetest perfume. When the sun shines and the air is balmy, anything more delightful than a ramble in the neighboring groves or a drive through the country generally, cannot readily be conceived. Health and pleasure are both contained in it.

THE VALUE OF LOCAL PAPERS.—Every honest reflecting mind knows that the local newspaper adds much to the general wealth and prosperity of the place, as well as increases the reputation of the town abroad. It benefits all who have business in the place, enhances the value of property, besides being a public convenience. Its columns are not filled with brilliant editorials, still it benefits you in every way. It increases trade, it cautions against imposition, it saves you from loss, it warns you of danger, it points out different advantages and increases your profits. Now, if you want such a paper, you must support it by advertising your business in it and giving it your job printing patronage; assist in increasing its circulation by getting your neighbors to subscribe with you for it. If you want such a paper, you must not consider it an act of charity to support it, but as a means to increase your own wealth as well as that of the place in which you live; therefore, support it by advertising and subscribing and paying for it.

THE PRICE OF PROVISIONS.—Politics and fashions are no doubt interesting to the men and women of the country and each one participates in the discussion of one or both of these topics, even in this hot and sultry weather, with more or less satisfaction.—There is another question, however, which comes home closer and stays by longer than even politics and the fashions and that is the price of provisions. Some wag has said that "Beef never was so high since the old cow jumped over the moon" as it is now, and there appears to be no satisfactory reason for it. The butchers say cattle are unusually scarce and consequently dear. There, however, has been no great destruction of cattle in the country, and cattle raising has been on the increase rather than on the decline for the past few years, yet the supply is not adequate to the demand. Our fish culturists have in the last decade very largely increased the supply of fish, which in a measure supply the place of beef, and yet beef has continued from year to year to advance, until a good article is now a luxury which cannot be indulged in as liberally as in years past. With the present splendid crop result the chances are greatly in favor of a large reduction in the price of all kinds of provisions, with the single exception of beef, and that, of course, must decline as other things are substituted for it as they become cheaper than beef. Before the cold weather sets in, it is calculated by those who have given the subject careful study, that the price of living in the aggregate will be one-fourth to one-third less than at present. If these calculations prove correct, it will be good news to not only the laboring classes, but to all classes who have felt the

largely enhanced cost of living, especially within the past seven or eight months. The strikes among the laborers and workmen, of the mines and mills, and the freight handlers of the great transportation companies, has been a considerable loss to the strikers in unearned wages, and of course this loss has to a certain extent left the families of the strikers in a less favorable condition to meet the advanced price of living, and to them the prospect of cheaper food in the fall is of vital importance, and we sincerely trust, for the sake of the workmen and their families, as well as all others, that the lower prices expected may be realized before the cold weather is upon us.

Mr. M. A. Whiteley, Toledo, Ohio, writes: "After trying all advertised medicines for nervous weakness and early decay, I gave up in despair, and resign myself to the seemingly inevitable—a premature grave. Happening to hear a druggist recommend Brown's Iron Bitters for dizziness, I bought myself a bottle. I am most agreeably surprised to find myself restored to perfect health, strength and manhood. I feel sure the cure is permanent, yet in future I intend to observe more carefully the laws of health."

The success of Massey is the downfall of Mahone. The triumph of the latter in this canvass places the people and all the best interests of Virginia absolutely in the power of one man.—How he will exercise that authority can be judged by the infamous schemes presented in the last Legislature, and from the rigor of which we were only saved by the friends of John E. Massey.—Leesburg Mirror.

SUPERIOR EXCELLENCE.—The reasons for *Peruna's* superior excellence in all diseases, and its *modus operandi*, are fully explained in Dr. Hartman's lecture reported in his book on the "Ills of Life, and how to Cure Them," from page 1 to page 10, though the whole book should be read and studied to get the full value of this *par-excellent* remedy. These books can be had at all the drug stores gratis.

Peruna is the best immediate Expectant (Cough Medicine), that has yet been compounded by physicians or druggists. There is nothing in medical print that can at all compare with it. And no less so is it the very best Tonic, Stimulant, Nerve, Diuretic, Alterative, Anti-Dyspeptic, Appetizer, Haematic, (Blood Medicine), &c., &c., that has ever been compounded by doctors or laymen. It should, therefore, always be kept on hand for immediate use.

It is a truth, remarks the *Staunton Spectator*, and "there is no rubbing it out," that the men who advertise do most of the business, and they deserve to do it. We make it a rule, which we think all should observe, not to deal with those who do not advertise their business. A man who is too stingy to advertise, is too stingy to sell good bargains, and this fact the people are beginning to appreciate.

Let the Appropriation bills be presented, discussed and passed. Then Senators and Representatives who want to talk against time can hire a hall and remain at Washington until tired out as the people are.

Harris & Leary,
MIDDLETOWN, VA.,
DEALERS IN
DRY GOODS,
Groceries,
Notions, Boots and Shoes, Hats
and Caps, Glass and Queens-
ware, Hardware, &c.

All kinds of produce taken in exchange for goods at highest market prices.
July 29m

Larrick House,
MIDDLETOWN, VA.
J. F. Larrick, - - Proprietor.
SUMMER BOARDING.

Persons wishing to avoid the heat of summer in our cities can find a more attractive section than the Shenandoah Valley, nor a more quiet, orderly and healthy retreat than Middletown. This hotel is first-class in all respects, and every effort is made to render guests comfortable. Conveyances and careful drivers can always be secured at this house. Charges moderate.
July 29m3

Hampton E. Saum,
Watchmaker and Jeweler,
MIDDLETOWN, : : : VIRGINIA,
Has opened an establishment where he is prepared to all kinds of work in his line in the best manner and at reasonable rates.
Repairing a specialty. July 29m

HERE!

We are again offering to the people of Stephens City and vicinity the cheapest and best stock of Merchandise in this section.

We Always Keep Up Our Stock,

and you will be able at any time to purchase fresh and seasonable goods, at prices to meet all legitimate competition. At this season we have a

Full Stock of Fine Groceries,

which are being sold at prices unprecedented. Also Spices, Tin and Glass Fruit Cans, Sealing Wax, etc. A large assortment of

Ladies', Misses' and Children's Fine Shoes,

comprising Kid Foxed, Glove Kid, Morocco and Grain. We can offer the cheapest line, as to quality, of Men's and Boy's Plow Shoes, Congress Gaiters and Fine Boots in town.

To close out our stock of Men's Low Cut Shoes, we will offer every pair at PRIME COST. Now is the time to secure bargains.

Yours respectfully,

Adams & McCarty.

William Anson Wood



ENCLOSED GEAR MOWER!

A cut of which is shown above, is offered to our farmers, after having been thoroughly tested during the past three harvests; and to those farmers who object to a mower geared in the drive-wheel, and wish to obtain the best ENCLOSED GEAR MOWER in the market, we invite your careful examination of ours, believing you will find many valuable features characteristic of no other mower in use. We can recommend it highly, every part of it being fully warranted. It is light, strong, durable, and runs extremely easy, while for actual work in the field it has no superior, and probably no equal. The gearing is perfectly protected, prohibiting the possibility of dirt and dust working in, and its operation almost noiseless. Among the many valuable improvements is a new tilting device, one of the most recent and best inventions applied to mowing machines.

CHARACTERISTICS OF ENCLOSED GEAR MOWER.

The frame is tabular, almost entirely dispensing with bolts, and is of great strength. Being cast in one piece, there are no bars and bolts to be twisted out of line. The drive-wheels are wide apart, always running in the cleared track, thereby avoiding running on the mown crop, and sufficiently far apart to carry the machine steadily over rough ground, steep side hills, &c. The Gearing is simple, compact and perfectly adjusted, having only one bearing which rotates besides main axes. Hence there are no boxes or bearings to wear out or cause friction; almost the entire power exerted by the horses is applied directly to operating the knife.

We also offer for sale the Wm. Anson Wood Reaper, the Johnston No. 1 and No. 2 Combined Reapers and Mowers, the Johnston No. 1 and No. 2 Wrought Iron Single Reapers, the Johnston Front and Rear Cut Mowers, the Johnston Harvester and Twine Binder. To those desiring a Single Reaper we specially recommend the Johnston Continental No. 1, for its strength and because of its lightness and its adaptability to our country.

For some years there has been a great desire among farmers, especially those having hilly farms, for a light machine, and one which at the same time should be durable and strong. This has now been accomplished, and The Johnston Harvester Company pledges to the farmer that, after many experiments and most severe tests, they have produced a machine unique and stylish in appearance, of ample strength and durability, made of the best materials, and which weighs only about 700 pounds. Those having hilly farms, or rough and difficult fields, will find the Continental a more desirable machine than any other of the so-called light machines, most of which are cheaply made and liable to be easily broken. Experienced dealers in machines, who are well acquainted with all the different reapers manufactured, say that no farmer who sees this machine side by side with any or all others, can hesitate a moment as to its superior merits.

Yours, very truly,

TIMBERLAKE, STICKLEY & GUYER,

Middletown, Virginia.

Furniture and Sewing Machines!

FUNK & RAY,

Manufacture all kinds of Furniture to order, consisting of Parlor and Chamber Suits, Dining Room and Kitchen Furniture, Spring Bed Bottoms, Mattresses, in fact everything kept in a well-regulated furniture establishment. Mirrors, Chromos and Picture Frames always on hand. We are agents for the **LIGHT RUNNING DOMESTIC SEWING MACHINE**. It stands at the head! It is the Simplest, Lightest Running and most Durable Machine made. Also agents for **THE WHITE**, one of the very best machines in use. We keep a full line of Sewing Machine Attachments, such as Oil, Needles, &c. All kinds of Sewing Machines repaired.
Remember the place, MAIN ST., 3 doors south of Water, Winchester, Va.

W. H. SHIPLEY,

SIBERT & DENNY,

Successors to C. B. Meredith,

DEALERS IN

ROOF SLATER,

Watches & Jewelry.

REPAIRING NEATLY DONE.

Cumberland, Md.,

American, Elgin and Springfield Watches

always on hand. Sole agents for

ROCKFORD WATCHES,

at Winchester.

Is open for an engagement at all times to do slating at any point in the Valley. He can give references from a number of prominent men for whom he has done work in Le Valley, and guarantees satisfaction. Im3

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