ST. MARY'S BEACON

LEONARDTOWN, MD.:

THURSDAY MORNING, July 29, 1869.

☞ In consequence of the absence of the Editor this week, our readers will make a friendly allowance for the absence of our usual comments and dottings.

EXPLANATORY.—We learn from Col. Plowden that the written agreement between himself and the owner of the steam Tug "Katy Wise," expressly stipulated, that the steamer was under his direction, to go where he ordered and to run the whole of 24 hours if necessary to serve his purposes, in transit of fruit, products, &c., from Leonardtown and St. Clement's Bay to Washington twice a week via Plowden's Wharf and intermediate points, and to bring from the District City such freights in the shape of groceries, dry goods, fertilizers, coal, &c., as may have been offered, for the round sum of fifty ($50) dollars per day, every day save Sunday from Plowden's Wharf. Some ten days after signing the contract the owner complained that he expected him to do too much, when after completing an arrangement through a friend, as he supposed had been done, with the Tug "Comet," leaving out the days the W. W. Coit would stop at Plowden's Wharf for fruit, &c., (Wednesday and Saturday at 4 p. m.)—but from some cause, after he had released the Katy Wise from the route, the Comet did not appear.

The fruit season being so far advanced, earliest varieties being exhausted, it is not probable that a chartered boat will be put on the route this Summer with the Coit and Potomac boats at command, but we have reason to believe before the advent of another season, he will make all due preparations in advance, to carry out the "New Enterprise" he proposed, and which, if sustained by the enlightened community, must result in permanent advantage and profit to our people on or near the Potomac and tributaries.

[COMMUNICATED.

Mr. Editor.—This being the closing week of the present school year, it is not unnatural that the teachers of St. Mary's county should wish to be enlightened on some of the following points, which have as sorely vexed them during the past year.

1st. We would like to know why it is that our salaries have been smaller than the teachers of any other county of the State?

2nd. Why are we made an exception to all other classes of employees, and do not know what compensation we are to receive for our services, until weeks and sometimes months after it is due, when we are handed a check, for which, however insignificant the sum, we must receipt and be thankful?

3rd. Has any part of the State School Fund apportioned to St. Mary's, been appropriated to the building or repairing of school houses in the county? and if so by what authority? Since Section 4 of Chapter 3 of the State School Law says, "The State School Fund is primarily intended, under this act, to pay the salaries of the teachers of the several counties, and to provide for school-books and stationery for the children of the State."—And Section 2 of Chapter 4 provides, that "the County Commissioners shall provide by *general county taxation* for school houses in the several districts."

4th. Is this state of things to continue another year?

We have endeavored to perform our duties faithfully, and though we may have been disappointed in the amount and manner of paying our salaries, we have endeavored to be satisfied. Now that the time for which we contracted to teach is about to expire, we cannot be accused of selfishness, if we seek information on these points. Especially the writer, who is not an applicant for reappointment. Will some one of the School Commissioners give us the desired information?

NUMBER FOUR.

NEW GREENBACK DOLLARS.—The Treasury Department, it is stated, will soon issue new United States notes of the denomination of one dollar, the plates for which are now being engraved. Upon the new notes the bust of Washington will be substituted for the vignette of Chief Justice Chase. This is in accordance with an act of Congress, which prohibits the likeness of any person now living from being on the face of the national currency.

THE MARYLAND AGRICULTUAL COLLEGE.—Commodore Buchanan having vacated the position of President of the Maryland Agricultural College, located near Bladensburg, the trustees have tendered that position to Rev. Samuel Register, D. D., at present a presiding elder of the M. E. Church South.

Glass is not a certain insulator against electrical charges. An electrical coil has lately been made in London which sends the burning spark through five inches of solid glass.

[COMMUNICATED.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY, HELD, JULY 21ST, 1869, IN THE M. E. CHURCH, LEONARDTOWN.

The Convention opened with prayer by Rev. Jas. Stephenson.

On motion, Rev. Jas. Stephenson was elected Chairman.

On motion, Rev. G. Owens, Mr. Henry Jones, Mr. Jas. S. Joy, were appointed by the chair to nominate officers for the Convention.

The committee, after consultation, reported as follows:

President, Rev. Jas. Stephenson; Vice Presidents, Mr. Henry Jones, Col. Geo. Forbes and Col. Jno. D. Freeman.

Secretaries, W. M. Hammack and Jas. S. Joy.

Rev. G. Owens addressed the Convention on the object and importance of the Sunday School work in St. Mary's county.

Mr. Jas. S. Joy, Superintendent of Joy Chapel Sunday School, gave a very favorable report of his Sunday School, which has been organized but a few weeks.

Wants and difficulties of the Sunday School field in St. Mary's county were discussed.

W. M. Hammack, Sunday School Missionary, stated that some of the difficulties were that the people do not sufficiently feel the importance of the work and a great many persons live at too great distance from their churches for the children to attend regularly.

Rev. Jas. Stephenson stated the greatest difficulty was the distance at which persons live from the church. Had found from experience that this was the main difficulty.

Rev. G. Owen spoke of a suggestion he once heard Dr. Schenck make, which was to organize small Sabbath Schools in private houses, where the people lived so great a distance from church, and he thought it an admirable plan.

Mr. W. A. Wisong said that the difficulties in this county appeared to be greater than in any other. He endorsed the idea of Dr. Schenck in regard to holding small schools in private families.

Rev. B. H. Smith and Mr. Henry Jones made a few remarks which were in substance the same as those spoken above.

The next subject under discussion was "How to increase the attendance on our Schools.

Rev. G. Owen thought one of the best means was the singing of good lively Sunday School hymns, easy to learn by the children.

Mr. W. A. Wisong thought that if parents would visit the school and form themselves into a Bible class, this would be one of the best means.

Rev. Jas. Stephenson thought it a good idea, could it be carried out, and made some remarks on the religious condition of the county.

Mr. Jos. Key made some remarks in reference to the need of a school in Leonardtown and thought that there were many persons in the town who would take an interest in a Sunday School.

Rev. B. H. Smith made some remarks upon the same subject, and urged Mr. Jos. Key to act as superintendent.

Rev. G. Owen urged the formation of a Sunday School at Leonardtown and promised to give all the aid they might wish.

Mr. Wisong urged the formation of a Bible class of young men and ladies.

HOW TO CONDUCT SCHOOLS—OPENING AND CLOSING EXERCISES, &c.

Rev. G. Owen spoke in reference to the important and responsible position of Superintendent and gave an interesting incident in illustration.

Rev. Jas. Stephenson, Mr. Jos Key and Rev. B. H. Smith made some remarks on the same subject.

After this, Mr. W. A. Wisong gave an interesting and profitable lesson on blackboard, subject, Matt. VIII—5—14.

On motion, a vote of thanks was tendered Rev. Jas. Stephenson for the impartial manner in which he had presided.

On motion, the Convention adjourned to meet on the last Wednesday in April, 1870.

A MODEL OBITUARY.—J. Bangs, we are sorry to say, has deceased, and a Western obituary pays tribute to his memory: "Jem was generally considered a good fellow. He went forth without a struggle, and sich is life. To-day we are as pepper-grass—mighty smart—to-morrow we are cut down like cowcumbers to the ground. Jem kept a nice store, which his wife now waits on. His werchews were numerous to behold. Many is the things that we bought at his grocery, and we are happy to state to the admiring world that he never cheated, especially in the weight of makeral, which was nice and smelled sweet. His surviving wife was the same way. We never knew him to put sand in sugar, though he had a big sand bar in front of his house, nor water his liquors, though the Ohio river runs past his door. Peace to his remains. He leaves 1 wife, 7 children, 1 cow, a grocery store and other quadrupeds."

"Won't that bee-constrictor bite me?" said a little urchin to a showman. "Oh, no, boy, he swallows his wittles whole."

CARE OF BEES IN SUMMER.

In spring and early summer, the instinct of the bees prompts them to rear brood. Later, the same instinct urges them to store honey for their winter use. It is our policy to take advantage of these impulses. Though honey may be very abundant in the season of fruit-blowing, they do not store much of it; the more abundant it is, the faster they rear brood, and it is not uncommon to open hives wherein not a day's supply of honey for the colony is found, but most of the cells filled with brood in all stages, from the egg to the developed bees, emerging from the cell. It is our policy to foster this brood-rearing, in order that the hives may be full of workers to gather the honey which is abundant in June and July.

When that time arrives, ample room must be given them. Many colonies of bees are cramped for room in which to store honey, and hang idly about the hive, when, if they had boxes sufficient, they would be busily filling them. If you use any form of moveable comb-hives, put on the whole complement of boxes when white clover begins to bloom, and watch the boxes carefully, removing every one as soon as it is full, replacing it by an empty one. If your honey is for market, your boxes should be smaller—of the capacity of six or eight pounds, with glass in one or two sides. Honey stored thus sells more readily than any other. If, however, you wish it for your own use, larger boxes, entirely of wood, are just as as good, and we think more honey will be stored in them, other things being equal.

It is well to have all hives arranged so that when a box is half full of honey it may be raised, and another with holes in top and bottom put beneath it. The bees, in their eagerness to connect the honey thus raised with the main hive, at once occupy and build comb in the lower box, and, at the same time, finish up the one on top, which, when full, can be removed without serious disturbance of the hive. If your bees are still in box-hives, you may give them ample room for storage. If there are no holes in the top, these can easily be bored with an inch-auger. Make several such holes and put on any boxes you prefer—only, if the boxes are partly of glass, cover them with a wooden cap.

The idea of boring holes in a hive filled with bees may seem formidable, but it is easily done. Blow a little smoke into the entrance of the hive to alarm the bees; they will soon fill their honey-sacs and become peaceable. Then bore your holes in the top, letting the bit or auger go down into the honey. Cut out, with a knife, a little comb under the hole, that there may be an entrance from the passages between the combs into the box.—Have holes in the bottom of the box to correspond with those you make in the hive, or use a box without any bottom. If you have pieces of clean, empty comb, fasten them, by the use of a little melted resin, to the top of the boxes. This gives the bees what they, as well as men, like, "a start in life." Some hives are arranged with boxes on the sides for surplus honey. This is not as well as to place them on the top.

Bees instinctive store their honey *above* the place where the brood is. All who have ever cut a "bee-tree" have noticed that in the top of the cavity the choicest honey is always found. There are two reasons, I think, why they should do this. It is an instinct with them to place it as far from the entrance as possible, to have it secure from their enemies, the wasps, yellow-jackets, etc., and when it is stored *above* the clusfer of bees, the heat from the colony ascends among it and keeps the combs warmer and free from frost in cold weather. It will be seen, then, why all surplus boxes should be arranged at the top, instead of at the sides of hives. I often have strong colonies occupying and busily filling sixteen six-pound boxes at one time on the top of hives, in the height of the honey-storing season. The American hive, which I now prefer to all others, has boxes for surplus honey of the capacity of fifty pounds. I often have two sets of these boxes well filled by Italian colonies in the course of the season, and have repeatedly known colonies to fill, three sets each, in an extra yield of honey.

Besides the attention to the honey-boxes which is required at this season, vigilance is necessary to guard against the depredations of the moth-miller with its progeny of worms. Weak or queenless colonies, if you allow such to remain, are very certain to be infested, and breed hosts to trouble other hives. It is possible to be entirely rid of this pest by the use of hives that you can open and examine if you have the Italian bees. I know this, for I have not seen either a miller or worm about my hives this season.—Where only common hives are used, it is necessary to be on the watch.

The miller is a small, hunchbacked, gray fly, the male much larger than the female. You will find it hiding about the hives in the day-time, and at night hovering about the entrances, seeking to get in and deposit the eggs which produce the worms in the empty comb left uncovered by the bees. Strong colonies so cover the combs that they are little exposed; but the miller will often deposit her eggs on the loose scraps of comb on the bottom board, while the hives that have few bees are exposed on all sides.—Saucers or shallow dishes, filled with sweetened water or vinegar and water, left about the hives, often trap many millers. I have, in former times, fastened a candle to a shingle and spread tar on the latter. In a still night, many millers, attracted by the light, are caught in the tar. The only sure way, however, to be rid of this pest of bee-keepers, is to have your hives made with each comb under your control, so that you can examine them at will.

The hives should always be made so that there is no corner or crevice in them where a worm can hide and a bee cannot follow. I have seen them with the frames touching the sides, so that there were countless places where worms might hatch, undisturbed by the bees. Such hives are perfect nurseries for the bee-moth. Many hives are advertised and patented as "moth-proof." This is nonsense, as all practical bee-keepers know. Wherever a bee can enter, a moth can, if allowed to do so; and it has been demonstrated past doubt that bees often carry the eggs of the miller on their feet even to the surplus boxes. All who have the Italian bees bear testimony that they show more energy and power to eradicate the worms than the black bees manifest.—Give them well-made hives, and keep the colony strong and you need have no fear of worms. I doubt if worms ever destroyed a colony which was not first weakened by loss of the queen, or too much swarming, or untimely division.

Give hives ample ventilation now, and you will greatly aid the bees in their labor. The boxes for surplus honey cannot be too close, since heat is necessary to the secretion and working of wax; but the main hive or brood department should have air throughout the warm weather.—*Hearth and Home.*

BOOKS OF FICTION FOR CHILDREN.—The London Quarterly *Review* remarks: "The mind of a child," says a wise thinker, is like the acorn; its powers are folded up, they do not yet appear, but they are all there. The memory, the judgment, the invention, the feeling of right and wrong, and all in his mind, even of an infant just born. One by one they awake. His imagination—one of the earliest powers that awakens within him, even before he has passed through the mysteries of pup and found out that being naughty differs from being good—must be fed.—And fed it will be; either on the make-believe tales of his sister Mary nursing her doll, or the stories of Betsey the nursemaid when he is naughty about the "bogey" and the "black man" who carries off bad boys; or about the golden fairy who is to give him taffey and gingerbread—when he is good. By and by, as he grows older, his sister Mary reads to him, and at last he learns to read for himself, the charming adventures of the "Fox and the Crow," "Billy-goat Gruff," "Sinbad the Sailor," or "Diamonds and Pearls," the delicious history of "Puss in Boots," the tragedy of "Blue Beard," or the heroic drama of "Jack the Giant-killer."

But whichever of these, or a hundred other delightful pages, it be, his faith is boundless. Happiest of mortals, for a time at least, he can believe all he reads; with the one happy proviso that if it is not true, it ought to be, ay, and is, because his sister says so. While he is absorbed in the misfortunes of the "Tin Soldier," or the "Ugly Duck" the breakfast bell is unheard, and the dinner unheeded; he is feasting in dreamland, on stir-about in the Giant's Castle, or on these famous cheese cakes of Queen Scheherezade whose vital charm is pepper. Not that he is forgetful of the fact, even while in the full pursuit of fiction. Indeed, he is always burning for facts.—He wishes to know what glass is, where Robinson Crusoe was buried, how much gold it takes to make the inside of a watch, why the sun sets later in June than in December, what thunder is, if the end of the rainbow touches the ground, why firing of a cannon once made a man deaf, what sago is, and a thousand other things, which papa, not being a walking encyclopædia, is not always ready to tell him. And whatever answer he can obtain he is ready to believe implicitly, as long as he is fairly dealt with.

Yet, though St. George and the Dragon, Ali Baba and Robinson Crusoe, are in one sense as true to him as the history of England, there are shades and degrees of belief in his own mind both as regards the domains of fact and fiction, which he cannot perhaps define, and of which he is scarcely sensible, yet on which he unconsciously acts; setting each narrative or story, tale or fable, romance or chronicle, in its own due place, and giving to each his own royal favor and approval as good, bad and indifferent. A child in good, sound health is insatiably curious, his thirst for fiction of one shape or other is quenchless, and if he never asks questions, and cares nothing for "Jack and the Beanstalk" or the "Lad who went to the North Wind," there is a screw loose somewhere or other; he is in a morbid, unhealthy state of body and mind, probably of both; his natural growth and tastes as a child are becoming stunted and diseased—forced into some narrow, petty channel, where ignorance or bigotry will soon blot out the freshness, grace and light, that are childhood's most precious possessions.

REMEDY FOR THE PEACH WORM.—Mr. Isaac G. Mask, of Moorfield, West Virginia, writes to the Country Gentleman as follows:

"There is a handy means for the destruction of this heretofore fatal enemy to the peach tree, which is practiced here, which has proved certain beyond peradventure. It is simple, of easy application and expeditious. It consists of the use of boiling water applied to the collar of the tree, in quantities varying according to the age of the tree. In small trees, say one inch in diameter, half a pint is sufficient, and a pint is enough for larger ones. Remove the earth from around the tree a few inches from the body and a few inches in depth, and just pour the water boiling hot on the exposed roots, and it will kill every egg as well as worm, with positive certainty. It has been tried here time and again upon trees that were more than half killed, and a perfect restoration has been the result in every case. No danger need be apprehended from the effects on the trees. Where a larger number of trees have to be operated upon, a fire should be made in the orchard for heating the water, so that it can be applied boiling hot. Considering the importance of this remedy to peach growers who may not have heard of it, I deem it but common justice to give it circulation through the columns of your paper. Its certainty as a remedy may be implicitly relied upon."

I Met her by the seller door; the look she gave me was cold and stern; her eyes looked pitchforks into mine; and none looked pison into hern. For we had loved in days gone by; her daddy said that I might take her; but, alas! for my dreme of wedded bliss, she got up and got with a Dutch shoemaker. No more girls for me if I knows it; no more frauds me luv to dim; in the words of the poet, "Not for Joseph;" and he might have added, "Not for Jim!"

A TURKISH BATH.—Dr. John Cameron has established a Turkish Bath at No 210 Market street. As many of our citizens have no doubt indulged in this luxury as the Doctor advertises it, we have thought the description of a Turkish Bath as administered in the old world not inappropriate. It is taken from "Egypt, Arabia Petræa and the Holy Land," by J. L. Stephens, published in 1838.

"It was the season of the Ramadam, when for thirty days, from the rising to the setting of the sun, the followers of the Prophet are forbidden to eat, drink, and even smoke, or take a bath. My first inquiry was for a bath. It would not be heated or lighted up till eight o' clock: at eight o'clock I went, and was surprised to find it so large and comfortable. I was not long surprised, however, for I found that no sooner was the sacred prohibition removed, than the Turks and Arabs began to pour in in throngs; they came without any respect of persons, the haughty Turk with his pipe-bearing slave and the poor Arab boatman: in short, every one who could raise a few paras.

It was certainly not a very select company, nor over clean, and probably very few Europeans would have stood the thing as I did. My boatmen were all there. They were my servants, said the rais, and were bound to follow me everywhere. As I was a Frank, and, as such, expected to pay ten times as much as any one else, I had the best place in the bath, at the head of the great reservoir of hot water. My white skin made me a marked object among the swarthy figures lying around me; and half a dozen of the operatives, lank, bony fellows, and perfectly naked, came up and claimed me.—They settled it among themselves, however, and gave the preference to a dried-up old man, more than sixty, a perfect living skeleton, who had been more than forty years a scrubber in the bath. He took me through the first process of rubbing with the glove and brush: and having thrown over me a copious ablution of warm water, left me to recover at leisure. I lay on the marble that formed the border of the reservoir, only two or three inches above the surface of the water, into which I put my hand and found it excessively hot; but the old man, satisfied with his exertion in rubbing, sat on the edge of the reservoir, with his feet and legs hanging in the water, with every appearance of satisfaction. Presently he slid off into the water, and, sinking up to his chin, remained so a moment, drew a long breath, and seemed to look around him with a feeling of comfort. I had hardly raised myself to my elbow to look at this phenomenon, before a fine brawny fellow, who had been lying for some time torpid by my side, rose slowly, slid off like a turtle, and continued sinking until he too had immersed himself up to his chin. I expressed to him my astonishment at his ability to endure such heat; but he told me that he was a boatman, had been ten days coming up from Cairo, and was almost frozen, and his only regret was that the water was not much hotter. He had hardly answered me before another and another followed, till all the dark naked figures around me had vanished. By the fitful glimmering of the little lamps, all that I could see was a parcel of shaved heads on the surface of the water, at rest, or turning slowly and quietly as on pivots. Most of them seemed to be enjoying it with an air of quiet, dreamy satisfaction; but the man with whom I had spoken first seemed to be carried beyond the bounds of Mussulman gravity. It operated upon him like a good dinner; it made him loquacious, and he urged me to come in, nay, he even became frolicsome; and making a heavy surge, threw a large body of the water over the marble on which I was lying. I almost screamed, and started up as if melted lead had been poured upon me; even while standing up it seemed to blister the soles of my feet, and I was obliged to keep up a dancing movement changing as fast as I could, to the astonishment of the dozing bathers, and the utter consternation of my would-be friend. Roused too much to relapse in the quiet luxury of perspiration, I went into another apartment, of a cooler temperature, where, after remaining in a bath of moderately warm water, I was wrapped up in hot cloths and towels, and conducted into the great chamber. Here I selected a couch, and, throwing myself upon it, gave myself to the operators, who now took charge of me, and well did they sustain the high reputation of a Turkish bath: my arms were gently laid upon my breast, where the knee of a powerful man pressed upon them; my joints were cracked and pulled; back, arms, the palms of the hands, the soles of the feet, all visited in succession. I had been shampooed at Smyrna, Constantinople, and Cairo; but who would have thought of being carried to the seventh heaven at the little town of Minyeh?—The men who had me in hand were perfect amateurs, enthusiastic, worthy of rubbing the hide of the sultan himself; and the pipe and the coffee that followed were worthy too of that same mighty seigneur. The large room was dimly lighted, and turn which way I would, there was a naked body, apparently without a soul, lying torpid, and tumbled at will by a couple of workmen. I had had some fears of the plague; and Paul, though he felt his fears gratually dispelled by the soothing process which he underwent also, to the last continued to keep particularly clear of touching any of them: but I left the bath a different man, all my morals as well as physical strength was roused; I no longer dropped or looked back; and, though the wind was still blowing a hurricane in my teeth, I was bent upon Thebes and the Cataracts.

THE NEXT APPORTIONMENT.

The taking of the coming census has a peculiar interest, in connection with the adoption of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Constitutional Amendments, inasmuch as it will solve some important problems in relation to the political power of the several States as determined by their representation in Congress during the next decade. The question of the apportionment of members of the House of Representatives has, from the very origin of our Government, been one of considerable difficulty. The necessity of preventing the House, by the aggregation of population and the consequent increase of Representatives, from growing into a body too vast for the practical business of legislation, was early recognized. The problem, therefore, had two elements—first to keep the body from becoming unwieldy; and, second, to make the representation as nearly equal as possible. The first apportionment made after the taking of the first census proposed to have one hundred and twenty members. This was, in proportion to population, a much more numerous body than we have now. The apportionment was not, however, made equally, certain States having granted them an undue representation. President Washington returned the bill to the House of Representatives, where it originated, with his objections. He argued that it produced an inequality in representation, and that as the Constitution provided that the number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, they had violated that provision by giving to eight of the States more than one of that number. Fisher Ames voted to pass the bill, notwithstanding the objections of Washington but the bill failed by a vote of yeas 23 nays 33 and the apportionment was finally made upon a ratio of one to every thirty-three thousand inhabitants, which gave a House of 106 members.

Since then the fluctuations in the composition of the House have been as follows: In 1790 there were sixteen States and 106 members; in 1800 seventeen States and 142 members; in 1810, nineteen States and 183 members; in 1820, twenty-four States and 213 members; in 1830, twenty-six States and 242 members; in 1840, twenty-six States and 223 members; in 1850, thirty-one States and 234 members; and in 1860, thirty-four States and 241 members. West Virginia was created an independent State in 1863, and Nevada and Nebraska were admitted to the Union subsequent to the apportionment, making a total at present of thirty-seven States and 243 Representatives distributed as follows:

Alabama.	6	Missouri.	9
Arkansas	3	Nebraska	1
California	3	Nevada	1
Connecticut	4	New Hampshire	3
Delaware	1	New Jersey	5
Florida	1	New York	31
Georgia	7	North Carolina	7
Illinois	14	Ohio	19
Indiana	11	Oregon	1
Iowa	6	Pennsylvania	24
Kansas	1	Rhode Island	2
Kentucky	9	South Carolina	4
Louisiana	5	Tennessee	8
Maine	5	Texas	4
Maryland	5	Virginia	8
Massachusetts	10	Vermont	3
Michigan	6	West Virginia	3
Minnesota	2	Wisconsin	6
Mississippi	5		

In 1850 the number of Representatives under each census was fixed at two hundred and thirty-three, the apportionment to be ascertained by dividing the number of the free population of the States—adding three-fifths of the slaves in the slave-holding States—by two hundred and thirty-three, the product of such division determining the ratio of representation for the several States. To the States having the largest fractions an additional member was assigned to make up the requisite number of Representatives. This apportionment was still unsatisfactory, and in 1862 the number of Representatives was increased to two hundred and forty-one.

The abolition of slavery, and the adoption before the next apportionment of the Fifteenth Amendment, will considerably increase the representative basis of the South. The West will also show an extraordinary increase of population, and consequently, if the apportionment is continued upon the same basis as at present, the New England and Middle States will lose a number of Representatives. Supposing that our population should come fully up to Mr. Kennedy's estimate of forty millions, the basis of representation would be about one member of Congress for one hundred and sixty-five thousand of population. Such a basis would tell heavily against the States in which the population has been nearly stationary.—Maryland, for instance, though having her basis increased by the abolition of slavery, would barely, if at all, escape losing one of her present number of Representatives. The subject will be one of the most important to come before Congress, and a strong effort will doubtless be made to increase the number of Representatives in the House.—*Baltimore American.*

FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.—In a series of regulations just adopted in the Treasury Department at Washington, concerning the redemption of the national currency, we read that defaced fractional notes, if whole, are not considered as mutilated when presented for redemption; nor is an evidently accidental diminution reducing the note by not more than one-tenth of its size, regarded as mutilation.

1. Fragments of a note will not be redeemed, unless it shall be clearly evident that they constitute one-half or more of one original note, in which case a note, however mutilated, will be redeemed in proportion to the whole note, reckoning by fifths, excepting three cent notes, which will be reckoned by thirds.

2. Mutilation less than one-tenth, will be disregarded, unless fraudulent; but any mutilation which destroys more than one-tenth of the original note, will reduce the redemption value of the note by one-fifth its face value, or of a three cent note, by one-third of its original value.

3. Fragments of a three cent note will not be redeemed, unless such fragments constitute fully two-thirds of the note in its original form.

4. Mutilated notes presented for redemption must be in sums not less than three dollars of their original value.

Stiggins, the new married man, says his wife is a perfect rose. The only drawback to his happiness is that she perhaps blows out a "little" too often.

IS THE BRAIN THE SEAT OF INTELLIGENCE.—It has, until recently, been accepted as truth, that impressions are conveyed through the nerves to the brain, which receiving the physical sensation so transmitted, again telegraphs back its will to the muscles which move accordingly. This theory is now strongly opposed by Claude Bernard and other eminent physiologists, who affirm that the limbs can take care of themselves without instruction from the brain, and quote in support of their opinion the fact that if a recently decapitated frog be touched on the side with the point of a lancet he will endeavor with the hind claw of the corresponding side to push away the offending instrument, which would appear to indicate the existence of nervous centres distinct from the brain. A still more curious and hitherto unexplained fact is that if during the above experiment the claw be forcibly withheld from the part touched, the animal will endeavor to use the other claw for the same purpose. This experiment, which clearly shows that some process of reasoning is carried on in the decapitated body, and is an apparent contradiction of the universally admitted theory, that the brain alone is the seat of intelligence, has, according to the *Pall Mall Gazette*, excited great curiosity in scientific circles.

INTERESTING STATISTICS.—According to the census of 1860 there were in the United States, including the Territories, 13,849,087 human beings of the male sex, and 13,115,842 of the female, thus showing an excess of about six per cent. of males over females. In some individual States, however, the proportion was reversed, New Hampshire having 159,503 males to 166,016 females; Massachusetts, 592,231 to 629,201; Rhode Island, 82,294 to 88,355; Connecticut, 221,851 to 229,654; New York, 1,910,279 to 1,921,311; New Jersey, 322,733 to 323,966; Maryland, 256,839 to 259,079; and North Carolina, 313,670 to 316,572. The preponderance in the other States was so much greater the other way that the aggregate result was as above stated.

The capital invested in railroads in the United States is placed at $1,870,000,000, against $493,000,000 invested in 1870 banks, distributed as follows: $456,000,000 invested in 1630 National banks, and $67,000,000 invested in 240 State banks. The earnings of the railroads during 1868 are placed at $400,000,000, or $280,000,000 from freight, and $120,000,000 from passengers. The earnings of the banks are placed at from fifty to sixty millions of dollars per annum, or from ten to twelve per cent on the capital. The value of the property transported over the railroads is not accurately known, but in New York, in 1867, the railroads carried over seventeen hundred million dollars worth of merchandise, the railroads transporting $1,445,000,000 worth, and the canals $270,000,000.

PEACHES.—We have received a fine sample of peaches from Capt. Jeremiah Baden, grown in his orchard near Plum Point. On Monday last the Capt. shipped 13 boxes to Baltimore which sold for $3 a box. We learn that this was the first lot of peaches that reached that market from any part of this State this season. Capt. Baden shipped 5 boxes more on Thursday last, and will continue his shipments throughout the season. His prospects are good for a heavy crop. He has now several thousand trees bearing. We think that our county will grow fruits and vegetables earlier, and in greater perfection than almost any part of the State.—More attention is being paid to their cultivation every year.—*Calvert Journal.*

MARRIED.

On the 26th instant, by the Rev. Father Sweerin, JOHN C. PEACOCK to Miss MARTHA E. ABELL.

On the 27th instant, by the Rev. Father Enders, JOSHUA T. GRAVES to Miss ALICE L. HIGGS.

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July 29, 1869—6m.

For the Legislature.

IF LEWIS H LEIGH will consent to be a candidate for a seat in the lower branch of the next General Assembly of Maryland, he will receive the enthusiastic support of the People.

July 29, 1869.