

Saint Mary's Beacon.

BUYING A CUYP.

"I must have that Cuyp," said Mr. Septimus Palecourt to himself as he stood gazing intently at a catle piece "on view" with several other pictures of various dimensions exposed in readiness for the next day's sale in a fashionable auction room.

"Shouldn't wonder if I got it cheap," he went on referring to the catalogue he held in his hand. "Either from ignorance or want of judgment, this gem of a painting is described here as 'attributed' to Cuyp—quite enough to hinder any one from bidding unless he happens to know better. Attributed indeed! I should think so, and rightly. A more and undoubted specimen of the master never hung on the wall."

After thus decidedly expressing his opinion and bestowing a farewell glance on the object of his admiration, the speaker put his spectacles and the catalogue into his pocket, and waddling out of the room hailed a passing hansom, which speedily conveyed him to his home in Thurole square.

Now, if there was one thing on which Mr. Palecourt prided himself more than another, it was his knowledge of art; although where he could have picked it up was a puzzle not so easy to solve.

He was a stout little man of no patrician extraction, who, having realized a handsome fortune in business, had retired into private life at the age of 52, and taken up his abode, as he was wont to express it, "within a stone's throw of the South Kensington museum;" of which, as well as of every other artistic exhibition in London, he became an assiduous frequenter. Being afflicted, moreover, with the prevalent "collecting" mania, he very soon converted the fairly spacious house occupied by him into a repository for all sorts of miscellaneous curiosities, more or less apocryphal, the fruits of many an exploring ramble through the high-ways and by-ways of the metropolis.

His special hobby was the formation of a picture gallery, and curious, indeed, were the examples of different schools unearthed, no one but himself knew where but vouched for by their owners as originals of unimpeachable authenticity. He had now an opportunity, which he resolved not to miss, of adding to his collection a hitherto unrepresented name, and before reaching Hyde park corner had already made up his mind in which room he would hang up his acquisition when he got it.

"Women have a good eye for effect," he said. "I'll talk it over with Sophy, but I'm pretty sure that she will be of my opinion."

Mrs. Palecourt, one of the few ladies nowadays who prefer adopting their husband's decision to the trouble of thinking for themselves, having, as was anticipated, placidly signified her approval, a vacant space on the dining room wall was agreed upon as a fitting place of honor for the coming masterpiece; and its installation thereon regarded as a foregone conclusion.

Slips, however, between the cup and the lip will sometimes occur, and the next morning's post brought with it a summons which materially affected Master Septimus' plans. It was from an old friend, on the point of embarking the same evening from Portsmouth, who desired to consult him on certain business matters before leaving England.

"There's no help for it," said Mr. Palecourt, after reading the letter aloud for his wife's benefit. "I must go; so there's an end of it. If he could only have waited until to-morrow."

"Very provoking," chimed in Sophy. "We must hope for better luck another time."

"Not likely," doubtfully replied her liege lord. "Cuyps don't turn up every day. However, I may as well start at once; and don't wait dinner for me, for I may not be back till late."

Stopping at the nearest stationer's for a "Bradshaw" on his way to Victoria, and hastily consulting the instructive manual, Mr. Palecourt suddenly discovered, to his inexpressible delight, that he had half an hour to spare before the departure of the train.

"By Jove!" he muttered, "I never thought of that! I have plenty of time to leave a commission with the auctioneer, and that will do quite as well as if I were there myself."

A word to "cabby," accompanied

by a suggestive hint of possible largesse, soon brought him to his destination; and he was at once ushered into the auctioneer's private room, where he briefly explained to that functionary the object of his visit.

"I understand," said the latter. "Number eighty-six in the catalogue; a landscape with cattle and figures, attributed to Cuyp. Certainly; my clerk shall bid for you, Mr. —"

"Palecourt, No. 134 Thurole square."

"Very good. How far do you intend to go?"

"Why," said Septimus, who had not considered that point "I should think fifty pounds would be ample."

"Better leave a margin and say a hundred. You wouldn't like to miss it, of course?"

"Well, no, but a hundred is rather a fancy price. However, you may put it down at that, though it isn't likely to fetch half as much."

"I should be very much surprised if it did," said the auctioneer, and the interview closed, Mr. Palecourt regaining his hansom and succeeded in catching the train for Portsmouth exactly two minutes before it steamed out of the station.

Meanwhile his wife was relating to her brother, who, living close by generally dropped in for a chat in the course of the morning, the mischance that had prevented Septimus from attending the sale.

Mr. Ferguson, a practical man of commercial rather than artistic tendencies, shrugged his shoulders. "I should have thought he had pictures enough already," he dryly remarked.

"Well, yes, we have a good many," assented Mrs. Palecourt. "But he has set his heart on this one, poor fellow, and I can't bear to see him disappointed. I only wish I could get it for him."

"If you care so much about it," said her brother, "nothing is easier. I'll manage it for you."

"No—will you Tom?" eagerly exclaimed Sophy. "I don't mind what it costs, provided he has it."

"Very well, give me one of your husband's cards and the catalogue. By the by, what is the number I am to bid for?"

"Eighty-six; I've marked it in pencil. And come back to dinner, for I shall be all alone, and Septimus told me not to wait for him."

Mr. Ferguson went to the sale. In due time the Cuyp was put up and the bidding commenced. Mr. Ferguson representing Mrs. Palecourt, and the clerk Mr. Palecourt, made the bidding lively. From twenty-five to fifty; to a hundred; to a hundred and fifty; and finally to two hundred and fifty pounds, the bidding went and the Cuyp was struck off to Mr. Ferguson.

The scene in the Palecourt domicile when the bill for the Cuyp came in and the whole transaction was understood is left to the imagination of the reader. The Cuyp was bogus—it was worth about two shillings.

HORSESHOES OF PAPER.—A new use for paper again appears. Rail road car wheels are now quite often constructed of paper. It would be hard to make an announcement of a new use of that material which should cause any lively surprise. And yet the introduction of horse-shoes made of paper in the calvary service of the German army seems extraordinary enough to excite interest. Several calvary horses were first shod with paper shoes, and the effect was observed.

It was found that not only did the lightness and elasticity of the shoe help the horse on the march, making it possible for him to travel faster and farther without fatigue than horses shod with iron, but that the paper shoe had the property of being unaffected by water and other liquids. It is now proposed to replace iron with paper horse-shoes in the whole German army.

The new shoes are made of a great number of thin sheets of paper, pressed on closely together, one above another, and rendered impermeable to water by the application of oil of turpentine. The sheets are glued together by a sort of paste composed of turpentine, whiting, gum and linseed oil, and then submitted to a powerful hydraulic pressure. Paper horse-shoes are also made by grinding up the paper into a mass, combining it with turpentine, sand, gum, litharge, and certain other substances, pressing it, and afterwards drying it.

But these shoes are less tough and elastic than those which are made of thin sheets of paper laid one upon another. The paper shoes are fastened to the horse's feet either by means of nails, or with a kind of glue, composed of coal tar and caoutchouc.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

From the Baltimore Sun.

Thursday, November 5.

The control of the Baltimore Sugar Refinery has passed into the hands of New York and Boston capitalists.

The activity in the movements of the naval vessels indicates that our government will be ready for trouble, should any occur with Chili.

James W. Miller, aged fifty years, a clerk in the War Department, was shot and perhaps fatally wounded in Washington by Policeman James Burns, who, it is believed, was either intoxicated or temporarily insane.

Democrats in Washington are well pleased with the result of Tuesday's elections, whilst the Republicans are glad it is no worse. Sen'tor Pugh and Congr'sman Mills agree that tariff reform will be the leading issue in the next presidential campaign. Senator Gorman commends in the highest terms Mr. Cleveland's valuable work during the campaign.

THE ELECTIONS:

Mr. Frank Brown's majority in Maryland Tuesday was over 30,000, and the Legislature will stand, on joint ballot, 103 Democrats, 14 opposition. Judge Briscoe was elected by over 1,300 majority, and Mr. Stake by over 600.

The regular Democrats carried Baltimore city, electing their candidates to all the offices, State, Legislative and municipal, excepting two members of the City Council.

In Virginia, the Democrats will have thirty-nine of the forty members of the State Senate, and at least eighty-seven of the one hundred members of the House of Delegates.

Major William McKinley's plurality in Ohio is over 18,000. Governor Campbell, his defeated Democratic opponent, sent a message congratulating him, and adding: "I have no doubt that you will serve the people with fidelity and honor." Ex-Governor Foraker says sixty members elect of the Ohio Legislature have assured him of their support for the U. S. Senatorship now held by Mr. Sherman.

Hon. Roswell P. Flower's plurality in New York is about 43,000. In New York City it is 59,145, and in King's county 16,185. Mr. Sheehan ran only slightly behind Mr. Flower. Mr. Cleveland says the result indicates that tariff reform is not a dead issue.

Gov. William E. Russell's (democrat) plurality is over 7,000 in Massachusetts. The Legislature is Republican by an increased majority.

Governor Horace Boies was re-elected in Iowa by over eight thousand plurality. The entire Democratic State ticket is elected. The Legislature is Republican in both houses—the Senate by two and the House by from two to four majority.

RETURN OF THE DOG.—They were talking about the wonderful instinct of animals in general and of dogs in particular, when a man living on Sixth street said:

"I s'pose some of you remember that bob-tailed brindle dog I used to own? I gave him away half a dozen different times, but he always turned up again. It was in *The Free Press* how I gave him to a man in Cheboygan, and he blindfolded him and took him up there on the cars, and yet he came back within two weeks."

Three or four of the crowd expressed their surprise, and the Sixth street man was encouraged to continue:

"He came back from Chicago, Cincinnati and Buffalo, and I finally gave him to a man who was going to the Sandwich Islands. I felt pretty sure I had seen the last of that dog, but in exactly three months from the day he left I found him on the front door-step."

"Was he taken to the Sandwich Islands?" asked one.

"He was as I afterwards found out."

"Good lands, man, but you don't pretend to say that he found his way back from there?"

"I certainly do."

"Do you know where those islands are?"

"I do."

"Do you know that your dog would have had to swim a distance of several thousand miles to reach the nearest land?"

"I do, and it's right here I want to say that, while that 'ere dog wasn't worth powder to blow him up a traveler on dry land, he was the all-freest animal to swim that ever stood on legs! That's just why I wanted to get rid of him—the infernal idiot always thought he was born for a fish instead of a dog, and I had to keep the cellar full of water for him to play in!"

THE FRESH YOUNG MAN.—"Ah, Miss Smartellique," observed the elegant Mr. Drummelle, from the deck of the steamer, "the ocean is so deep and wide and still, that I would like to be the ocean."

"But you couldn't, don't you know," she replied, with a faint trace of scorn in her well trained voice.

"No?" he questioned very innocently.

"No."

"Why not, pray?"

"Oh, and she snickered, 'because the ocean isn't fresh, don't you know?'"

"True, true," he stammered in evident embarrassment, and the girl laughed again. "But you might be, you know," he said with deep meaning.

"Do you think so?" she asked in strangely softened tones, for he had a million.

"I do; indeed, I do," he murmured.

"And why?" she almost whispered.

"Because—because," and he became confused, "because it is so beautifully green don't you know?"

Then he arose calmly and walked across the deck with the air of Napoleon crossing the Alps.

FINE DIAMONDS, WATCHES, JEWELRY,

SOLID SILVER AND PLATED WARE, Wedding and Birthday Presents.

CHARLES A. ROUSH,

2 West Lexington St., NEAR LIBERTY

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FOR SALE.

A desirable farm, one mile from Leonardtown, and containing about 300 acres. It has fine buildings and is well adapted to all the staple crops of the section, and particularly to fruits and vegetables. Well watered. For terms and particulars, apply to

CHARLES V. HAYDEN, Sept 25—16, Leonardtown, Md.

TOBACCO. FLOUR.

WM. V. WATERS

WITH **J. B. KENT & CO.,**

Commission Merchants,

306 South Charles Street, BALTIMORE, MD.

GRAIN. PRODUCE.

Dec 5—17

J. WARREN JARBOE,

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UNDERTAKER AND WHEELWRIGHT,

Manufacturer of WAGONS, BUGGIES, CARTS, &c.

Special attention given to Repairing, which will be done cheap for cash.

All orders promptly filled and work of every kind warranted.

I have succeeded to the business of my late father and may be found at all times at his old stand. I shall be thankful for all orders given me and will do my best to give satisfaction.

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Jan. 3—17

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Seasoned Lumber and flooring kept under cover.

B. R. ABELL, Agent, Leonardtown, is authorized to sell and collect. Orders left with him will receive prompt attention. March 18, 1886—y.

OYSTERS!

I will serve oysters in all styles and supply families at prices in accordance with the market. H—see feed a sp—city. Feeling so very thankful for past favors I solicit a continuance of the same.

JEREMIAH LEONARDTOWN.

Sept 3rd '91—9m.

UNDERTAKING.

HAVING rented the property of F. D. Adams at Mechanicville, St. Mary's county, I am now prepared to furnish caskets, coffins and all burial goods, and to attend funerals at the shortest notice and at prices never before offered in St. Mary's. Hoping to receive a fair share of the patronage, which will be highly appreciated by Yours respectfully,

B. H. HICKS.

June 27—17

THE COMMERCIAL HOUSE,

MECHANICVILLE, MD.,

S. W. BURROUGHS, Proprietor.

Good rooms, good table and everything first class. Give me a call. Livery attached, and travelers sent to all parts of the county. Rates low. June 26—17

DRUG STORE.

I BEG LEAVE to remind my friends, patrons and the general public that I have just purchased and will always keep on hand a full line of Drugs, such as is usually kept in a first-class City Drug Store. Also a large assortment of

FINE SOAPS,

PERFUMERY,

TOILET FIXTURES,

BRUSHES, &c., &c.

Physicians' prescriptions carefully compounded. Orders by mail promptly attended to.

I am better prepared now to conduct the Drug business than heretofore, and respectfully solicit the patronage of the general public.

HARRY SPALDING, Druggist, Leonardtown, Md. Jan 29—17

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TREATMENT BY INHALATION.

1329 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

The original and only genuine Compound Oxygen Treatment, that of Drs. Starkey & Palen, is a scientific adjustment of the elements of Oxygen and Nitrogen magnetized; and the compound is so condensed and made portable that it is sent all over the country.

It has been in use for more than twenty years; thousands of patients have been treated, and over a thousand physicians have used it, and recommend it—a very significant fact.

The great success of our Treatment has given rise to a host of imitations, unscrupulous persons; some calling their preparations Compound Oxygen, often appropriating our testimonials and the names of our patients, to recommend worthless concoctions. But any substance made elsewhere or by others, and called Compound Oxygen, is spurious.

"Compound Oxygen—Its Mode of Action and Results," is the title of a new book of 200 pages, published by Drs. Starkey & Palen, which gives to all inquirers full information as to this remarkable curative agent and a record of surprising cures in a wide range of chronic cases—many of them after being abandoned to die by other physicians. Will be mailed free to any address on application.

DRS. STARKEY & PALEN, 1329 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa. 132 West St., San Francisco, Cal. Please mention this Paper. March 18—y

Spalding & Viets' Restaurant.

Having fitted up rooms in the building recently occupied by S. E. Viets, we are prepared to furnish the public with Oysters, STEWED, ROASTED AND STEAMED

OYSTERS ON HALF SHELL a specialty

Persons attending Court will find our saloon very convenient. Oysters at all hours, and with them butter, bread, pickles and a cup of hot coffee.

The Bar

is stocked with Wines, Whiskies, Gin, Cognac and Beer—the whiskey is Old Virgin and will speak for itself. Give us a call

D. S. SPALDING, S. E. VIETTS.

Feb 23—17

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Insurance Agent & Broker, LEONARDTOWN, MD.

Represents the following First Class Companies with combined assets of twelve million dollars, and has facilities for placing large lines of insurance on the most favorable terms in home or foreign companies.

Royal Fire Insurance of Liverpool, Waterman Fire of New York, London, Liverpool & Globe, Fire, Mutual Endowment Assurance of Baltimore Life.

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Jan 12, 82—y

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RATES MODERATE

The Hotel has large, airy rooms, neatly furnished and everything first class. Come and see.

THE BAR

is stocked with the choicest LIQUORS and the finest CIGARS.

I am prepared to substantiate everything I claim and respectfully invite the public to give me a call and judge for themselves.

DANIEL SHANKS, Proprietor.

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A reliable tenant wanted on a farm situated in the Eighth District. For further particulars, apply to

Mrs. MARY A. BOND, Park Hall P. O., Md.

Sept 17—17

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IF parties having farms for sale will send description and prices to the undersigned or call in person, it will be to their advantage. I have now orders for several farms

Nov 14—17 **JO. F. MORGAN.**

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CUSTOM BOOT AND SHOE MAKER,

has located at CALIFORNIA, and is ready to fit any foot from the smallest to the largest at the most reasonable rates. Ladies and cents fine work a specialty at shortest notice

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Flour, Buckwheat Flour, Grain, Hay and Mill Feed.

Correspondence and consignments solicited

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