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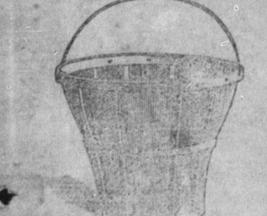
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623 to 633 W. Pratt St. BALTIMORE.

JAS. R. WHEELER, E. deKAY TOWNSEND,
 General Manager. Treasurer.

MANUFACTURERS OF
 Fluted Pie Plates, Pat. March, '87,
 Famous Brands of Acme and Tin
 Bound Butter Dishes, Peach, Or-
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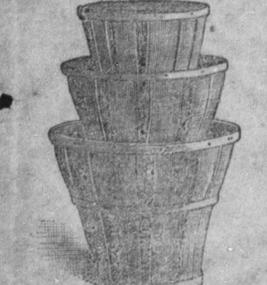
Wire handle Peach Baskets.



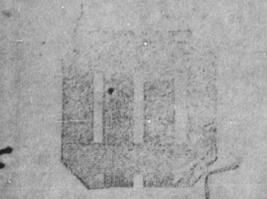
Price List for 1892, of the
 FRUIT PACKAGE MANUFACTURER'S Alliance,
 Topoints in U. S. North of South Carolina,

Standard Quarts and
 Square Pints, per 1000 f o
 b, 1000 to 24,000, \$5 00
 Oval Pints and Short
 Quarts, per 1000, \$5 50
 Slices, Skins, Thirds, etc.,
 per 1000, \$5 25
 Veneer Till Baskets, all
 sizes, \$15 00

8, 14, 16, 18 Quart Peach Baskets.
 32 qt Standard Crate, made up complete
 each, 50 cents
 60 qt Standard Crate, made up complete,
 each, 75 cents
 16 qt Gift Grape Crates, made up or in flat
 K D 20 cents
 24 qt Gift Grape Crates, made up or in flat
 K D 25 cents
 32 qt ditto, ditto, ditto, 33 cents
 36 qt ditto, ditto, ditto, 35 cents
 6 and 8 Basket Gift Crates, K D
 4 Basket Gift Crates, in flat, K D 16 cents
 6 Basket Tomato Crate, 25 cents



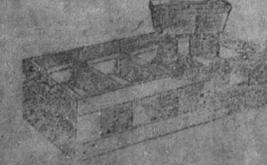
Standard 1 bush Pea Baskets, per 100 \$12
 Standard 1 bush Peach Baskets, per 100 \$5
 " 12 qt Peach Baskets, per 100 \$6
 " 14 qt Peach Baskets, per 100 \$6
 5 lb grape hand baskets, per 1000 \$40
 10 lb grape hand baskets, per 1000 \$45
 15 lb grape hand baskets, per 1000 \$50
 Square wood basket covers, per 100 \$2



Round wood basket covers, wire fas-
 tening, per 100, \$3



32 qt Crate partitions or slats, per 100 \$3
 60 qt Crate partitions or slats, per 100 \$4



MD. VENEER MANUFACTURING CO.
 623 to 633 W. Pratt St., BALTIMORE.
 June 2, 92

Saint Mary's Beacon.

VOL. LII. LEONARDTOWN, MD., THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 1892. NO. 603

(Written for the Beacon.)
ANCIENT MARYLAND HISTORY.
 BY VINCENT CAMALIER.

From the 27th of March, 1634, Julian time, when Leonard Calvert, chief Governor, Commander, Keeper of the Great Seal, &c., with his two hundred followers, landed on the shore of Augusta Carolina, afterwards St. Marie's, and now St. Mary's, sixty-one years passed away before the bounds of St. Mary's county were described.

At the May session of the Assembly in 1695, it was enacted that from and after the 23rd of April, 1695, the bounds of St. Mary's county should begin at Point Lookout, and extend up the Potomac River to the lower side of Budd's Creek, and over, by a straight line drawn from the head of the main branch of said creek, to the head of Indian Creek in the Patuxent River, including all that land lying between Patuxent and Potomac Rivers, from the lower part of the said two creeks and branches of Budd's and Indian Creeks, by the line aforesaid, and Point Lookout. At this same session the bounds of Charles and Prince George's counties were described and were erected into counties, which should, on and after the said 23rd of April, 1695, (being St. George's day) enjoy all rights and benefits equal with the other counties of the Province.

It was also at the same time enacted, that the St. Mary's county Court be and forever hereafter held at the City of St. Mary's, as well as all such other decent services the Justices should deem convenient and agree to.

The Island of Kent was added to and made a part of Talbot county in 1696, and in 1707 it was made a part of Queen Anne's county, and has remained so ever since.

In 1698 trustees were appointed to purchase lands adjoining "The Fountains of Healing Waters," called the "Cool Springs," in St. Mary's county, for the purpose of building houses for the use of such poor and impotent persons as should go to the Springs for cure. The act was partially carried out, and Francis Nicholson, Esq., then Governor, canceled Episcopal services to be held there once a week and Bibles and prayer-books to be given to the poor. The place is now known as Charlotte Hall, the seat of learning in Southern Maryland, where the clear, cool water still flows abundantly from the healing fountain, imparting to all who partake of it now the same curative properties it dispensed in 1698.

In this year Governor Nicholson was appointed Governor of Virginia, and Nathaniel Blackiston, Esq., was made Governor of Maryland, and met the Legislature of the Province at Annapolis, (formerly Ann Arundel Town, in 1699, at which session Annapolis was made by law the chief place and seat of Justice for holding the Assemblies and provincial Courts, and, in the same year, the State House was struck by lightning, when several members of the Legislature were struck down and one of them killed.

Four years after this event the State House was consumed by fire, and was rebuilt in 1706. In 1707 there were twelve counties in Maryland, and in 1708 Annapolis was created a city, her charter dating the 22nd of November of that year.

About this time an enlightened policy prevailed—water mills were built, new roads opened, towns laid out and many wholesome laws passed for the benefit of the people. Governor Nicholson caused four rolling roads to be made, some of which were more than five miles long, intended to roll tobacco and other produce to shipping points. Hogsheads had spikes driven in each head, to which rough shafts were attached, and one horse was placed in the shafts, and men with ropes, when going down or up hills, assisted the horse, &c.

The first move towards erecting a town, on the land now occupied by Leonardtown, was in the year 1706, at "Sheppard's Old Fields," near the head of Bretton's Bay, on the land of Philip Lynes. This act was disallowed, but was revived by an act of the Legislature in 1708, appointing commissioners to purchase fifty (50) acres of land at the aforesaid place and have the same surveyed and laid out in lots for the erection of a town, to be known as Seymour Town, where the Court House was to be built, and St. Mary's Court there to be held in the new Court House.

Seymour Town derived its name from Governor Seymour, who was Governor of the Province from 1704 to 1708 inclusive.

A number of lots were taken up and improved in the town, and the Court House was built between 1708 and 1710, for we find that, at a session of the Legislature held at Annapolis, in the Province of Maryland, on the 26th of October, 1710,

an act was passed directing "that St. Mary's county Court be continued at the new Court House, built at Seymour Town, otherwise "Sheppard's Old Fields."

Before passing on to the origin of Leonardtown, we have a word to say about Sheppard's Old Fields. This was a tract of land much larger than that which Leonardtown now occupies, and was owned and cultivated by a numerous family named Sheppard long before the bounds of the county were described.

It seemed to have been a kind of headquarters for traffic in skins of wild animals, such as foxes, wolves, beavers, bears, &c. About three and a-half miles north of this place were numerous, and were shot and trapped by Indians and citizens, and sold at Sheppard's, from whence they were shipped by sailing-craft to Kent Island and trading stations in Virginia.

This tract of land passed into the hands of Philip Lynes, and from him to Thomas Cooper, and through Cooper to Thomas Spalding, Jr., and Catherine, his wife, whom it appears were the owners of the land at the time Leonardtown was laid out. About the time that the name of Leonardtown appears, wolves, squirrels and crows were numerous in Maryland; the wolves attacked lambs, pigs, calves, and even children; the crows not only pulled up the young corn in the Spring, but large flocks of these birds would light on the corn in a field and eat and waste eighty bushels in a day. Squirrels, in droves of hundreds, were even more destructive to the corn fields than the crows, and would also visit fields of wheat, rye and other grain, cut off the heads and carry them to their dens. A law was therefore passed exacting from every taxable inhabitant in a family three squirrel scalps or crow's heads every year, to be produced before some Justice of the Peace, &c.

If any person failed to perform his or her duty in this matter, he or she was subject to a fine of two pounds of tobacco. A reward of two hundred pounds of tobacco was given to any person who might bring a wolf's head before any Justice of the Peace for the county in which the wolf was killed; and that the head of said wolf might not be offered for sale a second time, the Justice was required to cut out the tongue and crop off the ears, &c.

Attorneys neglecting their clients' cause in any of the county Courts were liable to a fine of four hundred pounds of tobacco, &c. Profane swearing was made punishable by fine, drunkenness by a fine of five shillings for every offense, and blasphemy by a fine of twenty pounds sterling, and a hole bored through the tongue of the offender.

Sabbath-breaking was made punishable by a fine of two hundred pounds of tobacco, and housekeepers selling strong liquors on Sunday were subject to a fine of two thousand pounds of the same article.

A law against gambling was enacted; also against opening public or private letters.

For stealing any provincial seal, the offender was to be whipped with thirty-nine lashes, stand in the pillory two hours and then be banished from the Province. It is said that the seals were never stolen or counterfeited after the passage of this act.

An act was passed October 3, 1704, prohibiting the importation of bread, flour, beer, meat, wheat, or other English or Indian grain or meal, horses, colts, fillies or tobacco from Pennsylvania and the territories thereto belonging.

This act was doubtless caused by the controversy between Lord Baltimore and William Penn, in regard to their respective charters, which lasted about eighty years, and was finally settled by running Mason and Dixon's line in 1766, which deprived Maryland of a very large territory to which she was justly entitled.

In 1715 an act was passed to unite New Port hundred, now part of King and Queen Parish, to William and Mary Parish, in Charles county, and reunite the same to King and Queen Parish in St. Mary's county.

In the year 1727 an act was passed empowering the Justices to sell the old Court House, prison and the land upon which they stood, in Charles county, and give a fee simple for the same; and to purchase land, at a place called and known as Chandler Town, on the east side of the head of Port Tobacco Creek in said county, and to erect thereon a Court House and jail, where the records of the county should be kept and the Courts of the county should be held there forever, and not elsewhere.

If the above act has not been repealed, a legal question would seem to arise for the consideration of our Charles county friends in their controversy relative to removing their Court House.

In 1729 it was enacted that no negro or other slave should be sold by any executor or administrator, or be taken in execution for any debt due from any testator so long as there shall be other property sufficient to satisfy such debt.

In 1750 the Legislature passed a law to ascertain the height of fences, to prevent the evil occasioned by the multitude of horses, and restraining horse-rangers within the Province, and to redress the great evil arising from the multiplicity of useless horses, mares and colts that run in the woods.

It is not to be presumed that the multiplicity of horses here mentioned were original wild horses, but arose from the natural increase from farmers whose fences were not sufficiently high and substantial to keep them within their enclosures, and hence they roamed at large.

The horse-rangers were persons who caught these semi-wild horses and unlawfully appropriated them to their own use.

While it appears that our forefathers found it necessary to pass stringent laws for the punishment of crimes and misdemeanors, they nevertheless displayed a commendable solicitude for the cultivation of the minds and morals of the youth of the Province, for we find that the subject of education took root at an early period in the Province.

An act that was passed in 1692 for the encouragement of learning in the Province was revived in 1723, in which St. Mary's was represented by the Rev. Leigh Massey, Col. Thomas Trueman Greenfield and James Bowles, Esq. These gentlemen, with thirty-two others representing their respective counties, were by law made trustees and visitors of schools to be established, with power to hold lands, build houses, appoint teachers and fix their salaries. This act was the beginning of our school system and may be considered the foundation of our present scholastic knowledge.

During the term of Governor Charles Calvert, from the 11th of Oct. 1720, to the 10th of Oct. 1727, and that of Benedict Leonard Calvert, from the 10th of October 1727, to the 11th of October 1732, provincial affairs prospered; and an impetus was given to all classes of industries, and in addition to the earnest interest taken in education, many other wholesome and humane laws were enacted; such as the relief of Quakers, Indians, and languishing prisoners in jail, stay of execution in the collection of small debts, the erection of towns; and other laws, tending to the convenience prosperity and happiness of the people.

On the 28th day of October 1728, an act of the Legislature was passed, for the laying out of land, and erecting a town in St. Mary's county, at a place formerly called Seymour Town. Commissioners were appointed, and empowered to purchase by agreement or valuation of a jury fifty acres of land adjoining to the place where St. Mary's County Court House now stands; and to cause the same to be surveyed and laid out for a town into eighty lots, with convenient streets, lanes &c.

The owner of the land to have his choice for two lots, the remaining lots to be taken up only by inhabitants of the county within four months after laying out of the same. No person to take up more than one lot; after four months, any persons whomsoever might take up lots by paying the owner of the land proportionately.

The taker-up to build a house to cover four hundred square feet, with brick or stone chimneys, within twelve months, and failing to do so, any other person might enter upon said lot, by paying the sum of tobacco first set upon such lot for the benefit and use of the town. The taker-up to have and enjoy a fee simple title or estate, and all to pay to the Right Honorable, the Lord Proprietor, and his heirs forever, one penny current money per annum, for each lot so taken up.

All lots not taken up within seven years, reverted to the owner. The place to be called "Leonard-Town," and all writs issued by the Court to be made returnable to the said place, by the name of "Leonard-Town." The town derived its name from Benedict Leonard Calvert, who was Governor at that time, and it does not appear that the Town made much progress during the first few years of its existence.

The Act of 1728 was not to prejudice the interest of those who had complied with the requisites of the former Act whereby part of the land allowed to be laid out was actually surveyed into lots, (and then called Seymour Town,) (neither was it to effect the buildings and improvements of the heir at law of Thos. Cooper, deceased. One year later, 1729, Baltimore Town was laid out, hence it will be perceived that Leonardtown is one year older than the great City of Baltimore.

Two years later, 1730, Thos.

Parties having Real or Personal Property for sale can obtain descriptive handbills neatly executed and at City Prices.

Spalding Jr., became the owner of the land, was permitted to use the lots not taken up, but not to remove any of the boundary posts; it appearing that part of "one acre of land," whereon the Court House of St. Mary's county now stands, was heretofore given by Philip Lynes, Esq., deceased, to the Justices of the county for that purpose, but through neglect of the Clerk, doth not appear upon record, though three of the bound poles are now standing, and the place of the other well known. The said land, contained within the said bounds, is hereby vested in the Justices, to the use of the said county for ever. The surveyor to make a fair plat of Leonardtown, which was to be subscribed to by the Commissioners and by them returned to the county Clerk, and by him be entered among the land records of St. Mary's county.

On the 2nd day of the March term of the Circuit of St. Mary's county in 1831, the Court House accidentally took fire, and notwithstanding the presence of a large concourse of citizens, the building with many of the land and other records was entirely consumed. On the following Tuesday the citizens of the county met at Leonardtown and requested the Levy Court to borrow a sufficient amount of money to build a new Court House. The Court appointed Henry G. S. Key, Joseph Harris and Enoch I. Miller to consummate the loan, which they did with Robert Gilmore of Baltimore City, the amount being \$8,510.

The contract for the building was made with Ignatius Mudd, of Washington city, under the supervision of Wm. T. Small, architect of Baltimore city and on the 6th day of August, 1831 the corner stone was laid at the North-East corner of the main building by Captain George Dent, a highly respectable citizen of the county, seventy-five years old, and of revolutionary fame, aided by the master brick-mason Francis Alexander Spalding and Fielder Magruder, who deposited thereunder the following articles in the presence of a large and respectable assemblage of citizens, and others: One ten cent piece of U. S. coin of 1830; one 25 cent piece of U. S. coin of 1829; one copy of the Maryland Gazette, of October 22nd, 1779, Saml. and Frederick Green, editors, Church Street, Annapolis; several copies of the same edited by Jonas Green, Annapolis; one copy of the Baltimore Patriot of August 1831, Isaac Monroe, editor; one copy of a paper edited by Francis Preston Blair, Washington, D. C., of August 3, 1831, containing the 4th of July oration of John Quincy Adams; one copy of the Philadelphia Album, edited by Robert Morris, of July 30th, 1831; one copy of the Globe, edited by Francis Preston Blair, Washington, D. C., of August 3, 1831. Endorsed on the package was the following: "May the arrow of death quiver in the hands of those who attempt to still the pure eman of Justice within these walls." "My Country and Country's cause." "Liberty and Union one and inseparable."—signed George Plater.

After which an appropriate oration was delivered by Henry G. S. Key, Esq.,

At this period, our Judicial Circuit was known as the 1st, and was composed of St. Mary's, Charles and Prince George's counties, and John Stephens was Chief Justice, Edmund Key and John R. Plater were Associate Justices.

Joseph Harris was Clerk of the Circuit Court for St. Mary's county. Enoch I. Millard, Register of Wills and Benjamin G. Cole, sheriff.

Joseph Spalding, post-master, of Leonardtown was the amanuensis on the occasion.

Although Leonardtown is one hundred and sixty-four years old with a population of only about six hundred, it still has advantages over many other towns in the State, being beautifully located near the head of Britton's Bay, a tributary of the Potomac River, seven miles from its mouth, which presents a broad expanse of water which gradually narrows as you approach Leonardtown. The shore on either side of the bay is remarkably picturesque and gratifying to the eye, disclosing here and there a creek or inlet, then a semicircular hollow or cove, now and then a gently sloping hill upon the crest of which a neat farm house is to be seen, surrounded with the comforts of a country home. Numerous springs of clear, cold water are to be found along the shores, pouring out at the base of an elevated bank, covered with trees and thick arbors of wild grape vines and berries indigenous to the soil. No landscape gardener's hand has been employed here, but nature has lavishly decorated the banks overlooking the waters of the bay to such an extent that even the casual observer cannot fail to re-

(Continued on 4th Page.)

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