

**Saint Mary's Beacon.**  
 Job Printing, such as  
 Handbills, Circulars  
 Blanks, Bill Heads, executed with  
 neatness and despatch.  
 Parties having Real or Personal  
 Property for sale can obtain de-  
 scriptive handbills neatly executed  
 and at city prices

**FIRE! FIRE! FIRE!**  
 Those contemplating taking FIRE  
 insurance in stock companies, would  
 do well to drop a postal to the under-  
 signed. No notes. Cheap rates. Best  
 Companies.  
 POLICIES WRITTEN IN YOUR OWN COUNTY.  
 Only Agent that is thus authorized.  
**J. C. HOWARD, Agent.**  
 LEONARDTOWN, MD.

SCHOOL TEACHERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY  
 GET 10 PER CENT. DISCOUNT  
 ON ENTIRE STOCK, except Watermans Pens and Filing Devices  
**The Dulany-Vernay Co.**  
 339-341 North Charles St.  
 BALTIMORE, MD.  
 PRINTERS, STATIONERS, ENGRAVERS, BLANK BOOKS MANUFACTURERS,  
 OFFICE FURNITURE, Y. and E. FILING SYSTEMS.  
 The Largest School Supply House in The South  
 Feb. 17-10-1y. Successors to W. J. C. DULANY CO.

ONE STYLE SUGGESTS  
**COMFORT**  
 WEAR  
**DOLLY MADISON**  
 SHOES  
 \$3.00 \$3.50 \$4.00  
 F. O. MORGAN, AG LEONARDTOWN, MD.

MY ACCOUNT OF SALES IS MY TRAVELING SOLICIT OR  
**Ask your neighbor.**  
**POULTRY, POULTRY, LAMBS, ALBES, EGGS, GRAIN, etc. POULTRY, LIVE STOCK, etc.**  
**C. M. LEWIS & SONS,**  
 COMMISSION MERCHANT,  
 14 E. CAMDEN ST., Baltimore, Md.  
 MEMBER OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

**Kemper A. Vielt,**  
 SUCCESSOR TO  
**S. E. VIETT.**  
 Oysters and Coffee.  
 Fine Liquors and Cigars.  
 Persons indebted to S. E. Vielt are requested to make immediate payment and save expense of legal collection.  
 Feb. 24-4f.

**John B. Abell,**  
 DEALER IN—  
 POULTRY, EGGS,  
 LIVE STOCK,  
 HIDES,  
 WOOL, &c.  
 718 Louisiana Ave., N. W.  
 WASHINGTON, D. C.

**E. C. Raley,**  
 NEAR THE BANK  
 Leonardtown, Md.

**Groceries.**  
 Full Line of Shoes.  
**Meats.**  
**Vegetables.**  
**Candy.**  
**Fruits.**  
 OF ALL KINDS.  
**AN UP-TO-DATE GROCERY.**  
 Feb. 17, '10-4f.

**HOTEL**  
**ST. MARY'S,**  
 LEONARDTOWN, MD.  
 Rates \$2.00 Per Day.  
 Special Rates by week, or month.  
 Livery and Bar Attached.

Every thing First Class.  
**Open Summer & Winter**  
 STEAM HEAT,  
 BATHS,  
 GAS,  
 ARTESIAN WATER.  
 PHONE IN EVERY ROOM.  
 Carriage Meets Every Boat.  
**J. ROLAND DUKE, Mgr.**

**Heard & Russell,**  
 IMPORTED AND DOMESTIC.  
**Wines And Liquors.**  
 LEONARDTOWN, MD.  
 Give Us a Call

**NOTICE.**  
 T. Spencer Crane and Aloysius F. King of the Local Bar have formed a partnership for the practice of their Profession under the firm name of Crane and King, with Office in the Beacon Building.  
**T. SPENCER CRANE. ALOYSIUS F. KING.**  
**CRANE & KING,**  
 ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW.  
 Office, Beacon Bldg. Leonardtown, Md.

**Professional.**  
**ROBERT C. COMBS,**  
 ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,  
 Leonardtown, Md.  
**D. R. C. V. HAYDEN,**  
 DENTIST,  
 Leonardtown, Md.  
**D. S. BRISGOE,**  
 ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,  
 Room 722 Law Building, Baltimore  
**WM. MEVERELL LOKER,**  
 ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,  
 Office in Enterprise Building.  
**JOHN THOMAS MORRIS,**  
 ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,  
 St. Inigo's, Md., and  
 6 E. Lexington St., Baltimore

**WALTER I. DAWKINS,**  
 ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,  
 Fidelity Building, Corner Charles and  
 Lexington Streets, Baltimore,  
 Md. Will continue to practice in  
 St. Mary's and adjoining counties

**DERBY A. LYNCH,**  
 ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,  
 UNION TR 'ST BUILDING,  
 BALTIMORE, MD.  
 Will practice in the Courts of St  
 Mary's and Southern Maryland.  
 C. & P. Telephone, St. Paul 280.

**W. H. MOORE & CO**  
 GROCERS AND  
 Commission merchants,  
 105 SOUTH CHARLES ST.,  
 BALTIMORE

**Embalmng.**  
 Having received instruction at one of  
 the best schools in the Union and been  
 granted a diploma, I am prepared to  
 Embalm and conduct funerals at the  
 shortest notice. I give personal atten-  
 tion to all the details of the business  
 Everything in my line warranted to be  
 first class and up-to-date  
 Respectfully,  
**EUGENE HALL,**  
 Dvndard

**PATENTS**  
 Send model, sketch or photo of invention for  
 free report on patentability. For free book  
 How to secure TRADE-MARKS  
 Patents and  
**CASNOW & CO.**  
 OPPOSITE U. S. PATENT OFFICE  
 WASHINGTON, D. C.

**A. Y. GRAY**  
 COMMISSION MERCHANT,  
 Cor. La. Ave. & 10th St.,  
 Washington, D. C.  
 For the sale of all kinds of Country  
 Produce. Will give special attention to  
 the filling of all orders for merchandise  
 Prompt returns.  
 References—John H. Mitchell, Per-  
 tobacco; Joseph H. Key, Leonardtown  
 Spencer C. Jones, Rockville; R. N. Wil-  
 son, of Wilson, Farmer & Co., Balti-  
 more; National Bank of Republic, Wash-  
 ington, D. C.; Jacob Warden, Berry-  
 ville, Va.  
 Correspondence solicited with stock  
 shippers. Write for market tags for  
 shipping Veal and Lambs. Always mail  
 card giving the number used.

**Surety Bonds.**  
 As State, county  
 or Municipal  
 Official; Officer  
 of a Fraternal  
 Society; Em-  
 ploye of a  
 Bank, Cor-  
 poration or  
 Mercantile  
 Establish ment  
 etc.  
 As Executor,  
 Trustee, guar-  
 anty, guar-  
 anty, receiver,  
 assignee or  
 trustee, at-  
 tache, and as  
 contractor  
 etc., etc.  
**FIDELITY AND DEPOSIT**  
**COMPANY OF MARYLAND,**  
 N. W. COR CHARLES & LEXING  
 TON STS., BALTO., MD.  
**EDWIN WARFIELD, Pres't.**  
**HARRY NICODEMUS, Sec-Treas.**  
**Francis V. King, Local Agent**  
 Jan 28 02-17. (Seals 101111)

**TRUEMAN C. SLINGLUFF,**  
 Proprietor of the  
**Wicomico Roller Mill**  
 Manufacturer and Dealer in  
**FLOUR, FEED AND MEAL,**  
 Blackstone, P. O.  
 Orders solicited. Terms Cash.  
 Grinding Days, Tuesdays, Thursdays  
 and Saturdays.  
 CLEAN, DRY WHEAT AND CORN  
 wanted at market prices.  
 Send in a trial order and be con-  
 vinced that it is your interest to deal  
 with the "Wicomico Mill."  
 Sept. 20-4f.

**BANK STATEMENT.**  
 No. 692.  
 REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE  
 FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF ST. MARYS  
 at Leonardtown in the State of Maryland,  
 at the close of business, January 7, 1911.

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts.	\$246,655 05
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured.	99 01
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation.	24,300 00
U. S. Bonds to secure U. S. Deposits.	1,800 00
Others Bonds to secure U. S. Deposits.	5,200 00
Deposits.	15,190 08
Bonds, securities, etc.	2,700 00
Banking house, furniture, fixtures.	2,719 04
Due from National Banks not reserve agents.	696 88
Due from State and Private Banks and Bankers, Trust Companies, and Savings Banks.	78 30
Due from approved reserve agents.	21,424 25
Checks and other cash items.	750 72
Notes of other National Banks.	4,250 00
Fractional paper currency, nickels and cents.	122 20
Legal money reserve in bank, viz: Specie.	2,000 00
Local-tender notes.	20,460 00
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer (5 per cent. of circulation).	1,249 50
Total.	\$283,000 51

**LIABILITIES.**  
 Capital stock paid in. \$ 25,000 00  
 Surplus Fund. 25,000 00  
 Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid. 6,654 15  
 National Bank notes outstanding. 24,900 00  
 Due to other National Banks. 47 78  
 Individual deposits subject to check. 267,168 18  
 Certified checks. 80 38  
 Cashier's checks outstanding. 628 77  
 United States deposits. 1,000 00  
 Reserved for taxes and interest. 2,107 21  
 Total. \$283,000 51

State of Maryland, County of St. Mary's, ss:  
 I, L. J. STELLING, Cashier of the above  
 named bank, do solemnly swear that the  
 above statement is true to the best of my  
 knowledge and belief. L. J. STELLING,  
 Cashier.  
 Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14th  
 day of January 1911.  
 HARRY M. JONES, J. P.  
 CORSEY-Attest: F. O. MORGAN,  
 E. B. ABELL,  
 F. V. KING, Directors.

**Leonard Hall.**  
 Leonardtown, Md.  
 CONDUCTED BY THE  
**Xaverian Brothers.**  
 Leonard Hall affords excellent oppor-  
 tunities for a thorough Preparatory and  
 High School Education.  
 Boarders and Day Scholars are re-  
 ceived.  
 Terms for Boarders \$150 Dollars per  
 year. Day Scholars according to Grades.  
 The grounds are extensive and afford  
 excellent advantages for Athletic Sports.  
 For further information, apply to  
**BROTHER WALTER,**  
 Dec. 28-1m. Director.

**Henry K. Field & Co.,**  
 Lumber, Shingles, Laths,  
 Doors, Sash, Blinds and  
 Building Material  
 OF ALL KINDS,  
 ESTIMATES FURNISHED.  
 OFFICE, 115 N. UNION ST.  
 FACTORY, 111 N. LEE ST.  
 ALEXANDRIA, VA.  
 John M. Talbert, Salesman.  
 J. J. P. Shaw, Cashier.  
 J. J. P. Shaw, Cashier.

**THE MARYLAND**  
**Commission Agency,**  
 of Baltimore City.  
 FOR THE SALE OF  
**TOBACCO, GRAIN AND WOOL**  
 and Farm Produce Generally.  
 226 South Charles Street, Baltimore.  
 DIRECTORS: W. McK. Burroughs, John B. Gray,  
 J. F. Darvall, Louis F. Detrick,  
 J. F. Hutchins, Thomas Farran,  
 J. Van Cliegatt,  
 Mr. John M. Talbert will give his personal  
 attention to the sale of all consignments.  
 March 25, 02-1f.

**KREY, PRICE & CO**  
 LIVE STOCK  
**Commission Merchants**  
 933 LA. AVENUE,  
 WASHINGTON, D. C.  
 We Will Sell Your CATTLE, SHEEP,  
 LAMBS, POULTRY and EGGS, Obtain  
 You Highest Market Prices, and Give  
 You Quick Returns.  
 For over Twenty-five Years we  
 have given special attention  
 to the sale of Live Stock,  
 and can render you the  
 best service to be had  
 in this market.  
 We have no connection with any other  
 Houses.  
 Sept. 20-4f.

**Greenwell's Mill.**  
 FLOUR, Meal and Feed on hand  
 for sale all the more cheap for cash.  
 I am ready to order to avoid hav-  
 ing to keep mill books, all order-  
 must be accompanied by the cash.  
 F. F. GREENWELL.

**DEAD CHICKS.**  
 Saves Baby Chicks.  
 B. B. Gochauer, Fauquier Co., Va.  
 writes: "I have used your 'Square Deal'  
 Chick Starter with excellent results.  
 Have lost less chicks since Feeding than  
 ever before."  
**PREVENTS DIARRHOEA.**  
 Chas. S. Grason, Baltimore Co., Md.  
 writes: "I have by actual comparison  
 found that Bolgiano's 'Square Deal'  
 Chick Starter has a great advantage  
 over all prominent foods on the market.  
 It doesn't give the Baby Chicks Diarr-  
 hoea."



**BOLGIANO'S**  
**"SQUARE DEAL"**  
**POULTRY**  
**FOODS.**  
 WITHOUT AN EQUAL.  
 Mr. C. E. Johnson of Atlantic Co., N. J.  
 on Oct. 27th, 1910, writes as follows:  
 I want to state that your three grades  
 of Poultry Food, Chick Starter, Food for  
 food and Square Deal Scratch Food  
 stands without an equal today. They  
 are perfect mixtures and sound in grain  
 and pleasant to handle.  
**BEST HE EVER PURCHASED.**  
 E. L. Griest, Cassa, Pa. writes:  
 Your 'Square Deal' Scratch Food or  
 Poultry is the best I have ever purchased  
 at my price. I have no trouble to sell  
 it, as my customers like it.  
**SQUARE DEAL.**  
 Chick Starter, Chick Food, Scratch Food,  
 1st weeks, 5 weeks to 10 weeks. Make Hens Lay.  
**DON'T BE FOOLED.**  
 If your local merchant doesn't sell  
 'Square Deal' Foods, drop us a postal  
 and we will tell you who does. Send us  
 5 cent in stamps to pay postage  
 and mention the name of this paper, we  
 will send you a package each of 'Squarys'  
 Nourishment, Asters, Sweet Peas, Scar-  
 let Sage, also our Garner and Flower  
 Seed and Poultry Supply New 1911  
 Catalogue.  
**J. BOLGIANO & SON,**  
 Seed Growers, Importers, Manufacturers,  
 Four Generations of Unbroken Success.  
 BALTIMORE, MD.  
 Jan. 12-1f.

**The Latest Patterns**  
**Wall Paper.**  
 5c. a piece; Gilt, 8c. a piece; Win-  
 dow Shades, 20c. to \$1.00.  
**Thomas & Messer Co.,**  
 1015 W. BALTIMORE STREET,  
 Baltimore, Md.

**CHRISTMAS**  
**CAROL**  
 BY  
**Charles Dickens**  
 The famous Yuletide tale which,  
 with its story of Tiny Tim, has  
 touched millions of hearts and  
 wrought for human kindness.

**Chapter**  
**Five**  
 THE END OF IT  
 ES, and the bedpost  
 was his own, the  
 bed was his own  
 room was his  
 own. Best and hap-  
 piest of all, the  
 time before him  
 was his own to  
 make amends in.  
 "I will live in the past, the present  
 and the future!" Scrooge repeated  
 he scrambled out of bed.  
 He was so fluttered and so glowing  
 with his good intentions that his  
 broken voice would scarcely answer to his  
 call. He had been sobbing violently in  
 his conflict with the spirit, and his  
 face was wet with tears.  
 "The spirits of all three shall strive  
 within me. O Jacob Marley! Heaven  
 and the Christmas time be praised for  
 this! I say it on my knees, old Jacob:  
 for my knees!"  
 "They are not torn down," cried  
 Scrooge, folding one of his bed cor-  
 tains in his arms; "they are not torn  
 down, rings and all. They are here!  
 I am here! The shadows of the things  
 that would have been may be dis-  
 pelled. They will be. I know they will!"  
 His hands were busy with his gar-  
 ments all this time, turning them in-  
 side out, putting them on upside down,  
 tearing them, mislaying them, making  
 them parties to every kind of extrav-  
 agance.  
 "I don't know what to do!" cried  
 Scrooge, laughing and crying in the  
 same breath and making a perfect Leo-  
 con of himself with his stockings. "I

am as light as a feather, I am as happy  
 as an angel, I am as merry as a school-  
 boy, I am as giddy as a drunken man.  
 A merry Christmas to everybody! A  
 happy New Year to all the world!  
 Eh! Ho! Ho! Ho! Ho! Ho! Ho!  
 Whoop! Whoop! Whoop! Ho! Ho!  
 He was checked in his tran-  
 sports by the churches ringing out  
 the lustiest peals he had ever  
 heard. Clash, clang, hammer,  
 dingdong, bell! Bell, dongling,  
 hammer, clang, clash! Oh, glori-  
 ous, glorious!"  
 Running to the window, he opened  
 it and put out "A MERRY CHRISTMAS  
 TO EVERYBODY!"  
 no mist; clear, bright, jovial, stirring,  
 cold—cold, piping for the blood to  
 dance to; golden sunlight, heavenly  
 sky; sweet, fresh air; merry bells. Oh,  
 glorious, glorious!  
 "What's today?" cried Scrooge, call-  
 ing downward to a boy in Sunday  
 clothes who perhaps had loitered in to  
 look about him.  
 "Eh?" returned the boy, with all his  
 might of wonder.  
 "What's today, my fine fellow?" said  
 Scrooge.  
 "Today," replied the boy, "Why,  
 Christmas day."  
 "Do you know the poulterer's in the  
 next street but one, at the corner?"  
 Scrooge inquired.  
 "I should hope I did," replied the lad.  
 "An intelligent boy," said Scrooge.  
 "A remarkable boy. Do you know  
 whether they've sold the prize turkey  
 that was hanging up there? Not the  
 little prize turkey—the big one?"  
 "What—the one as big as me?" re-  
 turned the boy.  
 "What a delightful boy!" said  
 Scrooge. "It's a pleasure to talk to  
 him. Yes, my buck!"  
 "It's hanging there now," replied the  
 boy.  
 "Is it?" said Scrooge. "Go and buy  
 it!"  
 "Walk-er!" exclaimed the boy.  
 "No, no," said Scrooge; "I am in  
 earnest. Go and buy it and tell 'em to  
 bring it here that I may give them the  
 direction where to take it. Come back  
 with the man and I'll give you a shil-  
 ling! Come back with him in less than  
 five minutes and I'll give you half a  
 crown!"  
 The boy was off like a shot.  
 "I'll send it to Bob Cratchit's," whis-  
 pered Scrooge, rubbing his hands and  
 spluttering with a laugh. "He shan't  
 know who sends it. It's twice the size  
 of Tiny Tim!"  
 The hand in which he wrote the ad-  
 dress was not a steady one, but write  
 it he did somehow and went down  
 stairs to open the street door, ready  
 for the coming of the poulterer's man.  
 As he stood there waiting his arrival  
 the knocker caught his eye.  
 "I shall love it as long as I live!"  
 cried Scrooge, patting it with his hand.  
 "I scarcely ever looked at her in its  
 face! It's a wonderful knocker! Here's  
 the turkey! Hello! Whoop! How are  
 you? Merry Christmas!"  
 It was a turkey. He never could have  
 stood upon his legs, that bird. He  
 would have snapped 'em short off in a  
 minute, like sticks of sealing wax.  
 "Why, it's impossible to carry that  
 to Camden Town," said Scrooge. "You  
 must have a cab."  
 The chuckle with which he said this,  
 and the chuckle with which he paid  
 for the turkey, and the chuckle with  
 which he paid for the cab, and the  
 chuckle with which he recompensed  
 the boy, were only to be exceeded by  
 the chuckle with which he sat down  
 breathless in his chair again and  
 chuckled till he cried.  
 He dressed himself "all in his best"  
 and at last got out into the streets.  
 He had not gone far when coming  
 toward him he beheld the portly  
 gentleman who had walked into his  
 counting house the day before and  
 said, "Scrooge & Marley's, I believe."  
 It sent a pang across his heart to  
 think how this old gentleman would  
 look upon him when they met, but he  
 knew what path lay straight before  
 him, and he took it.  
 "My dear sir," said Scrooge, quick-  
 ening his pace and taking the old gen-  
 tleman by both his hands, "how do  
 you do? I hope you succeeded yester-  
 day. It was very kind of you. A  
 merry Christmas to you, sir!"  
 "Mr. Scrooge?"  
 "Yes," said Scrooge; "that is my  
 name, and I fear it may not be pleas-  
 ant to you. Allow me to ask your  
 pardon. And will you have the good-  
 ness"—Here Scrooge whispered in his  
 ear.  
 "Lord bless me!" cried the gentleman  
 as if his breath were gone. "My dear  
 Mr. Scrooge, are you serious?"  
 "If you please," said Scrooge—"not  
 a farthing less. A great many back  
 payments are included in it. I assure  
 you. Will you do me that favor?"  
 "My dear sir," said the other, shak-  
 ing hands with him, "I don't know  
 what to say to such munificence!"  
 "Don't say anything, please," retort-  
 ed Scrooge. "Come and see me. Will  
 you come and see me?"  
 "I will!" cried the old gentleman,  
 and it was clear he meant to do it.  
 "Thank'ee," said Scrooge. "I am  
 much obliged to you. I thank you fifty  
 times. Bless you!"  
 He went to church, and walked about  
 the streets, and watched the people  
 hurrying to and fro, and patted chil-  
 dren on the head, and questioned beg-  
 gars, and looked down into the kitchen  
 ends of houses and up to the windows,  
 and found that everything could yield  
 him pleasure. He had never dreamed

that any walk, that anything, could  
 give him so much happiness. In the  
 afternoon he turned his steps toward  
 his nephew's house.  
 He passed the door a dozen times  
 before he had the courage to go up and  
 knock. But he made a dash and did it.  
 "Is your master at home, my dear?  
 said Scrooge to the girl. "Nice girl—  
 very."  
 "Yes, sir."  
 "Where is he, my love?" said Scrooge.  
 "He's in the dining room, sir, along  
 with mistress. I'll show you upstairs,  
 if you please."  
 "Thank'ee. He knows me," said  
 Scrooge, with his hand already on the  
 dining room lock. "I'll go in here, my  
 dear."  
 He turned it gently and stilled his  
 face in round the door. They were  
 looking at the table, which was spread  
 out in great array, for these young  
 housekeepers are always nervous on  
 such points and like to see that every-  
 thing is right.  
 "Fred!" said Scrooge.  
 "Why, bless my soul," cried Fred,  
 "who's that?"  
 "It's I—your Uncle Scrooge. I have  
 come to dinner. Will you let me in,  
 Fred?"  
 Let him in! It is a mercy he didn't  
 shake his arm off. He was at home in  
 five minutes. Nothing could be heart-  
 er. His sleeve looked just the same  
 So did Topper when he came. So did  
 the plump sister when she came. So  
 did every one when he came. Won-  
 derful party, wonderful games, won-  
 derful unanimity, wonder-ful happi-  
 ness!  
 But he was early at the office next  
 morning. Oh, he was early there! If  
 he could only be there first and catch  
 Bob Cratchit coming late! That was  
 the thing he had set his heart upon.  
 And he did it—yes, he did. The  
 clock struck 9—no Bob; a quarter  
 past—no Bob. He was full eighteen  
 minutes and a half behind his time.  
 Scrooge sat with his door wide open  
 that he might see him come into the  
 tank.  
 His hat was off before he opened the  
 door—his comforter too. He was on

"WILL YOU LET ME IN, FRED?"  
 his stool in a jiffy, driving away with  
 his pen as if he were trying to over-  
 take 9 o'clock.  
 "Hello!" growled Scrooge in his ac-  
 customed voice, as near as he could  
 feign it. "What do you mean by com-  
 ing here at this time of day?"  
 "I'm very sorry, sir," said Bob. "I  
 am behind my time."  
 "You are?" repeated Scrooge. "Yes,  
 I think you are. Step this way, if you  
 please."  
 "It's only once a year, sir," pleaded  
 Bob, appearing from the tank. "It  
 shall not be repeated. I was  
 making rather merry yesterday,  
 sir."  
 "Now, I'll tell  
 you what, my  
 friend," said  
 Scrooge; "I am  
 not going to  
 stand this sort  
 of thing any longer.  
 And therefore,  
 he continued, leaping from his  
 stool and giving  
 Bob such a dig  
 in the waistcoat  
 that he staggered  
 and fell back into  
 the tank again—and therefore I am about  
 to raise your salary!"  
 Bob trembled and got a little nearer  
 to the ruler. He had a momentary  
 idea of knocking Scrooge down with  
 it, holding him and calling to the people  
 in the court for help and a strait waist-  
 coat.  
 "A merry Christmas, Bob," said  
 Scrooge, with an earnestness that  
 could not be mistaken, as he clasped  
 him on the back—"a merrier Christ-  
 mas, Bob, my good fellow, than I have  
 given you for many a year. I'll raise  
 your salary and endeavor to assist  
 your struggling family, and we will  
 discuss your affairs this very after-  
 noon over a Christmas bowl of smok-  
 ing-bird!"  
 "Make up the fires and buy another  
 couple scotch before you dot another I,  
 Bob Cratchit!"

Scrooge was better than his word.  
 He did it all and infinitely more, and  
 to Tiny Tim, who did not die, he was  
 a second father. He became as good  
 a friend, as good a master and as good  
 a man as the good old city knew, or  
 any other good old city, town or bor-  
 ough in the good old world.  
 He had no further fears concerning  
 spirits, but lived upon the total absten-  
 tence principle ever afterward, and  
 it was always said of him that he  
 knew how to keep Christmas well, if  
 any man alive possessed the knowl-  
 edge. May that be truly said of us,  
 and all of us. And so, as Tiny Tim  
 observed, God bless us every one!

**The End**