The Democratic Advocate.

$1 PER ANNUM. WESTMINSTER, MD., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1898. VOL. XXXIII.--NO. 18.

WM. F. DERR. | WM. F. DERR. | WM. F. DERR.

THE GREAT MODEL EMPORIUM,

BABYLON BUILDING, WEST OF RAILROAD.

NEW = SPRING = GOODS !

A pretty hard job to crowd more business into this week than last week, but we are going to try and do it, and why not with new Spring Goods coming to the front daily, and besides we try to make each succeeding week improve the values and give better and more attractive bargains than the week previous.

OUR NEW
WASH GOODS
are creating a great furor in this Department.

25 pieces yard wide Percale, on good cloth, new designs, only 8c.

50 styles new and lovely Dress Ginghams, in every desirable plaid, check and color at 10c.

A hundred patterns of new French Camlrics, in all the latest ideas, either light or dark grounds, they are full 36 inches wide, at 12½c.

A complete stock of new India Linens, Check, Nainsooks, Dimities, Lawns, etc., from 8c to 25c.

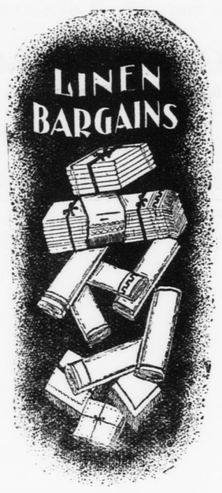
MUSLIN UNDERWEAR
—SPECIALS.—

Ladies Drawers made of good muslin and cut wide and full at 19c a pair.

Cambric Drawers, wide Umbrella style, with deep full ruffle at 29c.

Ladies Gowns, made of fine Muslin, beautifully trimmed, at 59c.

Cambric Corset Covers, high or low neck and felled seams at 10c.



LINEN DEPARTMENT.

Our new Spring Goods in this department are now open, and offer many special inducements.

50 dozen good size pure Linen Towels, in Damask or Huckaback, with assorted colors in borders, usual value 12½c, special at 9c.

20 dozen extra large Fringed or Hemmed Linen Towels, in Damask and Huckaback, all borders, great value at 19c.

Full assortment of new Table Linens at all prices, from 25c to $1.00 per yard.

NEW BED SPREADS.

Our spring stock is now being displayed in Crochet, Marseilles and Satin Spreads, lovely designs, all hemmed ready for use, prices 85c, $1, $1.25, $1.50, $2 and up.

.....SPECIAL LOT.....

Just 25 nice quality Crocheted Spreads, full size and hemmed, regular 75c value

.....only 63c each.....

BIG VALUES IN SHOES.

Our new stock of Ladies High Shoes are on sale and include all the newest shapes in Button or Lace Boots for Ladies spring wear; our $2.50 line is the wonder of the age, all hand made of fine Vici Kid, very soft and comfortable for tender feet, and will compare favorably with many shoes offered at $4.00; you should see them.

About 50 pair of those $2.50 and $3.00 Shoes, to be had yet at $1.85, we have added some to the lot that are even worth more money to fill in the sizes and give choice for $1.85 a pair.

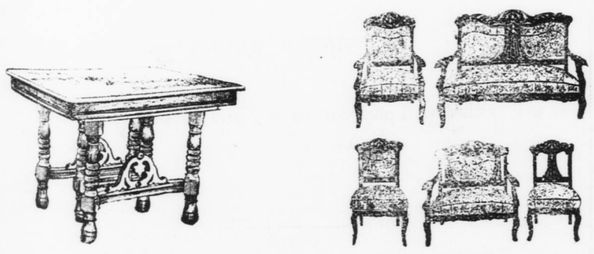
THE GREAT MODEL EMPORIUM,

WM. F. DERR,

feb19 WESTMINSTER, MD. [Telephone No. 77.]

THE GREAT
FURNITURE, CARPET AND HOUSE FURNISHING STORES
OF
THEO. DERR & SON.

Our line is the largest it has ever before been our good fortune to show to the people of Westminster and Carroll county.



Our line comprises everything in the line of House Furnishings, such as Parlor Suits, Bedroom Suits, Bouffettes, China Closets, Extension Tables, Brass and Iron Beds, Baby Carriages, Lounges, Couches, Mattresses and Springs, Dinner and Tea Sets, Glassware, Steel Enamel Ware, Tinware, Carpets, Mattings, Oil Cloth, and, in fact, everything useful to housekeepers. Give us a call and look through our goods and be convinced that we are headquarters.

THEO. DERR & SON,
UP-TO-DATE HOUSE FURNISHERS.
Open of Evenings. [dec11 1y] 75 & 77 E. Main St., Westminster, Md.

GUY W. STEELE, Solicitor.

TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF
A SMALL FARM,
Near Westminster, Md.

By virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for Carroll county, Maryland, sitting as a Court of Equity, passed in No. 3619, on the Equity docket of said court, the undersigned, as trustee, appointed by said decree, will offer at public sale, at the Court House door, in Westminster, Md., on

MONDAY, the 28th of FEBRUARY, 1898,

at 10 o'clock, a. m., all that little farm containing

9 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS,

situated in said Carroll county, on the Washington road, about 2½ miles from Westminster, upon which Benj. F. Gist now resides. There is a good dwelling house and necessary outbuildings on this property, and it is a desirable home for any one desiring a small property.

Terms of Sale:—Cash, on the day of sale or on the ratification thereof by the court; a deposit of $100 will be required on day of sale.

GEO. W. ALBAUGH, Trustee.
feb5-ts

ALL KINDS OF JOBWORK NEATLY EXECUTED AT THIS OFFICE.

NEW STOCK! LOW PRICES!!
AT THE
STAND FORMERLY OCCUPIED BY GEO. W. MORNINGSTAR, CORNER OF MAIN AND JOHN STREETS, WESTMINSTER, MD.

We take pleasure in announcing to the public that we have opened a full line of

FRESH GROCERIES

of all kinds. China and Glassware of all kinds at prices that defy competition. Tinware and Woodenware of every description. Flour, Syrups, Teas, Coffees, Extracts, Cakes, Crackers, Candies, &c. Patent Medicines. We take Country Produce in exchange or for cash. We ask a call and inspection of our stock, believing we can save you money. Orders solicited and goods delivered to you promptly.

nov13 1y STEPHAN BROTHERS.

MORTGAGEE'S SALE
OF
Valuable College Property,
In Manchester, Carroll County, Maryland.

By virtue of the power of sale contained in a mortgage from David Denlinger and wife to George W. Stansbury, dated the 6th day of April, 1892, and recorded among the Real Estate Mortgage Records of Carroll county, in Liber B. F. C., No. 32, folio 15, &c., the undersigned will sell, on the premises, on

WEDNESDAY, the 2d of MARCH, 1898,

at 1 p. m., all that valuable property known as "Irving Institute or Irving College," situate in Manchester, Carroll county, Maryland, with

7 ACRES, 2 ROODS and 6 PERCHES

of land, more or less. The improvements consist of a three-story Brick Building, with a large frame building attached. This property has been used as a college, is now suitable for the same, or for a boarding house, or for manufacturing purposes, contains about forty apartments and would accommodate 75 to 100 boarders. It is situate about 2 miles from Railroad station, on the Baltimore and Harrisburg division of W. M. R. R., plenty of fruit, well of water at the building and spring near the building.

This property is well worthy the attention of any person or persons desiring to open a boarding house or run a select school or college. It is sold at request of Mrs. Mary A. M. Denlinger.

Terms of Sale.—One-third part of the purchase money to be paid on the day of sale or on the ratification thereof by the court; the balance in two equal payments of six and twelve months, the purchaser or purchasers to give their notes with approved security, and bearing interest from the day of sale; or all cash at the option of purchaser.

GEORGE W. STANSBURY,
Geo. L. Stocksdale, Sol. Mortgagee.
feb5-ts Jacob Hoffman, Auct.

CLEAN SWEEP!

Balance of our entire stock at prices you cannot afford to overlook.

Great bargains in Underwear, at prices that will compel you to buy. Less than half price. Also a lot of fine Wool Overshirts, former price $2.00 to $2.50, now $1.00. Also a large line of Gloves at all prices, reduced to less than half price. In Neckwear we can open your eyes in prices. Fifty cent goods from 10c up—good goods and good styles. They must be sold. The balance of our stock of Hats at less than half price—some first-class styles. Our greatest offer is in our

Suit, Overcoat and Pants Department.

We have some splendid things to show you; and will sell them at half price, and, if desired, will make up to order in first-class style, fit guaranteed or no sale. A dollar saved is a dollar made. Call and examine our stock and we are confident we can save you money and please you, at the old stand, No. 34 West Main street, Westminster, Md.

jan29-tf A. M. ANDERS.

ELECTION NOTICE.

Westminster Gas Light Company,
February 1, 1898.

Stockholders are hereby notified that an Election for a President and Six Directors, to manage the affairs of the Company, will be held at its office, in the Farmers and Mechanics' National Bank, on the FIRST TUESDAY, being the 1st DAY OF MARCH, 1898, between the hours of 12 m. and 1 o'clock, p. m.

JOHN H. CUNNINGHAM,
feb5 te Secretary.

COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE.

The County Commissioners of Carroll county will meet at their office, in Westminster, every MONDAY in FEBRUARY, 1898, for the transaction of business. By order,

JOHN E. MASENHIMER, Clerk.
feb 5

CARDS AND CIRCULARS printed at this Office.

TWO WAYS

OF GETTING GLASSES; ONE TO GO TO A FIRST-CLASS OPTICIAN, HAVE YOUR EYES PROPERLY TESTED AND GET WHAT YOU NEED—THE OTHER TO GO TO A MERCHANT WHO KEEPS SPECTACLES, MAKE "A GRAB IN THE BAG" AS IT WERE, GET A PAIR THAT DON'T FIT YOU (ALTHOUGH IT MAY SEEM SO FOR THE MOMENT) RUN THE RISK OF RUINING YOUR EYE SIGHT ENTIRELY—AND ALL FOR A SMALL DIFFERENCE IN EXPENSE.

IF YOU NEED THE SERVICES OF A GOOD OPTICIAN, WE CAN SERVE YOU WELL AND CHEAPLY.

A. H. WENTZ,
Jeweler and Optician,
feb19 Westminster, Md.

THE TRADE PALACE,
937 and 939 W. Baltimore Street,
BALTIMORE, MD.,
SPECIAL PRICES.

DRESS GOODS.

As an extra inducement to visitors in our Dress Goods Department we have fixed the prices at one-half the former price.

$1.00 goods for 50c.; 75c goods for 37½c.; 50c goods for 25c.; and 25c goods for 12½c.

We put on sale about 20 pieces of plain double width Cashmere, regular price 25c, special 13½c.

25 pieces double width Plaids and Checks, splendid for Children's Dresses and Waists, at 12½c.

Double width all Wool Imperial Serges, in all colors, at 25c.

45 inch all wool fine French Serges, in all the latest fall colorings, would be cheap at 75c, 49c.

38 inch Novelty Cloth, newest designs in Silk and Wool mixtures, 90c would be cheap, special 50c.

The new Moscovine, one of the leaders of fashion, in all the new shades for tailor made Dresses, 98c.

SILKS.

There may be other stores that can buy silks for as little as this store does, but there are none that are willing to sell them at such a small profit as we do.

$1.00 Brocaded Satin Duchesse, newest patterns, for Shirts and Dresses, at 62½c.

We have made special low prices on all our ready-made Skirts, Capes and Coats, Comforts and Blankets, Domestics, Ladies and Gent's, Underwear, Lace Curtains and Draperies, Linings, etc.

This is an occasion that few can resist, for what woman is not interested in her new fall Dress and Wrap, new shades of gloves, dainty Trimmings. The Trade Palace "Sale" tells of these and every detail of a lady's costume. We give trade coupons with every sale.

TRADE PALACE,
937 and 939 W. Baltimore St.,
oct 23 near Schroeder st., Baltimore, Md.

1898 THE 1898
MORNING HERALD
an Independent Journal.
The Truth Without Fear or Favor
All the News from all the World.
THE BEST ONE CENT DAILY.
12 PAGES.
FOR MAIL SUBSCRIPTION.
One week 10c. One month 30c.
Sixth months $1.50. One year $3.00.

THE SUNDAY HERALD
Baltimore's Favorite Newspaper and Model Home Journal.
36 pages. Leads in Circulation. Leads in Merit. Leads in Popularity. Single copy, 3 cents.
FOR MAIL SUBSCRIPTION.
One month 15c. Six months 75c.
One year $1.50.

THE WEEKLY HERALD
50c for 12 months.
Twelve pages.—Giving complete accounts of all events of interest throughout the world. Its Market Reports are accurate, complete and valuable.
A welcome visitor to all homes.
Specimen copies mailed to any address.
Send in $2 and the names of five yearly subscribers.

Address all communications to
THE HERALD PUBLISHING COMPANY
Fayette and St. Paul streets,
jan22-tf Baltimore, Md.

TO THE PUBLIC.

If you want
FIRE INSURANCE,
LIFE INSURANCE,
ACCIDENT INSURANCE,
WINDSTORM INSURANCE,
STEAM BOILER INSURANCE,
Give me a call.
Lowest Rates. Best Stock Companies. No Assessments. No Premium Notes.
Quick Cash Settlements.

JAMES E. SMITH,
General Insurance Agent.
No. 7 Court Street,
ap1 tf Westminster, Md.

APPLICATION FOR DUPLICATE CERTIFICATE.

Notice is hereby given that on or after the 21st day of March, 1898, application will be made to The Ice and Cold Storage Company of Westminster, for the issue of a new certificate, in lieu of a certificate for One Share of Stock in said Company now standing in the name of J. Thomas Snyder, being certificate No. 91, bearing date July 17, 1894, which certificate has been lost or stolen.

feb19 5t J. THOMAS SNYDER.

POSTER PRINTING a specialty at the ADVOCATE Office.

Our Olio.

THE HOT OVEN OF THE UNION.

Geographical Conditions Which Give Yuma, Arizona, That Name—Where the Temperature Ranges from 97 to 125 Degrees from Morning Until Midnight for Weeks and Weeks—For Eight Months Men Wear No Coats, Vests or Suspenders.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Ever since old Fort Yuma was established here, in 1850, the temperature of Yuma has been proverbial. All the jokes and funny stories about high records have been credited to Yuma for over forty years. That ancient, palsied and weather-beaten story about the soldier who lived and died in the garrison at Yuma, and whose ghost came back one night for his army blankets for use down in chilly, frosty hell has gone everywhere, and in its travels throughout the world has given a certain fame to the town. Two generations of American school children have been taught in geographies that "Yuma, noted for its high temperature, is situated on the eastern bank of the Colorado river and on the western edge of the Arizona desert." Newspaper paragraphers and humorists have found the summer temperature records of Yuma a perennial and fruitful field for their talents.

In the 40s and 50s Yuma was famous among Uncle Sam's soldiers as the most dreaded post on the frontier, and the letters and diaries of such military men as Gens. Albert Sidney Johnson, Edward F. Beale and Kearney, who served their military apprenticeships here, are full of comments on the hot weather of Fort Yuma in the summer months. "John Phoenix," (Lieut. Derby) the first of the modern school of American humorists, was at Fort Yuma for two years, and his humor was developed while writing of the devices of the army boys to avoid the heat of July and August days in the adobe buildings of the garrison.

There is abundant reason why Yuma is the banner hot town of the country. It is hot from the very nature of things. The town is in a sort of valley where Old Sol has all the advantage. It lies on the east bank of the Colorado river, which meanders through desert sands and adobe soil down to the Gulf of California. Away to the west, across the river, and to the south stretches the Colorado desert, several thousand square miles in area. It is so merciless, ghostly and fierce a desert waste that few dare to cross it by wagon or on foot in the summer months, and in winter or early spring travellers are careful to be accompanied by a companion or two and supplied with an abundance of drinking water and food. Every summer venturesome miners lose their lives in trying to cross the desert by being overtaken by a sandstorm or weakened unto death by the dreadful heat. To the north there are vast plains and uplands of barren, sun-baked adobe soil and a peculiar formation of lava and soft granite, the remains of numerous extinct volcanoes. This area absorbs the sun's heat by day and distributes it by night. To the east are millions of acres that are the next thing to an absolute desert, where nothing grows except by irrigation, and then only scantily; where no one lives who can exist elsewhere. For over 100 miles about Yuma not a tree grows naturally, and none of the forest trees that the people of New England or the Middle States know can be grown even artificially. There is not a thing in nature anywhere in the region to add a degree of coolness to the atmosphere. There are no balmy breezes from anywhere, no sea or lake air to come once in a while as a relief after hours of a steady downpouring of solar heat; not a mountain or brook, a canon or dell, a grove or beach, throughout a whole country, to which one may resort for so much as a moment of coolness. One may gaze in any direction from the highest place in Yuma, and the only color in nature to be seen is a dull, reddish-brown under a blazing sky. Even the sluggish river takes on the hue of the surrounding territory.

The total rainfall in Yuma is about twelve inches a year; it is twice and thrice that in the greater part of the Eastern States. Rain falls in Yuma and the region round about but four or five times in a year, and only in the early winter months. There are, however, some very heavy floods here in the months of February and March, when the water in the Colorado river rises and overflows the banks because of the melting snows away up in the mountains of Colorado and northern Arizona and of the heavy rains in southern California. When the water recedes and leaves bare some thousands of acres of rich bottom lands the Indians plant their mesquite beans and melon seeds for their annual crop, just as the Egyptians do their annual planting along the banks of the Nile when the floods are past. The fertility of these bottom lands has attracted attention, and in recent years enterprising Yankees have taken up hundreds of acres and are growing to a small extent fruits and melons, which are first in the market even in semi-tropic southern California and Los Angeles.

No one can tell adequately how the fierce midsummer heat of this part of Arizona affects a person recently from the Eastern States, especially from the cool New England and Middle States. On most summer days there is scarcely a breath of air stirring anywhere, and from early dawn until sunset there is constant sunshine. At 5 A. M. the mercury on a warm day is 87° or 90°. At 7 it has risen to 94°, at 10 it is 103°, at 1 P. M. it is at 107°, and at 3 P. M. it may be at 112°; at 6 p. m. it has gone down to 102°, and at midnight it has sunk to 95°. When a wind comes up from off the desert the air is almost shrivelling, and even the natives of Yuma go into their adobe houses and shut the doors to avoid the air that comes like that from the furnace room of a foundry. The glare of the sunshine has serious effect on the eyes. Green goggles and smoked glasses are commonly worn here by Eastern people. There are many cases of blindness among United States soldiers who have been stationed at forts in this region. The fierce sunshine causes inflammation of the eyes. Everyone does as much work as possible in the evening or early morning before the sun has got in its best efforts, and there is little or no unnecessary movement about town at midday. To show how hot the atmosphere here really is, it may be mentioned that the writer has seen mining and civil engineers carry bits of carpet to lay under their feet while at work to keep the sun-baked adobe from blistering their soles. Children would not think of walking barefoot on the sun-baked earth at noonday. Railroad brakemen wear leather mittens so that they may handle coupling pins and links. The china and glassware in the homes and at the little hotel are as warm on any day in summer as if they had just come out of very warm water, and window panes are unbearably hot. When one puts his hands on a wall in a house on a hot day it feels like the walls that surround a baker's oven. All horses and cows are kept here under roofs or sheds at midday when the mercury is ranging high. Vegetables, such as potatoes, rot in two days in such a high temperature, and milk sours in an hour.

All residents who are able to do so leave Yuma early in June, and do not come back until along in the latter part of September. In this way they avoid the hottest weather, but even then they experience a few days when old Sol sends down shafts that make a temperature of over 100° in the shade. The refugees from a summer in Yuma usually go to the seashore and mountains in southern California, and they are mostly women and children. But there are over 2,500 men, women and children who can never leave town for even a week in summer. Hundreds of them have stayed here each summer for years, and have no more to say about a few days with the temperature at 103° or 104° in the shade than the Eastern people when the mercury of their thermometers rises up to 80° or so. No one thinks of wearing any but the thinnest and loosest and scantiest clothing. There is scarcely a "biled" shirt to be seen in all Yuma from May to September, and a starched collar would be an abomination. Hundreds of men never wear coat, vest or suspenders for eight months in the year. Only the broadest straw hats and cork helmets are worn. Canvas shoes and the thinnest cotton socks cover the feet, and a belt about the waist is the trousers supporter.

The mirages seen in these desert regions are as wonderful as appear anywhere in the world. No one who has not seen them can know how realistic they are. Scores of travellers across the Colorado desert toward Yuma, both from the East and the West, have been lured from the faint, shifting trail across the burning yellow sands to pursue a lake of clear water, or to turn aside to reach yonder cascade of flowing water in the shade of Oaks and manzanita brush, and have, in consequence, wandered toward a thin, vapory, tantalizing mirage, only to die a horrible death from thirst and hunger under a fierce coppery sky.

The history of Yuma abounds in stories of people who have started out from there in midsummer to go to gold mines across the deserts, and have never been heard from again. Sometimes the mirage on the desert is that of the ocean with great ships sailing on it. This is a reflection of the Pacific coast along the shores of southern California—some 200 miles west. Then an hour later there may be a magnificent scene (in the heavens just enough above the horizon to make it appear the more natural and tantalizing) of a waterfall amid rocks and in a copse of green trees. This is a reflection of scenes away up in the Yosemite Valley, some 350 miles northwest. Often there are mirages of fields of alfalfa, in which cattle are browsing knee deep, and of irrigating ditches running full with clear water. Sometimes these mirages will remain for an hour, as clear and distinct as if they were the landscape, and then on a shifting of the hot wind or cloud they will disappear as if by magic, to be followed by another and entirely different scene.

Things We Ought to Know.

That sulphur will prevent vermin in bird cages if a piece is tied in a bag and hung in the cage.

That rooms where there are diphtheria patients should be fumigated by burning a piece of roll sulphur on a shovel.

That a damp duster, followed by a dry one, is very beneficial in removing dust and giving a good polish to furniture.

That an old silk handkerchief makes an admirable duster for fine cabinets and bric-a-brac.

That a teaspoonful of powdered alum mixed with stove polish adds greatly to its brilliancy when applied to the range.

That a sprain may be cured if the part be kept saturated with hot water.

That fever blisters may be cured by rubbing them with salt petre, which has been dipped in water for an instant.

That the white skin of a raw egg if spread over a cut will cure it.

That charcoal should be thickly sprinkled in a jardiniere in which a damp flowerpot is to be kept.

That children should be given a light supper of bread and milk at 5 o'clock and be put to bed at 6.30 until at least 5 years old. After that their bed-time may be fixed at 7 o'clock for several years.

That a pretty blanket may be made for baby of double Germantown wool in white, with a border of blue or pink. Knit on large wooden needles.

That a close watch should be kept over all vegetables kept in the cellar—that no decayed ones are allowed to remain over night. This is the frequent cause of diphtheria, etc.

That cold tea added to a bucket of cold water is useful in removing fingers marks from hard-wood doors, etc.

That candle grease may be removed from a carpet by covering the spot with a piece of brown paper, such as grocers use, and pressing gently with a moderately-hot iron.

That children may be greatly strengthened by a daily salt bath. Sea salt should be used for this purpose.

That a tablespoonful of ground mustard to a tumblerful of warm water is the rule for an emetic.

The Farmer's Creed.

Prof. Irby, of North Carolina State College, furnishes the following to the Progressive Farmer:

We believe in small, well-tilled farms; that the soil must be fed as well as the owner, so that the crops shall make the farm and the farmer rich.

We believe in thorough drainage in deep plowing, and in labor saving implements.

We believe in good fences, barns conveniently arranged, good orchards and gardens, and plenty of home raised hog and hominy.

We believe in raising pure bred stock, or in grading up the best to be gotten; they equal the thoroughbreds.

We believe in growing the best variety of farm crops, and saving the choicest for seed.

We believe in the proper care and application of barn yard manure.

We believe that the best fertilizers are of little value unless accompanied by industry, enterprise and intelligence.

We believe in rotation, diversification and thorough cultivation of crops.

We believe that every farmer should own a good farm and that every good farmer will eventually own a good farm.

INFORMATION FOR LAYMEN.

Difference Between a First and Second-Class Battleship—Armored and Protected Cruisers—Offensive and Defensive Power Less Than That of Battleships—Displacement In War Vessels—The Uses of Gunboats, Torpedo Boats and Despatch Boats.

J. M. C. in the Philadelphia (Pa.) Ledger.

A letter received from Philadelphia asks me to explain in this correspondence, "the difference between a first and second class battleship and a cruiser." My correspondent also asks the following questions: "What is a protected cruiser? What is meant by 'displacement' in a war vessel? What are the duties of torpedo boats, likewise gunboats, and the difference between the same? Are despatch boats armored?" In presenting these questions the writer expresses the belief that, except among men learned in naval and military matters, 75 per cent. of the people are not informed on the several points made the subject of his questions. In reply to the questions I have prepared, after consulting the experts of the Navy Department, the following answers:

The differences between a first class and a second class battle ship is simply a difference in degree of power, both offensive and defensive. That is, the first class battleship has more and heavier guns, and more and thicker armor, and as a necessary sequence is a larger vessel. The division of vessels of war into classes is arbitrary and dependent upon current size, and not the same in all navies. What is today a second or third class ship was a few years ago a first class ship; the largest vessels being always designated as first class. First class battle ships of the present day range from 10,000 to 14,000 tons in displacement. The battle ship is a vessel designed for a place in the first line of battle, and thus capable of withstanding heavy fighting with the least possible damage. Her qualities are necessarily a compromise of different elements, and the art of the designer lies in so proportioning the offensive and defensive elements as to produce the most formidable vessel possible on a given displacement.

Cruisers are divided into two classes—armored and protected. The former is a vessel carrying a moderate amount of armor, which, in modern vessels of this class, is confined mostly to the gun positions and armored deck. Her offensive and defensive power is less than that of the battle ship, while her displacement may be nearly the same or even more. A greater proportion of that displacement has been given to weights of propelling machinery and fuel, thus giving her a higher rate of speed and ability to make longer cruises without recoaling.

The protected cruiser is a vessel in which these latter qualities are still more emphasized. She must possess the highest rate of speed for sea-going vessels and the greatest possible steaming radius or distance which she can steam without recoaling. Her offensive and defensive qualities are reduced to the minimum for fighting vessels. In modern ships of this class the main battery seldom contains anything heavier than 6-inch guns, but they are rapid fire; that is, the projectile and powder charge are in one piece, like an exaggerated pistol cartridge, and the greatest possible skill is required to so arrange the ammunition supply from the magazines that the maximum rate of fire of which the guns are capable can be maintained. The defensive qualities of this class of vessels are confined to an armored deck, which in some vessels is as much as 6 inches thick over the vital parts of the vessel, and ranges in most vessels of this class from 2 to 4 inches thick. They are also usually provided with local armor or shields at the gun positions, which is seldom more than 3 inches thick.

By displacement in war vessels, or in any floating structure, is meant the weight of water displaced by the immersed volume of the vessel, this being equivalent to the total weight of the structure according to the well-known principle in mechanics that a floating body displaces its own weight of water. This function in war vessels is the foundation upon which the naval architect must apportion qualities of offensive, defensive and motive power and general equipment weights, and his skill in his profession depends upon his success in making a combination of these qualities which shall come the nearest to perfection in accomplishing the desired object.

Gunboats are vessels of less than 2000 tons displacement, which are designed for service in rivers and shallow waters, where they would not be likely to be opposed by any considerable force. In effect they are naval police, and usually carry little, if any, armor and a moderate battery, and do not possess high speed.

Torpedo boats are vessels of a still smaller class, ranging in displacement from fifty to 300 tons, but in which everything is sacrificed to extreme speed. Their attacks must be sufficiently rapid to attain their object before or very soon after they are observed, otherwise they will fail, as they have no defensive power at all, being penetrable by musket fire in most cases. While nearly all modern vessels of war carry torpedoes, these carry nothing else, except one or two light machine guns for defence against boat attack.

Despatch boats are not armored and are not considered as fighting ships, though used for defence. They must have the highest attainable speed in order that they may convey despatches to or from the fleet in the shortest possible time.

Lightning Kept the House Vacant.

From the Louisville (Kentucky) Post.

Not far from Hodgenville stands an old house which has a wonderful power for the attraction of lightning. It is in an unused field, surrounded by shrubbery and undergrowth. It is only the frame of a once costly dwelling and has been standing there for 40 years. Strange as it may seem, it has been struck by lightning every time an electrical storm has visited that section.

The house was erected by a well to do farmer years ago and was intended for a dwelling for his family, but had to be deserted on account of its habitual subjection to lightning. It has never since been occupied. During a thunder-storm one perpetual flash of lightning plays about the old house. On a dark night and during a storm a more beautiful scene could not be found. The whole sky and earth around the old house are brightly illuminated by the lightning. The house has been torn away, strip by strip, with each bolt of lightning until now only a small portion is left standing. So far as is known, no fatalities have ever occurred in the house.

A Dixfield (Me.) firm has just completed an order for 8,000,000 checkers and 200,000 dice-boxes.

A PICTURESQUE JAPANESE ISLAND.

An Ideal Place Where Death Has Never Come and Where Poesy Dwells.

Miyajima is an inland midway in the Inland Sea, lying so far within the bend of the Aki shore that it cannot be seen from the route of the large ocean steamers that pass through those enchanted waters. To reach it most appropriately one must take one of the tiny coasting steamers from Osaka, and, touching at a dozen quaint little ports on the matchless voyage, at last see the mountainous green island, with temple roofs showing here and there through all the dense foliage of the heights, and, standing far out in the water, a heroic *torii*, fit gateway to that ideal place where death has never come; where religion and landscape loveliness, legend and poesy, still dwell; where the simple villagers, the gentle old Shinto priests, and the tame deer, protected by the gods and loved by the people, maintain an atmosphere foreign to the busy new Japan of railroads, parliaments, imported military tactics, and modern war-vessels. Or one may take the railway from Kobe to Hiroshima, and then a jinrikisha for twelve miles along its bay, and be ferried across a narrow strait to this isle of the blest, which will impress the more with its Arcadian features when one comes to it from all the bugling, parade, and din of mimic war that goes on in the shadow of Hiroshima's picturesque castle keep, and at its port of Ujina, chief naval station of the empire, and, during that victory year of 1894, port of departure of transport ships to Corea and China. Then one can accept the legend that Miyajima grew from one of the congealed drops that fell from Izanami's jeweled spear, and that Itsukushima and her two sisters, daughters of the god of the sea, aptly chose it for their favors; that their temple rose from and floated in from the sea, and that the great water toril grew with the tides as naturally as any coral reef.

There is a small village at the foot of a green bank, but that is off by its commonplace, profane self, and the temple is embayed in an amphitheater of the hills, with a shore-and-water foreground all its own. On the shore-line at the edge of the village a noble torii of Oshima granite, each pillar and crossbeam a single stone, marks the entrance to sacred ground; and this road, following the curve of the shore, is lined for a quarter of a mile to the temple with tall stone lanterns, the same alignment of votive lights continuing for half a mile along shore at the other side of the great shrine.

The water torii is the unique and great feature of Miyajima's shrine, and one grows very familiar with it from its representations by Japanese artists in every line. The colossus is formed of great beams, each hewn from the single trunk of a camphor-tree, and strengthened at the base by crossbeams joining low parallel columns, which give it balance and solidity and most impressive effect. These beams are covered below the water-line with such a heavy growth of barnacles and marine plants that the torii seems very reasonably a part of the sea-god's kingdom and creating. This skeleton gate in the sea is so delicate and fairylike in a first distant view, that one is not prepared for its great size, and the impressive sense of its proportions, when one floats in between its great camphor-wood piers, as massive and solid as masonry. Sculling through this notable gateway, and across the water court of approach, at high tide, one may visit every part of the temple, and penetrate to the farthest labyrinth, passing beneath galleries and bridges, and floating before the open fronts of the great shrines. The galleries connecting the different parts of the temple have, strung along their leaves, hundred of quaint little bronze and iron lanterns, all votive offerings, as also are the pictures that hang in line above them and form a famous gallery of ancient art. ["An Island Without Death," by Eliza Ruhamah Scidmore, in the Century.

Do You Know Who First Made Ice Cream?

"Ice cream," according to the Gentleman's Magazine, "is an older sweetmeat than many would suppose. In the beginning of the seventeenth century goblets made of ice and also iced fruit—i. e., fruit frozen over—were first brought to table. The limonadiers, or lemonade sellers, of Paris endeavored to increase the popularity of their wares by icing them, and one, more enterprising than the rest, an Italian named Procope Couteaux, in the year 1660, conceived the idea of converting such beverages entirely into ice, and about twenty years later iced liquors—i. e., liquors changed into ice—were the principal things sold by the limonadiers. By the end of the century iced liquors were quite common in Paris. Ice cream, or iced "butter," as it was first called, from its supposed resemblance to that substance, soon followed. It was first known in Paris in 1774. The Duc de Charters often went at that time to the Paris coffee houses to drink a glass of iced liquor, and, the landlord having one day presented him with his 'arms' formed in edible ice, this kind of sweetmeat became the fashion. German cooks at once took up the new art. It was not long in reaching England, for in 1776 a French cook resident in London, named Clermont, wrote 'The Modern Cook,' in which sweet ices were first described for the instruction of English cooks. Present-day cooks have elaborated the ice enormously."

Where Mosquitoes Are a Blessing.

In Havana, Cuba, two physicians have hit upon the happy idea of using mosquitoes to inoculate fresh arrivals in the city against yellow fever. The mosquitoes are first made to contaminate themselves by stinging a diseased person.

The inoculation brings on a mild attack of the fever, but when that has passed away, the patient enjoys immunity not only from the disease, but, what is even more curious, from the bites of the insects that have saved him.

Housekeepers who rejoice in smooth, hard floors often find the slipping of the rugs stretched upon them a serious annoyance, if not a positive danger, as falls may easily ensue from it. A rug salesman contributed the other day this suggestion as a remedy: "Wet the rugs thoroughly," he said, "and turn them right side downward until dry. It will not hurt them and will relieve this tendency to slip." The explanation is that the wetting dissolves some slighly gummy substance used in their treatment, whose drying makes them slippery.