Summerside Journal,

AND WESTERN PIONEER.

DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, SCIENCE, COMMERCE, AGRICULTURE, AND NEWS.

Vol. 3. Summerside, Prince Edward Island, Thursday, April 2, 1868. No. 26.

THE
Summerside Journal,
IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY
THURSDAY EVENING,
BY
JOSEPH BERTRAM,
AT HIS OFFICE, CENTRAL STREET.

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" " half advance, 7s. 6d.
" " at the end of year 9s.

Persons getting up CLUBS of TEN Subscribers will be entitled to the JOURNAL for one year.

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inserted at moderate rates and in good style.
SPECIAL AGREEMENTS may be made on reasonable terms for a whole, a half, or quarter column, or by the year.

JOB PRINTING
of every description, performed with neatness and despatch, and at moderate rates, at the JOURNAL Office.

Almanac for April, 1868.

MOON'S PHRASES.

Full Moon, 7th day, 3h.4m. mor. bearing East
Last Qtr., 14th day, 6h.22m., af'noon, below h.
Full Moon, 22d day, 2h.7m., af'noon, b. West
First Qtr. 29th day, 2h. 5m., af'noon, b. West

D M	DAY WEEK	SUN rises	SUN sets	sun slow clock	sun's dec. north	moon rises	day's length
		h m	h m	m s		h m	h m
1	Wed	5 41	6 24	3 49	4 45	2 8	12 43
2	Thu	40	25	3 31	5 8	2 57	45
3	Frid	38	26	3 13	5 31	3 41	48
4	Sat	36	27	2 55	5 44	4 18	51
5	Sun	5 35	6 28	2 37	6 17	4 54	12 53
6	Mo	34	29	2 20	6 40	rises	55
7	Tue	32	31	2 2	7 2	7 9	59
8	Wed	30	32	1 45	7 25	8 16	13 2
9	Thu	28	33	1 29	7 47	9 21	5
10	Fri	26	35	1 12	8 9	10 22	9
11	Sat	25	36	0 56	8 31	11 20	11
12	Sun	5 23	6 37	0 40	8 53	morn	13 14
13	Mo	21	39	0 24	9 15	0 6	18
14	Tue	19	40	0 9	9 36	0 58	21
15	Wed	17	41	fast	9 58	1 40	24
16	Thu	16	43	0 20	10 19	2 17	26
17	Fri	14	44	0 34	10 40	2 15	30
18	Sat	12	46	0 48	11 1	3 17	34
19	Sun	5 10	6 47	1 1	11 22	3 50	13 39
20	Mo	8	49	1 14	11 42	4 18	41
21	Tue	7	50	1 26	12 3	4 49	43
22	Wed	5	52	1 38	12 23	sets	47
23	Thu	3	53	1 50	12 43	7 52	50
24	Fri	1	55	2 1	13 2	8 51	54
25	Sat	0	56	2 11	13 22	10 6	56
26	Sun	4 59	6 57	2 21	13 41	11 9	13 58
27	Mo	57	58	2 31	14 0	11 59	14 1
28	Tue	56	59	2 40	14 19	morn	3
29	Wed	55	7 0	2 49	15 38	0 57	5
30	Thu	53	2	2 57	14 56	1 40	9

Summerside Markets.

APRIL 2, 1868.

Oats per bush	3s
Barley per bush	3s 6d a 4s
Potatoes per bush	2s 3d
Turnips per bush	1s 3d
Butter per lb by Tub	1s
Lard per lb	9d a 10d
Tallow per lb.	9d a 10d
Eggs per doz	10d
Beef per lb	5d a 6d
Mutton per lb	3½ a 4d
Pork per lb by carcass	3½d a 5d
Geese each	2s 3d a 2s 6d
Flour per bbl	65s a 70s
Oatmeal per cwt.	18s a 20s
Hay per Ton	80s a 90s
Straw per cwt.	2s
Pine Boards	10s
Spruce Boards	4s a 5s

Charlottetown Markets.

April 2, 1868.

Beef (small)	6d a 7d
Do. by quarter	3d a 5d
Mutton	4d a 6d
Lamb per lb.	3½d a 5d
Butter	13d a 15d
Do. by tub	1s a 13d
Cheese	4d a 7d
Tallow	9d a 10d
Lard	8d a 9d
Flour lb.	3d a 3½d
Oatmeal 100 lb.	20s a 22s
Eggs	15d a 16d
Potatoes	2s 6d a 2s 9d
Turnips	13d
Barley	3s a 9s
Oats	3s
Boards (Hemlock)	4s
Spruce	4s a 5s
Pine	7s a 9s
Shingles	12s a 15s
Wool	1s a 1s 6d
Hay	70s a 80s
Straw cwt.	2s
Homespun	5s 6d a 6s
Sheepskins	2s a 3s
Calfskin lb.	5d a 9d
Hides lb.	4½d

Business Cards.

BANK OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
Corner of Queen & Water Sts., Charlottetown
President—HON. DANIEL BRENAN.
Cashier—WILLIAM CUNDALL, Esquire.
Discount Days—Mondays & Thursdays.
Hours of Business—From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. from 2 p.m to 4 p.m.

UNION BANK.
Grafton St., Queen's Square, Charlottetown
President—CHARLES PALMER, Esquire.
Cashier—JAMES ANDERSON, Esquire.
Discount Days—Wednesdays & Saturdays.
Hours of Business—From 10 a.m to 1 p m., from 2 p.m to 4 p m.

SUMMERSIDE BANK.
Central Street, Summerside, P. E. Island.
President—Hon. JOHN R. GARDINER.
Cashier—E. L. LYDIARD, Esquire
Discount Days—Tuesdays and Fridays.
Notes for Discount must be in before 11 o'clock on Discount days.
Hours of Business—10 a. m., to 1 p. m. from 2 p. m., to 4 p. m.

DAVID BERTRAM,
Saddle and Harness Maker,
Water Street . . . . . Summerside.
October 12, 1865.

Blanks of all kinds for Sale at Bertram's Book Store.

Business Cards.

"FOUNTAIN HOUSE,"
CENTRAL STREET.
SUMMERSIDE!

THE subscriber most respectfully returns his thanks to the public who so liberally patronized him heretofore in the "Union House," and wishes to inform them that he has again opened up, next door to his old stand, a

Boarding House & Bar.

Having plenty of yard room, and excellent and commodious STABLING, he is prepared to make all comfortable who may patronize the "FOUNTAIN HOUSE."

DAVID GRADY.
Fountain House, Summerside, Feb. 27, 1868. } tf

Temperance Hotel,
GRANAILLE STREET,
SUMMERSIDE, P. E. I.,
JAMES CROZIER, PROPRIETOR.

Permanent and Transient Boarders will find good accommodation at the above Hotel. Good stabling, and a careful Hostler always in attendance.

This Hotel will always be kept open on the nights in which the Steamer arrives and leaves, for the accommodation of travellers.
Summerside, March 12, 1868.—3m

ROCKLIN HOUSE,
Kent Street, Charlottetown,
SIMON D. FRASER, PROPRIETOR.

Permanent and Transient Boarders will find the above House to give satisfaction.
Ch'town, June 13, 1867.

Commercial Hotel,
NEW ARRANGEMENT!
COACH FARE PAID!

IN FUTURE the COACH FARE of all travellers from the Railway Station and Steamboat Landings in this City to the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, King Street, who make their stay one day or upward, WILL BE PAID by the Proprietor.

FARE AT THE HOTEL:

TRANSIENT.
One Day, - - - - - - - - - $1 00
One Week, - - - - - - - - 5 00

PERMANENT.
Per Week, - - - - - - $3 25 to $4 50

The HOTEL is situated on the best business street in the city, and nearly opposite the WAVERLY. It is handsomely fitted up and calculated to accommodate some fifty persons very comfortably.

D. P. HOWE, Proprietor.
St. John, N. B., Nov. 7, 1867 1y

Fountain House Hotel.
King Square, (North Side,)
ST. JOHN, N. B.

The Subscriber having leased the above Hotel, and refitted the same, is now prepared to accommodate Transient and Permanent Boarders, and trusts by attention to meet a share of public patronage.

Having also leased the commodious Stable attached, and secured the services of a careful Hostler, who will be in attendance at all hours, travellers will be sure to get satisfaction at lowest rates.

JAMES W. THOMSON,
Proprietor.
St. John, N. B., July 4, 1867.—1y

CRAWFORD'S HOTEL,
No. 9. King Square, St. John, N. B.
Permanent and transient Boarders accommodated on reasonable terms.

In connection with the above the subscribers have opened a

First Class Grocery Store
where they will keep constantly on hand, Flour, Corn Meal, Provisions, Tea, Sugar, Molasses, and all articles usually kept in a Grocery Store.

J. CRAWFORD & SON.
May 30, 1867.—1y

North British and Mercantile
INSURANCE COMPANY.
FIRE AND LIFE.
Established 1809.

CAPITAL: TWO MILLIONS, Sterling.
HEAD OFFICES:
EDINBURGH & LONDON.
G. W. DEBLOIS,
Agent at Charlottetown.

Forms of Application can be had by applying to Mr. J. BERTRAM, *Journal* Office, Summerside.
Charlottetown, June 20, 1867.—1y

Co-Partnership Notice.

THE Subscribers have this day entered into CO-PARTNERSHIP as BARRISTERS and ATTORNIES-AT-LAW, under the name, style and firm of

ALLEY & DAVIES
OFFICE,—O'HALLORAN'S BUILDING,
GREAT GEORGE STREET.
GEORGE ALLEY,
LOUIS H. DAVIES.
Charlottetown, Oct. 18, 1867. oct 24.

C. L. RICHARDS,
Importer and Wholesale Dealer in
British & Foreign Groceries.
1, Head North Wharf,
ST. JOHN, - - - NEW BRUNSWICK.
Dec. 6, 1867. 1y

HANFORD BROTHERS,
Successors to Thomas Hanford,
Commission Merchants
And General Agents,
11 NORTH MARKET WHARF,
ST. JOHN, N. B.,
Chas. U. Hanford. . . . . Fred. S. Hanford.
Jan. 21, 1868.

Business Cards.

DR. SHAW,
recently arrived from Old England, has taken his abode at
PILGRIM'S REST, LOT 10,
where he can be consulted at all hours.
March 5, 1868.

DR. PRICE,
Physician & Surgeon,
OFFICE—At the SUMMERSIDE DRUG STORE, next door to Bank, Central Street
SUMMERSIDE, ... P. E. ISLAND.
October 12, 1865.

KITSON CASEY, M D.,
Physician, Surgeon & Accoucheur
formerly Assistant Surgeon in the U. S. Navy, offers his professional services to the people of Summerside and vicinity. He can consulted at his office, over the Store of Green & Schurman, in Summerside.
June 13, 1867. tf

THOMAS KELLY,
Barrister - at - Law
AND
NOTARY PUBLIC, &c.
SUMMERSIDE, - - - - P. E. ISLAND.
aug. 9, 1866

WILLIAM M. HOWE,
Attorney-at-Law and Notary Public.
ST. ELEANOR'S.....P. E. ISLAND

CARD
WILLIAM BEAIRSTO,
Commission Merchant,
Auctioneer & General Agent,
WATER STREET,
Summerside, - - - - - - - - P. E. Island.

WILLIAM DODD,
Commission Merchant,
And Auctioneer,
QUEEN SQUARE,
CHARLOTTETOWN - - - P. E. ISLAND

James Greenough,
FLOUR
Commission Merchant.
No 47 Commercial Street
Corner of Clinton Street - - - - BOSTON.

J. H. ALLEN,
Commission Merchant,
And Dealer in Provisions, &c.
MARKET STREET,
St. John, N. B.

☞ Gives personal attention to the Sale and Purchase of every description of Goods.
May 9, 1867.

CARVELL BROTHERS,
AUCTIONEERS,
Commission Merchants,
And General Agents,
BANK BUILDING, QUEEN STREET.
Charlottetown, - - - - - P. E. Island

JABEZ HUDSON,
Authorized Auctioneer,
GENERAL AGENT, &c.,
TRYON, - - - - - - P. E. I.
June 27, 1867.

THOMAS FRIZZEL,
Boot and Shoe Maker,
WATER STREET,
opposite Green & Schurman's Store.

Boots and Shoes of a superior quality constantly on hand, and for sale cheap.
Summerside, June 6, 1867. 1y

Boot & Shoe Factory!

THE subscriber begs leave to direct the attention of the public to his
BOOT & SHOE SHOP,
AT
NEW GLASGOW BRIDGE,
where he is prepared to do all descriptions of work in his line, at the shortest notice, and guarantees good material and "perfect fits." No slop-work performed here.

Men and women's Boots and Shoes kept constantly on hand, and sold cheap for cash or approved credit.

Just step in and leave your measure.
JAMES D. HOUSTON.
New Glasgow Bridge, Feb. 27, 1868.

Barber Shop!

THE subscriber respectfully announces to the people of Summerside, and the public in general, that he has opened a
BARBER SHOP!
on St. Stephen Street, in the house adjoining Messrs. O'Neill & Son's Store, where he is prepared to do all work appertaining to his profession. Best assortment of
Hair Oils, Hair Restorers, Tooth Powders, Dyes, &c.,
always on hand on the most reasonable terms.
☞ RAZORS carefully put in order.
CHAS. OTTO WINKLER.
Summerside, Jan 30, 1868.

WILLIAM W. WELLNER,
Watchmaker and Jeweller.
[SUCCESSOR TO A. PURCHASE]

WATCHES and CLOCKS of all kinds carefully repaired, cleaned and regulated. JEWELRY of all kinds neatly and strongly repaired.

CONSTANTLY ON HAND:
a supply of WATCHES, GOLD and PLATED JEWELRY, which will be sold reasonably.

N. B.—Trade conducted on the no credit system.

☞ Shop lately occupied by A. Purchase, opposite Hon. P. Walker's, Great George Street.
Charlottetown, Feb. 5, 1868. 1m [f13

POETRY.

IMAGINARY EVILS.

LET to-morrow take care of to morrow;
Leave things of the future to fate;
What's the use to anticipate sorrow?
Life's troubles come never too late!
If to hope over much be an error,
'Tis one that the wise have preferred;
And how often have hearts been in terror
Over evils that never occurred.

Have faith, and thy faith shall sustain thee;
Permit not suspicion and care
With invisible bonds to enchain thee,
But bear what God gives thee to bear.
By this spirit supported and gladdened,
Be ne'er by forebodings deferr'd;
But think how hearts have been sadden'd
By things that never occurred.

Let to-morrow take care of to-morrow;
Short and dark as our life may appear,
We may make it still darker by sorrow,—
Still shorter by sorrow and fear!
Half our troubles are half our invention,
And often from blessings conferred
Have we shrunk in the wild apprehension
Of evils that never occurred!

Select Literature.

ALICE EVANS.
OR, THE MISER'S BEQUEST.

Concluded.

Time passed, and everything went on as usual. The rent was punctually paid. Alice went one morning to carry the quarterly payment to Closefist, and found him looking very pale and haggard.

"You are not well," said she.

"No," replied he, "I have been ailing some time."

"Can I do anything for you, sir? Shall I call a doctor?"

"A doctor? no, child, that would cost a dollar," said the miser.

Just then he was seized with a violent pain. Alice quickened the fire, and ran home to get something for his relief. She soon came back with hot tea and bread; she toasted the bread, and made him as comfortable as possible.

"I'll come in to-night, and see how you are," said she.

"Thank you!"

The word came hard, as if he was not in the habit of using it.

Alice went that night, and every night after till the old man was considerably better; she felt she had but done her duty, and thought of no reward.

Three years passed, and Alice was a young lady, with a face fair to look upon, and manners of equal grace. During the three years her mother's health had been gradually failing, and required much of her time and attention. She supported her mother and herself by doing the washing that her mother formerly had done. She had heard regularly from Robert Grey, and he had visited her once.

One morning Mrs. Evans was quite feeble, and in spite of Alice's efforts she grew rapidly worse. In a few days Alice was obliged to summon a physician. He told them that with strict attention and careful nursing she might recover; and after an illness of some weeks she was able to sit up.

Alice's means had grown very slender in consequence of the expenses attendant upon her mother's sickness, and she found that she had not the money to meet the quarterly payment to Closefist. She thought, as they had always been so punctual, that he would excuse them for once, and hoped in a few days to have the required sum. Before she could obtain it the miser called and demanded his due. Alice explained to him the cause of her delay, and begged for a few days. With much grumbling he consented to give them a week longer. Before the time had expired Mrs. Evans' disease took an alarming form, and Alice was motherless.

On the day appointed, Closefist made his appearance and asked for the rent. He had not heard of Alice's bereavement.

"O sir," said Alice, "I wish it was in my power to pay you; but you must know how I am now situated."

"Do you mean to say that you cannot pay me to-day?" said he, gruffly.

"I cannot, sir."

"Why not?"

"Oh, do you not know why? O my mother! my mother! What will your child do without you!" burst from the poor girl's lips.

"What is it about your mother?" asked Closefist, in a softer tone.

Alice told him of her great sorrow, and asked him to go into the room where lay all that remained of her tender mother.

Closefist gazed at the rigid face, and after some time he started suddenly and said,—

"Miss Evans, what was your mother's name before she was married?"

"Eliza Clarke," answered Alice.

"Where was she born, child?"

"In L——," was the answer.

A close observer might have detected signs of strong emotion in the questioner's face, but Alice was too deeply absorbed in grief to notice it. Closefist turned away and said, huskily,—

"No matter about the rent, I can wait."

"Thank you; I will do my best to repay you for your kindnes," replied Alice.

Among those who attended the funeral of Mrs. Evans was the miser. People wondered to see him there, and marvelled that he was so much affected, but did not inquire the cause. The feeling displayed would have been explained to them had they heard these words, spoken to himself in his lonely hut that night:—

"Eliza Clarke! my own dear sister! God forgive me!"

While Alice Evans sat thinking the door opened softly, and a manly form stood beside her.

"O Robert, you are so kind!" sobbed the young girl.

Robert gently raised her head and said—

"Alice, you must not weep; do not, I pray you."

"But I miss *her* so," she answered.

"Alice, if you will but accept it, you shall have all the comfort I can give. Will you accept my deep sympathy and deeper love?"

"Robert, an hour ago I did not think I could ever be happy again. If you will take me, grief-stricken as I am, I will be yours."

"I will, my darling; and God grant that I may be tender and true to my precious treasure."

Hearing of Alice's approaching marriage, a lady for whom Mrs. Evans had sewed, sent Alice a note containing her good wishes and twenty dollars, which she urged her to accept. Soon after Alice called upon Closefist, to pay him the rent due, and inform him that she would give up the tenement. To her surprise the miser refused to take the money, and asked her, in a kinder tone than was his wont, what were her plans for the future. Blushingly, Alice told him, and begged that he would take his just due. He could not be prevailed upon, giving as a reason that she had met with great trouble and that he had not forgotten her kindness to him when he was ill. Alice thanked him, and took her departure.

Very quietly she took upon herself the marriage vows, and Robert Grey carried her to his distant home with a proud heart. He had succeeded well, and had risen to a place of importance in the house which he entered but a few years before.

About two years after their marriage, talking of things past and gone, Robert asked his wife what became of the old miser whose shoes she picked up in the alley one afternoon. Alice related to him all she knew, not omitting his last act, and expressed her wonder at his sudden kindness.

"But did you not hear the bell ring?"

He went to the door, and returned with a letter directed to "Mrs. Robert Grey," in a cramped hand. On opening it Alice read the following words:—

"You will doubtless be surprised at the contents of this letter. Before it meets your gaze the hand that writes it will be cold in death. You remember 'Miser Closefist,' as the people called him? Do not shrink when he tells you that he is your own uncle—your mother's brother. It may be that you will shrink less and pity more when I tell you the cause of his blighted life.

"I, Benjamin Clarke, was once as light-hearted a child as you was when you picked up the old slipper in the alley five years ago. I rose to manhood; they said I gave promise of a happy, a prosperous future. I loved, as faithfully and devotedly as your husband loves you. The object of my love deceived me, and married one unworthy of her. Smarting under this bitter disappointment I left the place in search of happiness, and after an absence of many years I returned to find my father and mother dead, and my only sister married, to whom I could not ascertain, nor could anyone tell me of her whereabouts.

"What wonder that I grew hardened and the wretch you found me? I became at once a crabbed, avaricious man. With my years grew my passion for gain, and thus it was that I received the appellation of Closefist, which I justly merited,

"When I saw your dead mother, something about her face struck me as being familiar, a childish repose I had never noticed, that reminded me forcibly of the playmate of my boyhood. You remember I asked you her name, and by so doing realized that it was my own sister who lay before me. I left your home resolved to become a different man, and have tried to be so, and I pray earnestly that God may pardon my past wickedness, and permit me to meet your angel mother in the land to which I shall soon go,

Several times I felt tempted to disclose myself to you, but I did not wish to burden your happy life. I feel that death draws nigh. I do not fear to go, and praise the Giver of all good that he has allowed me to remain long enough to make a slight reparation for past wrong. This letter will be sent you after my death, with my will, by which you will become the possessor of twenty thousand dollars. I beg you to accept it with blessings for your gentleness and kind acts which cannot be forgotten by me. And whenever you think of me may it not be with shrinking and detestation of my wayward life, but with charity. Your uncle,

BENJAMIN CLARKE."

Alice's eyes filled with tears as she passed the letter to her husband for perusal.

"Poor old man," was Robert's comment "I would that we could have cheered your lonely lot. Alice, my love, your kindness has met its full reward. I can hardly realize this good fortune."

We will drop the curtain on this scene, and take a parting look ten years from the event last described.

In a beautiful cemetery, where the birds sing all day and the sun ever falls with a calm radiance, walks a lady and three children. They stop before a handsome monument, and strew flowers upon the grave. We will read the inscription, "*Uncle Benjamin.*"

The mother bends reverently over the grave, and places there her offering. The children look towards her with loving eyes. Often you may find the group there, with their innocent offerings to him whose "earthly lot was pain and anguish."

MASONRY.

THE entered apprentice is the first degree in Masonry, and though it supplies no historical knowledge, it is replete with information on the internal structure of the Order. It is remarkable, too, for the beauty of the morality which it inculcates. As an entered apprentice, a lesson of humility and contempt of worldly riches and earthly grandeur, is impressed upon the mind by symbolic ceremonies, too important in their character ever to be forgotten. The beauty and holiness of charity are depicted in emblematic modes, stronger and more lasting than mere language can express, and the neophyte is directed to lay a corner stone of virtue and purity, upon which he is charged to erect a superstructure, alike honorable to himself, and to the fraternity of which he is hereafter to compose a part.

This degree is considered "the weakest part of masonry," and hence, although an entered apprentice is allowed to sit in a Lodge of his degree, he is not permitted to speak or vote on the proceedings.

When a candidate is initiated into this degree, he is technically said to be "entered," that is, he has been permitted to enter the ground-floor of the temple, for a reason well known to masons.

APRON.—The lambskin or white leather apron is the badge of a Mason, and the first gift bestowed by the Master upon the newly initiated Apprentice. The apron is worn by operative masons, to preserve their garments from spot or stain. But we, as speculative masons, use it for a more noble purpose. By the whiteness of its color, and the innocence of the animal from which it is obtained, we are admonished to preserve that blameless purity of life and conduct which will alone enable us hereafter to present ourselves before the Grand Master of the Universe, unstained with sin and unsullied with vice.

Investiture constituted an important part of the Ancient Mysteries; and as the white apron is the investiture of masonry, we find something resembling it in all the pagan rites. The Essenians clothed their candidate with a white robe, reaching to the ground, and bordered with a fringe of blue riband, as an emblem of holiness. In the mysteries of Greece the garment of initiation was also white, because, says Cicero, white is a color most acceptable to the gods. This robe was considered sacred, and never taken off by the possessor until worn to rags. In Persia, in the mysteries of Mithras, the robes of investiture were the Girdle, on which were depicted the signs of the Zodiac; the Tiara; the White Apron; and the Purple Tunic. In the mysteries of Hindostan, the aspirant was presented with a consecrated Sash, consisting of a cord of *nine* threads, which was worn from the left shoulder to the right side. An apron, composed of the three masonic colours—blue, purple and scarlet—was worn by the Jewish priesthood; and the prophets, on all occasions, when about to perform any solemn duty, invested themselves with a girdle or apron. Lastly, all the ancient statues of the heathen gods, which have been discovered in Greece, Asia, or America, are decorated with superb aprons. We hence deduce the antiquity and honour of this important part of a Freemason's vestments, and substantiate the correctness of our claim, that it is "more ancient than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle, and more honorable than the Star and Garter."

The masonic apron is a pure white lambskin, from fourteen to sixteen inches wide, and from twelve to fourteen deep, with a fall about three to four inches deep; square at the bottom, without ornament, and bound in the symbolic degrees with blue, and in the Royal Arch with scarlet. In this country the construction of the apron is the same in each of the symbolic degrees, which are only distinguished by the mode in which the apron is worn. But in England and Scotland the apron varies in each of the degrees.*

The E.·. A.·. has a plain apron without ornament.

The F.·. C.·. has an addition of two sky blue rosetts at the bottom.

The M.·. M.·. has an additional rosette on the fall, and has sky blue lining and edging, and silver tassels.

W.·. Masters and Past Masters, in lieu of rasettes, wear perpendicular lines on horizontal ones, like a ⌊, reversed, forming three sets of two right angles.

ARK.—The ark of the Covenant or of the Testimony was a chest originally constructed by Moses, at God's command (Exod. xxv. 16), in which were kept the two tables of stone, on which were engraved the ten commandments. It contained, likewise a golden pot, filled with manna, Aaron's rod, and the tables of the covenant. It was at first deposited in the most sacred place of the tabernacle, and afterwards placed by Solomon in the Sanctum Sanctorum of the Temple, and was lost upon the destruction of that building by the Chaldeans. The masonic traditions on the subject of its future history are exceedingly interesting to Royal Arch Masons.

The ark was made of shittim wood, overlaid within and without with pure gold. It was about three feet nine inches long, two feet three inches wide, and of the same extent in depth. It had on the side two rings of gold, through which were placed staves of shittim wood, by which, when necessary, it was borne by the Levites. Its covering was of pure gold, over which were placed two figures called Cherubim, with expanded wings. The covering of the ark was called *kaphoret*, from *kaphar*, to forgive sin, and hence its English name of "mercy-seat," as being the place where the intercession for sin was made.—*Home Circle.*

*A similar system is adopted in Germany.

A HOUSE ENTERED BY AN ARMY OF RATS. —*Two children attacked and severely bitten.*—A couple of nights ago, a small army of rats, seemingly met together by consert, created no small sensation in the house of a poor woman on Elizabeth street, by a very singular proceeding. The woman was lying in bed asleep with her two little ones, when she was aroused by the screams of the children. On awaking she was horrified to find the bed fairly covered with rats, while the floor of the room was almost black with them. Her children at her side were screaming wildly, not alone through terror, but through pain also, for the vermin had seized them by the nose, ears and cheeks, and were rapidly settling themselves down on every part of their faces. Of course, with a mother's instinct, the woman immediately rescued her little ones, while the rats scampered off in all directions and quickly disappeared. The faces of the children were cut and bleeding in several places, and the wounds on the nose of one of them were considered so serious that Dr. Lawlor was called in, and in his hands the little ones have been well cared for and are now doing well. It is supposed that the invasion was caused by the heavy rains that prevailed at the time, which, flooding the drains and other places in which the rats make their homes, drove them out and forced them to seek food and shelter elsewhere. Had the children been alone they would certainly have been eaten alive, as the rats were around them in hundreds and would shortly have attacked their throats, when death would have resulted in a very few minutes.—*Ontario Paper.*

Washington has a population of 100,000, of whom 75,000 are whites.