

you must remember, Mr. Hand, that your nervous system, from the unaccustomed alcohol and the late hours and the forbidding surroundings of your situation, had grown very much disordered. As for Monsieur Remolot, he was suffering from delirium tremens, and on the night of his death he evidently went out somewhere and

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buried the embalmed head. On his return he had a fit and died. The circumstances look strange, certainly; if we seek to find something strange in them; but if we study them from the standpoint of common sense, they are explainable and prosaic enough."

Nevertheless, Mr. Hand still holds to his own theory.

THE "WESTERN SHORE" OF MARYLAND.

By F. B. MAYER.

FROM the Patapsco to the Potomac extends a region comparatively unknown to the traveler or to our citizens, and yet replete with beauty, fertility and historic interest. A glance at the map would imply that both shores of the Chesapeake presented a similar topography; but beyond the fact of the innumerable indentations which this great bay makes in the land of either shore, such is not the case. While the greater portion of the peninsula included between the Atlantic and the Chesapeake rises but a few feet above the level of the ocean, the western shore of the bay is marked by an ascent more or less abrupt, and the waves are repelled by bluffs which often attain an elevation of 150 feet above tide. The narrowest part of the bay, which is between Annapolis and the "Isle of Kent," is seven miles across, and this noble sheet of water expands to over twenty miles within the boundaries of Maryland. It is easy to imagine the extent of view commanded by the many elevations which overlook the Chesapeake from the west, which, combined with a bold and undulating foreground dressed with a vigorous foliage, gives a landscape of exceptional charm.

We have mentioned Kent Island, or, as in early records, called the "Isle of Kent." It limits the view we present from Hunter's Point, a bluff overlooking Annapolis, and at the junction of the Severn River with Annapolis Roads. Before Leonard Calvert landed with the colonists of 1634 at St. Maries, on the Potomac, a trading-house had been built there by Claiborne, and it therefore may claim precedence as the first settlement by Englishmen in Maryland. Our view commands another historic spot. What is now called Horn Point, an annex of Annapolis, was in 1655 the scene of a bitter battle between the Cavaliers of St. Maries and the Puritans of Providence, as they called their town. It appears that the troubles of England were transplanted to her colonies, and the cry of "Down! for ever down with the mitre and the crown!" was echoed from the Western Shore, and hate and prejudice overthrew for the time the generous government of the Calverts.

Driven from Virginia, where they had made themselves obnoxious to the Government, these Puritans had accepted the hospitality of Maryland, and while they claimed the rights of her citizens, refused to perform the duties they involved, and set about to overthrow the authority which had given them shelter, lands and protection. To the cry of "Hey for St. Maries!" from the Cavaliers, the Roundheads opposed, "In the name of God, fall on!" and with the assistance of an armed "ship of great burden," the *Golden Lyon*, the men at St. Maries were defeated and made prisoners. "In the name of God," and disregarding the rights of war or the "quality of mercy," they proceeded in cold blood to shoot their prisoners, and had already murdered several when the supplication of their wives and the refusal of some of their soldiers to act so cowardly a part saved the remnant. For a time the "Land of the Sanctuary" was a prey to fanatical anarchy, until the restoration of the Stuarts re-

stored the authority of the Lord Proprietary. There are letters of this time, written to friends at "home" in Old England, of touching interest, as coming from women of the colony; and introducing us to the trials of many gentlefolk in the face of offensive vulgarity and injustice. Incidentally, the Puritans are said "not to be contented with freedoms for themselves of conscience, person and estate (all of which are established to them by law there, and enjoyed by them in as ample manner as ever any people did in any place in the world), unless they may have the liberty to debarr others from the like freedoms, and that they may domineere and doe what they please."

The domes and spires of Annapolis, rising above the trees which almost conceal the city, might be thought sufficiently numerous to point heavenward a much larger population, and to realize the dream of its founders as the commercial as well as political capital of the State. About forty years after the battle of Horn Point, the Government came here from St. Maries on the Potomac, an equally beautiful site, but with the growth of the colony found to be too remote from the increasing population which followed the great bay toward its head.

The great fire in London, which came after the plague of 1665, offered to the genius of Wren an opportunity to rebuild that city on a plan which was to unite beauty, grandeur and convenience; but the brains of the London tradesmen were too narrow to grasp his idea, or to foresee the great advantages, and so, with penny-wise but pound-foolish policy, they rebuilt the narrow lanes and alleys of the "city," and rejected the work of the great artist's generous heart. It seems not improbable, however, that the gentlemen of His Majesty's Government and the representatives of my Lord Baltimore had seen in London Sir Christopher's design, and, in a humble way, tried to imitate it when they laid off the "City of Anne" as the seat of Government of this Province of Maryland. It was intended that, radiating from the "Stadt House" or State House, as a central sun of wisdom, it may be, the streets extended to the water, for the city is nearly an island. Other circles and squares were formed, and in their irregular intersection gave a picturesque variety which relieved the eye of the endless and tiresome monotony of our American checker-board system. To recall "home" or old England, seems never to have been lost sight of by the colonists, and thus there were "Bloomsbury Square," "Conduit," "Fleet" and "Cornhill" Streets, and we still have the "Duke of Gloucester," "Hanover," "King George" and "Prince George" to recall loyalty; while a trace of the Puritan remains in "Tabernacle" Street. The radiating plan, with the water-view as a terminus of each street, was well conceived, and the general idea showed that a mind of intelligence and taste had suggested it. The design of the State House, attributed to Wren or to one of his able pupils, seems to tally with our guess.

After two hundred years the plans of Wren are being in a measure adopted in London. The first Napoleon,

and lately Baron Hansseman, have built a new Paris on the radiating plan, and L'Enfant and Ellicott developed the idea now being magnificently realized in our national capital; but it was the little city on the Chesapeake which, in point of time, led the van.

Pictures of the past are not linked with many of our cities, but Annapolis, like Boston, Newport and St. Augustine, suggests that another life than that of to-day once existed among us. In the halcyon days of the colonies, when tobacco returned a handsome profit, fashion, wit and learning found a centre here. The wealthy planters built substantial and embellished mansions framed in verdure, and with grounds terraced to the water, where their barges and boats, manned by liveried servants, were ready for ceremonial visits or exciting sport; for the bay teemed with fish and fowl, and the English love of sport was an innate inheritance. The presence of official authority, the sharp definition of rank, and the existence of negro slavery, gave an aristocratic tone to society, and class distinction was as tyrannical and exact as in England, but the enjoyments of existence united all in a common aim—

"Calvert and Charity, Courage and Courtesy,
Mirth-loving Maryland! Land of the Sanctuary!"

In those days pleasure was not taken as a prescription, and the enjoyment of a social glass needed no apology as an offense against temperance. Stores of good liquors were in every cellar, and when unabused left no repentant pang; nor was the dissipation of the drug-store considered a substitute for the tavern-bar. The King's health and your friend's was drunk unreservedly, and His Majesty's birthday, the Lord Proprietary's and St. Tam-

many's or Mayday were right royally celebrated. Not one, but many May-poles lined the streets, and gardens were stripped to deck them. Youths in Indian guise danced the war-dance in the honor of the only American saint, and collected alms for the poor. At the "Tuesday Club" were gathered the wits and classical scholars, who mixed their punch with Latin quotations, and conducted themselves with a mook state and ceremony, all of which was duly recorded and illustrated. We see so early the germ of the illustrating era we now enjoy. Our archi-



READING THE "MARYLAND GAZETTE" AT THE WASHINGTON WINDOW, ANNAPOLIS.

itects, after a century of experiment, have concluded that our colonial builders have already solved the problem of a style suitable to our climate and habits, and the mansions of Maryland, though too spacious, perhaps, for our modern life, yet present, in point of taste, honesty and solidity, the best examples of the so-called Queen Anne style. Properly speaking they belong to the time of the Georges of England, and have far more dignity and symmetry than the "carpenter's classic" of Queen Anne.

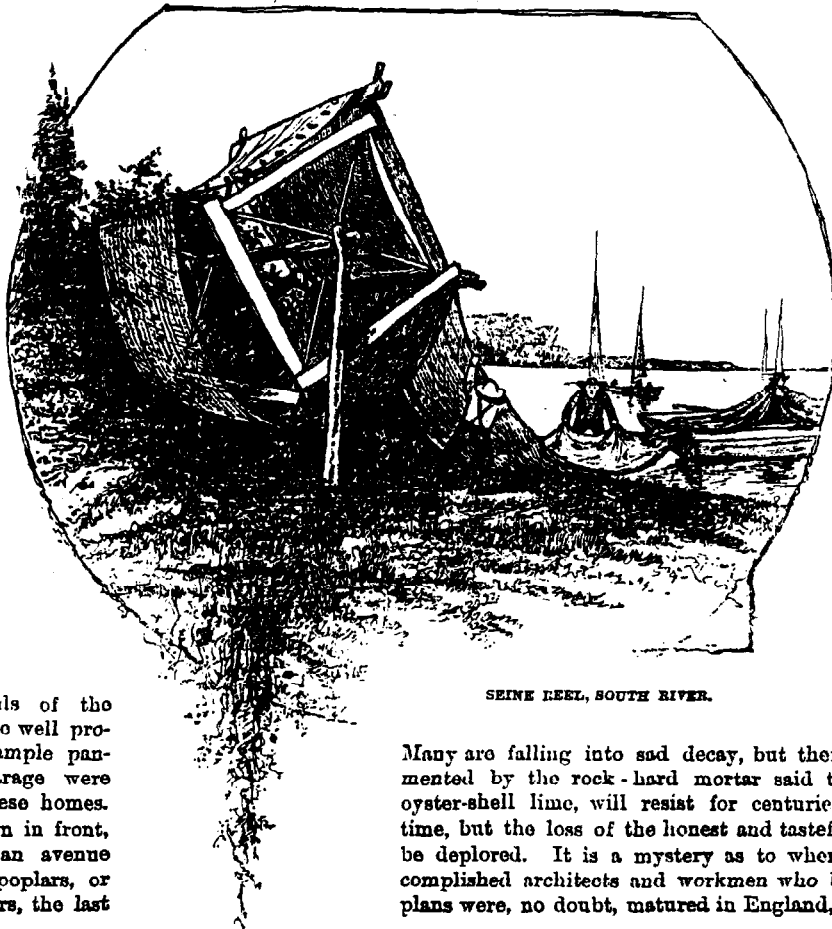
In tide-water Maryland and Virginia they were almost always of

brick and very solid, the foundation walls often three to four feet in thickness, and above offering ample room for window-seats. It would appear strange that in a region abounding in the best of brick-clays that these buildings are reputed to be of English brick; but easily explained by the fact that ballast was needed for ships which brought light but valuable cargoes but returned laden with tobacco hogsheds. These houses vary little in their general plan; a large main building with wings united to the central house by lower corridors or halls. The main house seldom presented any porch or veranda as an entrance, but, true to English habit, imitated the style of old England, where the climate scarcely demands



THE JENNINGS HOUSE.

what, with us, has become a characteristic necessity in our architecture. A spacious hall and very easy stairways occupied the centre, and one room of extraordinary size, adapted to entertainment, was always present; the store-rooms, kitchen and servants' room filled one wing, and the other generally embraced a library, or office, and a conservatory. The needs of the housekeeper were well provided for, and ample pantries and cellarage were found in all these homes. There was a lawn in front, approached by an avenue of elms, tulip poplars, or Lombardy poplars, the last



SEINE REEL, SOUTH RIVER.

a conspicuous landmark to indicate a planter's home. A terraced garden was at the back of the house, and, as in the case of Belle Air, in Prince George's Co., a park for deer surrounded the whole homestead.

The Western Shore is dotted over with these old mansions, which we will describe as we conduct the reader through this beautiful country.

Many are falling into sad decay, but their solid walls, cemented by the rock-hard mortar said to be made from oyster-shell lime, will resist for centuries the attacks of time, but the loss of the honest and tasteful carpentry is to be deplored. It is a mystery as to whence came the accomplished architects and workmen who built them. The plans were, no doubt, matured in England, and much of the

carved work, no doubt, sent over thence. To return to Annapolis: we find carvings of mantels and cornices which recall Hampton Court and Grindling Gibbons, and there are quaint exterior cornices done in lead in the Italian style. These were town-houses, and some ten or twelve yet remain, many of their companions having fallen a prey to fire, the destroyer of most of our old homes in rural districts. It would be well for our young architects to secure memoranda of the details of these classic remains.

From the period of the "Old French War," down to our day, the name of Annapolis recurs as associated with the military and naval movements, and during the Revolution as the centre of active and energetic measures in the cause of Independence. Here, in 1765, General Braddock, Commodore Keppell and the Governors of Pennsylvania, Virginia, New York and Massachusetts were the guests of the Governor of Maryland and formed a Council of War previous to the disastrous campaign against Fort Du Quesne; the burning of the *Peggy Stewart* with her cargo of tea in open day, and the refusal to permit the landing of any of the hated stamped paper; the meeting here of De Kalb, Lafayette and Washington, and the crowning act of patriotism when the latter resigned his military power to assume the position of a simple citizen, are but a few of the many incidents of great historic import which belong to the local history of the town.

As the birthplace or residence of many distinguished men, Annapolis is notably rich—Charles Carroll, Samuel Chase, the father of American art; Charles Wilson Peale, the Pinkneys, great as lawyers, statesmen and divines; Dr. Godman, the naturalist; Reverdy Johnson, Attorney-general and Minister to England, and that inimitable actor, Stuart Robson, are among the many we could name. True to his native shore, Reverdy Johnson, it is said, while Minister to England, greatly smoothed the difficulties of diplomacy by judicious presents of Maryland terrapins, and the gastronomic instincts of the State find an honorable recognition on the very doors of the Governor's mansion, where the crab, the terrapin and the canvas-back are conspicuously carved in convenient proximity to the corn and tobacco. The injunctions of the State mottoes to "Increase and Multiply," and live by "Manly deeds and womanly words," are eminently descriptive of the Marylander. Hospitality and good cheer, courage and courtesy, have always characterized this people, and in the annals of the nation their distinction as lawyers and naval commanders has been peculiarly marked. More Marylanders have sat as Judges of the Supreme Court, or held the place of Attorney-general, than any other State, and her sailors have carried the "Star Spangled Banner" into every sea with victory.

Between Kent Island and Annapolis lies "Annapolis Roads," a magnificent land-locked expansion of the bay, into which empty the picturesque creeks which render the city almost an island. The Severn may be regarded rather as a branch of the bay. It bounds the city on the side of the Naval Academy, and extends for nine miles from its mouth with an average width of half a mile, and a depth of from 19 to 41 feet. Six miles above the city it becomes a lake or inland bay of three miles diameter, of an irregularly circular form, hence called "Round Bay," or "Eagle-nest" Bay. The Island of St. Helena is toward the southern end; opposite, the north bank rises to an elevation of 155 feet in a conical elevation unaccountably called "Mount Misery"; though why so beautiful a spot should be associated with misfortune no one

can tell. From its top, where a signal station and camp were placed during the Civil War, a wide view is presented of the rolling country around, dotted with similar eminences and the uplands sloping to the sandy beaches of the quiet bay.

The scenery of the Severn has been compared to the Hudson in miniature, but it more resembles its English namesake; holding the same relation to Annapolis that the other does to the port of Bristol. A succession of headlands and reaches of pointed lowland present a delightful variety of profiles and constantly shifting planes of distance as the steamer follows the meandering channel. Above Round Bay the river narrows, though, if anything, with an increase of picturesque interest, and the voyage terminates at the three islands which are opposite "Indian Landing." These waters and shores attract the sportsman by their wealth of fish and game, and the hills around produce abundance of fruit and vegetables, and are admirably adapted to the vine. The finest sand for glass-making is found here, and the whole soil is impregnated with iron which, in the form of layers of ore, crops out here and there from the red banks.

In regard to type of scenery and the mingled beauty of hillside and wide water, the Severn may serve as a description of most of the rivers, creeks and small bays of this portion of the western shore. Cartis' Bay near Baltimore, the Magothy River or Bay, which at its head nearly approaches Mount Misery; South River, Rhode River and West River, all present the same characteristics, but distinctly varied. South River, the next important inlet south of Annapolis Roads, is a grand sheet of water, wider than the Severn, and piercing a lovely land suggesting agricultural prosperity and happy homesteads. Rhode River is a small bay dotted with islands, and the view from an eminence overlooking it, where we find one of the old colonial homes, is entrancingly beautiful, especially toward sunset or after, when, with the reflected light from the west, every tone of color acquires its richest value, and the sky above receives the warmth and glory of the setting sun, repeated as in a mirror by the broad Chesapeake, and the islands beneath defined in an inverted reflection of their forms.* The old house is the "Java," the home of the Contees, and so named as a reminder of the part its owner bore as a naval commander in the famous action of the *Constitution* and *Java* in the War of 1812. The house, built in colonial days, is hipped-roofed, wainscoted, and has the usual wings for offices and the more remote quarters for the servants or field hands. From the lawn the view we describe is a constant delight to the eye. It is now the property of I. V. Lemoine, Esq., of Chicago, who finds in its quiet and beauty an antidote to the reckless vigor of the Western metropolis.

The mention of "West River" to the Marylanders is to recall fertile fields, rich woods, a rolling upland, and a society distinguished for its refinement, hospitality and antecedents. The Catholic origin of Maryland has led many to forget the important part which the Society of Friends played in her early history, and that both on the Eastern and Western Shores the disciples of George Fox exceeded in numbers those of any settlement of Quakers prior to the arrival of William Penn in Pennsylvania.

As early as 1657 they appeared in the colony, and from 1672 until 1735 the Yearly Meeting of West River alternated with that of Third Haven (or Tredavon), on the Eastern Shore, preceding by ten years the arrival of

* The artist remarks the peculiar tone of the atmosphere on the Chesapeake as recalling the Adriatic in its Venetian harmony and softness.