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Published Monthly

By the Students of Rutgers Preparatory School

New Brunswick, N. J.

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Et

KE ARGO

VoL. XV.

New Brunswick, N, J., Nov.

» 1903. No. 2

The Argo.

Prdlished Monthly During the School Year, by the

RUTGERS PREPARATORY SCHOOL.

Entered in the Post Office as Second Class Matter.

Printed by The Times Publishing Company.

<>

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t News.

Subscription price, per year, 75 cents

All communications shouid be addressed to the Editor-in-

Chief, R.C. P.S., New Brunswick, N. J., and must be

acoumpanted with the nanie of the author,

’ Correspondents will confer a great favor by writing on

one side of the paper only,

Officers of the school, students, and alumni are most

cordially invited to contribute,

TO THE ALUMNI.

In looking over our list of subscribers we

noticed that very, very few of the alumni have

sent in their subscriptions to The Argo. This

should not be so. Although you have left your

Alma Mater and are

“ Safe now in the wide, wide world,”

nevertheless the school has a claim on you

which you cannot rightfully forget. You may

say “ Nonsense.” But the lessons of. faithful-

ness and uprighteousness which are taught in

school have a value which is greater than the

tuition fees could secure. ;

Each and every alumnus should take an in-

terest in the school’s life. The way in which

you can be brought in touch with your former

classmates and the school is by reading The

Argo. Although we fully realize that The

Argo is very far from perfection, yet it can be

greatly improved if each alumnus will take to

heart the fact that it is his duty to support the

school paper. By support we mean the pay-

ment of your subscription, which amounts to

only seventy-five cents a year, and the con-

tributing to the Alumniana news and also to

the other departments of The Argo.

If you wish to contribute, but do not desire

your name to be known, it will not be pub-

lished. The name is desired simply as an evi-

dence of authenticity.

When at the first of the year we took up the

management of The Argo we were advised to

make the paper as interesting as possible for

the alumni. This has been and will continue

to be our endeavor. But it is not possible to

make it interesting for the alumni unless they

help us to make it so. We wish to have at least

thirty alumni notes a month. If you have any

suggestions to make concerning The Argo and

the school we would be glad to receive them.

And though we may not agree with the sen-

timents expressed, yet we will be thankful for

the interest manifested.

We bring this matter before you, trusting

that you will give your thoughtful considera-

tion thereto and your seventy-five cents to the

business managers,

THE TEAM.

As we go to press the news of our magnifi-

cent victory over Barnard reaches us. The

team this year is certainly making a name for

tr

the school. Four victories in order (and not

once scored on) is a record to be proud of.

We hope the team will be as successful in the

remaining games as during the first part of

the season. In next month’s issue we hope

to present a complete record of the team.

As examinations come at the beginning of

the month, The Argo may be delayed about

a week, but the editors will do their best and

try to haye the December issue make its ap-

pearance on or about the sixteenth.

THE R. P.

While we would not in any way condemn

the rules regarding the R. P., yet we think it

would be better and more creditable to the

players themselves if that honor could be won

in a certain game or games.

The rule which is suggested is one that is

used by a number of schools of which we

know, arid we have been told that this rule

works very well. We would also suggest that

a suitable monogram or class numerals be

awarded to those who play regularly on the

“scrub,” or play in one or more regular games

on the first team. We would be pleased to

print any opinion concerning the suggestions

printed above.

ALUMNIANA.

Alexander Robert Fordyce, Jr., ’92, was

chosen as an Assemblyman from Middlesex.

County in the recent election. Mr. Forcyce

made a remarkable run, being elected by three

hundred and twenty-two majority. This was

the second highest majority given any candi-

date in this city or county. Speaking of the

new men brought into prominence by the re-

cent election, the Home News on November

fifth thus comments editorially on Mr. For-

dyce:

“The most interesting personality is Mr.

Alexander Fordyce, of Dayton. The effects

of his campaign were felt in the city, but not

nearly so much as in the country, where his

THE ARGO.

name was on every lip. He is a young man

surely marked for advancement.”

After leaving Rutgers Prep. Mr. Fordyce

entered Princeton University, where he took a

prominent part and was very popular. When

he left Princton in 1896 Mr. Fordyce entered

the New York Law School, graduating from

that institution in ’98. Mr. Fordyce practices

law in New York City, but his home is in

Dayton, N. J.

William Nevinson Jennings, Jr., ’95, was

umpire of the Rutgers Prep. School-Poly.

Prep. game at Brooklyn on October thirty-first.

He is now in business in New York City. Mr.

Jennings was married about a year ago.

J. H. Thayer Martin, a former student in

Rutgers Prep., was elected an Assemblyman

on the Republican ticket in the recent election

in this county, having a majority of two hun-

dred and sixty-eight. After leaving Rutgers

Prep., Mr. Martin went to Harvard. Mr. Mar-

tin is a lawyer, with offices in Newark. His

home is in Woodbridge, N. J.

Frank Eckerson, ’96, visited The Trap on

Tuesday, October sixth. It was nine years ago,

to the very day, that he first set foot on The

Trap grounds. Mr. Eckerson was a Sloan

prize man, an inter-collegiate debater on two

occasions, and delivered the Master’s oration

at the Rutgers College commencement in June,

1903. He is now on his way to China, where

he intends to enter upon the work of a

missionary.

Alonzo Ranson, ’97, will complete his course

this year at the New Brunswick Theological

Seminary.

Morris M. Davidson, ’98, was in town the

last week of October. Mr. Davidson has ac-

cepted a position with a firm in upper New

York State, and it is said that in the near

future he may be made the superintendent of

this firm’s interests,

Howard Crosby Voorhees, ’98, was in town

on Election Day.

Robert Hude Neilson, ’99, was in town on

November third. Mr. Neilson is studying at

the Harvard Law School this year.

THE ARGO. 12

Joseph Labaw, ’99, made a call at The Trap

in October. Mr. Labaw graduated in 1902 from

the Michigan School of Mines, and has since

held a responsible position as mining engineer

in Utah.

S. Bradford Woodbridge, ’99, was in town

on November sixth. Mr, Woodbridge is a

member of the Class of 1904 at Princeton

University.

Lucius Porter Janeway, ex-’99, was in town

on November sixth. Mr. Janeway is a mem-

ber of the Senior Class at Princeton.

On Friday, November sixth, the New York

Evening Journal printed an excellent picture of

the Senior Class of Vassar. In the group are

Misses Claire Halstead, Marion Voorhees and

Jennie Voorhees, all members of the Class of

1900, Rutgers Prep.

Carroll, Badeau, ’or, attended the Pingry

game on October twenty-fourth.

Leslie M. Hay attended the Pingry game

on October twenty-fourth. At present Mr.

Hay is a student in the University of Pennsyl-

vania and is rowing on the Freshman eight-

oared crew.

Harold Edward Green, ’02, had his nose

broken while playing on the Rutgers College

football team against Manhattan on October

fourteenth. Mr. Green was recently elected

captain of his class eleven.

Norbury Murray, ’02, is playing a fine game

at end on the Rutgers College ’Varsity this

season.

By an oversight F. Granger Lang’s name

was not in the list of 1903 men who have en-

tered Rutgers College this Fall. He is playing

quarterback on the scrub at that institution.

John H. Bergen, ’03, recently distinguished

himself by winning the “two twenty” yard

run and by securing second place in the hun-

dred yards run in the Sophomore-Freshmen

games. He also ran on his class relay team.

Royal A. Stout, ’03, won third place in the

half-mile run in the Rutgers Inter-Class Meet.

William Harris Benedict, ’02, was second

place in the hammer throw contest at the Rut-

gers Inter-class games.

Miss Ruth A. Williamson, ’03, with her

brother, Charles, a former student in Rutgers

Prep., and her mother sailed for Germany on

Octobed twenty-second. After arriving there

they will stay a short time in Dresden, Saxony.

Miss Williamson visited the school on October

fifteenth.

Schuyler H. Rust, ex-’03, has been elected

secretary of the Class of 1904 at Willistori

Seminary. His class numbers seventy.

William Smythe, ex-’o5, was one of the Rut-

gers Prep. “ rooters” at the Poly. Prep. gamé

on October thirty-first. Mr. Smythe is attend-

ing Pratt Institute this year.

Rews,

STEVENS CANCELS GAME.

An interesting game of football was slated

to take place between the Stevens and Rutgers

Preparatory School teams at Neilson Field on

Saturday afternoon, October tenth, but the ar-

rangements for same could not be completed

on account of the severe storm just prior to

this date, which kept many of the Stevens play-

ers, who are commuters, from school and, as

the management of the Stevens team did not

think that they could collect a team, they sent

word that they would be compelled to cancel

the game.

COLUMBIA GRAMMAR CANCELS

GAME.

The football game that was to have taken

place between Rutgers Preparatory School and

the Columbia Grammar School on Saturday,

October seventeenth, was cancelled because

there was a mistake made on the part of the

Columbia Grammar School management.

They had arranged it so that two games were

to take place on the same day. The other one

being with the Morristown School. Columbia

cancelled the game with Rutgers Preparatory

School and plaved the Morristown School and

were beaten, th: score being twelve to five.

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RUTGERS PREP., 6;

PINGRY SCHOOL, o.

On Saturday afternoon, October twenty-

fourth, the Rutgers Preparatory School foot-

ball team went to Elizabeth and there defeated

the Pingry School team, 6 too. It was a clean

hard fought, and stirring contest and our men

deserve great credit for the game they “put

up” and, though slightly outweighed, yet out-

played their opponents by six points. Both

teams were rather weak in defense, but strong

in offense, the Prep. School backs, Fisher, Mil-

ler and C. Nicholas, being very effective. But

no doubt this effectiveness was brought about

in a large measure by the fine work of the line

which time and time again, when the runner

had been tackled, would drag him along for

a good gain. In fact every man on the Prep.

School team played a good game. One of the

features of the game was the punting, both

Wilson, of Pingry, and Fisher, of our own

team, getting off some good punts, but Fisher

had the better of the argument.

Captain Davis, of Pingry, having won the

toss, decided to defend the south goal and at

3.30 P. M. Verdi kicked off to Pingry and the

ball was downed on Pingry’s fifteen yard line.

Then inch by inch she advanced the ball to her

forty yard line where Rutgers Prep. braced and

Wilson punted for Pingry. But Prep. School

could not gain and was forced to punt. Then

Pingry by short rushes carried the ball to Rut-

gers Prep’s fifty yard line only to have our men

take the ball and march on the double quick to

the thirty-five yard line where Cary Nicholas

made one of his sensational hurdle plays and

then a touchdown was only fifteen yards away.

Slowly the ball was carried to the five yard

line where it was first down. But in two at-

tempts Prep. School could only advance two

yards. On the next play C. Nicholas was called

upon to carry the ball through right tackle,

but when he struck Pingry’s line it was solid

as a rock and it seemed as if he would be down-

ed with a loss. But the sight faded away, like

the bad dream that never comes true, as Nicho-

THE ARGO.

las was dragged across the line for a tochdown.

It was certainly a magnificent play. Verdi

kicked an easy goal and the score read: Rut-

gers Prep., 6; Pingry School, o.

Prep. School kicked off to Glasbrook, who

was quickly downed by Fisher’s splendid tack-

le. On several plays Pingry gained about for-

ty yards but at last was forced to kick and soon

after time was called with the ball in Rutgers

Prep’s possession in midfield.

After the ten minutes rest Verdi opened the

second period by kicking off to Pingry and the

ball was brought back about ten yards. Pingry

could not gain and was forced to kick. The

ball was then kept going up and down the field

until Miller broke through Pingry’s line and

ran forty yards for a touchdown, but the score

did not count, as an R. P. S player tripped one

of his opponents. Our team was penalized

twenty yards and as we could not make up the \_

distance Pingry secured the ball on downs.

But they were forced to punt and it was Prep.

School’s ball on her own twenty yard line. We

also could not gain so Fisher fell back to punt,

but his attempt was blocked, yet he managed to

fall on it and after two more plays the game

ended with the ball in our possession on the

twenty yard line.

The line was as follows:

Rutgers Prep. Pingry School.

Left End.

VERO 2 dats cesisicwisiewines duets aiereiaeioelne Banker

Left Tackle. \*

TIGR Si ereirtaperesioroumoarenyecsumiroasaies oe Earle

Left Guard.

CASO eae cent hee eaisewe wewinees si Gorman

Centre.

Co. COPD: soso su o:esere:s j0°arese:e'ahniereiersore Parmley

Right Guard. =

Wats : cscssc secede cian soe co8 Vanhorne

Right Tackle.

Garth waite <0:cjs esac sexs cnscwtawaes Davis

Right End

Taverner ...cc cece cece cesessceees West

Quarterback

Lang: bene sce sees aenancauss Glasbrook

—

THE ARGO. 14

Left Halfback.

Ce Nicholas: + excstavnstcvecdives bs Wilson

Right Halfback.

Miller (Woodbridge) ............ Mertains

Fullback.

Fishef,, (Gapts): s:casasseeaticsccieieen chet Miller

Summary—Score: Rutgers Prep., 6; Pin-

gry, 0. Touchdown, C. Nicholas. Goal from

touchdown, Verdi. Time of halves, twenty

minutes. Referee, Mr. Livingston, of Pingry;

umpire, Mr. Reidell, of Cornell University.

‘Vimers, Mr. Norton and Mr. Ferguson, Lines-

men, Turner, of Pingry, and S. Nicholas, of

R. P. S.

RUTGERS PREP., 17;

POLP PREP., o.

On Saturday afternoon, October thirty-first,

the Rutgers Preparatory School football team

added another victory to its list by completely

overwhelming the Brooklyn Poly Preps. to the

tune of 17-0, at Washington Park, Brooklyn.

The most hopeful Prep. School men hardly

dared to believe that their young football

giants would roll up a score exceding six

points. Many, indeed, thought that the Poly

Prep. team would win—but they did not and,

with the exception of the kicking, Rutgers

Prep. outplayed its rival in every department

of the game. Although Poly Prep. outweighed

us considerably, nevertheless the team work of

our players more than offset that deficiency.

For Rutgers Prep. Watson and Fisher aided

very largely in the victory—Watson, especial-

ly, breaking through nearly every time and

whenever the play was anywhere near him

would down the runner for a loss. Miller’s

twenty-five yard run for a touchdown was very

fine, while Fisher’s two touchdowns were bril-

liant. But our backs could not return Brook-

lyn’s fine punts and on one occasion fumbling

nearly cost us a score. The ends were also

weak in getting down the field under punts and

the manner in which Poly Prep. ran back punts

was a caution, But for all that Rutgers Prep.

won easily,

At 3.45 P. M. Poly Prep. kicked off to Verdi

who returned the ball about fifteen yards, In

two plays Rutgers Prep. gained the required

distance. But as the Brooklyn fellows braced

Fisher was forced to punt and the ball was run

back about thirty yards. Poly Prep. quickly

gained first down but Prep. School braced and

her rival was compelled to kick. After an ex-

change of punts Rutgers Prep. slowly worked

the ball to her own fifty yard line where Wat-

son went through Brooklyn’s left wing in cy-

clonic fashion and ran fifty-five yards before

being downed. It was a great run and aided

materially in securing our first score. On the

next two plays Prep. School lost two yards and

it looked as if Poly Prep. would secure the ball

on downs. But on the next play Fisher went

around right end in magnificent style and scor-

ed Rutgers Prep. School’s first touchdown, af-

ter five minutes of play. Verdi kicked a rather

easy goal. Score: Rutgers Prep., 6; Poly

Prep., 0.

Verdi then kicked off to Poly Prep. and the

ball was brought back about twenty yards.

Poly Prep. then slowly advanced the ball to her

forty-five yard line and there was forced to

kick. But Rutgers Prep. was soon compelled

to punt and Brooklyn ran back the kick thirty

yards. Then by a sensational run Poly Prep.

brought the ball to Rutgers Prep’s four yard

line. But Prep. School took a glorious brace

and secured the ball on downs on her own fif-

teen yard line. Then one of the most sensa-

tional plays of the game took place. Fisher

with scarcely any interference raced around

Brooklyn’s left end ninety-five yards for a

touchdown. The way in which he dodged the

Brooklyn players was beautiful. Verdi kicked

an easy goal. Score: Rutgers Prep., 12; Poly

Prep., 0.

On the kickoff the ball was brought back

about twenty yards and Rutgers Prep. began

to gain but at last was forced to punt. As the

defence of the Prep. School team was like a

wall Poly Prep. had to kick. A long dispute

followed over an offside play and at length the

ball was put in play on our fifty yard line, but

after a couple of plays time was called with

THE ARGO.

15

the score reading: Rutgers Prep. 12; Poly

Prep., 0.

On the kickoff, at the beginning

ond half, the ball was carried back

But as neither side could gain each

At length Prep. School

began to gain and inch by inch the ball was

carried toward the goal until Poly Prep. braced

and made it appear as if the New Jersey play-

ers would be stopped. But after two downs

Miller by a beautiful trick play dashed around

right end for twenty five yards and a touch-

down. Verdi missed a difficult goal by a very

narrow margin. ‘This ended the scoring.

Score: Rutgers Prep., 173 Poly Prep., 0.

Only three minutes of play was now left and

the ball was kept in Poly Prep’s territory the

whole time. The game ended with the ball in

Poly Prep’s possession on her own twenty yard

line, The lineup and summary follows:

of the sec-

twelve

yards.

was forced to punt.

Rutgers Prep. Poly Prep.

Left End.

Neti sccicctes eotiorsare semen seeeeee Young

Left Tackle.

Allen (Hall) .-.ceeeeeeeer reece Davidson

Left Guard.

CASE cece viet ence ee sia eee ace ce ene Holmes

Centre.

C. Corbin oc. cs cece cece cece re eeeee Froeb

Right Guard

Watson .csscceecneceteeeeeeeecenee Evans

Right Tackle.

Carthwaite (F. Corbin) ...+--++++ Sturgis

Right End.

Taverner ...cseeececrecccemeneeeceres Gill

Quarterback

Lang ....cseeeecceeeceeeees Schierenbear

Left Halfback.

Miller .....ceeeee cece eeeeeeceeees Woods

Right Halfback.

C. Nicholas .....---eeeeeeeeee Schmelager

Fullback.

Tisher (Capt.) ..+++e+eeers Thayer, (Capt.)

Summary—Score: Rutgers Prep., 17; Poly

Prep., 0. Touchdowns, Fisher, (2) and Mil-

ler. Goals from touchdowns, Verdi (2). Re-

feree, Mr. White. Umpire, Mr. Jennings, ’93.

‘Limers, Mr. Koehler and Mr. Mills. Linesmen,

Mr. Miller, of Poly Prep., and Mr. Ferguson,

of Rutgers Prep. Time of halves, twenty and

fifteen minutes.

EXCHANGES. ‘

The following exchanges have been grate-

fully received: ‘The Iris, The Campus, Vail

Deane Budget, The Targum, The Mirror, The

Review, ‘ihe Pingry Record, The Lealonian,

The Amulet (State Normal School, West

Chester, Pa.), The Breeze (Blair Hall, Blairs-

town, N. J.), The Spectator (Paterson High

School, Paterson, N. J-), The Fortnightly

(Cutler School, New York City), The Specta-

tor (Trenton High School, Trenton, N. J.),

The Triangle (New York University, New

York City), Pennington Seminary Review,

(Pennington, N. J.), The Latin and High

School Review (Cambridge, Mass.), The

Walking Leaf (Cook Academy, Montour Falls

N. Y.).

THE FALL EXAMINATIONS.

The annual fall examinations of the entire

school will be held on Monday, November the

thirtieth, and on Tuesday, December the first.

Examinations of the whole school are held

three times a year—usually about the first of

December, March and June. Sixty per cent.

will be required to pass. The schedule of the

examinations, which may be subject to some

slight changes as the faculty may deem need-

ful, will be as follows:

Monday, November thirtieth—

8.30 A. M.—First Period.

11.00 A. M.—Second Period.

2.30 P. M.—Sixth Period.

Tuesday, December first—

8.30 A. M—Third Period.

11.00 A. M.—Fourth Period.

2.30 P. M.—Fifth Period.

DECLAMATION.

On Tuesday, October 8, 1903, the first decla-

THE ARGO.

mations of the year were delivered. As is the

custom they will be continued untill some time

in the early part of 1904, when those who have

secured the highest general averages for their

speaking during the year contest for the Lane

Prize of twenty-five dollars. This is divided

into two prizes of fifteen and ten dollars re-

spectively.

The first day of speaking proved rather a

failure, for only two of the speakers were pres-

ent. It is to be hoped that this will not often

happen, for it not only lessens the number of

speeches, and therefore the interest in them,

for that day, but also crowds a great many into

the next day of speaking.

As is his usual custom, Dr. Payson spoke

briefly on the most interesting and most im-

portant topic of the day, also he expressed his

wish that the students would report their

speeches at the appointed time, and be on hand

to deliver them.

THE CADETS.

The Rutgers Prep. Cadets number this year

about the same as usual. Mr. George W. Nutt-

man again has charge and judging from his

work in past years the company should show

the same excellent ability as in former years.

Mr. H. S. Lang is captain; Mr. Andrew Kirk-

patrick is first lieutenant; Mr. Frank T. Cor-

bin is second lieutenant; Mr. C. Corbin is first

sergeant. The other sergeants are Messrs.

Taverner, Watson and Allen. The foregoing

were appointed but the following students pass-

ed the best examinations for corporalships:

Opdyke (first), Lebaw (second), Hancock

(third) and Elmendorf (fourth).

Ritevature,

NOVEMBER.

Yet one smile more, departing, distant stun,

One mellow smile through the soft, vaporing

air,

Ere o’er the frozen earth the loud winds run,

Or snows are sifted o’er the meadows

16

bare;

One smile on the brown hills and naked trees;

And the dark rocks whose summer

wreaths are cast.

And the blue gentian flower that in the breeze

Nods lonely, of her beauteous race the last.

Yet a few sunny days, in which the bee

Shall murmur by the hedge that skirts the

way,

The cricket chirp upon the russet lea,

And man delight to linger in the ray.

Yet one rich smile and we will try to bear.

The piercing winter frost and winds and

darkened air,

BRYANT,

A NIGHT AMONG THE PINES.

It was late in the afternoon of November

the twenty-fourth, seventeen seventy-nine.

Throughout the whole dreary day, a terrible

storm of wind and rain had been raging over

the rebellious province of New Jersey. Already

gloomy night was falling; deep dusk had set-

tled; black clouds covered the sky.

Norman Rosse, a colonel in the American

army, was journeying through the dismal Pine

Forest, now made doubly cheerless by-the bit-

ter storm. He was mounted on a strong grey

horse, whose usually well groomed coat was

wet and splashed with mud. Rosse’s attire was

that of an ordinary citizen, but beneath his

great coat were strapped two huge pistols—

necdful things for every Jerseyman during

those perilous times.

As he pursued his course in the scarcely

traceable path, he doubtless longed for the end

of his weary ride. He was bound for the vil-

lage of Welltcn, some hours distant from

where he now was. There he would be once

more in the midst of his regiment, amongst the

men he loved, whose cause was his and that of

every true Yankee.

Suddenly, as he was journeying through the

storm, he came upon a large clearing, in the

midst of which loomed up before him a huge

and apparently deserted house. In the dim

light of the departing day, he saw that though

THE ARGO.

17

the building was fast going to pieces, through

age and long neglect, yet here he could find

shelter for himself and for his steed through

the night.

The front door was but one step above the

ground, so he led his horse right in and tether-

ed him to the banister. With some difficulty,

Rosse succeded in igniting with his clumsy

flint and steel, the wick of a small lantern

which he carried. On his right as he stood in

the broad hall were a number of small rooms ;

before him was the great staircase. On his

left was a long and once magnificent dining

room. All around were signs of ruin and de-

cay, showing that the lonely mansion had not

been occupied for many years.

Our traveller was not long in folding his

great coat about him and laying himself down

in a corner of the long room. Soon he was

sound asleep, forgetful alike of the storm with-

out and the eeriness within.

As the night wore on, the storm rose higher

and higher around the solitary eves. | The

wind howled a wild accompaniment to the

dreary tune played by the descending torrents

against the weather-beaten walls.

Norman Rosse was sleeping on, too tired to

dream, when he was suddenly awakened by the

snorting of his horse, and the sound of hoofs

violently kicking the floor in the hall without.

Startled and alarmed he rushed, pistol in hand,

toward the sound, stumbling over something,

he knew not what. Striking a spark from his

flint, he saw by the flash of the blazing tow,

his horse dash through the open doorway and

disappear in the darkness of the storm. In an

instant the light was gone. Groping his way to

the door, he stared out into the dense black-

ness. Nothing could he see; and no sound

could he hear save the roar of the tempest and

the steady fall of the rain.

Stunned and bewildered, he turned toward

the room he had just left. He again endeavor-

ed to strike a light, but—strange and unnatural

thing—the flint melted into water and dripped

through his fingers upon the floor. Then, in

the space of a second, the huge dining room

seemed strangely lit up, showing every detail.

Not in ruinous decay as he had seen it before,

but arrayed in gorgeous splendor. Beautiful

tapestries covered the walls, and over the floor

lay exquisitely wrought rugs. Instead of a

heap of rubbish in the middle of the room, was

a long table, draped in snowy linen and weight-

ed down with shining silver and glittering gold

plate. Chairs of elaborate carving surrounded

it, And yet all seemed unreal, for through it

all the awe stricken beholder could see the dim

outline of the decaying walls. A fierce fire was

blazing on the broad hearth, sending a glow of

red light into the farthest corners of the long

room, yet it seemed false and unnatural be-

cause there came no hearty sound of crackling

from the burning logs.

Norman Rosse stood spell-bound. As he

looked he beheld the shadowy and transparent

forms of graceful women and stalwart men,

clad in the fashions of fifty years before, troop

down the broad staircase, past him through

the doorway, and seat themselves around the

table. They seemed unable to see him. And

there was ever a deathly stillness, broken only

by the doleful sounds of the tempest without.

On went the ghostly banquet, until, brave as

he was, the young soldier felt a creeping chill

of awful fear upon him as with starting eyes

he gazed upon the fantastical scene. Phantom

servants, gliding to and fro, tended the weird

banquet. The feasters seemed to drink and to

eat. The pallid hostess, with a sickly smile,

seemed to chat with her wan guests, and their

ghastly lips moved as in reply. But still there

came no sound.

At the head of the table sat the transparent

form of an elderly gentleman, evidently the

host, who seemed seldom to address any of his

companions. Constantly he preserved an air

of thoughtful silence. As Norman looked he

beheld another figure that, crouching, crept,

crept, crept up stealthly back of the old man’s

chair. The figure was that of a man of thirty,

his face marred by evil passions. On he

crept unnoticed by all but the eager watcher in

the doorway. He was close to the head of the

THE ARGO,

table. The lurid light from the fire in the grate

gleamed on the broad blade of a knife in his

hand. Now he raised his arm to strike, when

Norman Rosse, forgetting everything save that

, murder was about to be committed, sprang

with a ringing cry into the room. In an in-

stant some invisible and supernatural power

seemed to hold him motionless. Then a deaf-

ening peal like as of thunder burst upon his

ears. ‘The room flashed up in a great red blaze.

This was succeeded by utter darkness. Now

he felt himself lifted up higher, higher, higher ;

then dashed down with terrific force.

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The darkness seemed lighting. He thrust

out his hand to break his fall and touched—

damp grass. He was under the open sky, and

there, a few yards distant, stood his horse un-

tethered, peacefully grazing in the early morn-

ing sunlight. He looked about him for the old

house. Here was the clearing among the pines;

but no building, only a few crumbling logs

among the tall weeds and the underbrush.

Thoughtfully Norman Rosse mounted his

horse and rode away from the scene of his

night’s horrors. The weather had cleared dur-

ing the night, and the air was clear and balmy.

And the sun, rising over the trees, tinged the

darkly azure sky with pink, and sent a ray of

golden light into the pale face of the traveller.

SHAUN AND L,. R. N.

Aunes Retes,

OYSTERING,

The largest natural oyster beds are in the

States of Virginia and Maryland. These are

the public lands, where any one with a license

18

a ges may be used. Outside of

these limits the bottoms are rented to peoplé

at one dollar an acre for twenty years. Two

hundred and fifty acres is the largest amount

rented to one person.

Like any other crop, oysters are planted, cul-

tivated and harvested. The reaping machines

are either tongs, hand or steam dredges. The

seed of the oyster varies in size from a dime

to a silver dollar. The seed is shoveled over-

board as the vessel sails back and forth over

the field to be planted. Four to five hundred

bushels are planted on an acre.

Oysters are ready for market when about

two years old. Some are not gathered until

three or four years old. After the oysters of

the farm have been gathered, the ground is

allowed to rest for a year.

The oyster season is during the months hav-

ing “r” in their names. In this season the

waters are covered with oyster boats, The

owners of small boats use huge pinchers, At

the lower end of the pinchers are strong iron

teeth, that hold the oysters in their grasp.

On the larger boats dredges are used, one on

each side. These are dragged over the bottom

at the end of a rope. The other end is fastened

to a drum that is turned by a crank on deck.

The most powerful steam dredge is able to

gather about six hundred bushels in three of

four hours. With a hand dredge from fifty to

four hundred bushels can be taken in a day.

Tongers can catch from fifteen to seventy-five

bushels in the same time.

The largest steam dredge in Hampton Roads

is owned by Mr. Frank W. Darling, of Hamp-

ton. It has a crew of twelve men, and is able

to carry a load of one thousand three hundred

bushels.

The steamer moves slowly over the bed that

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is being worked. The dredges are lowered,

first on one side, then on the other. The

dredges are then brought to the surface and

dumped. After the boat is loaded they head

for the packers’ wharf.

The oysters are shoveled into wheelbarrows

and are carried to the shucking room. In the

shucking room are long rows of negro men

standing before stalls. The oysters are dumped

into the stalls and the men open them with

strong knives.

Good shuckers can open from twelve to

twenty gallons a day. They are paid nineteen

cents a gallon and earn from eight to fifteen

dollars a week. The largest in Hampton,

Mr. Darling’s, opens from one hundred to

THE ARGO.

two hundred thousand bushels in a year. In

this house as the men open the oysters they

drop the shells on an inclined plane. The

shells slide into a trough and are carried along

by means of a chain to a pile in the yard.

When a shucker fills his gallon measure he

carries it to the strainer. Here the oysters are

strained and measured. They are then emptied

into large casks kept full of fresh water. Any

loose shell or grit is washed out. They are

then dipped into a second strainer, which sep-

arates them from the water. They are measured

again, then packed into twenty-five-gallon

packing barrels and are shipped to Baltimore

and Northern markets.

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