THE NICHOLS MURDER TRIAL.

The Case of Thomas Johns First Taken Up.

A PHYSICIANS TESTIMONY.

Considerable Valuable Testimony Received On The First Day of the Trial. Dr Hardcastle Said He Was of The Opinion That Nichols Was Dead Before The Body Got In The Water.

The Trappe murder came up in court on Wednesday. Johns & Wright were indicted separately, Lydia Mills and Wright's wife were indicted as accessories. Thomas Johns was put on trial first for the murder of Columbus Nicols, in February last, at the house of George Wright, in Trappe district. The parties were all colored people. Nichols disappeared February 14 after being at Wright's house the preceding night. At the time the blizzard was on and the river frozen up.

Forty days afterward, when the ice broken up, his naked and mangled body was found in Trappe river and the coroner's jury found that he came to his death at the hands of Johns and another colored man named Wright.

The confession of Lydia Mills, implicating the two men, and afterwares denied by her, is well known to the public and need not be recited here.

The witnesses examined on Wednesday were Columbus Nichols the father of the dead man; Harriett Mills, who testified as to seeing him two days before he disappeared, and described the clothes he wore; Edward Hartlett who was present when the body was discovered; Constable Schuyler, who summoned the coroner's jury and the witnesses, who says that when he summoned Johns he asked him the question, "Who told on me?" and Dr. Edward M. Hardcastle, who first examined the body and assisted in the autopsy.

Dr. Edward M. Hardcastle believes the wounds, one on the left jaw and a fatal one on the left thigh and groin, were made while the man was alive, and that the post-mortem examination of lungs, liver and heart disclosed that he was not drowned, but was dead when he got in the water. The groin wound could have been made by a strong man with one slash of a big knife or other sharp instrument. He does not think it could have been made by the propeiler of a steamboat.

His views were coincided on by Drs. Barton, Dunning and Hardcastle, Jr, when put on the stand Thursday. Quite a number of witness for the State were examined that day and among some of the testimony that was given that was not previously known is, that Johns told a number of persons all of whom were on the stand, that he and Wright killed Nichols. This testimony was the strongest yet given for the State. A number of other witnesses were examined but what they said merely corroborated to a great extent the testimony given above. The State closed its case Thursday afternoon, and the defense opened by calling Johns to the stand who accounted for his movements on the day of the alleged murder. Some of his testimony was corroborated by several reputable witnesses, which was to the effect that he was at his home the time the deed was committed.

Wright was next called but he only accounted for his movements on the day in question, and told what he knew of Nichols movements, which seemed to be little. Wright's wife testified the same as her husband.

Several other reputable witnesses then testified considerable which will be of great importance to the defense. The defense resumed its case on Friday, but up to the hour of going to press had not been concluded.

SMASHED BOTH TEAMS.

A Drunken Negro Steals a Team and Then Drives into John Seemer's carriage.—Both Completely Torn Up.

Sunday night a negro in the employ of Mr. John Seemer, named Scott Perkins, was driving one of Mr. Seemer's teams, and stopped at the little house on point road adjoining Dr. Barber's Mill, where Perkins lived. He went in, leaving the team in charge of a small colored boy.

While Perkins was in the house another negro, will Roy, who was considerably under the influence of liquor, came along and drove the boy away from the team and jumped in himself and drove off.

When Perkins came out he found the team gone and at once started for Easton, and told Mr. Seemer about it. They got another team and started after Roy, whom they learned was at Easton Point.

They were driving down the road and had just passed the railroad when they saw Roy driving towards them, the horse in a dead run. Mr. Seemer drove to one side to let him pass, but Roy turned also and drove right into Mr. Seemer's team.

The occupants of both carriages were thrown violently out, the horses breaking away dashed on up the road, but were finally stopped by Mr. Seemer, who had not let go the reins of his horse. The two carriages were demolished completely, and Roy received two very severe injuries, which it was thought would cause his death before Monday morning.

He however, got better and was taken to jail. He was tried this week before Squire Hubbard and sentenced.

TRIED TO WRECK A TRAIN.

A Local Freight Train Thrown From The Track By A Misplaced Switch But No One Hurt.

An attempt which was partially successful to wreck a train on the Baltimore, Chesapeake and Atlantic Railway was made Friday afternoon last. The east-bound local freight train which leaves Salisbury at 1 p. m., was proceeding between Berlin and Ocean City at about twenty miles an hour, and when nearing Hollow Grove siding the engineer discovered that the switch had been tampered with. The target was set to show that the switch was set all right for main track, but the rod which throws the switch had been disconnected and slipped so that the rails which enter the siding were moved about two inches. The engineer saw this, but could not stop his train in time to avoid an accident. The train ran into the open switch and left the rails, plowing for some distance along the ties. The engine did not turn over, nor did the cars, but the track was torn up for some distance.

Traffic was delayed about three hours. In order to allow the Baltimore express to pass tracks had to be laid around the wreck. A few hours before the Ocean City express had passed that point and the switch was all right. The express was running forty miles an hour, and had she ran into the open switch it is probable there would have been loss of life.

Perhaps It Would.

The following taken from the Havre de Grace Republican will no doubt elicit a reply from Talbot fruit packers.

Hubbard & Bro. shipped two car loads of canned goods this week to Philadelphia, where they will be immediately sent to Liverpool. This firm has shipped so far about thirty-five car loads and during the next few weeks will ship forty more car loads of goods. Mr. Hubbard has by packing out an excellent brand of goods, established a regular European trade and for the past few years has regularly shipped goods to Liverpool.—Easton (Md.) GAZETTE.

Would it not pay some of our large packers to make efforts to build up a European demand. Once established it would be a permanent and desirable trade.—Republican.

Notes By The Way.

The town is numbered—somehow.

Painting is in progress at a number of prominent residences.

The warm weather again burst upon us this week.

The summer visitor has begun to get in his work.

Flies and mosquitoes next in order.

The nightly practice on horn or flute renders certain portions of town almost uninhabitable.

The removal of the idle boys from the ball ground in Earle's Addition to some section out of civilization on the suburbs, was a God-send to neighboring families in that part of town.

Court has been full of interest.

Are you all tired out, do you have that tired feeling or sick headache? You can be relieved of all these by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla.

THE EASTON GAZETTE.
WILSON M. TYLOR & BRO.
EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS.
S. E. SHANNAHAN, Foreman and Local Reporter.
SATURDAY. - JUNE 1, 1895.

DECORATION DAY IN EASTON.

The Graves of The Fallen Heroes Honored.

J. FRANK TURNER SPEAKS.

An Immense Crowd Follows The Procession To The Cemetery.—Company F. Acts As Escort And Fires The Usual Salute Over The Graves.—An Oration Delivered and Prayers Offered.

The usual memorial services of Hicks' Post G. A. R. this year were equal in every point to any that have been held in the past.

On Thursday the Post met at their head quarters and proceeded from there to Market Space where the parade was formed at 2 o'clock p. m., Company F., M. N. G. acting as escort, and a detail from Phil. Sheridan's Camp, S. of V., acting as color guard to the National Flag borne by a member of the Post.

The column was headed by the Wye Mills Cornet Band and the route of the parade was out Dover St. to Aurora St., thence to R. R. Avenue, to Hanson Street, and then to the cemetery, arriving there, a hollow square was formed around the stand which had been erected under one of the large trees near the east gate of the cemetery.

The services at the stand were commenced by the reading of the Memorial Order from the Commander of the Department of Maryland G. A. R. followed by an address by the Post Commander, Thos. H. Coburn, stating the object of the service and the duties of the comrades. Prayer was then offered by Mr. Walter H. Thompson, acting as chaplain, followed by the regular service of the G. A. R., and an address by Hon. J. Frank Turner and Col. Jas. McCarter, after which the usual salute of three rounds of blank cartridge were fired by Co. F. The Post proceeded to strew with flowers the graves of their dead comrades, also those of the Confederates, the Revolutionary and those of the War of 1812, in all about 30 graves.

When this duty had been performed the Post again assembled around the stand and after music by the band the services were closed by prayer by the active chaplain and the column was again formed and leaving the cemetery by the east gate returned by the way of Aurora St. to R. R. Avenue to Washington street to Market Space, when it was dismissed.

Commander Coburn was in command of the parade. Comrade Jos. H. White acting Officer of the day, was in charge of the Post and Sergeant Chas. Cannon commanded the guards.

In addition to the graves at Easton, details from the Post also decorated with flowers graves at Oxford, Cambridge, St. Michaels and other points.

VETERANS AT CHURCH.

Hick's Post G. A. R. Attended Services At Ebenezer M. E. Church Last Sunday.

Following a custom of some years past the G. A. R. of Easton attended divine services last Sunday morning in a body at the M. E. church, company F also attended. Seats were reserved for the guests of honor in the front of the church.

The special sermon preached by Dr. Avery was greatly appreciated, judging from the following letter the Doctor received from the Post:

Rev. W. E. Avery.

Dear Sir.—At a special meeting of Hick's Post, held this day after their return from service at Ebenezer M. E. Church, the Post, by a unanimous vote of those present, elected me as their commander to carry to you their appreciation of the patriotic sermon delivered by you on that occasion and especially your tribute of praise to the private soldiers and your eulogy on our glorious old flag, the pride of every true American. Also to tender the members of the church their heartfelt thanks for the courtesy and uniform kindness that have always been shown the Post on the occasion of their attendance at its services.

Yours with respect,
THOS. H. COBURN, Com.

Col. Lloyd Refuses.

It was supposed that Col. Edward Lloyd would permit his name to be used in Talbot county in the democratic primaries as a candidate for Governor. This seems to have been the plan of the democrats who organized the Anti-Gorman Democratic Association of Talbot County. Tuesday Colonel Lloyd settled all this matter as far as he is concerned by saying to Mr. Joseph B. Harrington, one of his most intimate personal, political and social friends, that under no circumstances would he permit his name to be used as a candidate for Governor or any other office.

Colonel Lloyd said: "I am not a candidate for Governor nor will I be under any circumstances. I will not permit my name to be used in connection with any political nomination unless in all sincerity I want it. In other words, I will not, in Talbot county or anywhere else, go into a political fight as a candidate for an impossible and undesirable nomination in order to accomplish some ulterior purpose."

A Fine Portrait.

Mr. Clark S. Marshall has just finished a life size oil portrait of Mrs. J. D. Merritt, of Fairlee, Kent Co., Md. All admirers of his work pronounce it a finely executed piece. A year ago Mr. Marshall painted one of the Rev. J. B. Merritt, and the success of that was manifested by the order of one for his wife. The work was done for Dr. J. B. Merritt, of Easton. Mr. Marshall has painted a number of pictures for people in the county, among them being a portrait of E. H. Furness and of Dr. W. G. G. Wilson. He enlarges a picture to any size either in crayon or oil, and any one desiring it can see him do the work. A marine view of the ship "Lahn" is considered one of his best, some of his friends calling it his masterpiece. He can be found at his studio on Aurora St., where he receives orders for oil and crayon portraits with likeness guaranteed.

Knights Templar In Easton.

The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar represented by Sir Knight Wm. H. Martin, Right Emminent Grand Commander Sir Knight Wm. Clark, Deputy Grand Commander, Sir Knight Henry G. Larrabee, Grand Generalissimo, Ramond Dukehard, Grand Capt. Gen. Jos. F. Hines, Grand Recorder, Chas. Clark, Grand Prelate, J. H. Miller, visited Easton Thursday and constituted Chesapeake Commandery No. 10 and installed the officers of the Commandery. The Knights presented a very pretty sight in their glistening uniforms as they marched down Washington street on Thursday.

Royal Oak Items

A large class of probationers will be received into full membership of the M. E. Church Sunday morning.

Preparations are being make for a Democrat contest for a gold medal, to be held in the M. E. Church, South, June 10th by the Royal Oak and Bozman Loyal Legions. The speakers are one from Easton, two from Bozman, and three from Royal Oak. Prof. Wheatly has promised to sing and there will be music by the Legions.

Mrs. Elizabeth Morris, who has been visiting friends here, has returned to her home in Odessa, Del.

Many of our young people have been attending the Epworth League Convention held in St. Michaels this week. Miss Edna Duke and Mr. Walton Kilman were the delegates for the Royal Oak local chapter.

Deer Park. On The Crest Of The Alleghenies.

To those contemplating a trip to the mountains in search of health and pleasure, Deer Park on the crest of the Allegheny mountains, 3000 feet above the sea level, offers such varied attractions as a delightful atmosphere during both day and night, pure water, smooth, winding roads through the mountains and valleys, and the most picturesque scenery in the Allegheny range. The hotel is equipped with all adjuncts conducive to the entertainment, pleasure and comfort of its guests.

The surrounding grounds, as well as the hotel, are lighted with electricity. Six miles distant, on the same mountain summit, is Oakland, the twin resort to Deer Park, and equally as well equipped for the entertainment and accommodations of its patrons. Both hotels are upon the main line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, have the advantages of its splendid Vestibuled Limited Express trains between the East and the West. Season excursion ticket, good for return passage until October 31, will be placed on sale at greatly reduced rates at all principal ticket offices throughout the country. One-way tickets, reading from St. Louis, Louisville, Cincinnati, Columbus, Chicago and any other point on the B. & O. system to Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia or New York, or vice versa, are good to stop off at either Deer Park, Mountain Lake Park or Oakland, and time limit will be extended by agents at either resort upon application, to cover the period of the holder's visit. The season at these popular resorts commences June 23d.

For full information as to hotel rates, rooms, etc., address George D. DeShields, Manager, Deer Park, or Oakland, Garrett County, Md.

For Rent or Sale.

The dwelling now occupied by Wm. Shehan on Harrison Street and Brooklet Ave. is for Sale or Rent. Apply to
6-1-tf WM. SHEHAN.

SIXTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

Of The Easton District Epworth League.

IN SESSION AT ST. MICHAELS

Over A Hundred Delegates Attend The Three Days' Session. Address Of Welcome By Mr. W. R. Young Responded To By Miss Katie Boggs. Many Bright And Interesting Papers.



REV. J. P. OTIS,
The Popular ex-President of Easton District Epworth League, and pastor of M. E. Church, St. Michaels.

The Sixth Annual Convention of the Easton District Epworth League was in session at St. Michaels, this county, in the M. E. Church, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

The Easton District covers a field consisting of a large part of the Eastern Shore and lower portion of Delaware, and in all have about forty Chapters of the Epworth League, nearly all of which were represented at this convention.

The greater part of the delegates came by way of the D. & C. road to Easton and from there on a special on the B. C. & A. to St. Michaels. About one hundred were in attendance.

The convention was a bright epoch in the history of St. Michaels and will long be remembered for the great enthusiasm shown and the harmony and good will between the League and the good people of St. Michaels.

The President Rev. J. P. Otis, who is also the pastor of the M. E. Church, was in charge of all the arrangements and conducted the meetings of the convention.

A cabinet meeting was called at three o'clock Tuesday by the president when considerable business of importance was transacted. The first meeting of the convention was at 7.30 p. m., Tuesday evening, which was opened with devotional service led by Elijah Pierce of Suddlersville, Md. Following immediately after these committees were appointed.



SARDIS CHAPEL, ST. MICHAELS, BUILT 1871, AND NOW IN USE SHOWING THE PARSONAGE.

Committee on Resolutions:—Rev. J. M. Linthicum, Wm. J. Watts, Jr., Miss Annie Wright, Miss Nannie Sewel, Mrs. Chas. Jarrel.

Committee on Credentials:—R. R. Shull, Chas. B. Chance, Rev. C. P. Fletcher, Miss Mary West, Miss Julia Stools.

Committee on Nominations:—J. R. Hazel, Rev. W. G. Hurst, Annie G. Lambert, Miss E. K. Scott, Miss H. G. Vandike.

Committee on Finance:—Elijah Pierce, Rev. J. W. Fogle, Miss Katie H. Boggs, Miss Gussie Megee, Miss Minnie Peregoy.

At 8.15 p. m. the address of welcome was made by Mr. M. R. Young, of St. Michaels. The address was one of great merit, burning with wit and honor, which is presented in full below.

Mr. Young's Welcome.

Fellow Epworthians and all here assembled: It is customary, I believe, at this point for the president of the local chapter to make an address, but our president being a much-offiiced man—he being also president of the District League—and a very modest man, the duty seems to have fallen on the first vice-president. I must confess, however, that it is with much embarrassment that I undertake to perform that duty.

Generally when I look out over this room I see the same faces that are occupied by those with whom am well acquainted and the faces I look into are familiar ones. But to-night the general order of things is changed; the room wears a different aspect. In addition to the many familiar faces I see a number of strange ones. But, dear friends, there is that something about your faces that relieves me to a great extent of my embarrassment, that adds pleasure to duty. I see nothing in your countenances that would indicate a desire to criticise, but that which gives me confidence, that which plainly tells me that your presence here is in the line of duty and that you have been called by the Master's will and for the purpose of contributing your efforts in the interest of the Epworth League, which though but six years of age is a giant of magnificent proportions, wielding his sceptre from Maine to California, whose power and influence is felt throughout the Christian world and whose strength continues to increase with marvelous rapidity.

But we cease to wonder at this seemingly miraculous growth of strength and power when it becomes our privilege to look upon such a gathering as this, consisting as it does of old and young, ministers of the Gospel and those who are young in the service of the Lord, young men and maidens in the vigor of youth and with hearts aspiring, all evincing an interest in the welfare of this power, this mighty inspiration of the church.

Now, fellow leaguers, be you here in the capacity of delegates or otherwise, from within or beyond the jurisdiction of the Easton District, we the citizens and members of St. Michaels Chapter greet you; we welcome you, we extend to you the warm hand of fraternity and fellowship and the hospitality of our town, and in doing so voice not only the sentiment of the association but we believe that of the entire community regardless of religious denomination. We extend to you the freedom of our town, and, as is customary in the case of distinguished visitors, the municipal keys—that is, if our town clerk can find them. I would like to go further and add the free use of our luscious bivalves, better known as the oyster, but, alas! some of our friends met at Annapolis and after quite a lengthy discussion the decree went forth, "Hands off after April the twenty-fifth," and so it stands.

Can Cook Oysters.

But right here let me drop a little hint. It is this. If in your rambles around town there is wafted to you from some wayside kitchen the fumes of something not at all unlike that which emanates from the oyster when frying, or if at the table of "mine host" you are served with something bearing a striking resemblance to an oyster fry, or an oyster pie, the wisest, the best and the proper thing for you to do will be to eat and conclude that our St. Michaels cooks have a wonderful knack of preparing imitative dishes. However, I need say nothing about this to our friends from localities where the oyster abounds. They know all about it, and like ourselves are in one respect similar to the oyster, they keep their mouths shut.

Dear friends, we are glad you are here. We trust you will feel perfectly at home while with us, that you will go in and out among us, not as stranger, but as brother, as sister, as friend; that the acquaintances you form while here will ripen into lasting friendship and that your stay with us will be of such a character in every respect that you can in years to come refer to the 1895 session of the District League Convention held at St. Michaels, Maryland, as a bright and happy spot in your earthly life.

There are also present with us members of our Ladies' Auxiliary Association, the Chesapeake Society, from our sister church of this town, the Methodist Protestant. It affords me pleasure to welcome you, too, my dear friends and co-laborers in Christ's vineyard; but we must refer you to the 10th session of the District League Convention held at St. Michaels, Maryland, as a bright and happy spot in your earthly life.

There are also present with us members of our Ladies' Auxiliary Association, the Chesapeake Society, from our sister church of this town, the Methodist Protestant. It affords me pleasure to welcome you, too, my dear friends and co-laborers in Christ's vineyard; and we trust you will make an effort to be with us at every session of the convention, that your voices may mingle with ours in prayer for the success of this gathering, that you will enjoy that air of perfect freedom which is sure to prevail at all gatherings of God's people where the one great object is that His kingdom may be fortified and His kingdom advanced. I trust that the warm friendship already existing between these two great God-fearing and God-loving associations may become still stronger, for we are encircled by the same chain, formed of the golden cords of Christian love and fellowship, together with all workers for christ.

Now, Epworth Leaguers, let us be alive to the duties and responsibilities of the hour. We have met together to review the work and success of the past in such a manner as to gain wisdom for future guidance. Let us pray earnestly that God's blessing may rest upon and be with us in our deliberation, that what we do may redound to His honor and glory. Let us be thankful that we have an opportunity to aid in this noble work, to help it onward, to contribute to its success. Let us appreciate even more than we hitherto have done the magnitude of its mission, the scope of its work, and the towering grandeur of its efforts in the cause of winning souls to Christ and elevating the morals of our youth to a high standard of Christian perfection. Let us not forget that it is the fraternal and spiritual character of the association that has made it what it is, that will aid it in its onward march and will make possible its perpetuity.

Some of the Duties.

The duties we are called upon to perform are of a most important character and demand our best efforts in planning for the future welfare of the Epworth League. Let us give careful and prayerful thought to all matters submitted for consideration. In all of our deliberations let our actions bear witness to our fidelity to each other, to the cardinal principles of our motto, "Look up, Lift up," and to Him in whose name we are assembled. I trust that a wise and liberal policy will prevail and that the work done during the session will be accompanied with that zeal and energy that will insure success to the Easton District Epworth League and arouse a spirit of enthusiasm in the St. Michaels Chapter that will be telling in effect and permanent in character, causing our members to arouse from all existing lethargy and go to work with that spirit and vim that will enable the Epworth League to become a recognized power in our midst and a mighty accessory to the church.

When the work of the convention is completed and we finally adjourn, may it be with a consciousness that "Truly the Lord has been with us," and as we separate to go to our respective homes and posts of duty, let us do so breathing a fervent prayer that the Epworth League, this truly wonderful and ponderous machine in God's harvest field, manned principally by earnest and faithful young Christian hearts, may continue in its onward course, reaping and gathering in souls for Christ with such glorious success that when another year has passed and we again meet in convention we may be enabled to report a host of new recruits, marching not only under the League motto "Look up, Lift up," but also under the blood-stained banner of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The response was made by Miss Katie Bogg of Cheswold, Del., who gave thanks in behalf of the visiting delegates for the royal reception and hospitality tendered them. Rev. W. S. Phipps, pastor of the M. P. Church, St. Michaels, was next called to the platform and gave a bright few minutes talk, closing by extending a hearty welcome to the delegates.

The music at this point was exceptionally fine, by the St. Michaels S. S. Orchestra. Mr. O. H. Benson, secretary of the District League and leader of the orchestra, gave a delightful trombone solo.

Miss Mary Jump, of Easton, next recited a beautiful selection in her usual impressive way, after which there was a social greeting.

Wednesday's Session.

Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock the convention again assembled and was opened by a prayer and praise service led by E. R. Jump, of Tilghman's Island.

Business was taken up at 9.30 when the reports of the district officers were read. These reports were very comprehensive, and showed the District League to be in a most flattering condition. Brief reports from the local chapters were next taken up, and quite a number responded. A little other miscellaneous business was attended to after which the reading of several interesting papers was called for.

Miss Anna G. Lambert, of Chestertown, read a splendid paper on "The Epworth League" which was considered as one of the best and most thoroughly comprehensive read before the convention. The same subject was discussed by Mrs. P. P. Hurst, Chas. B. Chance, Miss Susie McGee and others. The discussion was closed by Rev. J. T. Anderson, of Talbot circuit.

The afternoon session at 2.30 o'clock was opened by a prayer and praise service led by R. W. Addins of Centreville, the subject being, "Joy in Religion."

"Practical Methods in Social Work," raised considerable interesting discussion, as did the concluding subject for the afternoon "Fault Finders Half Hour." Before closing the afternoon session Cecilton, Md. was chosen as the next meeting place for the district League.

The Junior League of St. Michaels gave a very pleasant entertainment in the evening, as did also the Sunday School orchestra. The evening closed by an eloquent address by Rev. Merritt Hubbard, D. D., of Wilmington. The subject being "Individuality in Work and Responsibility."

Thursday's Session.

Convention opened Thursday morning by praise service, after which considerable business was transacted. "The League and the Older People" was next brought forward and created great interest by the lively discussion that followed.



DR. W. E. AVERY, EASTON.

"How to enlist the young in systematic studies" was read and discussed by a number of prominent members.

In the afternoon the committees named above reported. Miss Carrie Fish of Easton led a prayer meeting at 2.30, subject being, "Rewards of Workers."

At 3 o'clock these officers for the ensuing year were elected:

President, Rev. R. I. Watkins, Cecilton, Md. 1st V. Pres., Mr. Wilber Thomas, Chestertown; 2nd V. Pres., Miss Emma G. Salisbury, Ridgely; 3d V. Prvs., Mrs. W. O. Hurst, Clayton; 4th V. Pres., Mrs. Saml. Marshall, St. Michaels, Secretary, Miss M. J. Vandigrift, Cecilton. Treas. Charles B. Chance, Sudlersville. Supt. Junior League Work, E. H. Nelson, Still Pond.

Miss Mary R. Culp read an interesting paper on "Spirituality in League Work," which was discussed at length.

As the concluding sessions of the convention came to a close, great regret was evidenced. Presiding Elder Smith addressed the convention in his usual eloquent manner after which Dr. Avery of Easton closed the convention by taking charge of the Final Testimony and consecration service. This was the last item on the program and the convention adjourned by singing the League consecration song.

The delegates all expressed themselves in the highest terms of the bountiful and pleasing hospitality of the good people of St. Michaels, and many pleasant acquaintanses were made.

The GAZETTE wishes to extend thanks to President Otis, O. H. Benson, Saml. Marshall, W. R. Young and others, for the courtesy shown its representative in securing material for this report, which, though brief, is as lengthy and full as our space will allow. In connection with the convention report we give a brief illustrated history of the M. E. Church in St. Michaels, which will be found of great interest.

Will Be a Pleasant Occasion.

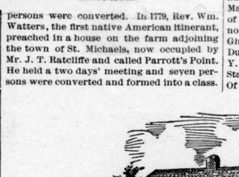
The GAZETTE has before referred to the garden party and decorative parades to be given by the Avon Cycle Club on the 5th and 6th of June. The club has for the past two years given these entertainments and each occasion was thoroughly appreciated by the public.

METHODISM IN ST. MICHAELS.

Sardis Chapel, One Of The Very First Methodist Churches Erected On The Shore.

The history of Methodism in Talbot county while possibly not accurately known, is pretty generally understood and accounted for. It is not positively known who first introduced Methodism in this county, but it is believed that the first man who preached and expounded the Armenian doctrines of Wesley here was Joseph Cromwell, who held his initial services at St. Michaels in the year 1777. Cromwell was then in charge of Kent circuit, which embraced at that time Kent, Cecil and Queen Anne's counties, and New Castle county, Delaware.

In 1778, Freeborn Garrettson visited Talbot county and preached at various points, but the first Methodist society was formed in St. Michaels in 1779 by William Walters with seven converts, the result of two days meetings. Joseph Hartley also commenced Methodistic work in Talbot in 1778 and was one of the most zealous workers in the cause known to history. Up to the time of Hartley's arrival in Talbot there is no record of Methodist preaching in the town of Easton, and here he began his work.



SARDIS CHAPEL, ST. MICHAELS, IN 1832.

In or about the year 1774 the Methodists of Talbot began to be distinguished from other members of the Established Church by their earnest piety and their fellowship in a separate society; but they maintained a nominal connection with the old church until 1784, when the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized at the memorable Christmas Conference in Baltimore. This was nearly five years before the Protestant Episcopal Church had completed its organization as a distinct ecclesiastical body. In the vestry records of St. Michaels' Parish there is an interesting entry in the year 1780. It is a subscription list of money, tobacco and wheat by certain persons known as "the Society of Methodists," for the support of the minister, Rev. John Gordon. The first name on this list is that of Joseph Hartley, who was imprisoned in 1779 in Easton Jail for preaching Methodism contrary to act of Assembly. James Benson and Thomas Harrison went from St. Michaels to Easton and had Mr. Hartley released, going his bail for £500.

In 1778, Rev. Freeborn Garrettson, whose election to be superintendent or bishop, Mr. Wesley requested a few years later, of his American brethren, preached at St. Michaels and spent two weeks in Talbot. He mentions what was probably the first quarterly meeting and love feast held in the county, and also describes a meeting at which five persons were converted. In 1779, Rev. Wm. Watters, the first native American itinerant, preached in a house on the farm adjoining the town of St. Michaels, now occupied by Mr. J. T. Ratcliffe and called Parrott's Point. He held a two days' meeting and seven persons were converted and formed into a class.



SARDIS CHAPEL, ST. MICHAELS, BUILT 1830.

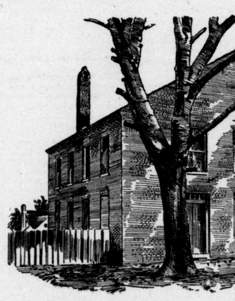
The first female who joined the people called Methodists in St. Michaels was Mrs. Mary Newnam.

June 6, 1781, Mr. James Braddock, an English gentleman, came to the Methodists of St. Michaels, a lot of ground on St. Mary's Square, on which to build a chapel.

This was the first land owned by any Methodist society in Talbot. The building erected on it in 1782 was of brick, and was the first in Talbot county, and only eight years later than the first one built on the Eastern Shore. We thus had a Methodist house of worship or meeting house in St. Michaels two years before the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized; and St. Michaels was one of the preaching places in Talbot prior to the building of the church. Thomas Coke, LL. D., of Jesus College, Oxford, England, afterwards one of the first two bishops of the M. E. Church, preached in this building Tuesday, Dec. 7, 1784, and called it "a large church."

Bishop Francis Asbury preached in it several times, and spoke in complimentary terms of the congregation.

Bishop Whatcoat, elected bishop in 1800, also preached in it in 1789 at a quarterly meeting when he was presiding elder; and afterwards the pulpit was filled by some of the most distinguished among the Methodist ministers in the connection, such as Enoch George, elected bishop in 1812; John Emory, a native of Talbot, and elected bishop in 1832; Ezekial Cooper, another native of the Peninsula.

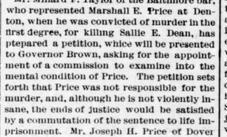


SARDIS CHAPEL, ST. MICHAELS, BUILT 1830, AND STILL STANDING.

Rev. George A. Phoebus, D. D., in a letter to the writer, says; "Sardis Chapel was, as it were, the corner-stone of the M. E. Temple in Talbot circuit, Md. It was one of the chief seats of Methodism on old Talbot circuit. A preacher could not go to old Talbot circuit and slip away again without standing in St. Michaels' pulpit."

The value of the church property was about $2,500 and the membership about 150. The building stood with its side to the square and two double doors and three windows facing the square; and three dormer windows in the roof, which was what was known as the hip roof style; the ends also being hip-ped.

In 1830 the building was repaired, and the hips in the gables were taken out and the ends weatherboarded perpendicularly; but the hips in the sides remained. A side door was put in for the colored people, who occupied the south gallery.



SARDIS CHAPEL, ST. MICHAELS.
Showing annex just completed in the rear.

In 1839 the old church was torn down, and a building 40x50 feet, still standing, was erected on the same site. The corner-stone was laid July 4th, 1839, and the new church was dedicated by Bishop Beverly Waugh. One end, with two double doors and three windows in the gallery, faces the square. It has eight windows on each side, four down stairs and four in the gallery; the value of the property being about $5,500, and the church membership about 275.

The corner-stone of the present church on Talbot street was laid in 1871, Rev. Dr. Somers, of Baltimore, assisting. It is a two story structure, 45x76 feet, without galleries; the main audience room seating 900.

The great enthusiasm shown in Sunday School work in St. Michaels has so increased the membership that it is now probably the largest in the conference. The school recently built a large addition to the church, and it now has a seating capacity of 160 people. The value of the church property is about $ 10,000.

Library Entertainments.

The Thursday entertainments at the Mercantile Library have grown to be so interesting that both rooms are weekly filled with an appreciative audience. Some few weeks ago it occurred to Mrs. Owen Norris that if the members had an hour or two each week in which some special attraction was given, that the interest would be greatly increased. This idea was a good one and the carrying out of the plan has proved that it was the something needful to awaken an interest and make the library rooms more than ever a place for literary feasts.

Mr. Norris has contributed several selections from some of the standard writers, and his easy flow of words at once rivets the attention of those who are present. Several others have been prominent either as readers or speakers from some subject caught up informally and discussed in the conversational method. Among these were interesting papers and talks upon Hypnotism, lead by Dr. Dunning and discussed by Drs. Barton and Councell. Dr. Councell's personal experience in the hypnotic trance with subjects that had been treated for certain ailments successfully by aid of Hypnotism, made his talks both interesting and instructive.

Last Thursday there was the usual interest taken and several contributed making it one of the pleasantest meetings of the kind the library has had. Mrs. Betts and Mr. Goldsborough were especially good in their selections. Remember that members of the Library and specially invited guests are free and welcome. Hours from 7 to 8.30 p. m.

The Case Of Marshal Price.

Mr. Millard F. Taylor of the Baltimore bar, who represented Marshall E. Price at Denton, when he was convicted of murder in the first degree, for killing Sallie E. Dean, has prepared a petition, which will be presented to Governor Brown asking for the appointment of a commission to examine into the mental condition of Price. The petition sets forth that Price was not responsible for the murder, and, although he is not violently insane, the ends of justice would be satisfied by a commutation of the sentence to life imprisonment. Mr. Joseph H. Price of Dover Bridge, father of the condemned man, has the petition and he is now engaged in obtaining the signatures of residents of Caroline, Queen Anne's and Talbot counties, who believe Price is insane. The petition will be forwarded to Governor Brown in a few days.

More Books Given to Library.

Mrs. John S. Martin has given the following books, paper bound to the Mercantile Library.

Pluck, John Strange Winter; The Deemster, Hall Caine; A Playwright's Daughter, Mrs. Annie Edwards; Self Deception, H. L. Parkeon; The Doctor's Secret, Rita; Hayne House, Anna Oldfield Wiggs; One Maid's Mischief, Geo. Manville Fenn; The Wonderful Adventures of Phra The Phoenician, Edwin Lester Arnold; 99 Dark Street, Mrs. J. H. Riddell; The Ghost's Touch, Wilkin Collins; Marvel, The Duchess; Dolly, Justin McCarthy. Mr. John Y. Todd presented a very handsome volume, Standard American Railway System, Atlas Of the World by Cram.

THE MAY TERM OF COURT,

The Grand Jury Makes Its Report.

SOME INTERESTING CASES,

A Verdict For The Plaintiff For $111.46 Was Given In The Case Of Nichols vs. Wilson.—The Grand Jury Report Recites On The Satisfactory Condition Of The Public Roads, Etc.

The May term of Circuit Court continued its sessions this week. The report of last weeks proceedings published in the GAZETTE was concluded with the case of Henry vs. Andrews, removed from Dorchester county. The report in this issue begins with the report of the grand jury, which was read late Friday afternoon after the GAZETTE had gone to press.

To the honorable judges of the Circuit Court for Talbot County Maryland.

The Grand Inquest for Talbot county, for May term, 1895, beg to submit the following:

The satisfactory condition of the public roads of the county, as reported from all sections, is very gratifying and especially so after so severe a winter as that just passed. We request that the county commissioners notify the road supervisors to prevent the obstruction of the public roads by those hauling logs, railroad ties and such things, and prevent the throwing of the trimmings of trees and hedges in the roads.

There are no complaints whatsever of any receiver of public monies.

The array of witnesses before this grand jury is almost unprecedented, and the number of cases for their consideration exceptionally large. We have diligently enquired into sixty-three cases; examined one hundred and forty nine witnesses made thirty-five presentments; found twnty-five true bills, and dismissed twenty-eight cases as being too trivial to permit the incurring of further expense. Notwithstanding the large number of witnesses, we would have completed our labors two days sooner but for our earnest desire to do all possibly in our power to bring to the bar of justice the guilty parties in the murder case from the third district. Another cause for some delay was that we found a number of appeal cases among the papers placed before us. The sending in of such papers can be avoided and should be, especially as the witness recognized had to be paid, costing the county quite a large sum.

Upon our visit of inspection of the county jail, we found it clean and in good order. We heard no complaints at all from the prisoners, although all were questioned. There were fourteen prisoners in all; eleven awaiting trial, two serving sentences of Justices of the Peace, and one awaiting transportation to House of Correction by sentence of the court. Some minor repairs are needed to the jail which we commend to the prompt attention of the county commissioners.

The duties imposed upon us, while arduous have been cheerfully performed, looking only to the good of society and the welfare of county and State. Any errors or omissions on our part will, we sincerely hope, only be for the public good. In all matters before this grand jury all its members have acted in unison, and whatever there may be of approval or condemnation of its proceedings must be visited on all alike.

With thanks to your Honors, to the State's Attorney and officers of the court for uniform courtesy, we now ask to be discharged.

Respectfully Yours,
THOMAS C. NICOLS, Foreman.

On Saturday the court ordered judgment in favor of the P. W. & B. R. R. Co., vs. the Queen Anne's & Kent R. R. Co. in the sum of $24,247.19. George M. Russum represented the P. W. & B. Co. and Joseph B. Seth the Queen Anne's & Kent Co.

William B. Stevens vs. Mrs. Mary E. S. Wilson; action for malicious prosecution; jury trial; Martin and Seth for Stevens, Tharp and Gibson for Mrs. Wilson. The particulars in this case are very interesting, and involved an interesting point of law. Mr. Stevens was a tenant on a farm of Mrs. Wilson in 1894 and during that time she had him arrested for removing top fodder from the farm, claiming that he stole it. A hearing was had before Justice Huboard, who acquitted Stevens. Mr. Stevens entered suit for $5,000. The jury considered the matter about an hour, when a verdict in favor of Stevens for $250 was brought in.

Mrs. Wilson no sooner had the above case decided against her when another case in which she is is interested to a considerable sum was called. It is that of William D. Nichols vs. Mary E. S. Wilson, proprietor of Oxford Manufacturing Co.; jury trial; J. F. & W. Bateman and Joseph B. Seth for plaintiff A. L. Tharp and Gibson & Carrington for defendant; action on note given by Mrs. Wilson to a Mr. Wills and by him transferred to Mr. Nichols; not concluded on Saturday, but again taken up on Monday when nearly the whole day was consumed in