THE EASTON GAZETTE.

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WILSON M. TYLOR & BRO., Editors and Publishers.

S. ELLIOTT SHANNAHAN, Local Reporter and Foreman.

Easton, Maryland, Saturday, April 3, 1897.

GOOD roads are necessary to good farms, to good people, to good towns, to good civilization. It is a subject in which every citizen should feel especially interested. To the one who rides no less than to the one who drives are good roads desirable. They save time, money, worry and vexation of spirit, besides being less laborious for the faithful horse to travel.

It is strange that our civilization has so long neglected this great desideratum in the development of a country. One-half the money which is annually spent for pleasures in far less useful directions applied to roads would be of a lasting benefit to all, but no one thinks of that species of charity. Roads are left to the tender mercies of the custodians of the public moneys, and they in turn have to draw it from the people, and the people in turn growl like enraged hyenas if they have a few more cents to pay on the hundred dollars, and so it goes, always to the detriment of the roads.

It would not be perhaps a bad idea for the county to have passed an enabling act either to bond a large sum necessary for the maintenance of good roads, or to run a county fair or some other public benefit which would attract the country people in large numbers and have the proceeds applied exclusively to roads. That sounds at first a wild scheme, but upon second thought there ought to be a way for the county to become a corporation if it wants to for the purpose of making money.

It is human to object to being forced to contribute to public expense, but the same fellow who objects to being taxed would chip in ten or fifty times as much money if he had the idea he was getting something direct in return.

The highways built by the old Romans two thousand years ago are still in better condition than our up to date shelled roads, which shows that in this one particular our civilization is behind.

We commend to the reader an article from the pen of one of our intelligent citizens upon this subject, also hope that the Good Roads meeting on next Wednesday afternoon will be largely attended. See notice in another column.

THE Talbot *Times* is respectful in its answer to the editorial of last week in the GAZETTE relative to the tax collectors. But the article was not a criticism of any tax collector or set. It had direct reference to facts as they exist and taxes long since overdue and not those of the present year. The records will show that hundreds of dollars lie uncollected in years early in the nineties, and that "influential" people were not scheduled or forced, in many cases, where the collectors were afraid from political reasons so to do. Some of the old collectors never having finished up their work *under the law*. These are facts, and it is a pity the county suffers through them.

THE differences existing between certain members of the Board of official managers of the Montgomery Mutual Fire Insurance Company are about to be amicably settled. The dispute arose through action of a meeting held two years ago, which reduced the running expenses of the Company, and which opposing parties declared illegal in point of constitution and proper advertising.

While they very much objected to seek redress in the courts, it became absolutely necessary for the sake of official record, and the Treasurer, Mr. Allan Farquhar has to bear the odium of being sued "all for form." The many members of the company in this and adjoining counties have no occasion to be alarmed.

It was claimed by some that suit against the Treasurer of the company would cast a stigma upon his good name, but no fault of any kind has been attributed to that most faithful and efficient officer. The action was brought solely to bring the whole question under judicial review, and in accordance with the legal custom the officer who made the disbursements was sued, rather than the Board that ordered them.

Pending the decision of the case by the Court, it will be of interest to the members of the company to know that even a partial compliance on the part of its officers with the reform measures embodied in the by-laws and resolutions passed in January, 1896, and now about to be judicially passed upon, has, within the two years since, resulted in the saving of more than five thousand dollars in salaries and other expenses, without prejudice to the business of the company, or over-taxing its officers and employes.

THE calamity howlers are beginning to croak. The advent of a bill in Congress brings them out like frogs at the approach of spring. The Dingley bill may not be exactly what certain ones would like—no bill can fill all conditions where interests are adverse, but the Dingley bill will call back more gold to a depleted treasury than it has seen in four years.

The revival of industry in one line will quicken the pulse in another, and that in turn in another, until the whole country will eventually be humming with the wheels of industry. What matters it if prices in a few things advance a fraction if there is plenty of money to buy with and plenty of buoyancy in business?

THANKS from the GAZETTE to Congressman Barber for a copy of the Official Congressional Directory with latest information.

The National Capital, & What Our Congress is Doing.

Chairman Dingley did short work of the juggling of percentage figures by which the democrats in the House sought to make it appear that the Dingley tariff bill, which will this week be passed by the House, carried a higher average rate of duties than the McKinley bill did. Said Mr. Dingley: "Notwithstanding the fact that in this bill in every schedule except earthenware, glass, tobacco, sugar, and, I think, silk to some extent, notwithstanding that in every schedule except these, the present bill carries actual duty less than was carried in the Act of 1890, and notwithstanding the fact that in many of the schedules it carries duties substantially the same as those in the present (democratic) law, yet if you convert these specific duties into ad valorem percentages, not taking into consideration the changes of value between 1890 and 1896, you appear to have an increase of duties, when, as a matter of fact, the duties imposed are less."

No better refutation could be given of the mischievous stories alleging the ph sical breaking down of President McKinley than that after a hard day's work at his desk he attended the dinner given by the Gridiron Club in honor of the President and his Cabinet, and for several hours enjoyed himself as much as the youngest man present.

So many complaints have reached Washington concerning the introduction of lottery methods into the business of obtaining patents, that Senator Hansbrough has introduced a bill making it a misdemeanor for any person or firm engaged in the business of soliciting patents to conduct a premium or prize scheme by offering inventors a prize as an inducement for them to enter an alleged competition of ideas. A similar bill will probably be introduced in the House, thus giving both branches of Congress an early opportunity to protect the U. S. Government, which is practically a partner in the patent business, from the odium necessarily attached to lottery methods.

The democrats in the House are now very sorry that they said a word about trusts in their fight upon the Dingley tariff bill. They got a fool idea in their heads that they could frighten the republicans by yelling "trusts" at them. They know better now. The line of attack gave the republicans an opportunity to call the attention or rather to jog the memory of the public to the indisputable fact that the trusts have been more numerous and more grasping under the democratic administration and tariff law than ever before, and that the democrats made their last campaigm solely in the interest of what Gen. Grosvenor so aptly called "the trust which controls a monopoly of what God gave—the silver trust" The fact is also recalled that when the Sherman anti-trust law, recently upheld by a decision of the U. S. Supreme Court, was before the House, the leading democratic members voted against its being taken up for consideration, although they did not dare vote against the bill itself when it was put upon its final passage. They found the trust argument a veritable boomerang, and about the only excuse they had to offer was that they were not responsible for Grover Cleveland.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations, although not controlled by republicans, has endorsed the action of the House in passing those left over appropriation bills without change, by reporting the agricultural bill to the Senate just as it passed the House, and will probably do likewise to the other bills.

President McKinley has told several gentlemen who were applicants for the same positions they held under the Harrison administration that he would not appoint them, no matter how strongly backed they were, because he had made up his mind not to make such appointments, except in cases where there might be some extraordinary circumstances justifying a deviation from the rule. This is not because he has not a high opinion of the ex-officials, but because he thinks others should now have an opportunity to share in the party honors.

The vacancies in the Senate Committee are worrying the opposition more than they are the republicans, although the latter are perfectly willing that they should be filled, but so long as the opposition cannot agree to vote together and assume the responsibilities of the majority, the republicans very naturally object to allowing the democrats, who are only one faction of the majority, to dictate how those vacancies shall be filled. Although not in a majority, the republicans were given the important chairmanships of the Senate during the last Congress, and they insist upon the vacancies being filled so as to give them control of the important committees or not at all, unless the opposition choses to combine and reorganize all the committees on a silver basis by taking the chair manships away from the republicans.

Letters From The People.

Colbert county, Ala., has set an example in the matter of good roads which is worthy of imitation. By a vote which was almost unanimous the voters of that county last week decided in favor of issuing $100,000 worth of bonds, to run twenty years, the proceeds from the sale of which are to be used in building fifty miles of turnpike roads in the county. Already Colbert county has thirty-five miles of turnpike road, and the Representative, Mr. Brown, who introduced the bill allowing the county to issue bonds for the construction of more turnpikes, is a convert to the cause of good highways through observation of the great good that those already in the county have done, and he is said to have made this the main issue in his race for the Legislature.

I enclose the above clipping from the Baltimore *Sun* of March 29th, which I would be glad to see you publish. I would suggest a change in the length of bonds, as stated in the clipping. 50 years would be better than 20, because an outlay intended for permanent improvement of public property should be borne by future generations proportionately as well as the present one. Bonds issued payable in instalments of 50 years, would make each generation bear its proportion and the burden of taxation would be very slight compared with the present cost of maintaining roads year by year. We would then have better roads and less taxes. The use of shells has demonstrated the fact that when a road has been properly graded and drained, with the application of shells, the improvement is far more lasting than any other plan adopted in former years. Take the Miles River road, for instance. As long as it is kept properly drained and graded, it was considered an excellent one, and a very small outlay annually, of shells and drainage would have kept it in almost perfect order. I can recollect when the hill west of Court House Bridge, between the Bateman and Hollyday farms, was impassible before shells were used, and the road from Dixon's triangle to Miles River bridge was almost as bad. Now, though the road is not in as good order as it might be, compared with former years when shells were not used, it may be called good.

The road faom Easton to Centreville, a very sandy and difficult road to keep in order, is now what most travelers would call a "fine road"—all the result of shells.

Just what the annual saving to the county would be under the improved condition—the result of the bonded outlay—I am not prepared to state, but hope to do so in the near future. I think none will gainsay the statement that next to improvements for hygienic purposes, none will pay as well as that for good roads. Not only will settlers be drawn to our beautiful section because of good roads, but also because of cheaper expenses, lessend taxation.

But this condition of affairs will only be brought about by separating good roads from bad politics, taking away from parties and politicians this great lever for political work—road question.

I have not stated the amount required to carry out this plan: that of course would be a matter of estimate.

TAX PAYER.

Public Sale OF Personal Property.

We will sell at Public Auction on

Wednesday, April 7, '97

beginning at 10 o'clock a. m. if raining, the next fair day at Elmsdale farm on Landaff road near Peach Blossom bridge the following property:

LIVE STOCK.

1 Pair heavy draft Mules, young,
1 Horse,
6 Cows, some fresh to the pail,
1 high grade Jersey Heifer,
1 Thoroughbred Holstein Bull Calf,
3 Heifer Calves,
1 Thoroughbred Berkshire Boar,
4 High Grade Berkshire Boar Pigs,
15 High Grade Brood Sows, 11 with young pigs,
28 Shoats and Pigs,
Lot of Turkeys, Ducks and Chickens.

FARMING IMPLEMENTS.

1 large Farm Wagon and tomato and hay rack,
1 Dayton Wagon,
1 American Wheel Harrow,
Disc Harrow,
Sulky Cultivator,
Corn Planter,
Hay Rake,
Double Wagon Harness,
2 Sets Carriage Harness,
Lot of Plow and Work Harness,
Corn Sheller,
Plows, Harrows, Cultivators,
Forks, Shovels, etc.
150 3x6 Hotbed Sash,
Milk Cans, Tools, Stoves, Grind Stones, Feed Troughs.

POULTRY SUPPLIES.

1 two-hand Mann Bone Cutter, 1 Mann Shell Mortar, Chicken Coops, etc.

HOG KILLING SUPPLIES

Lard Press, Sausage Mill, Knives, Steelyard (500 lbs.), Scalding Tubs, Pickle Barrels, Salt Tubs.

TERMS OF SALE.

All sums of and under $10 cash, over $10 nine months credit, purchaser giving note bearing interest with approved security. No property to be removed until terms of sale are complied with.

D. N. CARRINGTON,
CHAS. S. CARRINGTON.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE CONDITION OF THE MASSACHUSETTS MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF MASS., DECEMBER 31st, 1896.

ASSETS.

Value of real estate and ground rents owned by the company, less amount of encumbrance thereon	$ 540,250 42	
Loans on bonds and mortgage	6,501,330 26	
Stocks and bond absolutely owned by the company (market value)	7,276,908 76	
Amount of all loans (except mortgages) secured by stocks, bonds, and other securities hypothecated to the company for cash actually loaned by the company		678,910 00
Interest due and accrued on stocks, bonds and other securities		326,988 63
Cash in company's principal office and belonging to the company deposited in bank		516,504 73
Premiums due and in course of collection		534,896 81
Loans on Companies policies		1,377,571 00
Premium notes		699,988 29
All other admitted assets detailed in statement on file in this office		3,711 06
Total admitted assets		$ 18,546,959 96

LIABILITIES.

Losses reported, adjusted and unpaid	$ 170,590 65	
Reserve as required by law	16,916,438 00	
Unpaid dividends due and to become due to policy holders	112,030 83	
Premiums paid in advance	5,208 84	
Total liabilities		17,204,268 32
Surplus as regards policy-holders		$ 1,342,691 64
Total income		4,463,573 68
Total expenditures		2,849,129 11
40926 policies in force in United States on 31st Dec., 1896		102,867,061 00
114 policies written in Maryland during the year 1896		316,500 00
Premiums received on Maryland business in 1896		39,493 07
Losses paid in Maryland during 1896		3,000 00
Losses incured in Maryland during 1896		3,252 00

STATE OF MARYLAND.
Insurance Department, Commissioner's Office,
ANNAPOLIS, ——— 1897.

In compliance with the Code of Public General Laws, I hereby certify that the above is a true abstract from the statement of the MASSACHUSETTS MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF MASS., to December 31st, 1896, now on file in this Department.

F. ALBERT KURTZ.
Insurance Commissioner.

F. S. BIGGS, Manager, 4 South Street Baltimore, Md.

STATEMENT OF THE

ÆTNA LIFE INSURANANCE COMPANY

Of Hartford, Conn., to December 31, 1896.

Capital	$ 1,750,000 00
Total Admitted Assets	45,557,272 15
Total Liabilities	38,845,769.90
Net aurplus	6,711,502 25

H. B. MEIGS & CO., Managers Life Department, E. E. STEINER, Manager Accident Department, Herald Building, Baltimore, Md.

HENRY SHREVE, AGENT, EASTON, MD.
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STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.

EASTON, MD., March 27, 1897.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Workingmen's Permanent Building and Loan Association of Talbot County will be held at the office of the Association on

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14TH, 1897,

at 7.30 o'clock P. M., at which time an election will be held for Directors to serve for the ensuing year. WALTER H. THOMPSON,
3-27-14-10 Secretary.

.. BAYNE FIELDS ..

FIRST CLASS SHAVING PARLOR

BEST SERVICE.

.. Post Office Building ..

Large Line of Seasonable Goods

At Very Lowest Prices.

OUR STOCK OF ALL GOODS IN OUR LINE IS MOST COMPLETE, AND WE ARE NOW IN POSITION TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE FARMER IN MOST ANYTHING HE MAY WANT. THE

STEVENS' ENGINES, THRESHERS and STACKERS

ARE SECOND TO NONE ON THE MARKET, AND IF YOU ARE GOING TO DO ANYTHING IN THAT LINE, THEN DON'T FAIL TO SEE US.

THE FAMOUS McCORMICK BINDER AND MOWER

IS KNOWN THE WORLD OVER AS THE LEADER OF ALL MACHINES IN THE HARVEST AND GRASS FIELDS. WE ARE FULLY PREPARED TO GIVE YOU SOMETHING IN THIS LINE NOT ATTAINABLE ELSEWHERE. SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

BINDER TWINE

DON'T BUY, OR EVEN COMMIT YOURSELF ON TWINE WITHOUT CALLING TO SEE US. WE HAVE A LARGE STOCK OF MANILLA, STANDARD AND SIRAL AND IT'S A BEAUTIFUL ARTICLE, AND THE QUALITY IS SOMETHING ELEGANT. DON'T YOU BUY TOO QUICK.

TO THE BICYCLE RIDERS

WE TIP OUR HATS AS WE SEE YOU PASS BY US ON WASHINGTON STREET, MOUNTED ON THE INVINCIBLE "RAMBLER," THE FAMOUS "FOWLER," THE BEAUTIFUL "CRESCENT," THE FAITHFUL "STORMER" THE TONY "IDEAL" AND THE GRACEFUL "WINNER" NO WONDER THERE ARE SO MANY OF YOU. THE NUMBER IS WEEKLY INCREASING BECAUSE MERIT WILL WIN EVERY TIME, AND NOW WE HAVE THE LARGEST STOCK EVER IN EASTON AND PRICES ARE TEMPTINGLY LOW. DON'T FAIL TO SEE US AND GET THE BENEFIT OF OUR EXPERIENCE BESIDES SOME ADVANTAGEOUS "POINTERS."

CARRIAGES AND FARM WAGONS.

THE LOW PRICE AT WHICH WE ARE OFFERING CARRIAGES AND WAGONS ANSWERS FOR THE NUMBER WE HAVE SOLD. THEY ARE MADE OF THE BEST MATERIALS AND BY THE BEST MANUFACTURERS. HEAVY STOCK CARRIAGE AND WAGON HARNESS.

Tiger and Farmer's Friend Corn Planter.

THESE PLANTERS ARE PERFECT IN THEIR WORK AND WE WISH YOU TO EXAMINE THEM. THE TIGER IS A HIGH WHEEL AND HAS SOME NEW POINTS.

SUMMER COOK STOVES, BLUE FLAME.

WITH AND WITHOUT WICK. NO DIRT, DUST, SMOKE OR TROUBLE. BEST SUMMER COOK STOVE WE EVER SAW, MAKES KITCHEN WORK EASY AND LIGHT.

PAINTS. VARNISH, BRUSHES.

Everybody knows the high quality of John Lucas' celebrated paints. We have it in all colors and in any quantity. Also Johns' and Metropolitan.

THE LEADING IMPLEMENTS: Oliver Chilled plows, South Bend Plows, Disc Harrows, Spring Tooth Harrows, Sulkey and Hand Cultivators, Field Rollers, Lawn Mowers, besides other smaller implements all at bottom prices. Galvanived Wire Netting for Poultry yards, from 2 to 5 ft high. Tons of best Iowa Barb Wire. We extend cordial invitation to everybody to call and see us.

Shannahan & Wrightson Hardware Co.

WHEATLEY'S MUSICAL EMPORIUM MOVED

FROM HIS FORMER PLACE ON GOLDSBOROUGH STREET TO ONE OF THOSE

LARGE, BEAUTIFUL ROOMS .... ON DOVER STREET,

IN THE SHANNAHAN BUILDING. WE DID'NT ANNOUNCE OUR REMOVAL IN ADVANCE, BUT IT IS ALREADY KNOWN BY EVERYBODY WHO HAVE CHANCED TO PASS OUR NEW PLACE OF BUSINESS, BECAUSE IT IS THE NEXT THING TO AN IMPOSSIBILITY TO PASS ALONG DOVER ST. WITHOUT BEING ATTRACTED BY OUR LARGE DISPLAY WINDOWS. BUT PLEASE DON'T GET THE IDEA THAT ALL OF OUR GOODS ARE IN THE WINDOWS, BUT COME AND TAKE A LOOK AT THE INSIDE OF OUR STORE, WE THINK WE CAN CONVINCE YOU THAT WE HAVE THE

Largest and Finest Stock Musical Merchandise

ON THE EASTERN SHORE, CONSISTING OF FINE

Pianos, Organs, Guitars, Banjos, Mandolins, Autoharps,

SHEET MUSIC, AND MUSIC BOOKS, IN FACT EVERYTHING KNOWN TO THE MUSIC TRADE CAN BE SUPPLIED YOU FROM OUR STORE. A CORDIAL WELCOME IS WAITING EVERY LOVER OF MUSIC. THANKING YOU FOR PAST PATRONAGE AND BEGGING A CONTINUANCE OF SAME, I REMAIN, VERY RESPECTFULLY.

J. W. WHEATLEY.

PRIZES

for Euchre or Whist Parties are easy to select from the large assortment of such goods we always keep in stock.

WEDDING GIFTS

of Gorham Silver, Plated Ware, Fancy Brass Ware.

O. F. STURMER, The Jeweler.