THE EASTON GAZETTE.

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WILSON M. TYLOR & BRO., Editors.

S. ELLIOTT SHANNAHAN, Local Reporter and Foreman

Easton, Maryland, December 10, 1898.

"I dream'd
That stone by stone I reared a sacred fane,
A temple, neither pagod, mosque nor church,
But loftier, simpler, always open-door'd
To every breath from heaven, and Truth and Peace
And Love and Justice came and dwelt therein."

IT is more and more apparent to local-optionists each year that the stringent laws against the sale of spirituous liquors in this community are actually violated in an increasing ratio. The court records show it. The convictions are severe and punishments are meted out to the full extent of the law by an unsympathizing Court, and yet the traffic increases.

What is to be done?

The arguments are old and lengthly upon every phase of the question, and yet the desirable condition for all has not yet been theorized much less practiced.

Some say the law is all right—but enforce it. The enforcing seems to increase the evil. Rout out one seller and his customers soon find two or more to fill the vacancy. There are those so crazed by a desire to have drink for themselves and dispense it at a profit, that they gladly take their chances, and it is safe to conclude that but a meagre per centum are held responsible to the law.

The expense of all this to the taxpayer is alarming. The class that brings this cost to the community is a class of worthless people without property as a rule, and whose moral responsibility is practically nothing.

The long and short of it is this class is a cankering sore upon the body politic, and the effort to cleanse, purify and heal has so far resulted in failure.

But some say the conditions now are far, far better than they were in by-gone days when dram shops flourished at every corner; that it is safe for ladies to be on the street now at all times day and night; that the time has been, when it was not safe on a public day for her to be upon the street in day time.

Probably true. We are no advocate of the dram shop. Far from it. But in answer will say due consideration must be given to the general advancement of civilization in all departments during the last forty years. People live differently, read more, have better facilities for travel, and are broader in all that pertains to life and modes of conduct, and to this general advancement, together with local option, must be accredited the present condition of security and safety to ladies.

But suppose the present state continues with drunkenness on the increase, what will the next forty or thirty or even ten years produce? Will it then be still safer for ladies on the streets of Easton than now?

The Prohibitionists may say, "I told you so—no temperance enactments by the old parties will ever bring about a quiescent state of affairs concerning the disposition of liquor." But be it noticed that the third party is fast losing its pronounced leaders, not because of any change of mind upon the moralty of temperance, but because of change of theory concerning best methods to adopt, based upon the experience of States and sections, adopting prohibition legislation.

The GAZETTE pointed out these probable results as long as ten years ago, that is, that prohibition of itself would be ineffectual.

The root of the evil lies deeper than the letter of the law.

We have a population in this community, not unlike that of hundreds of other communities south of the Mason & Dixon Line, where the pauper and idle classes are on the numerical increase. The most natural result follows. Liquor is not the cause but the accompaniment. Be it taken from them entirely, the seeds of idleness and ignorance will dovelop other evils as detrimental to the peace and decency of the community.

Could the proper remedy once be substituted, crime and arrests, the result of direct violations of the local option law would largely be mitigated. The importation of liquor to this county if entirely checked—which is impossible by enactment—would lessen, merely lessen for a time the offences against society. Some inventive genius would suddenly devise a home product, not imdorted, that would be as vile in its character as the worst rum now used.

The root of the trouble as suggested above is lack of better employment for the classes that breed these criminals.

If the county had the power to spend as much money for the establishment of industrial schools together with compulsory education, as it has to prosecute criminals, there would be a decided improvement as the years progressed instead of retrogression among these people.

They would gradually learn the wholesomeness of honest toil with a prospective field before them and begin to think something of themselves and take pride in citizenship.

They are now sent to the House of Correction until its walls will scarcely accommodate them, merely to come home disgraced, with no self respect, abandoned, and tenfold more to be dreaded than before.

The whipping post has been suggested. That will lessen cost, but not correct the evil.

Strike at the root—idleness, and annihilate that, and the work is accomplished.

It would be better if Talbot could employ these petty violators, and able bo lied persons upon the pub highways rather than board them during the winter in a comfortable steam-heated building.

MR PARLETT HONORED.

Office of Collector of Internal Revenue in this District Rated No. 1.

Collector of Internal Revenue B. F. Parlett has been highly complimented by the Department at Washington, which, after a thorough investigation by an accredited agent, has pronounced the office one of the best conducted in the United States. As is usual in all cases where the conditions are entirely satisfactory, the local bureau has been rated No. 1. There are few offices in the country thus honored.

The honor is bestowed only when the report shows that all the various accounts are in first-class shape, the records accurate and the general management of the office beyond criticism.

Collector Parlett bears the reputation of being one of the most careful and painstaking officials in the service. He devotes all of his time to the business of the Department, and is rarely absent from his post during the working hours. When the war tax went into effect it required the the closest application to carry out the decrees of the Government, and for weeks Mr. Parlett remained at his office until long after midnight. His devotion to duty is now recognized by the Government, which has bestowed upon him the highest honor that can be conferred upon an official

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WANAMAKER'S.

Philadelphia, Monday, December 5, 1898.

A Happy Christmas Month To All This store of yours, with longer experience than any in this city in the full round of merchandise, offers you its improved and enlarged facilities, confident that it can care for you in every way better than ever before.

Three Thousand Styles of Handkerchiefs And every one pure linen—free from admixture or tow threads. Every one pure linen, unless as purely silk. No, one exception—it is half silk and half linen.



We shall be selling twenty thousand a day in a fortnight—of course, rapidly exhausting the lots. The great choosing time is now.

French Handkerchiefs, hand-woven and hand-worked.

Irish Handkerchiefs—and we take Belfast her biggest orders.

Swiss Handkerchiefs, for the sake of some specially pretty embroidery.

In the whole length and breadth of the land there isn't such another handkerchief store. And the selling of handkerchiefs, which everybody knows, may be taken as a measure and test of the stocks and mode of selling less familiar goods.

Prices? Five cents to fifty dollars apiece.

Women's Shoes, $2.50 Curing a blunder—the blunder of buying too much leather—the shoemaker said he would sell us six hundred pairs of what he counted $4 shoes to retail at $2.50. He got the leather cost back; he got out in the easiest way. The shoes in button and lace.

Patent leather and plain kid tipped kidskin shoes.

Box-calf shoes.

Dull-finish kidskin shoes.

Any of these styles $2.50.

Men's $3 Shoes These leathers—shell cordovan; calfskin, smooth and "box;" tan chrome calfskin; tan winter russet, patent and enamel.

These shapes—London, waukenphast, bulldog, wide French, Klondike and natural.

Almost any $3 shoe will give service—the price easily provides for sturdy leather and strong stitching. But it takes study, planning and economy in making and selling to furnish really stylish and thoroughly serviceable shoes for $3. Four dollars is the logical price—the easily met price, and the one generally charged. We are sure that the $3 shoes here have every element of cost and service to be found in the best regular $4 shoes sold in any other store.

You buy shoes on faith—take chances, or have confidence in the seller. You don't know them—can't know them, until tried by wear. That's why some people pay too much and some too little for shoes—yes, it is possible to pay too little.

We'd ask you to buy otherwise than in confidence here—but you can't. We'll simply not abuse it.

Holiday Slippers It's a thoughtful gift that carries luxurious comfort to the recipient. What more suggestive of cozy ease than slippers? The Christmas shoe store is ready with its splendid holiday show of

Slippers for Men
Slippers for Women
Slippers for Children

And there is newness in the styles; betterness in the making—more comfort, more prettiness; and easy prices, too.

The slippers for women and children are dainty in style; have soft, easy soles, and yet serviceable as good shoe-making can make them. The felt slippers are prettily trimmed with fur.

Men's Slippers, in Romeo, Faust, Opera and Harvard shapes, of chrome-tanned kidskin, alligator and sealskin, in chestnut-brown and black; also felt slippers with leather or felt soles. This hint of price ranges—

Men's Slippers, 50c to $3
Women's Slippers, 50c to $3
Children's Slippers, 50c to $1.75.

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Prescriptions Always Compounded with Care and at Lowest Rates.

Only the best and purest drugs used in our prescriptions. We have an excellent line of fresh proprietory and

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Everything that a well stocked and well regulated drug store should have we also have. We have been headquarters for many years in all kinds of

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Our Holiday assortment is here, engraving free.

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Easton National Bank of Maryland.

DECEMBER 7, 1898.

Notice is hereby given that the President and Directors of this Bank have this day declared a dividend of *Five Per Cent.*, less taxes, deducted therefrom, paid by the Bank, payable to the Stockholders or their legal representatives on or after this date.

S D L C R. THOMAS, Cashier.

Easton National Bank of Maryland.

EASTON, Md., Dec 6, 1898.

Notice is hereby given to the Stockholders of this institution that an election will take place at the Banking House on TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 1899, between the hours of 11 a. m. and 1 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of electing directors to serve for the ensuing year. S-D R. THOMAS, Cashier.

Farmers and Merchants National Bank.

EASTON, Md., Dec. 6, 1898.

Notice is hereby given to the Stockholders of this institution that an election will take place at the Banking House on TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 1899, between the hours of 11 a. m. and 1 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of electing directors to serve for the ensuing year. F. C. GOLDSBOROUGH, Cashier.

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This is a good season to paint, and we carry in all colors, the largest stock in town of the celebrated Lucas' and the Longman and Martinez paints. Consult us before you buy, and get something that will please 50c in quality and price.

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We have the Sheller and Cutter that catches the eye of the farmer because they are the best and cheapest on this market.

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A new stock just received. Double and Single breech loading, cheaper than ever. Try us.

Robes, Blankets and horse covers.

Covers are cheapers than chills, and our counters are piled up with beautiful blankets, just received.

Wagons, Carriages and Harness.

We sell more farm wagons than all competitors combined because we sell the best wagon with the biggest guarantee for the least money. We may say the same of Harness and we have also had a fine carriage trade, because of the price and quality.

The Largest Bicycle Dealers on the Peninsula.

Keep in mind we are the leading wheel dealers, and as the season is drawing to a close, we have some of the tallest bargains you ever saw to reduce stock. Delays are dangerous. We have an expert gun machinist. Repairing done at moderate prices.

YOUR FRIENDS

Shannahan & Wrightson Hardware Co.

FURNITURE, CARPETS, AND CURTAINS.

Elegance, Moderate Cost and Unequalled Assortments are the characteristics of our stock. It represents the best of everything in Carpeting, Furniture and Curtains.

The satisfaction of selecting from such a stock will be self evident.

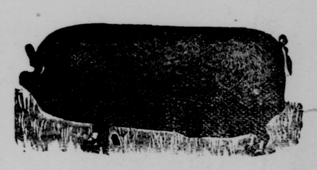
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Hog Scrapers, everyone guaranteed	15 cents
Beam Scales	$1.35
Lard Cans	28 and 30 cents
Dairy Salt, Large Sacks	$1.25

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