THE EASTON GAZETTE.

VOL. 83. NO. 28. EASTON, MD., SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1899. WHOLE NO. 4290.

A NEW COMMISSIONER.

Mr. S. E. Whitman Defeats Mr. John C. Henry

AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY.

A Vote of 279 to 73—The Largest Majority Ever Obtained by a Town Commissioner. Sketch of Mr. Whitman—His First Public Office.

THE annual town election was held in Easton last Monday between the hours of 2 and 6 P. M. for a successor to Mr. John C. Henry. As stated in these columns some weeks ago, Mr. Henry declared his intention of retiring from the commissionership at the expiration of his term (the fourth), whereupon S. E. Whitman yielded to the solicitations of many friends and announced himself a candidate. John W. Seemer also announced himself an aspirant but later withdrew. About ten days before the election, prominent citizens urged Mr. Henry to run again, and he finally consented to do so. Mr. Whitman was elected by a vote of 279 to 73. The poll, 352, was the smallest cast in any contested town election since 1888, being 238 behind the record-breaker of 1896, and Mr. Whitman's majority was the largest ever received.

Sketch of the New Commissioner.

Samuel Edward Whitman was born in Standing Stone township, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, April 8, 1855. He is the only living child of Frederick S. and the late Jane M. Whitman. On October 18, 1869, he entered the office of the *Bradford Argus*, Towanda, Pa., remaining there till October 1, 1875, when he moved with his parents to Talbot county, they being in quest of a milder and more healthy climate, which, it is needless to say, they found here. They went on a farm near Chapel, and the subject of this sketch was offered the foremanship of the Easton *Star* on April 1, 1876, which he accepted and filled for twenty years, the paper being edited during that time by Thos. K. Robson, Charles G. Wright, J. Frank Turner and Samuel N. Smith, Jr. In February, 1896, the *Star* and the *Democrat* were consolidated and a new paper called the *Star-Democrat* published. Mr. Whitman became editor and proprietor of that paper on April 15, 1896, which position he still holds. He is a prominent member of the Democratic party but has never heretofore held public office. He is a Mason, as are also his fellow commissioners, Messrs. Willis Flowers and William H. Withgott. He is also a member of the Royal Arcanum and secretary of Guardian Council. He has represented both orders in their State conventions, and his legal lore received just recognition some years ago. He was a member of the Grand Council Committee on Laws and Appeals, Royal Arcanum, and that body overruled one of his decisions. He appealed to the Supreme Council, which sustained him and reversed the ruling of the Grand Council. He was formerly a Red Man and Knight of Pythias. He has been a member of Trinity Cathedral since its formation and is one of its most useful members, being a trustee, lay reader, one of the vested choir, superintendent of the Sunday-school and has acted as warden. For a number of years he was registrar of the Board of Trustees, and has been honored by seven elections to the Diocesan Convention, where he serves with conspicuous ability. Mr. Whitman is a man of wide and varied information, which, coupled with his rare fidelity, easy good nature and open-handed liberality, has won for him general esteem.

Savings Bank Officers.

The Stockholders of the Talbot Savings Bank held their annual meeting Monday and re-elected the old board of directors: Jerome B. Bennett. Charles H Leonard, Samuel Norris, Frank C. Mason, William Reddie, M. B. Nichols, J. J. Wright, Charles H. Hughes, W. C. Littleton, J. Earry Covington, Henry Hollyday, Jr., J. William Salmons. The directors met Tuesday afternoon and reorganized by re-electing the old officers, as follows:

President—Jerome B. Bennett,
Vice President—Chas. H. Leonard,
Cashier—William W. Spence,
Solicitor—J. Harry Covington,
Investing Committee—Charles H. Hughes, M. B. Nichols, Wm. Reddie,

The bank is entering into its fifteenth year and indications are that it will be the most prosperous yet experienced.

Spain's Greatest Need.

Mr. R. P. Oliva, of Barcelona, Spain, spends his winters at Aiken, S. C. Weak nerves had caused severe pains in the back of his head. On using Electric Bitters, America's greatest Blood and Nerve Remedy, all pain soon left him. He says this grand medicine is what his country needs. All America knows that it cures liver and kidney trouble, purefies the blood, tones up the stomach, strengthens the nerves, puts vim, vigor and new life into every muscle, nerve and organ of the body. If weak, tired or ailing you need it. Every bottle guaranteed, only 50 cents. Sold by Dr. Councell's Drug Store.

I have been a sufferer from chronic diarrhoea ever since the war and have used all kinds of medicines for it. At last I found one remedy that has been a success as a cure, and that is Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy.—P. E. GRILHAM, Gaars Mills, La. For sale by Harry Roberts.

TOLD IN BRIEF.

Happenings of the Week in Condensed Form.

A large lumber dealer of the South was in town on Friday last and reported himself as immensely pleased with Easton. He said he had never seen a town that pleased him so much That its people were courteous and cordial, its stores larger and more attractive than is usual to find in country towns and its industries substantial.

The report of the Directors of Dover Bridge, made Tuesday to the County Commissioners, shows the receipts for the year ending May 1, 1899. to have been $932.22 and the expenditures, $929.01. The Board is composed of Messrs. R. D. Bradley and James A. Noble of Caroline, and B. H. Brenneman, of Talbot.

Dr. J. E. M. Chamberlaine has recently resigned from the local Board of Pension Examining Surgeons and Dr. J. B. Merrit has been appointed in his place. The Board reorganized last Wednesday by electing Dr. Thomas A. Councell president, Dr. Merritt secretary and Dr. C. M. Steele treasurer.

Deputy Sheriff Loockerman has bought the Caldwell property on Railroad avenue recently owned by Robert Soulsby for $1,550. Mr. Loockerman will move there in the near future. H. H. Langsdale sold the property.

Miss Jessie V. Kerr is busy training a company of young Easton ladies for a performance in Music Hall at an early date. The characters will be the most unique and attractive that art and natural beauty can produce.

The roof of Samuel Norris' store caught fire Saturday afternoon arond the chimney and burned through, but was put out by garden hose before fire department arrived.

Mr. Draper Gibson arrived in town Tuesday morning after an extended sojourn on the Western Shore, and was welcomed by his old friends Buck Wrightson and others.

Members of Star of the East Lodge are urged to be present at the meeting next Monday evening, the 8th, as business of great importance is to be brought before the lodge.

Dr. Tanner fasted forty days, but Easton people do not live that way. They like a good table and keep it supplied from Samuel Norris' Provision Depot.

There was a very sudden change in the weather Wednesday afternoon, the mercury falling 20° in an hour. Cool weather has prevailed ever since.

The past April could hardly have been called the month of showers, as there were but two rainy days out of the thirty.

Dr. J. B. Merritt has improved his residence with a new porch.

A number of bets on the election in Baltimore were made in Easton.

YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS.

What You and They Have Been and Are Doing.

Mr. Wilson M. Tylor has been absent several days the past week in Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York, investigating methods pertaining to education.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Fechtig, jr., of Baltimore, are spending a few days with Miss Martha MacDonald.

Miss Willie Hardcastle has returned from Atlanta and the South, where she spent the winter.

Commissioner Whitman went to Baltimore on Tuesday to get the election returns.

Mr. J. E. Tylor, of Baltimore, and Mr. Guion Miller, of Washington, are in Easton.

General Joseph B. Seth has formed a law partnership with George W. Wilson.

Miss Helen Pratt has returned home after five month's stay in New York.

Miss Della Austin has returned from a two week's visit in Baltimore.

Mrs. Caleb Griffin, of Baltimore, is visiting in Oxford.

Mrs. Isaac A. Barber was in Baltimore last week.

Rev. Dr. Adams was in Philadelphia on Thursday.

Talbot Compared With Other Counties.

Dorchester county claims to be the banner county of the shore and to dispel these claims it would not be amiss to give the taxable basis of several Eastern Shore counties as returned by the last re-assessment. Dorchester's basis is $6,516,051, her tax rate is $1.02½ and she pays into the State treasury $11,565,99. Talbot's basis is $8,103,532, her rate is 99 cents and she pays to the State $14,-383,77. This shows that Talbot with an area a third smaller than Dorchester, is richer by nearly $2,000,000. Caroline county's basis is $4,668,185; Worcester's $5.327,366 and Wicomico $4.855,307. Talbot's area is the smallest on the shore if not in the State and yet stands among the richest. Figures don't lie, and it would be well for our Dorchester friends to remember it.

It will be to your interest to see us before placing your order for Corn or Tomato Fertilizers.

LEANDER R. HOOPER,
4-22-tf Manufacturers' Agent.

If you want Bush Lima Beans, go to Nevius & Frampton for them.

GEO. T. ROBINSON.

NEW TOWN GOVERNMENT.

Appointments to be Made—Reforms Suggested.

The new Board of Town Commissioners met last night, organized and adjourned till next week, when some local appointments will be made. It is reported that the applicants for the several positions are numerous, among those spoken of for bailiff being Wm. Grace (present incumbent), Samuel E. Tucker, J. B. Fairbank, T. J. Thompson and Michael McHale. Those mentioned for town clerk are Wm. J. Benny, Daniel R. Cox (present clerk), Robert T. Kirby and C. C. Nichols. For tax collector a number of good men are mentioned, among whom are Alfred B. Mason, Charles E. Nicols, A. G. Pascault, Frank C. Mason and D. R. D. Cheezum. It may be authoritatively stated, however, that no appointments but that of bailiff will be made before next month.

Commissioner Withgott is interested in a resolution to have the board meet twice a month and at night, as it appears that the business of the town suffers for lack of attention.

It has also been suggested that a street commissioner be named, whose duties shall be to have entire control of the streets, and that a reduction in the salary of bailiff be made to help to pay said commissioner. It seems that the bailiff now performs the duties both of that office and also of street commissioner, and it is believed that better service would result from dividing the duties.

Health Officer Councell Reports.

Dr. Councell made the following report to the County Commissioners on Tuesday:

GENTLEMEN:

I herewith hand you my third annual report as health officer for Talbot county for the year ending May 1, 1899.

No epidemics of any consequence have occurred during the past year, and only a few sporadic cases of scarlet fever and diphtheria have been met with, and these have speedily recovered.

The towns of our county are in a very fine sanitary condition and only an occassional complaint of some drain or cesspool is received.

In regard to Easton your secretary would recommend that the meadow at the north of the town be thoroughly drained and the old sewer running from Dover street across Railroad avenue be cleaned, as they are both a menace to health; especially is this true of the Railroad avenue sewer.

Thanking you for your kindness extended at all times, I am faithfully yours, T. A. COUNCELL, M. D.
Sec. Talbot Co. Board of Health.

The Library Lecture Course.

The exhibition at the High School last night conducted by Wilson M. Tylor, was well attended. The lantern used was made especially for him according to his specifications and used for the first time. The kinetoscope attachment is compact and handy, allowing films of any length to be run through rapidly—thus producing the most recent effects in screen illumination and moving pictures. The views given last evening were a miscellaneous assortment of geological scenery, travel, Mexican views taken on the trip of the National Editorial Association two winters ago and many views of Talbot fascinating to the sportsman.

Next Friday night the Library Lecture Course will be continued by the address of Col. J. C. Mullikin upon Cuba. This promises to be very entertaining and tickets may be had at the drug stores for 25c, school children 10c. Proceeds for use of Mercantile Library.

The Seal of Oxford.

Alexander Lednum, shipper of junk at the Delaware and Chesapeake Railroad Station, found in a lot of scrap iron he was loading on cars two weeks ago the long-lost official seal of the collector of the port of Oxford. There is no date on the seal, but its history is known sufficiently to describe it as the official seal of the first collector of Oxford after the revolutionary war. The pictorial design is a cut of a ship under sail, somewhat of a nondescript, the vessel is, resembling a caraval of Columbus' time, the legend in Roman capital letters around the circumference of the die is "Port of Oxford, Maryland." Mr. Lednum gave his finding to Mr. Jas. L. Banning, of Bailey's Neck, its proper custodian, as collateral descendant of Robert Banning, whose commission as collector of the port of Baltimore. signed by President Washington, is still in existence.

Talbot Property to be Sold.

Thomas J. Keating, acting for all the heirs at law of the late John Coppage, has filed a bill in the Circuit Court for Queen Anne's county, asking that a trustee be appointed for the sale of the large landed estate of the deceased, situate in Queen Anne's and Talbot counties, in order that a satisfactory division may be made among the heirs. The estate consists of about 1,500 acres in Queen Anne's and 1,000 acres in Talbot, there being 9 farms in the former county and one in the latter, known as the Davis farm. The estate is estimated to be worth about $70,800.

That Throbbing Headache

Would quickly leave you, if you used Dr. King's New Life Pills. Thousands of sufferers have proved their matchless merit for Sick and Nervous Headaches. They make pure blood and strong nerves and build up your health. Easy to take. Try them. Only 25 cts. a box. Money back if not cured. Sold at Dr. Councell's Drug Store.

INVENTED THE REAPER.

That Honor Belongs to Fayette Gibson, of Talbot County.

THE GAZETTE published some weeks ago a lengthy article relative to the first reaper ever made, in which credit of the invention was given to a Hagerstown man. It now appears that the patentee was a Talbot county man, named Fayette Gibson, who owned "Marengo" estate on Miles River Neck. Hussey, the patentee of the harvester, lived in Cincinnatti, but had a shop in Hagerstown where the machines were made The Hagerstown paper says;

"In the issue of the Maryland Herald of April 20, 1837, appears an advertisement by Hussey, and a report, of "The Board of the Maryland Agricultural Society of Eastern Shore" on the machine. It recites that the board had invited Mr. Hussey to bring one of the machines to Maryland, and gives an account of a public exhibition of its performance in the harvest field at Oxford, Talbot county, on July 1st, 1836, and at Easton on July 12. It was subsequently taken to the farm of Tench Tilghman where 189 acres of wheat, oats and barley were cut with it. Three mules furnished the motive power, and the report says that they worked it with as much ease as if it were a "drag harrow." The report is signed by gentlemen who were prominent in their day and generation, including Robert H. Goldsborough, Samuel Stevens, Samuel T. Kennard, Robert Banning, Nicholas Goldsborough, Samuel Hambleton, Sr., Michael Goldsborough, Horatio N. Edmondson and Tench Tilghman.

While there is no documentary evidence to establish the claim, some of our older citizens are satisfied from their own recollection that the credit of inventing the reaper belongs to the late Fayette Gibson, a citizen of Talbot. The first reaper was built after a model made by Mr. Gibson at a blacksmith shop in Miles River Neck. It was exhibited at the fair grounds near Easton, and there Mr. Hussey saw it and shortly afterward patented it. Mr. Gibson's home was the fine estate on Miles river known as "Marengo." Part of the original reaper, as well as the wooden model of the machine, was at the Marengo house when it was burned down in 1847. This is another instance apparently of the fate of many inventors. Some one else gets the benefit of their ideas, and they to whom the credit should belong are unknown or forgotten.

MEMORIAL DAY.

Commander Coburn's Card Relative to Its Observance.

Decoration day will be observed on the 30th inst. by Hicks Post, G. A. R., of Easton, with the beautiful services of the order. The post has secured Dr. T. W. Cuddy, a prominent G. A. R. man of Baltimore, well known as a successful lecturer and fine speaker, as orator of the day. On invitation of Rev. Dr. Adams, the post, on the preceding Sunday, the 28th, will attend divine service at Ebenezer M. E. Church. The citizens have always been generous in their contributions of flowers and funds for Memorial day exercises, and we respectfully ask that their kindness, as in the past, will be extended to us this year also. The post will make every effort in their power to make the coming anniversary equal, if not superior, to any former occasion. It can easily be done if our friends will respond to our efforts.

The recent war with Spain has served to revive the memories of the civil war through which our nation passed nearly forty years ago, and cause our people to remember the heroism and sacrifices of those who then were fighting in defense of what they believed to be their liberties. Nor was our side alone in this, but those who were opposed to us at that time were equally sincere in their actions. The war with Spain has done more to demonstrate the fact that we are one people than anything else since the close of the civil war. In this last struggle those who wore the blue and the men who wore the gray were found side by side in maintaining the honor of our nation and today stand ready to honor the memory of their former foes and those of their own side with equal sincerity and patriotism.

With these facts so well known, we believe that the people of Talbot will join with the veterans of both armies of the civil war in decorating the graves of those who died in battle or have since fallen by the way and who rest in our beautiful Spring Hill Cemetery. THOS. H. COBURN,
Commander Post No. 24.

Many old soldiers now feel the effects of the hard service they endured during the war. Mr. Geo. S. Anderson, of Rossville, York county, Penn., who saw the hardest kind of service at the front, is now frequently troubled with rheumatism. "I had a severe attack lately," he says, "and procured a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It did so much good that I would like to know what you would charge me for one dozen bottles." Mr. Anderson wanted it both for his own use and to supply it to his friends and neighbors, as every family should have a bottle of it in their home, not only for rheumatism, but lame back, sprains, swellings, cuts, bruises and burns, for which it is unequalled. For sale by Harry Roberts.

The Furniture Factory.

The proposed furniture factory for Easton is assuming definite shape. The manufacturer who will manage the concern is in town and a meeting of the board of trade and those interested was held yesterday, when a general discussion was made.

WHERE WILL YOU GO THE COMING SUMMER?

The Many and Varied Attractions as a Resort Offered by Talbot County.

SUPERIOR LOCATION, DELIGHTFUL CLIMATE, HOSPITABLE PEOPLE.

Oxford and St. Michaels among the Most Popular Towns on the Eastern Shore for Summer Boarders—Hundreds of Charming Homes for the Hot Weather in Every Part of Talbot County—The Most Interesting County, from an Historical View, in the State.



AS THE sweltering heat and the long, sultry days of summer will soon be realized, the attention of the great suffering, town-wearied masses living in the cities, who can and do spend a portion of the heated term in the country, is being directed to the selection of summer homes. Quiet, shady nooks are being sought out, where wives and children may spend the summer without separating families and entailing unnecessary expenses. Fresh air, fresh fruits and vegetables, bowers, country milk and the unrestrained freedom and delights of a stay in the country are now being looked for. No county in the State can so fully meet every possible demand of the summer-home seeker as can Talbot, the garden spot of Maryland. The entire county is a delightful combination of fruit orchards, flower and truck gardens, interspersed with fields of ripened grain, while her pastures and meadows are dotted with as fine herds of stock as can be found in any of the great dairy sections of the country. With improved sanitary conditions and most progressive system of land cultivation, malaria and chills have become a thing of the past, and that most persistent bill presenter, the festive mosquito, is practically unknown.

An Abundantly Watered Section and Convenient to All the Large Cities.

Located in the center of the peninsula known as the "Eastern Shore of Maryland," almost surrounded by two great arms—estuaries—of the Chesapeake bay and the bay itself, pierced in every part by navigable waters that abound with fish, oysters, crabs, terrapin and wild fowl in their season, with water fronts on the Chesapeake bay, Choptank, Tred Avon Miles and Wye rivers, which furnish transportation facilities for every farm, and make a landing near all estates for sailing crafts, there is no farm more than 4½ miles from navigable water. Traveling facilities are very great. A steamer line leaves Baltimore daily except Sunday for Easton and Oxford, and leaves these towns for the city daily save Saturday. A daily train service to Baltimore (except Sunday) is maintained over the Baltimore, Chesapeake and Atlantic Railway, and a double daily and Sunday schedule will shortly be put into operation. The Pennsylvania Railroads conducts a double service week-days to and from Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and Wilmington, and a very favorite method of reaching Baltimore is over the Queen Anne's Railroad, which makes connection with the Pennsylvania system at Queen Anne. The land is high and slightly rolling, gently sloping toward the bay. Nature has provided for this section one of the best systems of drainage in the world; the several rivers and their tributaries pervade all parts and perform the same functions here that hundreds of thousands of dollars spent in tilling have not done in other localties.

The Climate Is Luxurious and Extremely Healthful,

being in latitude 38° and 39° N., and longitude 1° E. from Washington, the national capital, and 76° W. from Greenwich, with a mean annual temperature of 55° and 60°; on the same isothermal line as many of the favorite health and pleasure resorts of France and Italy. The Gulf Stream flows within 90 miles of this place, and the Atlantic Ocean dashes its mighty billows on the sand-capped shores only 70 miles away. These climatic advantages render this particular locality comparatively free from pulmonary diseases, and contagious diseases are unknown in this vicinity. Unlike most comparatively level countries, the climate of Talbot is most beneficial for the health of mankind. With its salubrious breezes, comparatively even temperature and freedom from the great storms and intense heat and cold of other sections, it becomes an earthly paradise to less favored portions of the country. Broad acres, roomy, comfortable houses, with that degree of health which substantial food and pure country air always carry with them, has made the people cultured and extremely hospitable. The door is always open to the guest, and the social environments of the average Talbot home are such that the summer visitor may rest assured that only the most pleasant relations will exist. On the other hand, the class of persons from the cities who seek residence in the country during the summer months are of a character to become a desirable addition to our social life.

The Towns of Oxford and St. Michaels

can accommodate hundreds of visitors in their hotels and cottages. These elegant accommodations never "go begging," but are well filled during the entire heated term. Many a weary citizen has left the torrid cities as hot as the men that bet on Malster, but a short sojourn in these delightful towns makes them as happy as a town commissioner. There are delightful summer homes in abundance throughout the county, especially at and near Royal Oak, Tunis Mills and other sections. A new house has recently been opened at "Woodstock", near Easton, which is destined to be very popular. For many years Oxford, which has two steamer lines, has been a favorite resort for city boarders, and each year the number increases. In Bayside, where the waters of Eastern bay kiss its grassy, graceful shores, may be found pleasant summer accommodations, and not a few have erected homes there. This section has improved wonderfully since the opening of the B., C. & A. Railway and the formation of the Bay Side Land and Improvement Company. Without specifying any particular district, it may be said that any part of Talbot county will be found more than acceptable to the summer visitor. There are also many other delightfully located homes in the county, where the summer days, with fishing, boating and other pleasures to be offered, could be made one continuous, delightful picnic, and they will be made the sources of much profit and pleasure during the coming heated term. To the summer visitor the heartiest welcome will be extended. May you come often and stay long and reap the benefits that a few weeks within our borders never fail to bestow.

Talbot County Attracting Settlers from Far and Near.

It is but natural that such a highly favored section should command the attention of homeseekers, and many a person of prominence has come within these borders during the past few years. Col. Oswald Tilghman, Mr. John M. Elliott and other zealous real estate brokers have done very much to make these attractions known, and their efforts have been crowned with great success. Some years ago Dr. Lewis Buffett, the most noted dentist of Cleveland, Ohio, came here and occupied the beautiful "Sunset Farm," on Miles river, now a very popular resort. Mr. Charles E. Henderson, president of the Reading Coal and Iron Company of Philadelphia, bought the "Rest," at Miles river bridge, from the heirs of the late Admiral Franklin Buchanan, and the "Anchorage," immediately opposite, the former home of the late Commodore Charles Lowndes, is now the property of Col. Charles A. Chipley, late General Freight Agent of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Others that have come into the community include Mr. W. W. Lynn, Major Hiram L. Holden, Walter Rasin, Esq., late of Baltimore, now at "The Beeches," and many more. Isaac H. and William T. Dixon, of Baltimore, have homes in Talbot. Many of the most prominent business men came from abroad, such as ex-Congressman Barber, Town Commissioner Whitman, of Easton, W. P. Chaffinch, J. J. Wright, John S. Griffith, Martin M. Wright, Oscar F. Sturmer, A. H. Matthews, Charles W. Clark, Jr., Simon A. Nevius, C. C. and Dr. George F. Nickerson, B. L. Fleming, Henry Shreve, A. A. Miller, W. T. A. Loockerman, James T. Robinson, Capt. Hedge Thompson, Dr. Jas. A. Stevens and others.

Some Very Interesting Historical Facts.

Oxford is the oldest town in the State except St. Mary's City, having been established in 1640. Old Whitemarsh Church, lately destroyed by fire, was the oldest Episcopal house of worship in Maryland, and in its cemetery was interred Robert Morris, father of the founder of the Bank of North America. General Tench Tilghman was aide-de-camp on Washington's staff, and his sword is now in possession of his great-grandson, Col. Oswald Tilghman, who served with great gallantry in the Confederate army. Col. Tilghman is a member of the Order of the Cincinnati, as is also Mr. Henry Shreve, whose grandfather was indeed "a man of war from his youth," for he was in the expedition against Quebec when but 13 years of age and in the Revolution served at Brandywine and Monmouth and spent the fearful winter at Valley Forge. This county suffered severely from the pillage of the British army after its repulse at Baltimore in 1814, and a house in St. Michaels was riddled by hostile bullets. Royal Oak was named from an oak tree girdled by a chainshot fired by this army. The county furnished numbers of troops in the Mexican war, one of whom, Gen. E. L. F. Hardcastle, is mentioned in history for gallant service at Chapultepec. The citizens were greatly divided at the outbreak of the civil war, and many wearers of the blue and the gray yet survive. In the war of 1898 Talbot countians served at Santiago and San Juan. There are numerous historical societies, such as G. A. R., Sons of Veterans, Daughters of the Confederacy, etc.