THE EASTON GAZETTE.

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COUNTY AND STATE FAIRS

TO BE HELD AT IDLEWILD PARK SEPTEMBER 26—29.

The First State Fair Here since 1887—Will Be the Largest and Finest Exhibition Ever Given in Easton.

AS THE time for the annual Talbot County Fair, in conjunction with the Maryland State Fair, on September 26 to 29 inclusive, approaches, every indication points more strongly than ever to a larger and more successful exhibition. No doubt many people who have repeatedly attended fairs in the past have thought there was much of sameness in them, but the present management have made such pleasing announcements of high-grade attractions that the fair of 1899 will stand out as the best and most progressive ever held.

The entry books for the fair open Monday, September 11, at the Secretary's office in Easton. Exhibitors are requested to enter their exhibits at as early a date as practicable. The books close Thursday, September 21. The management offers a large and liberal premium list this year in all its departments and asks the co-operation of all interested in the work, whether in the farm or household, artisans or artists. No effort has been spared to make the fair a grand success this year, and it is prepared to accommodate all that will take part. All exhibits will be entered free.

The speed entries for the fair will close September 19th. The purses and conditions this year are liberal and attractive, and all that contemplate participating should send in their entries before that date—better at once. No winning horseman has ever left Talbot Fair without his money. The management cordially invites participation in this year's races and an early entry of horses. The track at Idlewild Park is pronounced by the National Trotting Association one of the finest in the United States.

The management have sufficient assurances to be certain of large exhibits in all the departments, and they confidently predict a most successful and pleasing fair. Here are a few fair facts worth observing:

Upon your arrival at the grounds with stock or articles for exhibition, inquire for Superintendent of Department in which entries are made, who will assign you space and direct the arrangement of your exhibits.

Accept no rumors in regard to the Fair. Read the book and rules carefully, and if not clear as to what you want, inquire of the officials, whose duty is to inform you. Much of the trouble of the exhibitors arises from not attending to business for themselves.

The success of the county fair depends largely upon the manner in which the public patronize it. The managers will do justice to all, and all in their power to make the fair of 1899 a grand success.

It remains for exhibitors to aid in this by making numerous entries, and for the public to patronize it liberally.

County Convention.

The annual county convention of the W. C. T. U. will be held in the Court Room at 9.30 A. M. Monday. Among the speakers to attend will be Mrs. Belle Kearney and Mrs. Mary R. Haslup, State President. Lunch will be served to the delegates at the headquarters room on Maryland avenue. Mrs. Kearney will address the convention in the evening. Mrs. Haslup will visit the local societies in the county, being at Sherwood at 8 o'clock this evening. To-morrow at 10.30 A. M. she will be at Wittman and at 8 P. M. at Royal Oak.

A Great Day at the Ocean.

Through the kindness of the B. C. & A. Ry. Co. the children of the Home for the Friendless at Easton had a delightful day at Ocean City last week. They enjoyed the ocean to their hearts' content, and their land pleasures were greatly increased by the kindness of Messrs. Hobbs & Libby, who furnished them with comfortable quarters while at luncheon, gave them a free ride on the merry-go-round and in many other ways added to their enjoyment.

Story of a Slave,

To be bound hand and foot for years by the chains of disease in the worst form of slavery. George D. Williams, of Manchester, Mich., tells how such a slave was made free. He says: "My wife has been so helpless for five years that she could not turn over in bed alone. After using two bottles of Electric Bitters, she is wonderfully improved and able to do her own work." This supreme remedy for female diseases quickly cures nervousness, sleeplessnesss, melancholy, headache, backache, fainting and dizzy spells. This miracle working medicine is godsend to weak, sickly run down people. Every bottle guaranteed. Only 50 cents. Sold at Dr Councell's Pharmacy.

Baltimore's Gala Day.

Tuesday, the 12th inst., will be a great day in the Monumental City. Mayor Malster will present a sword to Captain Dyer, of the cruiser Baltimore, and there will be a great parade of the military, the police and fire departments, letter carriers and various civic organizations. An excursion will be run over the Queen Anne's Railroad, tickets good to return same or following day. Fare from Queen Anne, $1.30.

You Certainly Must Be Mistaken.

From the Chestertown Transcript.

Col. Mullikin is playing havoc with Republican harmony in Talbot.

YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS.

What You and They Have Been and Are Doing.



Mrs. Emma B. Moore and son, of Dayton, Florida, and Miss Lydia A. Warner, of Bloomfield, Florida, both formerly of this county are visiting Mrs. Moore's brother, Mr. Isaac Cook of near Trappe.

Miss Lou Coates of Philadelphia is the guest of her sister Mrs. Helen C. Shreve, Easton.

Dr. A. V. Cherbonnier, wife and daughter returned to Easton this week after spending the summer at Emmittsburg. The Doctor says he is glad to get back to Easton.

Miss Jessie Vivien Kerr and her sister, Miss Sophie Kerr will give an entertainment in Trappe High School next Thursday evening for benefit of the school piano.

Rev. E. R. Rich lectured at the Plimhimmon Casino, Ocean City, Tuesday evening on prison life in old Fort Delaware during the Civil War.

Bishop Adams and his family returned to Easton this week. They have spent the month of August at Queenstown.

Mr. Addison E. Mullikin has returned from a trip to Newport, Boston, New York and Philadelphia.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Tylor of Baltimore, have been at Ocean City. They are now visiting in Easton.

Miss Susye Camper, of East New Market is visiting her cousin, Miss Norah Wright, Harrison St.

Miss Nellie Richardson and Miss Nellie Fisher, of Denton are guests of Mrs. S. Elliott Shannahan.

Miss Laura V. Lafearn, of York, Pa., is visiting her niece, Mrs. J. W. Hoshour, on Harrison street.

Dr. L. D. Kelley of the War Department, was in Easton this week. He is now on his vaction.

Mr. Russell Higgins of Easton, spent last week with his uncle W. T. Higgins, Church Neck.

Dr. Alfred Smith and family after spending the summer in Oxford, have returned to Dover, Del.

Samuel Bratt at Oxford, has purchased in Baltimore, a steam yacht called "The Lance."

Mrs. Dr. Garrison and son Shermer, have returned from a two weeks' sojourn at Ocean City.

Geo. T. Robinson and his daughter Miss Ethel, spent several days last week in Salisbury.

Mr. John Caulk, who has been spending the summer at McDaniel, has returned home.

Mrs. Rosa V. Leonard is attending the millinery openings in Philadelphia this week.

Miss Maud Chaplain and Miss Elma Fleming have been visiting in Trappe District.

Col. A. B. Hardcastle, who has been sick for several weeks, is now rapidly improving.

Geo. K. Collier, brother of Mrs. T. A. Councell, is ill with typhoid fever in Easton.

Howard McGill of Baltimore, is visiting Miss Maude McHale.

Miss Nina Beck of Baltimore, is visiting Miss Florence Williams.

More Crops, More Fertilizers, More Money Purses.

The Nickerson Fertilizer Company has just had made to order a large supply of leather money purses containing their complimentary card, which they are distributing to their customers. This is the most unique and significant advertisement they could give, for it virtually means that the farmer and trucker, after using the Eastern Shore Domestic Guano or any goods put up by the Nickerson Fertilizer Company, must have increased facility for carrying his wealth. The company are making and placing more goods than at any time in the past, and the rush for the same keeps everyone busy. The output is many thousands of tons each year.

Grand Tournament at Easton

On Thursday, Sept. 14th, the members of SS. Peter and Pauls church will give a tournament at the fair grounds at Easton. This promises to be a very attractive affair. Knights wishing to ride must communicate with Gus Callahan, Longwoods P. O., or M. B. Nichols Easton. The ladies of the church will furnish a first class dinner on the grounds at 35c. All Knights will be dressed in glittering uniforms. Distinguished speakers will be invited to make the addresses.

Volcanic Eruptions

Are grand, but Skin Eruptions rob life of joy. Bucklen's Arnica Salve, cures them, also Old Running and Fever Sores, Ulcer Boils, Felons, Corns, Warts, Cuts, Bruises, Burns, Scalds, Chapped Hands, Chilblains. Best Pile cure on earth. Drives out Pains and Aches. Only 25cts a box. Cure guaranteed. Sold at Dr. Councell's Pharmacy.

NOW FOR THE OYSTER!

THE SEASON FOR TONGERS OPENED YESTERDAY.

Oysters of Fine Quality in Market—Talbot Has More Beds of this Shellfish than any other County in Maryland.

YESTERDAY the oyster season opened, and by night there was a goodly quantity of very fine bivalves on sale in Easton. The cool weather of the past ten days has greatly benefited the oysters.

In early September the demand for oysters is always light, and it is not until later that the bivalve acquires its best flavor. It is said that none of Talbot's oyster packing houses begin operations until the dredger gets to work, as oysters cannot be dredged till cold weather sets in, and even in midwinter there is much weather that interferes with the work of the shippers. From now on Clerk of the Court Wrightson will be busy issuing licenses to dredgers, as each one is required to take out a license. The fee of the dredger is much more than that of the tonger.

Talbot's Oyster Area.

The oyster area of Talbot county is comprised within the lines in the Miles and Wye rivers and Eastern bay that divide Talbot from Queen Anne's. Poplar Island Narrows, the Chesapeake bay bottoms within Talbot county, extend from the mouth of Eastern bay to the mouth of the Choptank, and lying outside of Poplar, Tilghman's and Sharp's Islands, and Choptank river to the division line between Talbot and Dorchester, and the coves and creeks within these lines. This is a magnificent and productive oyster area, but its productivity and profitableness could be increased fourfold by a proper system of planting and culture. In Miles river there is a natural growth of oysters a mile or more above the bridge; in Wye river to the landing head, and in the Choptank there is natural oyster growth five miles above Cambridge. The first tributary of the Choptank is Harris creek, a long and narrow stream, so full of natural oyster bars as to make navigation difficult except to the most experienced local pilots. On many of these the oysters never get as large as the Maryland law requires marketable oysters to be. These are sold in the spring to Delaware bay and river planters. In those waters they grow very rapidly.

Oysters in the Creeks.

Broad creek is a large and bold estuary of the Choptank, with the following creeks as its estuaries: Ball's, Shade, Lednum's, Rolle's, Edge's and San Domingo. All these except San Domingo (oystermen's vernacular, "Sanderminger,") are named for the earliest settlers on their banks. They as well as the main creek abound in oysters, but there are many unproductive bottoms in all of them, as well as coves tributary to these tributaries, that should be made planting grounds by law which would protect the private enterprises that would take them up. The next tributary to the Choptank is Irish creek. Some of the finest oysters of the Chesapeake grow there. Then comes the Tred Avon river, from Benoni's Point, sweeping past Oxford to Easton Point, and its tributaries, Fox Hole, Tar bay, Plain Dealing on one side, Goldsborough's creek, Trippe's creek and Peach Blossom on the other; and going on up the Choptank, Boone's creek, Island creek, Trappe river (formerly Dividing creek) and Bolingbroke, all fine oyster grounds, the natural growths of which yield to the oystermen many thousands of dollars every year, which would be increased threefold if the barren bottoms in them were properly planted and the planters protected.

Extensive Natural Beds.

The best natural oyster grounds in the county are the Narrows, between Poplar Island and the mainland. There is a strong current always running through these straits, which brings abunance of food to the oysters. They grow very rapidly, and, while never getting very large, are always plump, fat, have a fine flavor and that delicate golden tinge of color which marks to the eye the perfect oyster. The shells of the Poplar Island oysters are hard, and the cups are deep. These grounds are reserved exclusively for tongmen. There is no 10,000 acres of land in Talbot county equal in the value of productivity to that of the oyster bottoms in Poplar Island Narrows.

The sands at the mouth of the Choptank river are famous for the number of oysters they yield, but in size and quality they are not among the best, being far inferior in these respects to the oyster grounds around Sharp's Island and on the western side of Tilghman's Island.

Effects of Dredging.

Scraping and dredging have seeded oysters all over the bottom of Eastern bay, but nearly all of these oyster grounds are overworked every season, hence their maximum productivity has never been ascertained. There is smooth water in Eastern bay when it is too rough to work in the Chesapeake, and then the dredgers raid it. When this bay was opened to scrapers and dredgers a large area of the bottom was barren. The tongmen worked only a few shallow bars, points and flats. The scrapers and dredgers have been the seedsmen.

The Tongmen's Preserve.

Every year for a quarter of a century, to the writer's knowledge, the Miles river oystermen have claimed that the oysters were "broke up" in that river, and there could be no more profitable oystering done there, and in each one of these twenty-five years a good living for 2500 or 3000 people has been made in tonging oysters in Miles river, and it still goes on. This river has been jealously protected for the tongmen. No scrape or dredge has ever legally touched its oyster bottoms, and at least half of them are now barren.

In proportion to its total area Talbot has a larger area of oyster ground than any other county in the State. Their products add much to the prosperity of the county, to the comfort of individuals, to the activities of trade and to the general wealth of the county.

TOLD IN BRIEF.

Happenings of the Week in Condensed Form.

The Appeal Tax Court of Baltimore decided to assess for taxation the steamboats of the Baltimore, Chesapeake & Atlantic Railway Company, running to Baltimore. The court will proceed to have the boats of the company assessed, and will then be prepared to contest in the courts any opposition to the payment of the tax.

Prof. Walter Alexander Graham wishes the public to know that he has removed his shoe-polishing parlor to South Washington street, between Dr. Smithers' and the marble yard. He will be at the usual place on Dover street in daytime and on Sundays until 10.30.

Judging from the large number or wagons loaded with tomatoes that pass through Easton every day for the canneries here, the controversy of last spring over the price to be paid for tomatoes has been settled to the satisfaction of all concerned.

During the past week several counterfit silver half dollars have been discovered in Easton. It is not known where they come from, those discovered being innocently passed by the holders to the people who detected their spionious character.

Mrs. E. E. Baird Chenoweth, of West Virginia, has leased "The Beeches" the country seat on the Peach Blossom of Mr. Walter Rasin, and will open a home school for girls about the 26th of this month.

At SS. Peter and Paul's Church to-morrow, masses at 8 and 10.30 A.M. and evening services at 8. Rev. A. Tanquerey, D. D., of St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, will preach morning and evening.

A New Castle merchant has adopted a novel method to collect bad debts. He has placed the names of several derelict customers on cards and pasted them in his windows.

The Eastern Shore of Maryland is rolling sweet potatoes to the northern markets by the thousands of barrels.

THE FUR TRADE IN TALBOT.

It Amounts to a Considerable Sum of Money Every Season.

The fur trade in Talbot county is assuming proportions every year. It is no unusual sight, in passing through any section of this county, to see the hides of coons, muskrats, minks, and other and less valuable kinds of hides, either nailed against negro huts or on boards to dry.

Then, too, there is no cross-roads store but has its complement of hides taken in exchange for merchandise, to be sold to traders for cash.

The trade in these articles here reaches several thousand dollars in spite of great reductions in prices paid for fur within recent years.

Skins are much cheaper now and scarcer, yet the number of trappers has increased, many colored men making it a regular business. The rabbit and muskrat are the most numerous of our local fur-bearing animals, and, in addition to the skin the animals are sold after being dressed.

Extend the Town Limits.

Now that the census enumerator will soon be around it will be well for the Town Commissioners to extend the limits of the town to take in Hammondtown, Easton Point and the extentions of Dover and Goldsborough streets. This will increase the town's population about 1000 and is undoubtedly the proper policy to pursue, not merely from the standpoint of municipal pride, but it is no more than just that suburban residents who enjoy the advantages of the town government should be made to contribute to its expenses.

Salisbury will do so and Cambridge has already annexed farms for miles around to bring her population up up to what she claims. Claims, however, are easily made and not always substantiated. Easton's census returns will be an honest one and not inflated with from 600 to 800 transient oyster dredgers.

Social Events.

A number of Easton's young people, chaperoned by Mrs. Barclay, of Baltimore, had a most delightful trip round the river on Wednesday. Those composing the party were: Misses Maud McHale, Florence Williams, Minnie and Norah Wright, Nina Beck, Hilda Reisler, Caroline Wilson and Susye Camper; Messrs. Earl Barber, Edward T. Reisler, Norman White, Joe Barclay, Lewis Lachmar, Raymond Cox, Clement Randall.

Miss Maud McHale gave a euchre party at her home on Goldsborough street last evening in honor of Mr. Joe Barclay, of Baltimore.

Bismark's Iron Nerve

Was the result of his splendid health. Indomitable will and tremendous energy are not found where Stomach, Liver, Kidneys and Bowels are out of order. If you want these qualities and the success they bring, use Dr. King's New Life Pills. They develop every power of brain and body. Only 25c at Dr. Councell's Pharmacy.

RAPIDLY WASHING AWAY.

GREAT DESTRUCTION ALONG TALBOT BAY SHORE

By Erosion—Sharp's and Poplar Islands Will Soon Be Obliterated—An Expert Suggests a Remedy Therefor.

THE attention of Prof. F. Lamson-Scribner of the Agricultural Department, was directed recently to the great destruction on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and particularly in Talbot, due to the erosion caused by currents in the bay. For a number of years Professor Lamson-Scribner has been engaged in the investigation of sand-binding grasses for use along the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts. The result of his investigations, becoming widely known, attracted the attention of a Talbot countian owning a farm which is being rapidly washed away. He called at the Department and asked for advice.

Professor Lamson-Scribner advised him to break down the bluff which was being eroded, so as to form a slope, and to plant near the water's edge trees which would grow along the banks, such as willows. He believed that if the farmer planted behind the willows and farther up the banks other trees, in rows, the whole combination would form a protection against the action of the wind and current which would save his property.

Sand-binding grasses, the Professor explained, are of no service in cases of this kind where the loose soil is being washed away. They are useful in holding the sand and preventing it from being blown over large tracts near the sea. What is needed in the case of farms on the Eastern Shore, he said, is something to hold the earth together, and he thought this might be secured by the planting of trees in the manner he described.

Many Changes Being Made.

Many great changes are gradually being effected by the waves of the Chesapeake on the waterfronts of the Eastern Shore. Unlike the high bluffs of the Western Shore, the bluffs on the east of the Chesapeake are low and afford but slight resistance to the rush of waters, and the disadvantage is proving fatal to much of the best farming lands of the shore. In the western exposures the contour of the land has, during very recent years, become entirely changed, many small islands and streams becoming obliterated and new islands formed by action of the current and waves, which, having a sweep of the entire breadth of the bay, necessarily gather great force when striking the lee shore. An example of the changing geography is James' Island, in Dorchester county. Not more than 15 years ago this island was not in existence, but was a great cape on which fertile farms flourished. The island will soon be obliterated.

Sharp's Island Washing Away.

Ten miles north, Sharp's Island, in this county, now owned by Mr. Miller Creighton, of Baltimore, is sharing the same fate. The former extent of this island can be traced by a wide submerged ledge, connecting at the distance of five miles from Talbot and undoubtedly at one time formed a fertile portion of the county. A narrow strip less than a mile in length is all that remains of the ill-fated island and the present generation will probably witness its extinction. Sunken debris of tree roots and trunks far out in the bay tell the same fate at Poplar Island, the shores of which are rapidly receding toward the east. Along these shores for several hundred yards the washing from the hanks is forming shoals preventing navigation for any large craft and making the exit to the bay very difficult to residents along the coast.

Depreciates Land Values.

All along the waterfront of the Eastern Shore where the land is washing, real estate has greatly depreciated in value. While the bay shore is retreating from the waves, other shores are growing out rapidly into the water. A species of salt marsh of very prolific growth comes up along the shore which are protected from the waves and form a catch for the scrub vegetation necessary in the growth of new land. The entire outline of the Chesapeake is undergoing gradual change. Shifting sandbars and shoals from former islands are also effecting channels in the bay. Comparison of the present chart with one in use in the '50's shows great variations in corresponding depths, and in many sections the bottoms of the present are unrecognizable as that of the same location in the early charts.

The Columbia's Tender.

It may not be generally known that the steamer St. Michaels, which has been engaged as the Columbia's tender, is the same vessel that ran to St. Michaels from Baltimore. The round trip consumed about 36 hours. The vessel was owned by the Dodson family, about the most prominent residents of St. Michaels, and a Dodson was captain of the steamer. The day excursion business conducted by the Tolchester Company superseded the night runs of the St. Michaels, and these were finally abandoned. The steamer was sold to New York parties and has not since been seen in Maryland waters. She is comparatively small and is of the propeller class. She was built by Messrs. Woodall & Co. in 1894.

Meintzer, on Dover street, is prepared at all times to furnish ice cream, cakes, confectionery, &c. All varieties but only one grade — the best.

THE SENATORSHIP CASE.

Mr. Covington Claims Mr. Dodson Has Vacated His Seat.

Mr. J. Harry Covington, the Democratic nominee for the State Senate in Talbot, was in Baltimore on Wednesday and conferred with Murray Vandiver, chairman of the state central committee, relative to the Talbot senatorship. Mr. Covington contends that the seat of Mr. Dodson is vacant, because, he claims, he entered the internal revenue service shortly after the adjournment of the Senate last year. The fact of the matter is, Mr. Dodson's salary is a personal one paid by Internal Revenue Collector Parlett, and he is not in the federal service to the extent that he is disbarred from holding a position under the State government contrary to the provision of the State constitution. Talbot Republicans have taken this view of the case and have made no nominations.

Democrats, on the other hand, claim that Mr. Dodson's acceptance of a position in the internal revenue service, without reference to who pays his salary, caused a vacancy in the Senate from Talbot county, and upon this view of the case they nominated Mr. Covington with no expectation of electing him, as the question of the seat is well understood by them, and their present stand is but a bluff.

The two gentlemen called into consultation John Prentiss Poe, who is counsel to the Democratic State Central Committee. The various phases of the case were discussed, and while no definite course was decided upon, it is said at Democratic headquarters that legal steps will be taken to have Mr. Dodson's seat declared vacant. It was agreed that the proper procedure would be to apply for a mandamus to compel the Governor to declare a vacancy in the Senate from Talbot county. The proceeding would take place before Judge Revell at Annapolis, and if the decision should be favorable to the Democrats the Talbot county election supervisors would have to place Mr. Covington's name on the official ballot.

Because of the necessity of the Democrats carrying a majority of the senatorial contests this year, they are displaying great interest in this case.

NEGRO TOWNS.

Talbot Has Three of Them.—Their Interesting History.

It having been published that Hobson City, Ala., is the only town in the United States inhabited exclusively by negroes has caused the New York Sun to find another—Lincolnville, S. C., 25 miles from Charleston.

There are in Talbot county three negro towns and they are inhabited exclusively by colored people. The largest is Hammondtown, just outside the limits of Easton, of which it will undoubtedly be made a part. The other towns are Copperville, just beyond Tunis Mills, and Unionville, or Cowgilltown, about five miles from Easton, across Miles river bridge. This latter town is the most interesting, from the fact that it is entirely isolated from any white settlement.

It was founded in 1864 by Ezekiel Cowgill, of Dover, Del., a member of the Society of Friends, whose object was to provide homes, in a business way, for the freedmen. He bought a large tract of woodland, and after deforesting it laid the ground off in lots which he leased as building sites to negroes only. No lots were sold in fee. In the course of a few years many lots were taken, and dwellings, generally very comfortable ones, were built. There were a church, a schoolhouse, a couple of stores and several industrial shops. In its best days Unionvilie had a population of 400.

The town has now gone to decay. Some of the houses have become uninhabitable, and many of the inhabitants have moved away where they can live among the whites.

THE REED BIRD HERE.

Choptank Marshes Abound With These Edible Little Birds.

The reed and rail bird season in Talbot county will soon begin. Easton sportsmen are making preparations to shoot them and say that there is every indication of a successful but short season.

The "pete-pete" of the advance guard has been heard all this week in the marshes. They feed on wild oats, with which the marshes abound and when the oats fully ripen, the little gourmands will fill up like a balloon.

The water rail may be found in the marshes frequented by the reed bird. The slow, lufferly flight of the rail makes them easy to shoot.

Reports are that there are some good plover and beach birds along the Choptank river front, but some gunners complain because of the posting of notices forbidding trespassing on marshes along the river front.

Friends' Quarterly Meeting.

The Friends of Southern Quarter held their meeting at Third Haven Meeting House this week. Quite a large gathering was present from this section, also from Caroline and Cecil counties. Ministers were present, including Lydia Price, of West Chester, Pa.; Alvin Haines, of Birmingham, Pa.; Martin Meloney, of Pennsylvania, and Thomas Sheward, of Wilmington. Much expression was offered, and those who attended no doubt felt great encouragement and help through attention to the kindly discourses given.

Samuel Norris is the man you want to see for choicest meats and provisinns. Try him.