The Ægis and Intelligencer

FREDERICK W. BAKER, Editor.

☞ THE ÆGIS has a more extended circulation among the intelligent farmers and business men of Harford than any other paper in the county, the attention of advertisers is directed to this fact.

☞ Mr. WM. H. PAUL, of Webster, is authorized to collect subscriptions and solicit advertisements for *The Ægis and Intelligencer*.

BEL AIR, Md.

riday Morning, - - - January 27, 1888.

Prohibition or High License.

The topic uppermost in the minds of the tax-payers of Harford county, just now, is the local option law and the expense to the county attending its attempted enforcement. It has now been in operation for nearly five years, and the evils it was intended to cure, so far from being abated, have rather grown worse; and we believe this result has followed as a natural sequence from the character of the evils which this law was intended to do away with.

The people of the county are pretty generally convinced that it is ineffectual to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors, and further that the loopholes of escape it leaves open to violators of it are so numerous that despite every legitimate effort made by those whose duty it is to see that the laws are enforced, the evidence brought before them is seldom such as to secure conviction.

It appears that even our County Temperance Alliance have no longer any hope that the law in its present form can be enforced, since at their meeting in Bel Air, on Tuesday, they set forth an amended law, which is intended to obviate the defects which by costly experience the present one has been found to contain.

Signatures are to be obtained to petitions in favor of this law, which if passed by the Legislature will be submitted to the voters of the county next November. Should it fail to be ratified, the present law will remain in force.

The cost to the taxpayers of the county of trying the numerous indictments under the law is another phase of this subject that is causing a considerable amount of thinking among those out of whose pockets the taxes come. It is evident that a number of the more intelligent and thoughtful minds in the community have serious doubts that any prohibitory law which the wit of man can devise would effect as much good in diminishing drunkenness as a stringent high license law would. The testimony in places where the latter remedy has taken the place of a prohibitory law is claimed to be altogether in favor of high license, and taxpayers, it is said, find that the revenue from a high license system decreases the amount of their tax bills. While it is true that *alone* the latter consideration ought not to have any weight, still, if it can be shown that under a high license law the number of drinking-places is reduced and the character of those which remain improved that would furnish a strong argument in its favor, since it is an obvious fact that the fewer drinking places we have the less drunkenness there will be. If a high license law will operate in reducing the evils of drunkenness to a minimum and diminish the expense of our courts it certainly seems worth considering, at least. In our opinion the experience of other communities in the operation of prohibitory and high license laws may be of value to us here in Harford, in determining the best course to pursue in dealing with the liquor problem, which is by far the most vexatious and troublesome one with which we, as community, have to do. In dealing with it let no good citizen, in his zeal for some pet scheme of his own, lose sight of, or undervalue the well-digested, cool judgment of those who, while differing from him as to the best *means*, are united with him, heart and soul, in desiring to promote the *end* he has in view, the prevention of drunkenness and the thousand miseries and crimes to which it leads. Let us all exercise a wise moderation—a little of the "wisdom of the serpent" along with any amount of "the harmlessness of the dove."

The world has yet to see the first real good growing out of fanaticism.

Report of the Tax Commission.

The Tax Commission appointed by the General Assembly of 1886 "to inquire into and ascertain facts concerning the subject of taxation," submitted two reports to the Legislature, on the 20th instant. The majority report was signed by Messrs. John P. Poe, James Alfred Pearce and Charles M. Armstrong. The minority report was by Prof. Richard T. Ely.

The report of the majority is based upon the Constitution as it is and suggests remedies for equalizing, as far as possible, the burden of taxation. Prof. Ely's report, while not antagonistic to that of his colleagues, lays down a basis for more equitable taxation which would require changes in our present Constitution. The majority report argues that it is not impracticable to reach by direct methods the personal property which now escapes taxation and thus lessen the burden on real estate. It is shown that railroad and other corporations escape their just share of taxation and a plan is suggested by which property of this sort can be equitably taxed. The report recommends that a gross receipts tax be imposed upon telegraph, telephone, express, insurance and other companies. It is estimated that this new source of revenue, together with the increase in the taxation of railroads, would yield $320,000, which, if applied to State purposes would reduce the State tax rate by five per cent.

Dr. Ely's report is very suggestive reading. The subject is treated in the clearest manner and his report throws much light on the principles upon which taxation should be based. He opposes vigorously the taxation of mortgages. He shows that a law taxing them would drive capital from our State to more favored regions and increase the current rate of interest to a point sufficient to enable the money lender to pay the tax without diminishing his profits.

Dr. Ely also has something to say on the subject of modified prohibition, as follows:

The sentiment in favor of restricting the liquor traffic is in our Southern States daily increasing in strength, and some of our best-known and most respected public men have pronounced in favor of total prohibition. This sentiment has been the natural outgrowth of the actual condition of affairs, for the liquor saloon is seen to be the bane of politics as well as a curse to our industrial and domestic life. While public sentiment will not warrant prohibition in all parts of Maryland, it is evidently time to proceed to place restraints upon the liquor traffic.

I recommend that the number of places where liquor may be sold be limited to one to two thousand of the population in incorporated cities, and to one to fifteen hundred of the population in those parts of counties outside of incorporated cities; that the municipalities and counties be divided into liquor districts accordingly, and that the right to sell liquor in each be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, under heavy penalties for violation of Sunday law and laws relating to sale of liquor to minors, and to other matters which, for the public good, may be included within liquor laws. The prohibitionists in their organ admit that a diminished number of saloons diminishes the liquor traffic, and experience of other countries seems to confirm this. Why cannot, then, all good people unite on such a measure, which would at the same time yield a large revenue? The right to prohibit the sale of liquor by popular vote in any municipality or county could and should be coupled with this.

The learned professor also recommends, as a remedy for unequal taxation, an income tax, which he declares to be "the fairest tax ever devised; it places a heavy burden when and where there is strength to bear it, and lightens the load in case of temporary or permanent weakness." "An income spares the business man in season of distress and helps him to weather the storm, but asks a return for the consideration shown in days of increasing prosperity."

Both reports are able documents and the Legislature could not address itself to a more worthy task than that of equalizing taxation.

Movement to Amend the Local Option Law.

On Tuesday afternoon the County Temperance Alliance held a meeting in the M. E. Church, Bel Air, "to adopt measures for preventing the repeal of the Local Option Law; and to consider the advisability of amending the law, and to give expression to the sentiment of reputable people concerning the defiant and flagrant violations of the law."

About 150 persons were present, 50 of whom were ladies.

The meeting was organized with Mr. N. N. Nock, Chairman, and Dr. Benj. Smith, Secretary.

A committee of five was appointed by the chair, consisting of Rev. E. D. Finney, Rev. J. R. Schultz, P. F. Ball, Caleb J. Moore and John McDoon, on the order of business.

Mr. Wm. H. Harlan, by request, read and explained a proposed amended local option law.

The amended law is in the main similar to the present one, but containing a number of important changes:

Section one provides that the present law shall remain in force until the first day of January, 1889, at which time the amended law shall take effect.

Section second provides that the amended law shall be submitted to the voters of Harford county at the congressional election, in November of this year.

Section three prescribes how the vote shall be taken and the result declared.

Section four forbids, after the 1st of January, 1889, any house, company or association, or body corporate to sell, directly or indirectly, or to solicited or receive orders for the purchase of, at any place in Harford county, or give away at his, her, their or its place of business in the county, any intoxicating liquors.

Section five forbids any person or persons to have or keep in his or their possession any intoxicating liquors with intent to sell or give away the same in violation of the provisions of the preceding sections, or to aid or assist any persons in such sale or gift.

Section six prescribes that the penalty upon conviction for violating the law shall be a fine of from $100 to $600 and confinement in the House of Correction for from six to twelve months. In default of payment of such fine and costs of prosecution, confinement in the House of Correction for not less than six nor more than twelve months.

Section seven permits the compounding and sale of liquor by druggists, upon the written *bona fide* prescription of a practicing physician. The provisions of this section are nearly the same as those of the present law, except that any physician giving a prescription unless the person for whom it shall be made is actually sick, or such liquor is absolutely required for medicine, shall be fined not less than $50 and not more than $200, and be committed to the county Jail until such fine and costs are paid; and if the buyer shall obtain a prescription by misinformation he shall be subject to the penalties set forth in section six.

Section eight provides that in trials under this law it shall be lawful for the State to prove that the accused has paid (if such be the case,) a government license tax under the Internal Revenue laws, as a brewer or dealer in liquors, or that the person accused has made application for such government license.

Section nine provides that any druggist who shall violate any of the provisions of the sections under said sub-title, he shall be liable to the penalties set forth in section six.

Section ten enacts that one-half of the fines imposed under this act shall be paid to the informer and the remainder to the County School Commissioners for the use of the Public Schools; if there is no informer then all of said fine shall be paid to the School Commissioners.

Section eleven provides that prosecutions for violation of the act are declared criminal offences, and may be either upon presentment and indictment or by trial before a justice of the peace, who shall have original and concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit Court to try such cases and pronounce judgment and sentence. The right of praying a jury trial by the accused or by the State's Attorney, is provided for.

Section twelve provides that in any indictment under this act it shall not be necessary to specify the peculiar kind of liquor bartered, sold or given away, or solicited or received orders for the purchase of, or kept or deposited with intent to barter, sell or give away, in violation of said provisions, but it shall be sufficient if the indictment set forth that the traverser bartered, sold or gave away or solicited or receive orders for the purchase or kept, deposited or had, with intent to sell or give away spirituous or fermented liquors or intoxicating drinks.

A motion was adopted directing the chairman to appoint an executive committee of five persons to wait upon our representatives in the Legislature and urge them to secure, if possible, the adoption of the proposed amendments and their submission to a vote of the people of Harford county at the congressional election in November next.

A motion was adopted requesting clergymen of the county who are in sympathy with the law and the amendments proposed thereto to form organizations to secure signatures to petitions to the Legislature in its favor, and that the names of the chairman of each of these organizations be sent to Dr. Benjamin Smith, Bel Air, Secretary of the meeting.

A resolution was adopted endorsing the course of the *Harford Democrat* and the Bel Air *Times* in their strictures upon the Circuit Court for Harford county, and condemning the liquor interest of the county for their efforts to intimidate the press.

A collection was taken up and $50 was contributed to further the cause.

Certain amendments to those already offered were proposed by Mr. Geo. R. Cairnes, of Marshall's district, which were taken under advisement by the committee.

One of these amendments was that the possession of a government license to sell liquor shall be deemed *prima facie* evidence of a violation of this law.

Another was that the vote shall be taken at a special election to be held in September next.

A resolution was adopted that all law-abiding citizens, regardless of party or their individual views with regard to the policy of the local option law, should give expression to their sentiments in favor of its enforcement.

The meeting then adjourned.

The Road Question.

We take the liberty of printing the following extract from a note received from Mr. James C. Bell, President of the Conowingo Bridge Company. Mr. Bell is a thoroughly practical public spirited business man and his views on road-mending are entitled to great consideration. He says:

"I see your people are moving on the road question and the plan of a good road engineer is a great step in the right direction. In the work he should be responsible and independent of the County Commissioners, except in contingencies when from disaster more expenditure at once was required than that appropriated for the term. It does not need an educated engineer, but he must have practical knowledge of such work, a good eye for grades, judgment in the employ and use of laborers and should be personally on hand all the time, and be well provided with necessary tools, horses, carts and a look-up for his tools to carry along. With such a man and outfit, you would find in a year or two a wonderful change and each year for the better, and the roads would stay better. The present slip-shod way will never come to any good. Our people are forever seeking, but as yet have got no nearer a right view of how to do it than they were fifty years ago. Long suffering may bring them to find the way, but it's a pity it takes so long.

JAMES C. BELL."

—Last Saturday afternoon Archbishop Ryan, of Philadelphia, accompanied by the American delegation visiting Rome in attendance upon the Pope's jubilee festivities, presented the gift of President Cleveland to the Pope. It consisted of a copy of the Constitution of the United States. The Pope expressed the pleasure he felt at receiving the gift, and invoked a blessing upon Archbishop Ryan and President Cleveland.

—Hon. E. K. Wilson, Senator from Maryland, has our thanks for a copy of his able argument against the Blair Educational Bill, delivered in the U. S. Senate, January 10th, 1888. In his speech Senator Wilson shows conclusively that Federal taxation for State schools is in violation of the Constitution and merely a pretext for Federal control over them.

Legislative Matters.

On the 19th instant Mr. Preston, of Harford, obtained leave to introduce a bill for more complete and efficient organization of uniformed volunteers constituting a portion of the enrolled militia of the State, to be known as the Maryland National Guard. It was referred to the Committee on Military.

Mr. Mitchell obtained leave for a bill to repeal the law offering bounties for hawk heads in Harford county. The law ought to be repealed.

On the 20th instant in the Senate, Mr. Sappington offered the following, which was adopted: Ordered, that the attorney-general be and he is hereby requested to give his written opinion as to the constitutionality of a law providing for the appointment by the Governor of commissioners of registration and election for Baltimore city and by the County Commissioners of similar officers for the counties.

On the 20th instant leave was granted to Mr. Mitchell, for a bill to authorize Commissioners of Harford county to levy annually a sufficient sum of money for the relief of Jas. Henry Blaney; referred to the Harford county delegation.

Mr. Mitchell's bill to abolish the bounty for hawk heads in Harford county, was reported favorably in the House on Tuesday, and read a second time on Wednesday.

Attorney General Whyte in his opinion on the constitutionality of the proposed election laws, in reference to the word "uniform" in the registration act, says that the Constitution means that the registration shall be on the same general plan throughout the State and need not be simultaneous, and that therefore the Legislature has the right to make suitable and reasonable regulations not calculated to defeat the right of voting but to facilitate and secure its honest exercise.

Mr. Preston, from a select committee, on Monday reported favorably in the House the bill to provide for the appointment of an additional Justice of the Peace for the Fifth Election Dislrict of Harford county. The bill was read a second time.

In the Senate, Wednesday, Mr. Sappington presented a petition asking that the County Commissioners of Harford county be authorized to pension Mary and Henry White, two cripples.

—The Washington correspondent of the Balto. *Sun* says the prospects are brightening for the passage by Congress of a tariff and internal tax reduction bill. It is believed that the tax on tobacco will be entirely abolished and the duty on sugar fixed at a comparatively nominal rate. In regulating the tariff on other articles a compromise will be effected between the views of ultra protectionists and tariff reformers.

—It is now estimated that 1,000 persons perished from the effects of the recent blizzard in the Northwest. The loss of stock can not be estimated.

—We are o'bliged to Hon. Noble L. Mitchell for a copy of Mr. Denny's bill to regulate elections.

Local Affairs.

LITTLE LOCALS.

—J. E. Holloway has sold his farm near Perryman to Wm. H. Taylor, for $6,000.

—Mr. Adam R. McGraw has been re-elected President of the Cecil County Agricultural Society.

—The thermometer is said to have been down to zero, in the vicinity of Delta, last Sunday morning.

The ice houses at Havre de Grace and Lapidum are being filled with ice 10½ inches thick and as clear as crystal.

—Messrs. T. L. Hanway & Co., at Aberdeen, have their large store filled up with a full stock of goods of all kinds.

—Mr. Fred. Scarborough has moved into his new house at Prospect. The building is a pleasing improvement to the neighborhood.

—Messrs Slee & Kenly have opened their new store, at the B. and O. station, Aberdeen, with a large and complete stock of new goods.

—Last Friday Mr. Harry Keithley, of Carsin's Run, was severely bitten on the leg while trying to part two dogs which were fighting.

—Last Sunday was the coldest day of the winter up to date. The thermometer ranged, according to locality, from 6 to 8 degrees above zero.

—Mr. A. H. Scarborough has sold his interest in the store at Prospect to his partner, Mr. J. Ross Scarborough. The latter will continue the business.

—Owing to the bad weather the ladies of the Mountain Christian Church will continue their oyster supper on Friday and Saturday evenings, January 27th and 28th.

—Mr. James P. Beale has erected a canning house on his farm in the Big Woods, and will can tomatoes exclusively, this year. He intends to plant 35 or 40 acres.

—Prof. Harry Sanders and other musicians from Baltimore are announced to give a concert in Deer Creek M. P. Church, on Thursday evening, February 9th.

—Mrs. James F. Cullum, of the Hikory, has two remarkably fine calla lilies. One is four feet and ten inches in height and the other four feet four inches. Both are in bloom.

—Cards are out for the wedding of Miss Elizabeth Robey Cole, daughter of Mr. Hanson Cole, of Emmorton, to Mr. G. Frank Jones, of Forest Hill, to take place on Tuesday, 31st instant.

—Week before last while Mr. Mordecai S. Scarborough, of Dublin District, was cutting wood, a stick flew up and struck him on his left wrist with so much force as to break the larger bone of the wrist.

—Our correspondents will please bear with us again this week. We have once more been obliged to lay aside many valued communications because we could not get them in type in time for publication.

—Thomas B. Numbers and W. R. McCardell will erect a warehouse at McGaw's Switch, B. and O Railroad, and engage in the farm implement and fertilizer business, partly as a branch of Mr. J. H. Emmord's house, at Perryman.

—A party of twenty-eight young men and ladies met at Mr. Daniel Galiup's residence, Bush River Neck, and spent two hours of a beautiful moonlight evening on Bush river skating and sledding. The sport was much enjoyed.

—Mr. Barnet R. Clark offers for sale his fine farm, near Chestnut Hill. It contains 145 acres, lying along Deer Creek, and is admirably suited as to buildings, &c, for canning purposes or for a tobacco or stock farm. His crop of tobacco, last year, from five acres, was 10,000 lbs., and he expects to clear over $1,000 from it.

—An unsuccessful attempt was made, last Sunday night, about 9 o'clock, by two men, to break into the house of Mr. Edward McDermott, at Webster. Mr. McDermott was away from home but Mrs. McDermott heard some one trying to effect an entrance by one of the windows and frightened them off. From an upstairs window she saw two men hastily leaving the house.

—We call attention to the advertisement of A. W. Livingston & Sons, seedsmen, Columbus, Ohio. This firm enjoys the distinction of having originated the Perfection, Paragon, Favorite and Beauty tomatoes, all of which are popular among canners the country over. They can therefore supply pure seed. They will send their Annual, a handsome book of 80 pages, free. This is an old and reliable house, having been established forty years ago. Read their advertisement.

PERSONAL.—Mr. Harry Wilson, of Rawlings, Alleghany county, Md., arrived in Harford last Saturday and will spend a few days with his friends and relatives here.

Miss Clara Windsor, of Baltimore, is visiting at Rev. J. B. Scarborough's, Prospect.

Rev. E. A. Colburn, of Churchville, who has been confined to the house by sickness, is able to about again.

SCHOOL HOUSE ON FIRE.—Last Friday the roof of Rock Run school house caught fire from a defective flue. A brick which fell from the chimney severely cut the head of little Joe Ward. None of the other scholars were injured, beyond receiving a few scratches from the falling plaster. The fire was extinguished and the building saved by the timely arrival of Mr. David Harlan, clerk at Garland postoffice. The teacher, Miss Barron, was cool and calm and prevented a panic among the children. The same house caught fire last winter, and the fire at that time was also put out by Mr. Harlan.

ACCIDENTS.—As Mr. Wm. Payne and Miss Julia Jarrett were returning home from the donation party at Bethel Presbyterian parsonage, on Wednesday evening of last week, Mr. Payne's sleigh accidentally came into collision with Mr. George A. Cairnes' buggy, breaking off both wheels on one side. The occupants of the sleigh and the buggy were all thrown out, but no one was hurt.

INJURED WHILE COASTING.—On Monday night a number of boys were coasting on a hill near Dublin, when Charles L. Markland, son of Mr. Geo. A. Markland, was accidently thrown from his sled. The sled following, containing a young son of Mr. R. Lamar McCann, struck him and the heads of the two boys were bumped violently together. Young McCann was very little hurt, but young Markland was made unconcious by the blow. He was carried home and during the night had convulsions. Dr. Pooole attended him and he is now better.

COMMISSIONS ISSUED.—Adj't General Howard has issued commissions to officers of the Jackson Guards, the new military company organized in Bel Air. The officers are: Captain, Charles L. Dallam; First Lieutenant, Walter W. Preston; Second Lieutenant, Harry Bateman. The company, being organized under the Act of 1870, as of the State militia, receives no aid or support from the State, but a bill has been introduced into the Legislature by Mr. Preston to make the Jackson Guards a part of the Maryland National Guard, to take the place of a company in Western Maryland which has disbanded.

SUITS FOR LIBEL.—Richard C. Murphy, Robert B. Forwood, John H. Bauer and J. Fulton Ashton have had suits docketed in the Circuit Court for Harford county against Mr. N. N. Nock, publisher of the Bel Air *Times*, and against Mr. J. M. Streett, publisher of the *Harford Democrat*.

No declarations have yet been filed in these actions but it is understood that they are for alleged libel contained in editorial articles, on the 20th instant, in the newspapers named.

Messrs. Murphy and Forwood are members of the petit jury, and Mr. Bauer was a talesman in one or more local option cases.

WILLS PROBATED.—On the 19th instant the will of Abraham Cooper, colored, deceased, was admitted to probate in the office of the Register of Wills. He devises his property equally among his four children, Mary, Laura, Julia and Abraham; Thomas Cooper being appointed Executor, to whom letters testamentary were granted.

On the 25th instant, the will of the late John W. Swartz was admitted to probate. He bequeaths $300 to his daughter, Laura J. Miller, and all the remainder to his wife, Elizabeth T. Swartz, for life, with power of sale, and at her death to be equally divided among his children. Mrs. Elizabeth T. Swartz was appointed executrix, and James W. Wilson and Edward F. Johns were appointed appraisers.

MUSIC AND LITERATURE ON THE MOUNTAIN.—A Singing School is held every Wednesday evening at the Mountain Christian Church—Instructor, Prof. R. R. Lloyd, of Delta; President, Harry S. Pyle; Vice President, W. H. Reckord; Secretary, Miss Annie A. Middendorf; Treasurer, C. E. Creswell; Organist, Miss Belle Wright; Assistant Organist, Miss Lizzie Magness. The school is in a thriving condition.—It was organized Nov. 23d, 1887, and now consists of 71 members.

The Monmouth Literary Society, held every Saturday evening in the school house at McComas' Cross Roads, has been re-organized with President, Mr. J. V. Buckingham; Vice Presidents, Eugene Hollingsworth and Harry S. Pyle; Secretary, Miss Annie A. Middendorf; Treasurer Mr. Stanley Swartz; Executive Committee, Miss Mollie Norris, Eugene Hollingsworth and George W. Brown. The exercises are instructive and entertaining.

MISSIONARY MEETING AND DONATION PARTY.—On Wednesday evening of last week a Missionary meeting was held at the residence of Rev. W. C. Stull, pastor of Bethel Presbyterian Church, near Madonna. A creditable sum was raised, which will be appropriated to foreign missions.

A pleasant feature of the occasion, and one entirely unlooked for by the pastor and his wife, wife, was a donation party. The congregation brought an abundance of provisions and clothing, besides provender for Rev. Mr. Stull's horse and cow.

The ladies took possession of the house and served a good supper to all present. The occasion was also enlivened by singing. Rev. Mr. Stull made a brief address, in which he thanked his people for this cheering evidence of their esteem.

On Sunday, in addition, the congregation presented to Rev. Mr. Stull a purse containing $100. On Monday he left for Florida, where he will spend two months for the benefit of his health. The congregation has been worshipping in the Southern Methodist Church, while their new church is building. No arrangement has been made to supply Mr. Stull's place during his absence.

BEL AIR NOTES.—Misses Grace and Ellen Neale, who have been visiting their aunt, Mrs. Jas. B. Craighill, left for their home in Northhampton county, Va., last Saturday.

Rev. Mr. Singer, of New York, preached in the Presbyterian Church, Bel Air, on Sunday.

Mr. Isaac Amos calls attention, in his advertisement, to a large stock of hardware, paints, oils, &c., which he is selling at low prices.

Postmaster Richardson reports uncalled for letters in the Bel Air postoffice for Miss Lizzie Bradley, Miss Mary Bond, Mrs. Annis Brandt, Miss Susanna Johnson, H. H. Kuch, Philip M. Power, and Miss Mary A. Thompson.

A number of young gentlemen of Bel Air intend to give a complimentary hop to the ladies of Deer Creek, in the Masonic Temple, February 2d, as a recognition of many pleasant entertainments to which they have been invited by the Deer Creek ladies. The Committee in charge say they intend to devote their best efforts towards promoting the enjoyment of their fair guests and their chosen escorts.

Mr. B. F. Minnick, in addition to his two warehouses at the station, rented to Messrs. Reckord & Sons, has bought the warehouse on the opposite side of the railroad, from Messrs. Symington Bros. & Co., for $700 cash.

Mr. Devereaux Prigg, manager of the Postal Telegraph Co., formerly the B. and O., has run a wire from his office into his residence, on Main street, near Clayman's Hotel, where persons having messages to send after office hours, at any time, can be accommodated.

Miss Sallie C. Smith, of Bel Air, is visiting at the residence of Mr. S. A. S. Kyle, near Fountain Green.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.—The Commissioners were in session on Monday.

Dr. W. D. Scarborough was instructed to purchase 3,000 feet of white oak lumber for bridges and culverts in the Fifth district.

Messrs. Hope and Bateman were appointed to inspect the new iron bridge at Gross's Mill.

A petition signed by Jas. M. Cain, Samuel J. Ady, Dr. Smithson and others was received, asking for a pension for Samuel W. and Rebecca Forwood, of the Third district.

Also petitions from Abel D. Wilson, Thomas E. Smithson, James E. Ely, Samuel Nagle, Wm. E. Hanway, C. S. Bavington, Joshua Whitaker, James L. Whitaker, N. O. Merryman, John T. Ward, Joshua Gray, H. B Twining, Wm. J. Robinson and numerous others, asking for the opening of the Sandy Bottom road, Fourth district.

All the petitions were filed for future action.

Messrs. Otho S. Lee, John J. Alexander, and Thomas H. Robinson, a committee appointed to examine the books of C. W. Proctor, Treasurer of the board, reported that the said Treasurer showed vouchers for all money shown to have been paid by him, except some petty charges for office expenses, which were satisfactorily explained to the committee.

The only error discovered was in the entry of a check, payable to the order of W. A. Hope, which was in favor of the county and against said Treasurer.

The committee commended the careful and methodical manner in which the Treasurer has on file the vouchers of his office, also for the prompt and ready manner in which he produced evidence and answered the questions o the committee pertinent to the affairs of the office.

At 11 o'clock the board adjourned to meet at the Sandy Bottom road in the afternoon.

The board will meet again on Monday, February 6th.

The Court and the Press.

Attention Called to Articles in the Democrat and the Times.

Judge Watters Refers the Matter to the next Grand Jury.

Last Friday morning, shortly after Court was called, Mr. S. Webster Bradford, an attorney of the court, arose and said:

"As a member of the bar, an officer of the Court and as counsel in a case about to be tried for the violation of the local option law, I feel it my duty to call the attention of the Court to certain statements published in two of the county newspapers, which in my opinion most seriously reflect upon the proper administration of justice in this Court, and are prejudical to pending cases.

Mr. Bradford then read editorial articles from the Bel Air *Times* and the *Harford Democrat* of January 20th. In the former the *Times* substantially charged that the failure to convict in local option cases in Harford was due in part to the composition of the juries, and asserted that "of the jurors of the present term of court who stand out for acquittal in the face of the clearest evidence of guilt several are notorious drunkards and frequenters of bar-rooms, whose presence in the jury box is an affront to the upright citizen, a violation of the State law and a discredit to the judicial administration." The *Harford Democrat's* article said: "Witnesses commit perjury, jurors disregard their solemn obligations, and prison doors yawn in vain for violators of the law."

Mr. Bradford continued:

"Such statements, so publicly made and going out to the people of this county, are not only a reflection upon the Court, but also hold up the judicial proceedings here to the contempt and ridicule of all. They reflect upon the Court, as the Jury are passed upon by it; upon the Sheriff, since he summons the talesmen, whom these articles say are perjurers and unfit for the duty required of them, and upon the regular panel itself, since in cases where there has been an acquittal, such jurymen are accused of having committed perjury by violating their solemn obligations.—That editors who sit in their offices and without hearing the evidence as given here should deliberately publish such statements to the world is most reprehensible. The members of the Jury are as fair men as any we have had here, and some protection should be given them from such accusations. This court should take judicial notice of such contempt, and the power lodged in it by virtue of the common law gives the right to inflict summary punishment; and I would call the attention of the Court to a very recent case in New Jersey, in which the court said: "The Superior Courts of this State, modeled after the English courts of common law, have authority to punish summarily by proceedings for contempt for any words uttered, by speech, by writing or by printing outside of the regular course of litigation, which are designed to bring contempt upon the courts in the exercise of their judicial functions, or to pervert in a pending cause the due administration of Justice.'

"If either of the jurors knows of a single case of perjury committed in this Court by a witness or a juror, he should be compelled to go before the Grand Jury and indict such perjurer, and such person should be brought into this Court, tried, and if convicted, be punished with the severest penalties of the law; or if such statements as published are wantonly and maliciously made, their authors should be turned over to this Court to be dealt with as it seem fit.

Judge Watters said these publications were a serious matter. It was not the first time he had noticed such comments on the court in the newspapers, and on one occasion he had called attention to them from the bench. He would not act hastily, but would take the matter under consideration. On taking his seat on the bench the next morning, Judge Watters spoke as follows:

"Yesterday morning, when my attention was called by a member of the bar, in open court, to recent publications in two of our county papers, I promised that I would do nothing hastily, but after due deliberation would adopt the course which might seem most judicious. Since then I have carefully examined the articles referred to. In my judgment, the only thing left to this court in the matter is a choice between remedies. The organization of our courts for the securing of justice and the administration of the laws, imperfect as it may seem, is the growth of centuries. Fostered by the best civilization of the world.

"We look to our courts for the protection of our lives and our property. Without their protection even the freedom of the press, which we all rightly prize, would not long survive. No greater misfortune can befall any people than that its courts should fall into merited contempt, and any court merits contempt which fails to use the ample means which the laws afford for its own protection. The powers which our courts possess of punishing for contempt are exceedingly great, and the very greatness of these powers should make us cautious, while firm and fearless in their employment. It is excellent to have a giant's strength, but tyrannous to use it like a giant. I have no doubt whatever of the common law power of this court to punish summarily the contempt we are now considering, and I do not think I could hesitate to use that power if it were imposed in this case probably many persons would regard it as a most arbitrary exercise of power, and no doubt some would look upon the libelous martyrs suffering for their efforts to secure a more impartial administration of the law.

"I have, therefore, determined to refer the whole matter to the grand jury, which will next be impanelled, and then in case of indictment the laws of this State secure to the parties accused the right to give in evidence the truth of the matter charged, by way of justification. Such a course will certainly result in either reforming courts of justice or protecting the administration of justice in your county from unwarranted interference from the outside."

AN ELOPEMENT FROM HARFORD.—A young gentleman was seen waiting anxiously at Camden station, Baltimore, on Monday, for a young lady to whom he was to be married, but she came not. It was soon learned by the ubiquitous reporters that the young lady's father was unwilling for the match, and the supposition was that they interfered with her departure.

The expectant bridegroom, who was Mr. Eugene Worthington, of Carroll county, formerly of Lapidum, was not dismayed by this little obstacle in the course of true love, and accordingly he took a train Tuesday morning for VanBibber station, B. and O. Railroad, Harford county, near which the lady's father, Mr. Robert Osborn, resides. In the evening Mr. Worthington returned to Baltimore, bringing his sweetheart with him. The couple, with two friends, walked to the parsonage of Columbia Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church, where they were married by the pastor, the Rev. Joel Brown. Mr. and Mrs. Worthington will live at Hampstead.

OBITUARY.—Mrs. Bettie E. Pentland, wife of James J. D. Pentland and youngest daughter of S. R. and the late Elizabeth Gilbert, died on the 20th instant, at the residence of her father, in Norrisville, in the 28th year of her age. The funeral took place on Monday. Services were conducted at the house by the Rev. Mr. Bowers, the interment being in Bethel Cemetery. The pall-bearers were Richard H. Wiley, Asbury Wiley, Abraham Patterson, Thomas Wiley, John C. B. Wright and Nelson McClung, who were selected by the deceased.

The remains of Mrs. Elizabeth Whiteford, who died in Baltimore, on Sunday, at her daughter's residence, arrived at Delta, by the M. C. Railroad, on Tuesday, and were interred at Slateville the same day. Mrs. Whiteford was 68 years of age. She had been paralyzed for a year before her death. She leaves six sons and three daughters. Her sons are School Commissioner W. H. H. Whiteford and Joseph S. Whiteford, of Harford county, and Horace Whiteford, of Missouri. Frederick, Silas, and another son live in Kansas. Mrs. James Kilgore, of this county, is one of her daughters. The pall-bearers were James R. Whiteford, Wm. Fishart, Lamar Willard, Robert Fulton, Vincent G. Stubbs and Wm. Ramsay.

John Stewart Livezy, aged 14 years, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Livezy, died at the residence of his parents, near Thomas' Run, on the 21st instant, of typhoid fever, after an illness of only a few days. He was buried at Thomas' Run M. E. Church, on the 24th. Rev. Thomas Wood conducted the services. The pall-bearers were George H. Hays, Nathan Carter, Howard Kelly, Willie Cole, Charles Nagle and Culbert Nagle. Mr. William Schuck was the undertaker.

Three Items and a Bit of Advice from Bush River Neck.

Last Friday twenty-five men, armed with guns, clubs, mattocks and shovels, engaged in a musk-rat hunt on the marsh. After a day's hunt and much hard digging, they captured and killed twenty-five musk rats. These poor, harmless, inoffensive creatures will soon be exterminated at this rate.

The sale of personal property of the late John Stockham, which took place on the 16th instant, was largely attended, despite the cold. Mr. J. S. Richardson, the auctioneer, with his familiar and comical remarks, soon scattered the goods far and wide at high prices. Mules sold at from $300 to $400 a pair, and other stock in proportion.

A glass ball shooting match will take place at 1 P. M. Saturday, at Mr. Jay F. Towner's place, the prizes being ducks and turkeys.

One pint of salt put in the pump at bed-time will prevent it from freezing, no matter how much the pump is exposed. Try it.

JIM SANK.

JARRETTSVILLE AFFAIRS.

Accident—Sudden Death.

Mr. J. C. Taylor, our marble cutter, had the small bone of his leg broken and his ankle sprained, on the 18th instant, by a tomb-stone falling upon him while he was in the act of turning it. The stone slipped and knocked him down.

On the 18th instant the congregation of McKendree Church gave their pastor, Rev. Mr. Peters, a liberal donation party.

Mr. Benjamin Mason, our village postmaster, gave a dinner, last Saturday, to his children, all of whom were present.

Dutch Fred, an old man, died suddenly, last Sunday morning, at Mr. Lewis King's. He fed the stock in the morning, and appeared to be in his usual health. Afterwards he went into the house and sat down by the stove, where he died in a short time. M.

LETTER FROM RECKORD.

In descending a hill near Edward Colgan's, one of Messrs. Henry Reckord & Sons' heavy wagons slipped in the gutter and the tongue of the wagon was broken.

While Will H. Reckord was guiding one of the large bone wagons from the factory to the scales, which is down grade, the wagon moved very rapidly and his foot slipping, he lost his hold on the tongue and fell to the ground, the wagon passing entirely over him. He got up apparently unhurt, but after some time his left leg and knee began paining him and continued so to do until it was impossible for him to use the limb. A physician was called in and Mr. Reckord is now comparatively easy.

Samuel Smith is confined to the house from a strain in the back.

Reckord & Sons are running full time, filling early orders for home and fertilizers. They have built a large wagon house.

OLD BALTIMORE.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

—Preaching at the Mountain Christian Church, at 11 A. M., Lord's Day, January 29th, by the Rev. G. P. Coler, of Baltimore.

—Methodist Protestant Church, Rev. S. A. Hoblitzell, Pastor.—Sunday, January 29th.—Providence 10½ A. M.; Union Chapel 3 P. M.; Mt. Carmel, Revival Service, 7½ P. M. Sermon by Rev. Mr. Cuddy, of Abingdon.

—M. E. Church Notes.—Preaching on Sabbath, as follows: Bel Air 10.30 A. M. and 7.30 P. M. Mt. Zion, Sabbath School at 2 P. M., preaching at 3 P. M.

—The ladies of Bel Air M. E. Church will hold their annual Oyster and Meat Supper in Old Town Hall, Wednesday and Thursday nights, February 1st and 2d.

—There will be no services at Holy Trinity Church, Churchville, nor at St. James', Trap, until February 5th. E. A. Colburn.

—Ayer's Sarsaparilla is prescribed and recommended by eminent physicians, and is taken with perfect safety by old and young. Its cleansing and vitalizing effects are sure and speedy, and it is universally conceded to be the most effective of all blood purifiers.

NOTICE.—The W. C. T. U., of Wilna will hold its monthly meeting at the residence of Mr. B. Howard Amoss, Feb. 4th, 1888, at two o'clock, sharp.

A. H. HOSKINS,
Corresponding Secretary.

FISHING SHORE FOR RENT.

ST. CATHARINE'S ISLAND, below Lapidum, formerly rented by Jarrett Spencer & Sons.—Proposals for the above may be made to

WILLIAM S. ARCHER,
27Jan3t Bel Air, Md.

DISSOLUTION OF COPARTNERSHIP.

The Copartnership heretofore existing between the firm name of C. A. ANDREW & BROTHER is this day dissolved by mutual consent. Either of the undersigned is authorized to receive money due the late firm and receipt for the same.

CHARLES A. ANDREW,
JOSEPH ANDREW.

Darlington, Jan. 1st, 1888. 27Jan3t

Bel Air Transfer.

HAULING of all kinds promptly attended to at Low Rates. Express packages to and from Railroad Station, Five Cents each.

WM. LEE,
27Jan3m Main St., near Postoffice, Bel Air.

$20 Reward.

The above Reward will be paid for the return of my large Red Irish Setter Dog "Quail." Has a White Stripe on Nose and a White Chest. Collar marked "Snipe—Bertram N. Stump, Bel Air, Md."

☞ For $5 Reward will be paid for any information leading to his recovery.

27Jan HERMAN STUMP, Bel Air, Md.

HARFORD COUNTY CANNING FARM