The Transcript.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1892.

LOCAL MATTERS.

—Cupid now holds a flush hand, and matrimonial affairs are affording a delightful diversion from the usually tedious routine of winter.

—Captain John Start, of the schooner Adie which sailed from Corsica river about ten days ago, has suddenly disappeared. Captain Start was well known to Chester river boatmen. Alexander Dadds, mate of the Adie has also disappeared.

—In the statement of the Chestertown National Bank, in our last issue, the amount of deposits at close of the year, Dec. 31, 1891, should have been $392,654 instead of $292,654. The error was not ours, however, as the figures were given to us wrong.

—William Clayton, the seventeen-year-old old son of the late Captain Clayton, fell while coasting on Eliason's hill on Saturday night and broke his wrist. The young man had just gone down on his sled, and while walking up the hill fell, breaking his wrist.

—Monday, January 25, will be St. Paul's day in the Protestant Episcopal church. St. Paul's church, Centreville, will observe the day by special services, and will hold a re-union of the members in commemoration of the two hundredth anniversary of the parish.

—The snowfall of Friday was possibly the heaviest since the memorable blizzard of 1888, and was about eight inches on a level. The sleighing for several days was fair, and was duly enjoyed. The snowfall on Tuesday gave good sleighing yesterday, and a diminutive carnivel on runners was the result.

—The steamer B. S. Ford, running between Claiborne and Baltimore, was in collision with the steamer Sue in the Patapsco, about ten days ago. Both boats were bound down, when the Ford changed her course to avoid running down a sail boat, and the Sue maintaining her course, struck the Ford just aft of her wheelhouse, doing considerable damage.

—Why cannot Chestertown have the free delivery system introduced? Congress is in session, let us try. The Denton *Journal* says: "A petition has been in circulation in the vicinity of Two Johns, asking Congress to give favorable consideration to the proposed law authorizing the free delivery of mail at country post-offices. This, we think, is carrying the matter a little too far.

—A new and dangerous $5 counterfeit has recently been put into circulation and many business men have been victimized. The engraving is good, but the paper and printing are very ordinary. The note is a counterfeit of the series A, 1880. The portrait, vignette and other work on the note are very much inferior to the genuine. In the title "United States" the "I" is not dotted, though heavy shading of the dot is there.

—Miss Nelie Walker entertained a number of her lady friends at a five o'clock tea on Friday afternoon. The ladies state that the afternoon was delightfully spent in spite of the absence of gentlemen. Better mind, now, we old bachelors will start up a series of quaint and quiet suppers all to ourselves, with a placard on the door: "No ladies admitted." An awful punishment, but you must endure the privation. Miss Walker's tea was in honor of Miss Fisher.

—Mrs. Bullock and daughter, Miss Ida Perkins, entertained a few friends at their beautiful home near Rock Hall, on Tuesday evening, January 12, 1892. In addition to the lovely floral decorations, dancing, etc., Miss Collisch entertained the company with a number of songs and beautiful selections on the piano from French, German and English authors. Miss Collisch is an accomplished singer and musician, and her selections were highly complimented by the guests.

—Dr. G. Allen Jarman left on Tuesday for New York to attend the Highland Farm sale of thoroughbred Alcon Tara horses. About one hundred horses will be offered, and this sale is one of the most important events of the month in turf circles. Alcon Tara was the sire of twenty-three youngsters which were placed on the list in 1890. Edward B. Emory, of Queen Anne's, went with Dr. Jarman, and these gentlemen propose, if possible, to bring one of these finely-bred horses to Kent and Queen Anne's.

—The dense fog of Thursday last rendered bay and river navigation somewhat hazardous. The steamer Emma Ford, during her trip, at times simply drifted and at other times ran under one bell. The fog whistle was blown at intervals of a half minute and every precaution taken to avoid accident. An accident was narrowly avoided while coming down the Patapsco, the steamer having to reverse her engine to keep from cutting down a schooner. To the uninitiated it was extremely novel to hear steam whistles, bells and men on the river and bay making all manner of noises to prevent disaster to vessels.

—A special committee of the Corn and Flour Exchange, Wm. A. Brown, chairman, met recently and received opinions of members as to the advisability of recommending the passage of an act by the Legislature requiring sales of oats to be by weight. A resolution, which was discussed, provides that 32 pounds shall constitute a bushel instead of 26 pounds, as at present. Messrs. Kirwan and Gillett thought that such a measure would benefit trade and be in the interest of morality. Messrs. Wells, Brooks, Pitt and others took opposite grounds. The committee after they have decided upon the matter, will submit a report to the directors and if favorable to the change a bill will be drawn and presented to the Legislature.

—With the coming of the first real snow storm of the season on Friday morning, came an inauguration of the joyous, rollicksome coasting party. As the airy, dainty snowflakes chased each other in childish glee and silently banked the nooks and corners everywhere with their light and spotless mantle, there came a glow to the cheek, and a thrill of youthful pleasure coursed through the veins of the average boy and girl of Chestertown. The coasting hill came first in visionary beauty, then came crowding on dreams of cold-inspiring but tempting bowls of snow cream. The coasting hill on Saturday evening presented a most beautiful picture, peopled as it was by a merry throng of coasters. Bright faces, gorgeous colors of winter wraps, combined with the joyous shout and laughter of boys and girls as they sped like visions adown the glassy hill, really conspired to make the man or woman who had long since left the sunny days of youth and the glittering snows of early years far in the distance, to exclaim: "Backward, flow backward, oh Time, in your flight." The sport was rare and thoroughly enjoyed.

—Mr. C. C. Conway, secretary of the Oyster Exchange, writes: "Since all agree that we have an abundance of oysters this season the discussions of the question of scarcity has become obsolete. We must not think the partial enforcement of the culling law will keep the supply always as it has been this season, but a rigid enforcement must be had upon the rocks and bars 'when and where taken.' To cull cargoes at the packing-house is merely to find the extent of injury done to the beds, and it systematically conveys the State's stolen property to the packer who becomes accessory to the theft by receiving small oysters and packing them. The oystermen have robbed the rocks, and the packers by law have robbed them of the booty. We sadly need a law that will prohibit carrying small oysters from their beds, and another to prevent their sale anywhere." Mr. Conway opposes the sale or lease of the beds.

—The Maryland correspondent to the *Evening Journal* says: "At the extreme end of this Isle tradition tells us that one dark, stormy night a British schooner run into the point of land and anchored. During the night one of the sailors, a desperate character, killed the captain and mate and escaped to this island. He was followed captured and taken to the extreme point of land, as near as possible to where he had committed the foul deed, and hung up by the hands' with a loaf of bread suspended before him, as close as possible so as to torment him, left to die in this condition, and it is an undisputed fact that no grass or and living substance has ever grown around this particular spot, which was marked by a pole that is supposed to be the same that bore the the murderer, and from that time this point of land which lies between the Chesapeake and Eastern bays has been called Bloody Point."

—The young ladies of Centreville will give this evening, a sure-enough Leap Year hop. The young men are not in it until the dance commences, the ladies having assumed entire control of the affair. There will be lady floor-managers, a lady reception committee, and the only thing a gentleman dare do will be to dance when asked, or if uncompromising fate so ordains it, to make a dainty wall-flower of himself and bide his time. One young lady has stated that it will be a rare chance to pay back a few young men, who have so often enjoyed in a quiet way passing in review the luxuriant growth of feminine beauty, which on sundry occasions has served only as decorative ornaments for seats against the wall. The ladies will not escort their gentlemen friends to the hall, but will make engagements for dances and run affairs generally. This promises to be the most delightful social event which has taken place in Centreville for a number of years. The curious invitation is as follows:

Come, good friends,
Both brave and true,
In our dance of ninety-two,
Joyfully we'll leap with you.

—Says the Centreville *Record*: "Petitions are being circulated throughout the county and in this section numerously signed by farmers, asking the Legislature to pass a law imposing a tax upon dogs. The petitions set forth the main features of the proposed law. They are these: that dogs be made taxable property the same as cattle, horses, etc., to be collected as other taxes; paid over into the general fund and expended as other funds of the county. The amount of the tax suggested is fifty cents each for males and one dollar each for females. It is made the duty of the constables of the several districts to assess the dogs of their district, and make return to the county commissioners. They are allowed two dollars per day for a period of thirty days to be paid out of the general funds. The penalty for concealing dogs, upon conviction is a fine of five dollars and costs and upon failure to pay, commitment to county jail for not less than one week. The proposed law also provides that parties owning sheep-killing dogs and knowing them to be such, upon conviction before a justice of the peace should pay a fine of fifty dollars for each dog and upon refusal to pay the fine be commited to the county jail for a period of not less than a month.

—About seventy fourth-class postmasters representing twenty States met at Washington, D. C., on 14th inst, in national convention and effected a permanent organization. A committee was appointed to prepare a bill embodying the views of the convention upon the subject of compensation of fourth-class postmasters. Committees were also appointed to appear before the Senate and House committees on postoffice and post roads in the interest of the bill approved by the convention. The bill, as finally agreed upon, allows 100 per cent. yearly compensation on the first $100 in cancellations per quarter: on the next $100 or less, per quarter, 60 per cent.; on the next $200 or less, per quarter, 50 per cent., and on all the balance 40 per cent. in addition to box rents. The total compensation of any fourth-class office shall not be less than $25 per annum. The Postmaster-General is directed to allow for rent, light and fuel $15 per year when the commissions fall below $50, and in gradually increaring scale expenses are to be allowed to the maximum of $150. Clerk hire is provided for at the rate of from $10 to $300 a year. Maryland was represented by D. C. Long, of Middletown, Frederick county; Percival Malliken, of Trappe, Talbot county, and J. C. Howard, of Belalden Charles county.

From Still Pond.

STILL POND, Jan. 18, 1892.

The appointment of Mr. George W. Davis to the vacancy in the school board, caused by the election of Mr. Jas. S. Harris to the Orphan's court, is very satisfactory to the people out here. Mr. Davis is a man of ability, is an excellent business man, and will perform the duties of the office to which he has been elected, thoroughly and satisfactorily.

The young men of Still Pond and Locust Grove contemplate giving a dance in the hall on the 28th inst. The room is being thoroughly overhauled, and will be put in the best condition. From what we can learn, the dance promises to be a particularly enjoyable affair, and will be one of *the* social events of the season.

Senator William T. Hepbron was at home on Sunday. He returned to Annapolis to-day to take up the fight of Hon. James Alfred Pearce for United States Senator. Mr. Pearce is undoubtedly the favorite with the people, and besides, the brightest of the long list of aspirants. We wish him success. We prophesy that either Pearce or Jackson will win the fight.

Miss May Price last Thursday started for Kentucky, for a long visit among relatives.

Who will be elected treasurer in April, to succeed Wm. B. Usilton who is now filling that office? We claim that the next treasurer should come from the second or third districts. The suggestions are made solely by us; we have no idea that Mr. Busick would be willing to run as a candidate.

Owing to the ice and fog, the steamer Trumpeter did not make her regular trip on Monday.

Mr. E. L. Covington, of Staunton, Va., is spending a few days at his father's, Mr. George W. Covington. WANG.

—The Baltimore & Ohio Elevator Company have finally agreed to receive for storage, grain delivered by bay vessels. The elevator company, however, reserve the right: "That in case the grain business should hereafter assume such proportions as to render it impracticable, the suspension of the receipt may be at our option." It has also been decided that as an experiment, each vessel, whether steamer, sail vessel or barge will be given its turn in unloading. The Canton Elevators have made similar offers. In order that there may be no recurrence of the inconveniences of the past two months to the farmers of the tidewater counties of the State, would it not be well for the Legislature to devote some thought to this all-important matter of providing necessary storage room for the crops of the Maryland farmer? We think so.

—Another one of those delightful concerts, which the Ladies' Schubert Quartette, of Boston know so well how to render will be given at Stam's Hall, on Saturday evening, January 30. The ladies come wearing fresh laurels won from new fields of song, and with their past superb concert as a specimen of their entertainments Mr. Stam should have no trouble to fill the hall to its utmost capacity. The Boston *Times* says: The Ladies' Schubert Quartette combine to special advantage and produce wonderful effects. The first soprano has a voice sweet, clear and high. The second alto is of admirable weight and power, and the other two form just the right supplement; *each* voice being finely trained, their blending makes their songs as the melodies of one voice of many parts. Their stage presence, too is excellent." Ottawa, Ont., supplements the above with: "The first selection, "Annie Laurie," by the very favorite musical combination, the Boston Ladies' Schubert Quartette, was given in such a manner that the effect was overpowering. They responded to a vociferous encore. The solos by Misses Nichols and Whitcombe were charmingly rendered."

Personal Mention.

Mr. Eugene Pennington, formerly teller of the Queen Anne's National Bank, of Centreville, has been elected cashier, vice, Mr. James Wooters, resigned on account of failing health.

Rev. Charles Hill has resigned as pastor of the Elkton M. E. Church. For some weeks past Mr. Hill has been in ill-health, and finding himself totally unable to perform the duties of his position felt constrained to resign.

Rev. Robert W. Todd, publisher of the *Conference Chronicle*, is negotiating for a press and general outfit, and expects to publish the paper entirely from his own office when he moves to Dover.—*Denton Journal.*

Rev. Q. L. Morrow will give a temperance lecture in the M.E. Church at Ridgely on Friday night, January 22, under the auspices of the Epworth League.

Mr. William S. Walker, with Col. Wm. Henry Legg, Zora H. Brinsfield, of Eldorado, and Thomas Perry, of Salisbury, were appointed an auxiliary committee to the executive committee of the World's Fair.

Church Notes.

A series of afternoon Bible talks will begin in the Methodist Episcopal Church on Sunday next at the hour of Sunday school. They will be in charge of Prof. C. W. Proctor, and are intended for any who are not connected with the Sunday school. The first will be entitled: "The Bible as a Whole." The professor will give this. He is to be assisted by Dr. Reid, the pastor and others. This, it is hoped, will prove an attraction to those who may feel interested in the Sunday school, but who cannot attend regularly.

Rev. R. Irving Watkins proposes to preach a series of sermons on the Sunday Question during the next few Sunday evenings. The first will be on Sunday next: "The Sabbath as a Religious Institution."

Mrs. Blake, who was to have delivered an address at Christ M. P. Church, Chestertown, on Sunday evening, was unable to be present. She will, however, speak in the interest of the W. T. C. U. at 7.30 o'clck P. M. at that church on Sunday next. Mrs. Blake is one of the most finished and ornate lecturers at present on the American lecture platform.

The Hand of Death.

Mrs. Emma Galethia Catlin, wife of Jas. W. Catlin, of near Rolph's wharf, died at the home of her husband at 12.30 o'clock on Tuesday morning, aged 41 years. Mrs. Catlin was taken seriously ill with typhoid fever about four months ago, and has since been a great sufferer. Pneumonia finally developed, and the constitution worn and weakened by suffering and disease, was unable to resist this dreadful destroyer, and finally succumed to the shadowy hand of death as a longed-for relief. Before marriage Mrs. Catlin was a Miss Emma Evans, daughter of the late John H. Evans, of Queen Anne's. The deceased leaves five children, one girl and four boys, the oldest of which is about 12 years old. Funeral services will be held at 10 o'clock to-day at her late residence, interment at Chester Cemetery, Chestertown.

Mrs. Margaret Staveley, wife of J. R. Staveley, died of pneumonia at the home of her husband, near Lynch's station, on Tuesday morning, aged fifty-seven years. She was seized by the grip more than two weeks ago. Pneumonia soon developed and on Tuesday morning death resulted from the disease. Mrs. Staveley was a Miss Hepbron, daughter of the late Sewell Hepbron, of Kent. The funeral will take place at 1 o'clock this afternoon.

Rock Hall Items.

January 19, 1892.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Rock Hall is unusually dull as winter has set in in good shape, and our oystermen are kept closely housed at their homes. The tongers have not made more than three or four days' work since Christmas, but the boys had laid in a pretty good supply for this kind of weather, and they are just as happy as you please, and do not seem to care whether corn is one dollar a bushel or not.

We have some sinkness with us, but at present no serious cases.

A sad death occurred in our midst on Thursday last in the person of Mrs. Susan Hogan, the wife of Mr. John Hogan. She leaves a husband, a little boy about six years old and an infant of only a few days. We sympathize with the deeply distressed husband.

Mr. Wm. Legg has moved home with his father, and will go into the butchering business with him.

The congregation of the M. E. Church gave their pastor, Rev. R. Roe, a donation on Saturday night, and left his larders well-filled.

The revival services at the M. E. Church are still going on with much interest manifested. There have been a number of conversions, but the weather has interferred with the attendance. J. M. D.

MATRIMONIAL.

A Series of Beautiful Weddings in Kent.

The wedding of Miss Ella C. Thomas, eldest daughter of the late H. Mifflin Thomas, and J. Alfred Perkins, Jr., of Philadelphia, eldest son of Dr. J. A. Perkins, of Chestertown, as previously stated in the TRANSCRIPT, will be celebrated at the M. E. church, at 12.30 P. M. to-day, the Revs. E. H. Nelson, of Galena, and R. Irving Watkins will perform the ceremony. The wedding promises to be the prettiest that has taken place in Kent county for years. The church will be neatly and prettily decorated with pot flowers, ferns, palms, etc. The bridal chorus, "Faithful and True," by twenty little girls from the Sunday school, will be sung to the tune of Lohengrin's march as the bridal party proceed to the altar. The six little ribbon girls, Misses Ethel Perkins, Irma Eliason, Louise Stam, Corine Vickers, Mary F. Fleming and Anna Smith, clad in dainty gowns of satin-finished India linen trimmed in lace, and made in Kate Greenaway style, carrying white lilies, will precede the bridal party, and place the ribbon from the corner pews on either side of the church to the chancel; enter three abreast in each aisle, cross at chancel, changing sides. The ushers, Messrs. R. Snowden Thomas, R. Harrison Collins, William T. Brown, Walter W. Perkins, David B. Perkins and Charles E. Perkins will enter at the left-hand door, followed by the bride on the arm of her brother, M. Wilbur Thomas, clad in fawn broadcloth, Cotele silk, jewel passamenterie, with hat and gloves to match, and carrying a bunch of white bridal roses.

The groom with his brother, F. Blackiston Perkins, as best man, will enter the right-hand door a little in advance of the bridal party, and proceed to their positions at the chancel to receive the bride.

During the service soft strains of music will be rendered by the accomplished organist, Miss Annie G. Lambert. After the ceremony, the bridal party will leave the church by Mendelssohn's march.

Mr. Perkins and his bride will leave on the afternoon train for a trip, and will be at home, 1625 Brown street, Philadelphia, Thursday, in February.

The marriage of Miss Emma Gilpin and R. D. Hynson, Esq., is announced to take place in Immanuel P. E. Church, Chestertown, on Thursday evening, February 4, 1892, at 8 o'clock P. M. The service will be preformed by the Rev. Dr. Eccleston, of Immanuel P. E. Church, Baltimore. The wedding will be full-dress, and after the the ceremony a reception will be held at the residence of the groom's mother, Mrs. Richard Hynson, on Front street from 8.30 to 10.30 o'clock P. M. No cards will be issued.

On Wednesdey evening, the 13th of January, a few friends were gathered at the residence of Miss Sarah M. Jones, near Millington, to witness the marriage of Miss Ida Lambdin, of Kent county, and Mr. Samuel Smith, of Queen Anne's. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. A. Weller. The bride wore a plain but beautiful Princess gown of tan Henrietta, with trimmings of silk-feather ruching. Her ornaments were natural flowers. The groom wore black. Shortly after the ceremony, supper and refreshments were served, and later in the evening Mr. and Mrs. Smith drove to their future home near Sudlersville.

KENNEDYVILLE NOTES.

KENNEDYVILE, Jan. 19, 1892.

Mr. A. E. Perkins, of Central New York, arrived here last Saturday with thirty-five head of fine grade Holstein cows and calves, for which he found ready sales at fair prices. The farmers in the vicinity are recognizing the fact that in order to obtain profitable results from dairy and creamery, it is not only necessary to increase the number of cows, but to improve the stock. Mr. Perkins by his integrity, fair business transactions, and by bringing only first-class cattle, has won the confidence of the community.

Owing to the illness of the principal, Mr. L. J. Smyth, the larger pupils of our school have been indulging in a holiday for the past week.

Mrs. John Boggs has been called from home by the illness of her parents.

Mrs. Barwick has also received intelligence of the illness of her father at Odessa.

Mr. John Bennett and sister, and Emma Shafer are now on the sick list in our village, but all are improving.

Owing to sickness and other causes, our social gatherings have been interrupted, but it is hoped that we will now be able to enter upon these fields with renewed zeal. The Ladies' Aid Society will meet at the hall on Friday evening, January 22d, at 7 o'clock, and on Friday evening, Feb. 5, the W. C. T. U. will hold its next regular meeting. Special care has been taken to arrange the programme, and enjoyable evenings are anticipated. The public are cordially invited.

Miss Mamie Dewees, who has been visiting in Philadelphia and Norristown since October, will return to the village this week. NINA.

Preparations for Thompson's Execution.

Sheriff Edward J. Plummer, on Monday morning will commence the erection of the scaffold upon which the colored man Thomas Thompson must expirate his crime, the killing of William Adams on the streets of Chestertown, on the night of August 22, 1891. T. J. Joiner will build the scaffold, in accordance with the plans and specifications submitted by auctioneer John H. Greenwood. The structure will be of first-class material and it is expected will be thoroughly strong in every part. From the gallows-beam to the ground will be 14½ feet, 8 feet from the ground to the first platform and 6½ from the platform to the beam. The material used for the beam, braces, etc., will be 4 by 6 inches. The lower portion of the scaffold from the ground to the platform will be entirely open with a pair of steps leading up. From the platform to the beam will be enclosed box-like on three sides and on the top the side next to the jail from which Thompson will enter being left open. A six feet drop will be given and though the stretch has been taken out of the ropean allowance of 1½ feet will be made for a stretching of the rope. A ¾ inch cotton rope purchased of J. K. Aldridge will be used. The trap will be sprung by Sheriff Plummer as he leaves the platform upon which the condemned man stands, stepping upon the first step. The body will be hidden from those present until after it drops below the upper and enclosed portion of the scaffold. Every preparation has been made to secure the absolute safety of the prisoner and to assure a proper carrying out of the sentence of the law. The hour of the execution has not been made known. The legal allowance of twenty persons to witness the hanging will be adhered to. Independent of this number the condemned man's spiritual advisers, two doctors, newspaper men and the family of the condemned man are admitted. Thompson expresses himself as ready to die, but says that he would far rather be shot than hung. He is in good spirits and apparently resigned to his fate. The scaffold will be built directly in front of the door leading from the corridor of the jail on Cross St. The choirs of the Methodist Episcopal and Methodist Protestant churches held a song service with the prisoner on Sunday afternoon.

COLLEGE NOTES.

The Seniors Regale Their Friends With Treasures of Wisdom.

The old college hall was well filled with the friends of the Senior class on Saturday evening, January 16, to hear the "Intermediate Orations." The walking was quite disagreeable because of the recent snowfall, yet there were a number of ladies present. The Seniors evidently have some warm friends among the fair ones.

The programme was as follows: James W. Chapman, Jr., Socialism; R. Earle Fisher, Protective Tariff; Quartette, Misses Julia Thompson and Annie Lambert, Prof. Clarke and James W. Chapman., Jr.; Benjamin F. Perkins, Imigration; solo, Miss Julia Thompson; W. B. Usilton, Jr., The Law of Heredity; solo. Miss Annie Lambert, with quartette chorus; Wm. Dunbar Gould, Jr., Russia's Treatment of the Jews. With respect to the relative merit of the essays, it would be difficult to decide. They were all superior productions, and evidenced much thought in their preparation. We do not remember any class having excelled the essays of the present occasion. Messrs. Chapman and Perkins spoke like veterans, while Usilton did very well, though not up to his usual standard, because of not being in very good health (Grippe). Both Fisher and Gould became frightened, and required considerable prompting, thus marring the effects of what would otherwise have been excellent efforts. The music was exceptionally fine, and was very much appreciated. Miss Mary Hurtt presided at the organ in her usual excellent manner.

Examinations commence February 1st, and will continue until February 10th. The students are preparing for them with even more than their usual diligence.

The total enrollment at the college up to date, has reached 90, though owing to the fact that several students have withdrawn for various causes, there are not so many in actual attendance at this time. Then, too, several have been absent because of sickness. La Grippe and scarlet fever have made their presence in the community which is shown by the small attendance at college.

The election of officers in the Mt. Vernon Literary Society took place on Friday evening, January 15, and resulted in the election of: W. B. Usilton, Jr., president; R. Earle Fisher, vice-president; J. A. Franklin Carey, recording secretary; Thomas W. Perkins, corresponding secretary, and G. Edgar Williamson, treasurer. The excitement ran very high, and as it is claimed that none of the officers except Mr. Usilton are legally elected or eligible to office, there is much talk of forming a new society. Several of the most active members of the old society talk of going with the society. It will probably be called the "William Smith Literary Society," in honor of the illustrious first president of Washington College. Mount Vernon has had a somewhat checkered existence of over forty years, and it is hoped the formation of a new one will not interfere with its usefulness.

(COMMUNICATED.)

A REPLY TO MR. RYAN.

Fearing that an erroneous impression has been made by the tirade of abuse upon the two gentlemen who have been expounding the "Word of God" in a most intelligent and Christian-like manner, both at Rock Hall and Edesville, we hasten to make the public acquainted with the *facts* in the case. Mr. Ryan in his communication to the *News* coarsely insinuates that only the ignorant, "the blind," attend these services, and that they are attracted by the "excitement and low spice," while your correspondent can assure you that among the masses who throng to hear them, are found our leaders of society, our best educated, most refined, and also as exemplary Christian characters as can be found in the church, so flatteringly alluded to. Mr. Ryan also states that, "Their meetings look more like political gatherings, with doctrines and speech calculated to embitter the minds of the people against the well-being of the community."

We defy Mr. Ryan, or any other man, to prove that statement true in any particular. No man of intelligence should condemn a thing unheard, and Mr. Ryan has not attended these discourses. We were pained to see the M. P. Church mentioned in such a war-like attitude, for Mr. Shreeve is truly a man of God, rejoicing in all good works, and these men are accomplishing much good, for many who have never attended any church, are found regularly at those services; are reading the Scriptures and giving evidence of a great change, for "by their fruits shall ye know them." Again, Mr. Ryan speaks of discord between friends and in families. Has not such been the case through past ages wherever the word of God has been preached by his servants? Christ himself said it should be so, Matt., 10th chapter. The "contemptible conduct," (as Mr. Ryan terms it) during one of Mr. Roe's sermons, was that of taking notes from that part of the discourse in which he denounced them. All those persecutions have been borne with Christian humility and prayers for them which despitefully use them. Mr. John Judefind, Jr., the "*one man*" whom Mr. Ryan refers to, is a gentleman of unquestionable Christian character, respected by the entire community, but not *immaculate*, for we were indeed shocked that any one should use that word in reference to any but God.

In conclusion, we desire to inform you that your correspondent is nor a member of Mr. Roe's church, not yet a convert to the new faith, but A MAN OUTSIDE.

Court News.

Present Judges Harris, Moffett and Burgess. George Beck filed administration bond. B. F. Fleming, administrator of James H. Plummer, filed, account of sales and list of debts of his decedent. G. Oldham Massey, executor of C. H. B. Massey, filed account of sales of his decedent. B. F. Fleming, administrator of James H. Plummer, passed his first and final administration account. Letters of administration on the personal estate of Maria L. Gamble, late of Kent county, were granted to George Beck. William S. Walker and William W. Stevens were appointed to appraise the personal estate of Maria L. Gamble, dec'd. Court passed sundry claims against estates.

County commissioners met Tuesday, January 19, with full board present. Dr. Samuel Beck, ex-clerk, filed list of witnesses and bailiffs' fees for October term, 1891, which was ordered to be provided for by levy in 1892; also bill of costs due from Queen Anne's county, in the trial of the removed case of Charles E. Jubb vs. Frances W. Lowe, and also bill of costs due from Harford county, in the removed case of Elliott Graham vs. Thos. Roberts Co. Cecil C. Morgan was appointed constable for Kent county, in and for the fourth election district, and presented his bond, which was approved and directed to be filed with the clerk of the county court for record. Sundry deeds for right of way to Kent county, having been previously executed, were directed to be filed with clerk of the circuit court for record, by order of the board. Receipts of the Maryland hospital for levy of '91 for attention, board, etc., for county patients, were received and filed. The clerk was directed to write to the Wrought Iron Bridge Co., offering a settlement for bridge at Sparks' mill. The board was further engaged in examining, approving and passing accounts for payment by order and for levy in 1892.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEET.

Members of Eighteen Boards Discuss Many Topics of Interest.

The meeting of county commissioners, suggested by Mr. Thos. J. Shallcross, president of the Kent county board, took place at the hall of the Young Men's Christian Association, Baltimore, on Thursday. Eighteen boards were represented. Mr. Robert Magruder, president of the Baltimore county board, called the meeting to order.

Mr. Thomas J. Shallcross, president of the board of county commissioners of Kent county, the prime mover in getting up the convention, was elected chairman, and Messrs. Smith, of Cecil, and D. H. Staley, of Washington, were made secretaries.

A committee on organization, composed of the presidents of the various boards present, was appointed. Mr. Magruder, of Baltimore county, was president of this committee, and Mr. R. M. Boyd, of Allegany, secretary. The committee reported a programme, which the convention proceeded to discuss. The first question before the body was as to the length of the term of office of county commissioners; whether the terms should be two, four or six years. Mr. Boyd, of Allegany, moved that the Legislature be requested to increase the term to six years. The present term is two years.

Mr. Magruder, of Baltimore county, suggested that it would be more proper to leave it to the Legislature.

Wm. G. Gischel, of Anne Arundel, said: "I think that a whole board should not go out together, nor an entirely new board be elected at the same time. I do not think it advisable to lengthen the term to six years, because every member is sent back for a second term, and a commissioner who has served six years will want a recess of at least two years.

Col. H. Kyd Douglas, of Washington county, said that nothing could be done in the matter until the Legislature passed a law in conformity with the amendment.

Mr. Smith, of Cecil, stated that there would be some difficulty in settling these questions, owing to the fact that in some counties the boards are composed of three members, while in others there are five members. He was requested by the commissioners of his county to offer a resolution appointing committees to wait on the Legislature and confer relative to the matter, and he offered such a resolution.

Col. Douglas questioned whether a conference of committees with Senators and Delegates would avail anything. Mr. Smith's resolution was a harmless one, but it could do no good.

Mr. Shallcross, of Kent, thought that unless the commissioners went to Annapolis themselves they could accomplish nothing.

Mr. John Miller, of Prince George's, submitted a resolution on the township system, and described it as follows: "It is a Democratic system, a local system, and a system for the people and by the people. It can be likened to self-imposed taxes for the government of your farms. It embraces a method whereby people living in certain districts tax themselves for the improvement of public roads, etc. It has but one officer, who is called a trustee, and he has under his immediate supervision the roads, bridges, education and everything pertaining to the government of the district. There are many here who never saw good roads in their counties, and it is because they never tried the township system. If this system were adopted the people in each district would have good roads, good bridges, good schools and desirable internal improvements. Unless this system be adopted we will keep in the same old rut, and our children will do likewise."

On motion of Mr. Magruder, the resolution was laid on the table.

The question of the number of commissioners for each county was taken up. Upon motion, the president called for expressions on the subject by counties, with the result that the majority seemed to favor only three commissioners. Some of the counties did not answer. The voice from Calvert said that the county had three commissioners, and wanted no more; Cecil was satisfied with three; Dorchester had five, and wanted no change; Frederick had five, but was in favor of three; Garrett had three, and wanted no more; Harford had five, and wanted fewer; Howard had three, and was satisfied; Montgomery had five, and wanted no less; Prince George's had five, but could do better with three; Queen Anne's had three, and was satisfied; Somerset had three, and desired no change; St. Mary's had five, but wanted three; Talbot had experimented with both five and three; it now has three, and is satisfied; Washington had five, and heard no recommendation from the people for more; Wicomico had five, but could do as well with three.

The subject of road repairs was called. Mr. Gischel, of Anne Arundel, said that they had miserable roads, and the trouble is that not enough money is appropriated to work them.

Mr. Magruder, of Baltimore county, said the only way to make roads is to use stone in their construction.

Mr. John G. Spicknall, of Calvert, lived in a county where there are no roads, and, therefore, he did not bother his head about them.

Mr. Jacob Fresh, of Garrett, said that the inspection of roads should be left to the county commissioners and not to the road supervisors, as the latter were not to be depended on.

Mr. Proctor said that in Harford certain communities formed associations for the betterment of the condition of the roads. They come to the commissioners with $1000 and ask that the county contribute another $1000. They then take the $2000 and spend it judiciously. They have taken eighteen miles of roads under their charge and have saved the county a large amount of money.

Colonel Douglas favored the taking in hand of all the roads by the commissioners, macadamizing them and making them permanent, rather than spending thousands of dollars to throw up mud and make no improvement.

Mr. W. Beatty Harlan, of Harford county, favored the appointment of a State engineer, and said the roads in Maryland were sadly neglected. There were no roads in the world in a worse condition. The country roads of the United States are neglected more than those of any other nation. In his travels in England and on the continent he found everywhere good, smooth, solid roads, that would last for generations.

The convention then adopted a resolution requesting the Legislature to make it obligatory upon the county commissioners of the counties of Maryland to hold a convention every year.

The question of the advisability of constituting the boards of commissioners boards of control and review, in case of a new assessment, was then brought up and generally discussed, but no action was taken upon it.

A resolution was adopted unanimously recommending to the delegates and Senators of the counties to urge the passage of a new assessment law.

A committee, including one commissioner from each county represented, was appointed to confer with the Senators and delegates of their respective counties as to the feasibility of extending the term of office of county commissioners, and such other legislation as would be to the best interest of their respective counties, said committee to meet at Annapolis on January 28.

The convention then adjourned, to meet subject to the call of the chairman.

MARRIED.

CLARK—WOOD.—At the residence of the bride's father, near Worton, on Wednesday, Jan. 13, 1892, by Rev. Jno. D. Kemp, Gideon F. Clark and Mary A. Wood, both of Kent.

MEEKS—SCOTTEN.—In Locust Grove M. P. Church, Jan. 13, 1892, by Rev. Edwin H. Nelson, Mr. Frank H. Meeks and Miss Dora B. Scotten, both of Kent.

DIED.

HUBBARD.—Near Tolchester, Harry M., infant son of John W. and Mary E. Hubbard, aged 19 months.

STAVELEY.—Near Lynch's Station, Jan. 19, Margaret E. beloved wife of J. R. Staveley, aged 57 years. Funeral services at I. U. this Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock.

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Our manufacturers have sent us down what odds and ends they had left in Suits and Overcoats to be closed out—2 of one kind, 3 of another, etc.—to make room for our immense line of Spring Suitings. Suffice to say, our former prices have been appreciated as Low, but all previous records will be laid in the shade with quotations never heard of in the history of Chestertown.

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