The Transcript.

SUBSCRIPTION, $1.00 PER ANNUM.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1896.

LOCAL MATTERS.

Orphans' Court.—Present, Judges Burgess and Byron. Letters of administration were granted to J. L. Shepherd, Arabella V. Caulk and J. Ford Caulk, on the estate of Benjamin F. H. Caulk, and Anthony Johnson and Louis P. Atwell were appointed to appraise said estate.

Still Without Profit.—According to the peculiar methods of railroad bookkeeping, the Queen Anne's and Kent branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad is still an investment without profit. Though generally supposed to be a valuable feeder to the main line, the annual report of the company shows that it has been run at a loss the past year of just $14,873.24.

Capt. Hyland's Successor.—The board of public works on Tuesday appointed Capt. Franklin Stevens, of Rock Hall, to the command of the schooner A. B. Smith, as successor to Capt. Hyland, resigned. It was the first meeting of the board since Governor Lowndes was elected. The Governor and Comptroller Graham made the selection at the request of Senator Westcott, Treasurer Spencer C. Jones did not vote.

To Retire on a Pension.—As an evidence of the business depression as viewed from a commercial man's stand-point, the suggestion by a representative of a large Baltimore wholesale house, that the most profitable thing for Baltimore firms to do with their traveling salesmen would be to retire them to the shades of private life on a pension, was expressive! This did not apply to Chestertown, however, for one of the gentlemen refered to, "slipped out and sold a bill of $300 to one man in a few minutes."

Changing a Vestry Law.—James A Pearce, Esq., has drafted a bill, having in view a change of the vestry law of the Protestant Episcopal church of the Diocese of Easton. Oaths and penalties for violation of duty, which have not been enforced for 100 years, are to be abolished and the pastoral relations of a rector with his parish may be dissolved only in accordance with the church canons. The rector of the standing committee must approve transfers of property and the vestry may have from four to eight members, the latter being now the number. The bill will soon be introduced. Senator Tilghman, of Talbot, has it in charge.

Sad Death by Drowning.—Miss Mary Wallis on Monday received the sad intelligence of the drowning of her cousin, R. L. Wallis, in southern Kansas. Mr. Wallis' home was at Ottawa, in Central Kansas, and on December 24th he went to Caney to look after a farm which he owned there. He arrived at Havana on Tuesday and engaged a liveryman, named Ross, to drive him out to his farm. A short distance from town the road crossed a small stream, which the recent rains had swelled till it became a fearful torrent overflowing the culvert crossing, but the driver anticipated no danger and drove in, and soon both horses and buggy were swept down the rapid current. The men both immediately jumped out and Mr. Ross managed to get safely to the shore, but Mr. Wallis was more unfortunate and was carried down the stream and perished in the icy waters. His body was recovered the next day and carried to his home in Ottawa. Mr. Wallis was a young man whose sterling christain character won for him the highest respect and esteem of all who knew him. He was married on July 2d. to Miss Mattie Meyer, of Ottawa, and both he and his bride had recently connected themselves with the Presbyterian church and entered earnestly into church work. He was about thirty years of age and was a son of Bowdine and Helen Wallis originally of Kent, but who a number of years ago moved west, and a grandson of the late Hugh Wallis, of this county.

Protection of Food Fishes.—Mr. R. G. Duckett, who with a large number of citizens of Queen Anne's are earnestly seeking to have a bill passed by the Legislature which will afford greater protection to food fish in Chester river, desires us to state that the bill is formed for the benefit, not alone of Queen Anne's county, but for Kent as well. The rapid disappearance of fine food fishes from Chester river is a fact realized by every one interested in the matter, and the efforts of the Queen Anne's gentlemen should, and will be endorsed and supported by every citizen of both counties. The bill referred to last week has in view the protection of fish in the narrow streams tributary to the Chester during the spawning season, and with such an object it would be difficult to introduce selfish features. Island Creek, like many other streams emptying into the Chester is extremely narrow and is a favorite place for fish to spawn, and when it is remembered that every female fish caught during the season may mean the destruction of an half million young fish, the splendid efforts of Mr. Duckett and his friends to protect the spawning grounds, should receive the thanks of every lover of fine fish or fine fishing, and the good work should not be left entirely to the good offices of progressive enterprising citizens of our sister county. No fears are entertained on this side the river that the admirable move of our neighbors will ever rob either Queen Anne's or Kent county fishermen of a livelihood. The law should be rigid and rigidly enforced.

Personal and Social.

Mr. James S. Harris, the prominent horticulturist of Kent, was elected one of the vice-presidents of the Peninsular Harticultural Society.

At the annual meeting of the Philadelphia Produce Exchange, Wednesday last, Mr. Wm. P. Ireland, a prominent produce commission merchant of that city, was elected vice-president of the organization. Mr. Ireland's many friends in Kent county will be gratified to learn of his election to so important a trust.

Mr. Harry L. Chew arrived at home with his bride on Friday last.

A delightful strawride and surprise party were given Miss Susie Casey, at her home at Rock Hall on Friday evening last. The merry party left Mrs. John Downey's in a farm wagon filled with straw, with bells on the horses, at about half past six o'clock, with a colored man as driver, and after a pleasant ride arrived at Mr. Casey's about 7 o'clock. They were delightfully entertained with music, both vocal and instrumental, and a royal good time was enjoyed. Refreshments were served in abundance during the evening, consisting of ice cream, lemonade, candies, nuts, apples and oranges. Miss Casey was more than surprised, but did the honors of the occasion most admirably. With best wishes to their hostess, leave was taken about ten o'clock. Those present were: Misses Eva Downey, Alice Downey, Ethel Boyer, Mary Boyer, Lillian Smith, Agnes Smith, Ethel Taylor, Eva Procter, Margie Rich, Susie Casey, Rhoda Downey, Mrs. Ellen Downey, Mrs. Mollie Durding, Mrs. John Diehl; Messrs. Charlie Ayers, Willis Durding, Grover Copper, Bertie Copper, Arthur Greenwood, Preston Smith, John Somers, Billie Webb, Allen Downey, Herbert Wamsley, Warren Ayers, Robert Diehl.

SENATORIAL CONTEST.

Detailed Evidence Relative to the Charge of Ballot-box Frauds.

NO EVIDENCE OF TAMPERING WITH THE BOXES.

FRUITLESS SEARCH FOR FRAUD.

The fruitless search of Republicans for ballot-box tampering, was commenced on Saturday, before Justice of the Peace J. Evan Thomas, in conformity with the order of the State Senate committee. The investigation was to ascertain the truth or falsity of the charge that the ballot boxes had been insufficiently guarded and had been fraudulently tampered with since the election of November 5, 1695. James A. Pearce, Esq., the contestant, was represented by Hope H. Barroll and Richard D. Hynson, Esqs. John D. Urie appeared as attorney for C. T. Westcott, Esq., contestee. Public interest centred around the ballot-boxes of the fourth district, glass in one of which it was claimed had been broken and the ballots tampered with. The boxes were presented for inspection and one place was found badly shattered and cracked.

James W. Lambert, Republican judge of election in first precinct, fourth district, was the first witness, and testified that he assisted in sealing boxes of fourth district, and after a careful examination saw no difference in the appearance from that of the night of the election. The glass was broken in one of them on election day, and so far as he knew, as it was on the late examination. Samuel Vannort, Democrat, chief judge of election took the boxes on night of election, and he (the witness) took the keys. Keys and boxes were returned on Thursday after election day. Glue was used in sealing boxes.

Samuel Vannort, Democratic chief judge of election.—Thought he sealed boxes without assistance; got mucilage and put paper on himself. Examined boxes, but saw no changes to indicate that they had been tampered with. The glass in one box was cracked on day of election, and he spoke of the condition of the glass before using it, and all agreed to go on and use it. He took charge of the boxes and placed them in his office in his residence and carried the key in his pocket. Cracks were not of a nature to make ballots insecure. He only left the boxes once during election day, then Mr. Lambert was in charge. Witness examined the broken glass and testified that he could press a piece of the glass back and get a ballot through, but thought it impossible to get the glass back in place.

James W. Chapman, Republican ballot clerk.—Was in room when judges sealed the boxes, noticed the broken glass and called attention to it; said it was in bad condition and ought to be fixed. Could not say that a ballot could be gotten into the box and on the string. Could not get a ballot in and get it out himself.

Clerk Samuel G. Fisher.—Received ballot boxes and keys on Thursday after election day; placed them in vault where records and court papers are kept; vault adjacent to clerk's office. During business hours, when the boxes were first brought, from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M., key of vault staid in door and door staid open, unless himself and Deputy Greenwood both absent, then he took vault key and left dead-latch of office down. After business hours the vault door was locked, key placed in desk drawer in front office and desk drawer and office locked. Has been custom for Janitor Shuster to open vault in morning. He has keys to main office and drawer, and his instructions are, that after vault is opened to lock windows and door and place key in desk drawer and lock it. No special safeguards were placed over the boxes when first placed in the vault. The present special safeguards consisting of being securely boarded up with one-inch pine boards, were placed there on December 20th. On December 6th, as soon as a contest was decided upon, took personal possession of the key and kept it constantly, and since that date Janitor has had no access to key, and vault has not been cleaned out except in his presence. The box with broken glass was all the time in a wooden case in which it probably came from the factory, and was either at the bottom or next to the bottom of the pile. He did not know where the box was or that the box glass was broken until he took them down on Saturday. Boxes in two piles, one about 8 feet high and other about 6 feet. Heard Deputy Greenwood say that John D. Urie had been seen on a step ladder examining and looking at boxes just as everyone else could do. From the time contest was decided upon until boarding up of boxes no one was allowed in vault except under personal supervision of Deputy Greenwood and himself. Did not believe that boxes had ever been touched. Mr. Barroll had looked through glass to see if any ballots without ballot clerk's initials. Keys to boxes not all alike, but are kept sealed in an envelope and have not been opened. Janitor Shuster is old and quite deaf.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At Afternoon's session ballot boxes of the second precinct, fourth district were placed in evidence. J. Cordray Loud, Democratic chief judge of election in second precinct, testified that he had sealed box, and on election night placed it at the home of William Groves, his brother-in-law, at Pomona, where it remained until Thursday following. Groves was a Democratic deputy at the polls. Key to box delivered to Republican judge, C. G. Haddaway, on night of election. Witness examined box and stated: "There is no doubt in my mind that the box is in the same condition as when delivered to Mr. Groves. No evidence that box has been tampered with in the least degree."

Cornelius G. Haddaway, Republican judge: Did not assist in sealing box, but called attention to sealing and mentioned covering the key hole. Received key on election night and delivered it to clerk on following Thursday. Was not asked relative to having box at Groves', but did not know that he would have objected had he been consulted. From appearance of seal and its condition, did not believed that box had been tampered with unless there is some way of taking seal off without breaking it, and he knew of no way. Continuing, witness said: "From appearances I believe the boxes are in the same condition as when sealed and delivered to Mr. Loud on night of election. So far as I know the bottom is in same condition as whem delivered on day of election."

F. H. Greenwood, deputy clerk of circuit court; Dr. Fisher and himself both had access to vault at all times until Dec. 6, when contest was decided upon; since then, only Dr. Fisher had had general access to vault. Did not inform Dr. Fisher that Urie had been handling the boxes. Best of his knowledge and belief boxes had not been removed from original place in vault. One poll book from second district has been stolen from the vault. Had not given same care to books as to boxes. Saw John D. Urie on ladder looking at boxes in the vault; asked him not to put his hands on them. Had been more careful with boxes than with court records and papers. Vault is protected by iron shutters and double iron doors. Several persons had looked at poll books, among them John Blackiston, Virgel Kendall and L. B. Russell, all Republicans, on same day the book was missed, but did not think that they took it. Never saw any Democrats handle poll books, and don't know whether book kept by Democratic or one kept by Republican boll clerk is missing. Some of the boxes were returned in poor condition.

EVENING SESSION.

W. H. Lambert, prominent Republican worker, examined three boxes from first district and testified as to their condition at the time of taking evidence. On one, keyhole partially covered, and think could be opened with key and not break seal; one keyhole not covered at all and one keyhole covered. None of seals extend over opening of the lids. Could not say whether he thought or believed boxes had been opened or tampered with. Would not say they had not, rather thought that they had. Would not state whom he suspected. Two boxes of second district then placed in evidence and witness described sealing as paper or seal just covering slit in top of boxes and partially covering keyhole. Boxes could be, he thought, readily unlocked without breaking seal, and from a mark on the paper near the keyhole he believed that box had been unlocked. Mark might have been made by anything else. Boxes of 3d district sealed partially across the slit in the boxes with the keyholes covered. Seals do not extend over opening of the lids. Thought ballot could be inserted in either of boxes without disturbing seal. Would not say positively, but did not think he moved one of the boxes in the vault the least bit. He knew he did not. Saw vault open and light in it on early morning of Dec. 13th. Had been informed by Deputy Greenwood that office door was left open all night about three weeks ago.

MONDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Justice Thomas' court convened at 10 o'clock on Monday morning. Thomas Ireland Elliott, the attorney who became so widely known, because of having conducted the elaborate investigations into affairs political in and around the city hall, Baltimore, appeared to assist in representing the cause of the contestee, Chas. T. Westcott, Esq.

The first witness called was Janitor Samuel Shuster. The witness stated that he was accustomed to carry key to clerk's office, had access to vault key, and corroborated Clerk Fisher's testimony as to particulars of care of keys. Had access to vault key from election day until about six weeks ago, when Dr. Fisher took personal charge of vault key. Opened outer office and got lamp out one night for W. H. Lambert, Jr., but no one else. He pulled door to as usual, and if it failed to catch it was because some one had meddled with dead-latch. This was since Lambert was appointed clerk to county commissioners. Have heard Geo. C. Atkinson, Republican, say he had an idea that boxes had been tampered with. C. S. York also said he thought some one had tampered with boxes, not since they have been in the vault but before.

George C. Atkinson, Republican—Had told Shuster he believed boxes had been tampered with but had no idea who had done it; did not believe that Dr. Fisher and Deputy Greenwood would be guilty of such a thing. Shuster told witness he had seen ex-Sheriff T. S. Dodd coming out of vault, but thought that was before the election.

George E. Owens, Republican ballot clerk in third district, testified that boxes were sealed as they were on night of election. Heard them say that paper was not large enough to cover slit and keyhole, so they would put it crosswise. One box was in charge of Usilton and other in charge of Frank Meeks; didn't know official capacity of Meeks. No dispute among the judges while ballots being counted, but some little dispute among clerks. Joseph R. Jones and Samuel S. Crawford put seals on boxes. Crawford was Democratic poll clerk. Judges may or may not have seen boxes sealed.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

George L. Bowers, Republican judge of third district, testified that Chief Judge Usilton took charge of both boxes, locked and sealed; witness kept keys to both boxes. Did not know who took boxes away from polls election night. After examining boxes, witness testified that he could find no signs of anything wrong with boxes or any change from election night. They were in same condition, so far as he could see, as when sealed on election night. Took charge of left-over ballots. Did not think any were left over with ballot clerk's initials on them. Returned unused ballots to Clerk Fisher, but did not count them. Saw the boxes sealed and signed the seals now on them.

Because of Republican charges of frauds and irregularities charged in the second district sufficient to throw it out, any testimony from this section of course came with intensified interest to the public. It will be remembered that the second is the district which the Republicans claim to rely upon to count the entire Democratic ticket out and to seat all of their candidates. Charles England, second district Republican judge, was the first witness called to testify in regard to the boxes and methods. He stated that he was present at sealing of boxes, names were written on seals before they were placed on boxes; was under impression that keyholes were covered over, but the paper was narrow; tried to make it cover both slit in box and keyhole. Undoubtedly box can now be opened without disturbing the paper in any way. Did not know it was his duty to cover the keyhole entirely, but if boxes were left as they now are, it was certainly not the intention of either himself or Mr. Ireland to do so; did not believe that he left them as they are now on night of election. As he could best remember, witness prepared slip of paper used for seal; thought he cut them with penknife and pasted them on boxes while Ireland overlooked it. Seals pasted on with mucilage. Had served as judge of election before, but had never sealed boxes before. Unused ballots of package opened left around polling room until after the counting. Ballot boxes and unused ballots carried into Ireland's insurance office just across the street from polling place, night of election, by Mr. Ireland, but witness did not go with him. Polling room so full of people during count that they stood against the table. Ireland brought boxes and unused ballots down from his office and witness helped load them in carriage, witness taking one box and part of unused ballots and Ireland taking the other box and part of unused ballots to bring them to Chestertown. Treasurer Garrett Foxwell came to Chestertown in carriage with Ireland. Witness came alone. Witness had keys to both boxes. All of unused ballots he brought to Chestertown were not delivered to the clerk, as he found some under seat of his carriage two weeks after. Witness received ballots on election day while Ireland was at dinner. Saw no ballots received not having ballot clerk's initials on them. After ballot boxes were locked he tried them to see if they could be pulled open, but they could not. Kept keys in his pocket book until delivered on Thursday following. Thought key remained in first box filled with ballots and set in corner behind Ireland, while voting was going on. Witness took ballots out of box, opened them, looked at them and then handed them to Chief Judge Ireland, who read them out. Associate Judge Harris then put them in a peach basket back of judges; cut ballots put in another basket to left of chief judge and were counted after we got through with straight ballots. Both baskets in sight of him, but to see them had to turn around. Did not know which box he brought to town. Had some difficulty to get mucilage to stick in sealing boxes and tried to get paper over slit and key hole.

Joseph W. Harper, Republican watcher—There were others than election officials about the ballots when being counted. There were unused ballots about the room; returns were signed after tickets were taken from baskets, boxes put on table and left unlocked. After ballots had been returned from baskets to boxes a discussion arose as to legality of the proceedings of the election. It was about half an hour after ballots had been placed in boxes before the returns were signed. A heated discussion arose about signing the returns. Lids of boxes were down during discussion and it was a general war of words. Saw boxes after they were sealed by Mr. England; (examined boxes) and am under the impression that the seals were wider than they are now; papers were damp night of election and don't remember seeing corners turned up like they are now. My impression is that the seals covered keyholes, and think I am still correct in my impression, notwithstanding the fact that the paper does not cover the keyhole. Don't think I ever saw boxes sealed before, but my common sense would tell me that the seal should extend over the slit and key hole to make the contents secure, and my impression is that it was done, as best I can remember at this date. Had I noticed the keyholes not covered I should have called some of the officials' attention to it. Did not see any unused ballots with ballot clerk's initials on them; did not see any unused ballots lying around the room, but did see some on the table. Saw ballot boxes about an hour after they finished counting; boxes sealed and on the table when I left the room. Cannot say they are not the *identical* seals placed on boxes night of election. The same writing is on the seals. Since examining the boxes I am confirmed in my opinion.

TUESDAY MORNING.

Frank H. Greenwood, deputy clerk of circuit court, testified that it was not correct that he informed W. H. Lambert, Jr., that clerk's office door had been left open all night about three weeks ago. He did tell Lambert that he (Lambert) had been in clerk's office with Shuster and left door open, and but for Willard Melvin and Harry Rickey it would have remained open all night.

Willard Melvin stated that two or three weeks ago, as himself, Rickey and Wilber Thomas were passing register's office, saw clerk's office door open, made thorough examination of office and found everything in order. Tried vault door and it was locked securely. Saw Greenwood that night and he said that Dr. Fisher had vault key.

Samuel Shuster, janitor, testified that he did see Sheriff Dodd coming out of vault with empty ballot boxes, but it was either on election morning or morning before.

Ex-Sheriff Dodd substantiated Mr. Shuster by stating that on election morning he got fourth district boxes out of vault for Justice of Peace McFeely. Had not been in vault except during office hours since election.

Clerk S. G. Fisher stated that it was not correct as testified to by W. H. Lambert, Jr., that he saw light in vault on morning of December 13, as he had key of vault in his pocket and there was but one key to vault door. Vault door had never been open before or a little after 9 o'clock, when he opened his office. Examined vault every morning and never saw anything to indicate that any effort had been made to disturb anything. Would be impossible to get into office without breaking open heavy iron shutters and heavy double iron doors.

McCaull M. Rasin, Democratic associate judge of third district, examined boxes from that district and testified that seals and boxes were as on night of election. No evidence of their having been tampered with.

Joseph R. Usilton, Democratic chief judge of third district, examined seals and boxes and could see no evidence of their having been tampered with, and did not believe they had been. Reason that paper does not entirely cover slit in ballot box, because could not get a piece of paper. No store there. Box so full that another ticket could not be forced in without breaking seal. Republican judges saw sealing and made no objection.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

George E. Lambert, Republican judge of fifth district, testified that he had keys to ballot boxes from election night until following Thursday, when they were delivered to clerk. Witness identified boxes as those used at election. Chief Judge Keyser had charge of boxes. No one in election room during count except officials.

W. E. Keyser, Democratic chief judge in fifth district, examined boxes, testified that he had prepared seals and sealed boxes, covering both key hole and slits, and had taken boxes to his home; Boxes in same condition as when delivered to Clerk Fisher.

J. C. Turner, Republican judge of first district, stated that he was present at sealing of boxes. Witness locked one box and Judge of Election Britton locked other, and witness took keys. Witness examined boxes and testified that they were in same condition as on election night. Were identical seals, unless some-one could copy his handwriting. Britton put seals on boxes, and he and Britton brought them to town.

TUESDAY NIGHT.

J. Herman Ireland, Democratic chief judge of second district, testified that after election closed, he and Mr. England sealed boxes, after ballots had been placed in them. Was quite sure that England placed slips on boxes. Witness was present and saw slips placed on boxes. Wrote seals himself and saw judges sign them, and would swear to signatures. After examination could see no evidences about slips or boxes to indicate to his mind that either boxes or seals had been tampered with since night of election. He would say that papers were of same size and in same condition as when placed on ballot boxes on election night. After polls closed and boxes sealed, took boxes, poll book and unused ballots to his room just across the street from where polls had been held. Witness placed boxes on a chair, poll book on the boxes and unused ballots on it, with possibly some ballots beside chair on floor. Room door was locked and he kept key. Keys of boxes given to England. Witness did not see boxes from election night until following Thursday, when boxes were brought to Chestertown. England had kept keys to boxes. No one had access to his room, and he did not believe that any one had been in the room. His room not four feet from Mr. Davies' room. Thought Mr. Harper's statement that unused ballots lying around room, a mistake. Unused ballots were in booth. War of words which Harper speaks of was caused by Sam'l J. Comley, Republican ballot clerk, declining to sign returns. After some discussion, Comley stated that Mr. Westcott had told him not to sign, and gave this as reason for not signing. Did not say why Westcott told him not to sign. Witness considered ballot boxes as safe in his room as in his private home. Thought it *possible* for anyone had they been in room, to move boxes and return them to their original positions without his discovering it, but did not think that any one had done so. Witness asked England, Republican judge, if he thought there had been any irregularities at Kennedyville, and he said no; thought it had been as fair election as he ever saw. Witness stated that no question arose on election day which was not endorsed by mutual agreement of all the judges.

YESTERDAY'S WORK.

The first witness called for the closing day's testimony was T. M. Britton, Democratic chief judge in first dist. He sealed boxes night of election. By consent of all judges, two rejected ballots placed in a box with keyhole not covered. This was done because thought would want to get rejected ballots, pads, dies, etc., out. Kept boxes in hall of his house until Thursday. After examination of boxes and seals, witness stated they were in same condition as on night of election, when placed in hall of his house on that night. Door of hall kept locked nearly all the time and house quarantined because of five cases of scarlet fever in his family, consequently considered ballots safe.

J. F. Ernest, associate Democratic judge in first district, testified as to two rejected ballots, which, by agreement of all the judges, were not to be counted because improperly marked.

John C. Turner, Republican judge, testified that he considered that the rejected tickets were intended as votes for Republican ticket, but did not say so on election day.

Charles England, Republican judge, testified that Dr. J. H. Kelley, a good Democrat, took sides with young Comley in discussion at Kennedyville about signing returns. Comley gave reason for not signing that the wrong man was allowed to vote on name of Samuel Jess. Witness objected to man voting, but he swore his name was Jess and was allawed to vote. Comley asked witness to swear him, as he was ready to swear the man was not Jess, but witness did not swear him because did not think he had the right. Did not think he told Ireland it was as fair election as he ever saw, but would not say possitively that he did not. There was great deal of noise and disturbance between ballot clerks during day. Democratic Clerk Shallcross changed during day at request of Democrats, and Charles Gill put in his place. Told witness that Shallcross was sick. Objected to Gill's appointment because witness had no authority to appoint a ballot clerk.

Samuel Comley testified that he was the Republican ballot clerk, and refused to sign the returns. Refused to sign returns because a man had illegally voted, and the tally sheets were not as he had made them out. He was told by Mr. Westcott if there were any irregularities or false voting not to sign the return sheet. The tally sheet he kept has been destroyed. "I told the judges when the man giving the name of Samuel Jess presented himself to vote that he was not Samuel Jess; that I knew Sam'l Jess." Witness asked Ireland privilege of sending out for Wm. B. Price, an uncle of Samuel Jess, to identify the man. He offered to swear that the person presenting himself to vote was not Samuel Jess, but Mr. Ireland stated that if the man was willing to swear his name was Samuel Jess he would have to take his vote.

John McGee, special deputy-sheriff at election in second district testified that Sam'l Comley's conduct at the time was very unbecoming: "I had to interfere with him on one or two occasions. He was very noisy, cried and caused considerable excitement; he apoligized to me for his conduct; my father went up to vote, and Comly went to him after he had gotten his ticket and asked him how he wanted to vote.

"I saw Comley snatch a ticket from the hands of a voter and open it; he told voter that was not the ticket he wanted to vote; voter did not ask Comley for assistance; he asked the Democratic clerk to mark his ticket and told Democratic clerk he wanted to vote the Democratic ticket. The voter was Frank Carroll. Thought Comley was crying, as he was making a great deal of noise and calling for his father. He pounded on the table, stamped on the floor and made a heap of noise. Saw him offer ballots to negro voters before they asked for them; saw him attempt to mark ballots for negro voters before they asked for assistance. He would tell voters before they got through the gate if they wanted any assistance he would give it to them; I warned him several times about such unlawful conduct and he would promise not to do so again."

EVENING SESSION.

John B. Harris, associate Democratic judge of the second district, testified: "I remember when the ballot boxes were sealed night of election. I don't think the seals were quite large enough to cover both the slit and the keyhole; don't think the keyholes were entirely covered. Noticed Comley was very active in securing voters, both white and black. Capt. Daniel Hill, the Republican candidate for county commissioner, acted as ballot clerk for a short time while Comley was out." The ballot boxes having been cased up to go to Annapolis, could not be produced for examination by witness. This closed the testimony and Esquire Thomas' court adjourned at 8.30 o'clock last night after its memorable and exciting sessions.

Mr. Hines Thomas, the efficient clerk, took about one hundred and fifty-five closely-written pages of legal cap, of testimony, which he will accompany to Annapolis to-day.

Clerk Fisher left for Annapolis by way of Rock Hall this morning with the ballot boxes securely done up in cases to be presented to the committee to-night. Attorneys Barroll and Hynson and James A. Pearce, Esq., left by some route.

UNITED Y MEETING.—United Y., will meet at the residence of Miss Anne Stewart, near Chestertown, MONDAY, JAN. 27, 1896. A full attendance is requested.

GRACE HATCHERSON,
PRESS SUPT.

MARRIED.

APSLEY—STEVENS.—At the residence of the bride's parent Mrs. S. J. Stevens, Rock Hall, Maryland, by Elder R. D. Hottel, Mr. George R. Apsley and Miss Lillie A. Stevens, both of Kent county.

ALDERSON—WARREN.—At the home of Mr. A. P. Emerson, Broad Neck, on December 25, 1895, by Rev. C. K. McCaslin, Robert Lee Alderson, of Cecil, and Ella Warren, of Kent county.

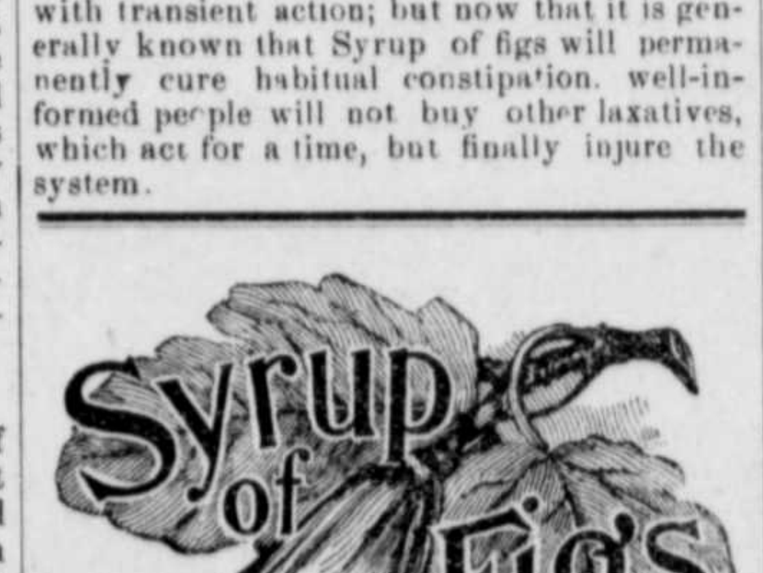
CULLEY—GODWIN.—At Wesley Chapel, on December 26, 1895, by Rev. C. K. McCaslin, James C. Culley and Alverta Godwin, both of Kent county.

KENDALL—MUNCH.—At Wesley Chapel Parsonage, on December 26, 1895, by Rev. C. K. McCaslin, Clarence C. Kendall and Carrie E. Munch, both of Kent.

GLENN—PRICE.—At Wesley Chapel Parsonage, on January 8 1896 by Rev. C. K. McCaslin, James H. Glenn and Laura Ethelyn Price, both of Kent.

In Olden Times

People overlooked the importance of permanently beneficial effects and were satisfied with transient action; but now that it is generally known that Syrup of figs will permanently cure habitual constipation, well-informed people will not buy other laxatives, which act for a time, but finally injure the system.



Gladness Comes

With a better understanding of the transient nature of the many physical ills which vanish before proper efforts—gentle efforts—pleasant efforts—rightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, which the pleasant family laxative, Syrup of Figs, promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and is everywhere esteemed so highly by all who value good health. Its beneficial effects are due to the fact, that it is the one remedy which promotes internal cleanliness, without debilitating the organs on which it acts. It is therefore all important, in order to get its beneficial effects, to note when you purchase, that you have the genuine article, which is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, and sold by all reputable druggists.

If in the enjoyment of good health, and the system is regular, then laxatives or other remedies are not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative, then one should have the best, and with the well-informed everywhere, Syrup of Figs stands highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction.

L. JAMES.

PROPRIETOR OF

"Palace Royal" Restaurant,

E. FAYETTE ST., NEAR HOLLIDAY.

Headquarters for Eastern Shore Trade.

FINE BRANDS OF LIQUORS

at $1.00, $1.25, $1.50, $2.00 and $2.50 per gallon, the most complete line of goods in Baltimore for the money. A trial solicited.

Feb. 21, 1895—y.

Corrugated Iron Roofing and Lubricating OILS.

Iron Corrugated Roofing, on account of the advance in price of iron, will be delivered at nearest railroad station for $3.50 per square (100 square feet).

For sale by JOS. GUEST,
Chestertown, Md.

STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER

The Great Mid-Winter Sale of

Undoubted Bargains in Dry Goods

is actively progressing in every department of the store. There has never before been a series of Dry Goods offerings equal to those we have been making since the inauguration of this sale. No old or unseasonable goods are included. Everything is new, stylish and especially adapted for this season's wear. A few of the attractive offerings are mentioned.



RELIABLE HOSIERY

—at much under-value prices:

2500 PAIRS WOMEN'S FLEECED HOSE—extra quality, fast black, sizes 8 to 10. Reduced from 25 cents to three pairs for 50 cents, or per pair **18c**

1200 PAIRS WOMEN'S HERMSDORF COTTON HOSE—superior quality, fast black, with extra high spliced heels. Worth 37½ cents, at **25c**

MEN'S SEAMLESS COTTON HALF HOSE—two cases, extra heavy, fast black, tan and slate. 10 cents per pair, by the half dozen pairs only, at **60c**

MEN'S NATURAL WOOL HALF HOSE—one case, with seamless feet, the usual 25-cent quality, at **12½c**

1200 PAIRS MEN'S HERMSDORF COTTON HALF HOSE—medium weight, fast black, with high spliced heels and double soles. Reduced from 37½ cents per pair to **25c**

Mail orders promptly and accurately filled.

COLD WEATHER GLOVES

—at greatly reduced prices:

MEN'S FUR GLOVES—thoroughly reliable, at prices 25 per cent below those generally prevailing.

WOMEN'S COLORED CASHMERE GLOVES—Reduced from 25 cents per pair to **12½c**

WOMEN'S PURE BLACK SILK MITTENS—with bows. Worth 50 cents, at **35c**

WOMEN'S FINE LAMBSKIN GLOVES—very durable. Worth $1.00, at **79c**

CHILDREN'S CASHMERE GLOVES—Reduced from 25 cents to . . **12½c**

CHILDREN'S DOUBLE WOOL MITTENS—Reduced from 25 cents to **19c**

Mail orders promptly and accurately filled.

WOMEN'S SHOES:

VICI KID FOXED SHOES—we have just received from the manufacturer a complete line, with kid and cloth tops, buttoned or laced, the best styles and workmanship, while the price is only **$3.00**

WOMEN'S SHOES—three or four high-priced grades of shoes—excellent leathers and styles, and complete lines of sizes—are reduced to **$2.50**

OVERSHOES—only first-class grades, in all the shapes and sizes, at extremely low prices.



Mail orders promptly and accurately filled.

STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER

PHILADELPHIA

ECONOMY

is the Science of Unnecessary Expenditure. At the present price of wheat and corn, it goes without question that the farmer and all who depend upon him must economize.

IT WILL BE ECONOMY

to anticipate your wants at the following prices. WE HAVE DETERMINED TO CLOSE OUT last season's stock by selling a Child's Suit of Clothes at the price of the coat. A Pair of Knee Pants for the price of one leg.

Keep the Boys Warm.

A Man's Whole Suit at the price of the Coat and Vest, this means with every suit of Clothes a

Pair of Pants Goes Free!

☞ Winter Underwear cut ¼ to ½. Men's Drawers, worth 30c., now 19c. A Pair of Gloves for the price of one.

Calicoes have also been cut, for all of this season's goods must go.

Yours for Business,

F. H. HARPER & SON.

1896.

We Are Right to the Front With a Line of New Goods.

Fine Stationery,
Toilet Articles,
Choice Soaps,
Brushes and Combs,
Perfumery,
Lamp Goods,

and many things you need this month.

Our Drug Line is Complete.

We can serve you in the best manner with all you want. Remember, a little medicine in time may save you a spell of sickness.

We have started the season

WITH LOW PRICES

for the best goods. Let us have your orders.

COLIN F. STAM,

Jan. 16, 1896. DRUGGIST.

This Space is Reserved for

JOHN BARTLEY,

The Furniture,

CARPET, OIL CLOTH,
PAINT AND OIL,
WALL PAPER AND
WINDOW SHADE

MAN

of Kent county (everybody admits that).

ALSO GLASS & PUTTY, Etc.

His shop is next door to the old bank.

If you must pay big prices for these goods, don't go to Bartley's.

H. B. CONSTABLE,

DEALER IN

Fancy & Staple Groceries,

PROVISIONS,

Cigars, Tobacco and Cigarettes.

Foreign and Domestic Fruits, Fine Candies, Nuts, Cakes and Crackers, Canned Goods, Pickels and Olives, Mocha and Java, and Java and Rio. Coffees, Teas, Chocolates, Cheese, Spices and Extracts.

Lea's Flour by the barrel or bag,

New Buckwheat and Hominy, Fresh Sugar-Cured Hams and Dried Beef.

Also a Full Line of FEED,

Oats, Bran, Cracked Corn, Meal and Ship Stuff. Call and examine stock and prices.

H. B. CONSTABLE,
High and Queen Sts., Chestertown, Md.

Shuster's DINING PARLOR,

CHESTERTOWN, MD.,

Front Street, Opposite the Old Bank.

Permanent and Transient Boarders taken at low rates: Lunch served at short notice. Oysters in all styles. First-Class Dinners to country people at 35c. Bride's Cakes made to order. We also carry in stock a general assortment of Cakes and Confectionery. Picnics and Festivals supplied with our celebrated Ice Cream at moderate prices. A call solicited.

SHUSTER'S DINING PARLORS.

TAKE NOTICE!

In Connection With

MY GROCERY BUSINESS,

which I have removed to the Rock Hall Steamboat Wharf, I have fitted up a neat room to

Serve Oysters by the Plate!

and can furnish them by the Gallon or Bushel to any one in Kent or any other county. Receive them fresh from the water *daily*.

☞ VERY REASONABLE PRICES.

J. W. DOWNEY.

Reduction in Winter Hats.

SWEEPING REDUCTIONS

have been made in our large and varied line of Winter Hats. It is proposed that our magnificent line of

Winter Hats

AND MILLINERY GOODS

shall be surpassed in our spring goods, and in order to make room for spring goods this splendid line of goods must move, and our friends and patrons shall enjoy the benefits of reduced prices for high-class, seasonable goods. The first to come will be the first served from this reduction sale of beautiful winter styles at new year's reduction of prices.

Misses Cora and Hettie Reed,
CHESTERTOWN, MD.

DANIEL HILL & SON,

KENNEDYVILLE, MD.

1895 still finds us selling the old Schuylkill known as

RAMBO'S LIME,

MANUFACTURED BY

Robt. McCoy & Co.

Farmers must admit that it is necessary for them to use Lime in order to keep up their lands and there is none better than the above. It is the cheapest because it is the best; gives the best results and improves the land more permanently and lasts longer. All orders will be promptly delivered at any station on any of the Peninsula railroads. We are selling at prices to suit the depressed times; a substantial reduction from last year. Orders by mail will receive prompt and careful attention. Also for sale the

Keystone Dehorning Clippers.

Any one desiring to have their cattle dehorned should write to us, and we will give the order immediate attention.

DANIEL HILL & SON,
Jan. 31, 1895—y. Kennedyville, Md.

NEW FIRM! NEW GOODS!
NEW PRICES!

Having purchased the stock of goods and business interests of Miss Maggie V. Hersch, we announce that a first-class

Stock of Millinery Goods

has been purchased and the millinery business in all of its branches will be conducted at the old stand. Our stock is complete and carefully selected, and prices will be made to correspond with the times. Respectfully,

MRS. L. B. WILKINS & CO.,
Rock Hall, Md.

NATHAN BROOKS'

Shaving Saloon,

STILL POND.

I desire to inform the people of this and surrounding neighborhoods, that I am permanently located in Still Pond. Shaving neatly and cleanly done. Hair cutting in the latest style. Ladies' and Children's Bangs Trimmed. Shampooing a specialty. Give me a call.

Respectfully, etc.,

Jan. 24, 1895—y. NATHAN BROOKS,
Still Pond.

GRAIN! GRAIN! GRAIN!

Having become the representative in Millington, Maryland, of

William George Hill

of Delaware, in the purchase of Grain, I am enabled to offer the farmers of Kent every possible advantage in the sale of their crops. The highest market prices will be paid and prompt settlements made. Mr. Hill is one of the largest Grain buyers on the Peninsula, and is favorably known in Kent. Call or address

J. C. TURNER,

Turner & Son,

BETTERTON, MD.

Lumber,	Coal,
Hardware,	Flour,
Lime,	Mill Feed,
Hair,	Salt,
Coal Oil,	Paints,
Buckwheat,	Oils,
Hominy,	Drain Pipe,
Gum Boots,	Netting and
Gum Coats,	Twines,
Oil Clothing,	Ropes, etc.

Everything at Bottom Prices!

☞ Special Discounts for Cash. ☜

Our New Flour, Aurora,

$3.69 per barrel.

All Coal Cash.

☞ Change of advertisement will appear each week. Your business solicited.

TURNER & SON,

Betterton, Maryland.

NEW YEAR GREETING!

BUSINESS!

To put forth our best efforts to have and to hold your trade is OUR BUSINESS,

Whether or not you will favor us is YOUR BUSINESS.

But we will make it OUR BUSINESS

To make it BUSINESS FOR YOU

To give us YOUR BUSINESS.

Join hands with us, and Business will be Business.

Horse Shoeing 65 Cents Cash!

ALL OTHER WORK AT LOW PRICES.

HACKETT'S

Blacksmith and Horse Shoeing Establishment, Still Pond, Md.

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