The Transcript.

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EDITORS.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1902.

THE HAMAN OYSTER BILL has been unfavorably reported by a vote of four of the five committeemen to whom it was referred.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT has certainly not increased public confidence either in his good judgment or honesty of purpose by his decision against Admiral Schley. Totally ignoring the sworn statements of the officers, he has given an adverse decision to the hero of Santiago, basing his opinion upon the unsworn and unsubstantiated conversations of officers since the investigation.

THE STATE'S ATTORNEY'S SALARY.

In the hour of success State's Attorney John David Urie lifts up his voice for retrenchment,—for a far-reaching and exuberant economy.

"As the remuneration received by the State's attorney under the fee system, last year, was exceeding (note the sagacious choice of word) $2,200, this is a reduction of fully $700, and a consequent saving of that much to the taxpayers."—*Republican Organ.* The parenthesis is ours.

This is a queer mistake for Mr. John David Urie to be guilty of. For six years Mr. Urie has nurtured the fleshpots and has not been able to lift his voice in this way. This voice is now the better man and lifts him up and toys and has fun with his quickened instincts then dumps him again in the hollow caves of terrestrial being, tickles his classic visage with the plumes of humming birds and fringes his robes with the softness of the floating cumulus. Mr Urie's voice, which calls aloud for retrenchment has him under perfect control and the vigorous, aggressive jurist of the magistrates' courts of the past has become as the gamboling lamb or the sigh of a sorrow that is past. As softly as dews gather, just so gently does he sweep, like the light of breaking day to the salvation of his oppressed people.

With all of its weird pathos, there is a chord of mirth-provoking wit running through this dainty story of a great and good man playing too near the green pastures of sympathetic human nature. Doubtless should the Legislature allow Mr. Urie's boomlet to steal quietly through the verdant fields of Annapolis statesmanship, the insinuating voice will raise him again and restrain Kent's State's Attorney from a dangerous accumulation of wealth at the people's expense. But this is too serious a matter to be trifled with.

Mr. Urie's bill provides that the State's Attorney's office shall carry with it a stipulated salary of $1,500 per annum, and the same amount for the county treasurer. The present law provides that the treasurer shall receive a salary of $1,800.

There are also other sweeping reforms which the Kent county reformer broods over in silence but which will in due time blossom and mature into a golden fruitage to the people. Kent will be forced to become prosperous to the delight of her philosophers and the distress of consciences which have not been quickened into ethereal loveliness.

A VICIOUS BILL.

Those who know Representative Kendall best, will be loath to believe that he is in sympathy with the bill which he has introduced in the State Legislature regarding the deposits of public funds in Kent county. The bill provides that in May of each year the Board of County Commissioners shall select the depository for the monies collected as taxes by the County Treasurer, and the funds of the Public School Board. A bank now doing business in Chestertown, and the one offering the highest rate of interest on the deposits so made, shall be selected. Should two or more banks offer the same inducements in the matter of interest, then the County Commissioners' Board shall exercise their discretion in the selection. The treasurer and his bond, however, shall not be liable for the failure of the depository in which the people's money is placed.

The absurd viciousness of this proposition is too glaring to need comment. Its whole tendency is to throw our banking institutions into a political maelstrom which would be fatal to their well being and the best interests of the public at large; to make the people's money a political foot-ball to be buffeted and fought for from year to year and finally placed wherever the political judgment (or better the damnable political promises) of the particular party in power might suggest, and finally, to deprive a public official, after forcing him to purchase a $40,000 bond of indemnity to the county and State, to place public funds at the dictation of political patronage-mongers. And at the same time neither he nor his bond are to be responsible for the security of the bank in which the people's monies are to be placed.

The levy for last year was $73,177 69. The county school examiner, who is also a bonded officer to the extent of $15,000, disbursed last year $40 292 52, making a grand total of $113,470 21, which would be effected by this vicious measure should it be allowed to become a law.

The responsibility for this sum of money is sought to be taken from duly bonded officials and placed in the hands of five gentlemen who have no financial responsibility either to the county or to the State in the form of a bond or personal security. That the people may fully understand this bill it is given in its entirety. It is as follows:

An Act to regulate the deposit of public money in Kent county, Maryland, and to provide for interest to be paid thereon:

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That the Board of County Commissioners of Kent county, Maryland, shall annually in the month of May select as a depository for the money to be collected during the year, beginning June 1st of each year, by the county treasurer for said county, one of the banks now doing business in Chestertown, Md., and shall select that bank which will agree to pay to said county the highest rate of interest on the deposits of the county treasurer for said county. Should the highest bidders for said deposits be equal, the said board may select as the depository, one of those bidding highest. Due regard shall be paid by said board to the financial strength of the said depository in making a selection, and the treasurer or his bond shall in no way be liable for the failure of said depository.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That the Board of County School Commissioners for said Kent county shall annually, in the month of May, select as a depository for the money received or coming into the custody of the secretary or treasurer to the said school board for the ensuing year, a bank now doing business in Chestertown, Maryland, and shall select that bank which will agree to pay to the said school board the highest rate of interest annually on the deposits of the said secretary and treasurer. Should the highest bids for said money be equal they shall select the depository they prefer of the highest bidders, due regard being paid to the financial strength of said depository.

(Same provision as in Sec. 1 as to liability of bond.)

SEC. 3. Requires county treasurer and secretary and treasurer of school board to deposit all monies in depository selected as above, under penalty of fine not less than $200 nor more than $500, to be collected as other fines and penalties are now collected. That individual members of Board of County Commissioners and School Board shall be subject to fine of not less than $50 nor more than $100 for failure to perform duty above prescribed.

SEC. 4. Repeals all inconsistent Acts.

SEC. 5 To take effect from date of passage.

THE PEOPLE'S FORUM.

Views of Readers of the Transcript on Timely Topics.

☞ The columns of the TRANSCRIPT are open to the proper discussion of all topics of public interest or importance. Whether the editors agree with the sentiments expressed or not, the people should and may be heard through the TRANSCRIPT'S columns—the paper will be the People's Forum from which they may be heard all subjects, purely party politics excepted.

WATCH-DOG OF THE COUNTY TREASURY.

MESSRS EDITORS:—What is the meaning of Mr. Urie's sudden change of front? After running riot for six years as an imperial expansionist of the revenues of his office, he suddenly assumes the role of a contractionist and watch dog of the treasury. After so long exploiting his office, in the face of the reprimands of the Circuit Court, and the warnings of the grand jury, until the revenues thereof, according to the *Enterprise*, have reached the proud figures of over $2,200 per year, or about three times what they were during the term preceding him, he all at once, according to the same authority, applies to the Legislature to cut his fees down one-third—to $1500. I suppose that we who pay the fiddler ought to be thankful for small favors granted us by our superiors, and keep our mouths shut and thoughts muzzled. Still, thoughts will come, and here are some of them. If Mr. Urie in good faith, is really desirous of preventing the fees from getting into his pockets, and thus saving the county over $700, would his effort not look better on its face, if, while he is at it, he were to ask the Legislature to make the salary about what it was during the four years just preceding the day he entered upon office? In order to do this he would have to brace himself up, and ask them to keep at least $700 more of the vile stuff out of his pockets annually. In one of those aforesaid four years, ten men were tried for murder in the first degree and eight of the ten convicted, still the State's Attorney's fees of that year did not amount to one-half of $2,200. I happen to know that during those four years, while Mr. Wm. T. Hepbron was Senator, he proposed to the State's Attorney of this county to have the office made a salaried one, and suggested $1000 as the salary. This offer was not encouraged by the State's Attorney because he was unwilling to support a law making the salary greater than he could honestly make from the fees of the office. What a saving it would have been to the county in the last six years had Senator Hepbron's proposition been accepted and become a law.

If $800 was enough to pay the incumbent, six, and even thirty years ago, will any one show why it is not enough now? Are we so much more ably represented now than thirty years ago when his Honor, Judge Pearce, so ably filled the office?

Mr. Urie also, in his watch-dog capacity, asks for a curtailment of $300 on the salary of the Treasurer. I know not but that this is proper. [Of course, such provision ought not and should not effect the salary of Mr. Jesse R. Copper, the recently elected Treasurer.—EDS.] Still, I hardly think his career as an expansionist of the revenues of his office fits him especially to judge of the worth of either office.

Does it not rather tend to cast a suspicion on his motives in advocating both these reductions, even though both are proper? Does he not lay himself open to the charge of advocating them, merely as a blind or peace offering to arrest our attention, and stop our scrutiny while the snug little $1,500 attorney's salary is being fixed as a certainty? All anxiety about the fees dropping to a low figure would then be ended. All charges of swelling the court docket and exploiting the small-fry magistrate cases, and all risk of incurring the displeasure of the Court and the public, would then be removed. As for my part, I don't see the propriety of the office-holder who is to get the salary, himself fixing the amount, but if Mr. Urie is really sincere in his profession of a desire to save the county money by keeping $1,000 out of his own and the Treasurer's pocket annually, then he should advocate a law to take $700 more annually away from his office, and thus invite our confidence, and we will inquire with him into the propriety of reducing the Treasurer's salary.

"First cast out the beam out of thine own eye, then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye," is the command of Holy Writ, just as imperative as when delivered on the Mount.

He who asks equity should do equity, is the tenet of the Court.

MORE ABOUT OYSTER PLANTING.

Your correspondent from the sixth is a Rip Van Winkle up to date, if he meant what he said, that not half a dozen people on the Eastern Shore favor leasing the barren bottoms of the Chesapeake bay and tributaries for oyster cultivation. The writer will willingly make Rip acquainted with several hundred in Kent alone, and believes that a majority of the voters of the Eastern Shore are in favor of putting to its best use this unequaled opportunity. But whether a majority or minority favors a measure is not conclusive evidence for or against it The question is to stop the neglect and abuse, and to make available for its best use the Creator's greatest gift to this section.

According to statistics under our present policy (that your correspondent expresses himself as satisfied with) our oyster beds yield less than 10,000,000 bushels annually, and give employment to less than 50,000 of our population for a part of the year. The deepest student and greatest commercial authority on the oyster question, Prof. Brooks, of Johns Hopkin's University, has proven that the Chesapeake bay and tributaries are capable of producing 500,000 000 bushels of marketable oysters annually, and of giving profitable employment to 500,000 of our people for the entire year

Think of it! Only 10 000,000 from what should produce 500 000 000. Only 50,000 people employed when 500,000 should be. To-day one person's labor produces 200 bushels per annum while under rational management the same labor will produce 1000 bushels, according to Prof. Brooks.

Your sixth district correspondent may be willing to continue the present policy (or lack of it) until the last oyster disappears, while other industries support this magnificent bankrupt, but the writer is dissatisfied with a management so gross that what could and should profitably employ 500,000 of our people the year round, makes oystermen out of a paltry 50,000 about one-third of the year, and crabbers and farm hands the balance of the year. No man in Kent holds the oysterman and all other "bread-winners" in higher esteem. It is because the writer fully appreciates the hardship, exposure and small recompense that is at present the lot of the tonger, that he advocates increased opportunities and improved conditions for this important element of our population, and while there may be honest differences of opinion as to the proper remedy, any man who argues that present conditions in the oyster industry are satisfactory or can be any longer tolerated, should be invited to "go way back and sit down."

In regard to the Haman law, its basic principles are sound, but it contains some special privileges that the writer is too Democratic to approve. 1st. Though I control over two miles of shore-front, the privilege extended to shore-front owners is not equitable. Because a man owns the land is not sufficient reason for giving him the sea. Let the other fellow who don't own land have first choice, if there is to be any preference. 2d. The allotment of 300 acres maximum is too great. From personal experiense 30 acres will furnish more work and far greater profits than the best 300-acre farm in Kent county, and 10 acres is as much as the average man could make the best use of.

3d. Though our so-called roads sadly need making over into real roads, there is no equitable reason for confining the revenues produced from leasing oyster beds to country roads. That is merely a sop to country legislators, and I expect it will get their votes and that the Haman bill will come nearer to passing than any similar measure ever has.

Dryden's bill for the purchase by the State of shells at the expense of all taxpayers is class legislation, and should not and will not pass. Farmers and other bread-winners should not be taxed to increase oystermen's profits. Placing shells on barren bottoms near producing rock would undoubtedly increase the supply of oysters, but that should be done by those who will be directly benefited, and they should be safeguarded in so doing by personal possession of the spots they choose to so shell, and the only way to so safeguard so that the man who sows will reap is by lease from State to the individual. The fear of corporation control is a bugaboo that no well posted man fears. Aside from the fact that the Haman bill only permits individual use, it is a practical impossibility to monopolize the oyster business except by the control of transportation, and that also in the case of oysters is almost an impossibility because oystermen have in the boats they use in their business the carrier, and the public waterways provide the highway to the market for the greater part of their produce. Nature could not do more to aid any industry than she has done for the oyster industry, and man alone has exceeded himself in imbecile mismanagement to bring this great wealth-producing opportunity to the point of begging for State assistance.

C. R. A.

MR. HAMILTON'S VIEWS.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—The wise observers of events as they come and go, cannot but see that our great country that was once "the land of the free," is rapidly, yes, very rapidly, drifting into despotism. Men in public life, from our county officials to State and national politics, with but a very few exceptions, are taking on the habiliments of greed, domination and personal honor without any respect whatevor for the rights and privileges invested in the masses—the common people—by the Declaration of Independence. Government by might, regardless of right, seems to be the trend of American politics. It is almost impossible to get an audience on questions of importance unless you belong to the clique that controls our law-making bodies. King Money, the pursuit of which causes men to lose all consciousness of what is right towards their fellow-men, not only rules with an iron hand the avenues of trade, but with the same relentless grasp is taking hold upon the domestic relations of the home and bartering its sacred privileges for fame and filthy lucre. Whether we are forming billion dollar trusts, stuffing ballot-boxes or filling our private wallets out of the earnings of the poor, the effects are just the same, and the whole scheme is in opposition to Democratic principles and government. Intuitively this brings to my mind some of the measures or bills in our present Legislature, i e, the "Jim Crow" and compulsory education bills, the former a nonsensical one and the latter an imposition and reflection upon Maryland homes. Our politicians are not satisfied with leading the tax-payers and voters around as it were by the nose, and voting some of them about as they please, but they want them to sacrifice their children upon the altar of compulsion, no matter what their circumstances in life are. The universal conception of compulsory education has been very much misconstrued by our would be educators, and I think that parents should make a strenuous fight against any such measure becoming a law.

No persons possessed with good common sense would deny their children sufficient education to read and write unless absolute circumstances stood in the way, in which case it would be both unreasonable and uncharitable to force them to send their children so school. If the State is so anxious about educating the children, let it, in addition to free schools, appropriate money to buy shoes and clothing for the thousands of children who are too poor to have sufficient clothing to attend schools, especially in winter, the school in many instances being several miles away. The law would be onerous in other ways to a great many, but time and space will not admit of any further discussion of the matter at this time.

C. R HAMILTON,
Flintville, Md.

VACCINATION.

With the spread of small pox in Baltimore and an epidemic in Philadelphia, the question of a general and careful vaccination assumes an importance which under ordinary circumstances would not be possible. The closeness of the relations between these two great centres of population and Chestertown and Kent county renders it imperative that every possible precaution be used to prevent the introduction of the small pox in our midst. Then too, Chestertown has had a lesson which further emphasizes this necessity. Bearing upon the importance of vaccination as a safeguard against small pox, a constant reader and friend of the TRANSCRIPT has handed us the following, which is timely and suggestive:

"The Massachusetts anti-vaccinationist doctor who, having the courage of his convictions, went into the smallpox pest-house in Boston harbor and exposed himself to the contagion, and who, as a result immediately afterward contracted the disease in a virulent form, must take rank as an unintending philanthropist. It was not sufficient proof of immunity that the vaccination nurses and doctors in charge of the pest house, did not take the disease; it needed the precise additional proof of non-immunity which has now been furnished by a scoffer and unbeliever. The fact of his intrepid folly and its disastrous consequence to himself cannot be too widely bruited."

THE SCHOOL TAX.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—We read H. H. Barroll, Esq's., comment upon Mr. James S. Brashear's bill before the Maryland Legislature to make a division of the taxes paid by white and colored citizens for public school purposses and thoroughly agree with Mr. Barroll in his views and trust that the bill proposed may be passed. It is an undue burden upon white tax-payers to keep running schools for colored children unless there should arise some material result. But what practical utility arises from so much money expended toward the colored race? We advocate a poll-tax by which about $1,500 at least could be raised from the colored voters alone which could be appropriated towards the maintenance of the schools for colored children, whereas now, but a few, comparatively, of the colored people pay taxes at all. Yet they expect, and under the present statute do, receive State and county appropriations for their schools. By Mr. Brashear's bill each school will receive a share proportionate to the needs thereof. Also with a larger amount toward the white schools. Our schools could be better equipped and teachers salaries could be increased to some extent. A good bill, and let the Legislature pass it. OCCASIONAL.

When you lack energy, do not relish your food, feel dull and stupid after eating, all you need is a dose of Chamberlain's Stomach & Liver Tablets. They will make you feel like a new man and give you an appetite like a bear. For sale by M. A. Toulson.

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF A LOT OF LAND,

Near Fairlee, Kent County, Maryland.

THE undersigned, as attorney named in mortgage from James T. Lamb to Richard C. Smyth and John P. Nicholson, dated on or about the 17th day of May, in the year 1893, and duly recorded among the Land Records of Kent county aforesaid in Liber S. G. F. No. 1 folio 553, etc., will offer at public sale on

TUESDAY, MARCH 4th, 1902,

at 11 o'clock A. M., at the Court House Door, in Chestertown, Maryland,

All That Lot or Parcel of Land

situated near the village of Fairlee, lying on the public road leading from Salem M. E. Church to the Bacchus Mill property, adjoining the lot of land sold by W. A. Cleaver, executor, to Charles H. Baker, and the Fairlee Grange lot.

TERMS OF SALE—One-third cash on day of sale, and the balance in six and twelve months, the deferred payments to be secured by notes of the purchaser, bearing interest from day of sale, and secured to the satisfaction of the undersigned.

RICHARD D. HYNSON,
Att'y named in mortgage.

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Are you going to grow Potatoes? Well, we manufacture a Special Potato goods that has been used in New Jersey for 20 years in competition with Mapes', and goods that cost $10.00 more per ton. This goods runs 10 per cent. Potash, and there is no better made, and one man from New Jersey has his orders in already for over 60 tons. Try it.

Top Dress Your Hay this month. We have a cheap goods for this that works wonders.

There Are Your Peach Trees that should be helped, and you should use our FRUIT GROWER. We have told you before of its merits, and so can those who have used it Just think, 2 cents per tree to dress them.

ASPARAGUS—Are you going to do anything to it this spring? If so, we have a specially made goods for this purpose. Such men as James Bell, H. H. Klinefelter, C. H Crew, Jno. P. Nicholson, and scores of others can tell you what it has done for them. It has Nitrate and fish as the source of ammonia, and runs high in Potash and Phosphoric Acid.

FOR CORN use our Special CORN PHOSPHATE. Corn is a good price. You fertilize your wheat, why not your corn? it will pay. Mr. Ham. Crew says our Corn Phosphate beats them all. We sell hundreds of farmers this goods every year.

Then, many like Kainit on corn. If you want this, we have it. We unloaded over 300 tons this last week which ran 12.71 Potash. Get our price on this and it will surprise you.

FOR TOMATOES.

Well, you have heard of our PEERLESS TOMATO goods. It is a wonder. We confidently believe that we sell more Tomato goods than any concern in the country. Don't mean we sell more Phosphate, but more Tomato Fertilizer. Mr. C. R Atkinson says Numsen claimed best tomatoes brought to his cannery was grown with this goods. He paid him $287 00 from 4 acres. Mr. D. F. Louse says one ton of this goods alongside an $18 00 brought him $96.00 more. Smith, Rouse nd Webster, the large canners of Bel Air, heard of its merits, and bought last spring over one hundred tons, and said last week there was not a complaint, and that they will want 200 to 300 tons this time. We sold Baker & Morgan on one occasion $1200.00. We have several $1000 customers in Delaware. Mr. J. R. Leager says he got 13 tons to the acre. Mr. Benj. Moore says he got nearly 13 tons, and that you could stand off a hundred yards and see the difference. Mr. G. W. Collins has bought as high as 50 tons per year, says his men on the choice farms got from 12 to 16 tons per acre. Mr. W. T. Money, unsolicited, said to us a few days ago: I would like to know how Peerless is made, for I honestly think it is the best Phosphate I ever saw, and that Mr. Hayes always knew a good thing, and he always bought it. We could go on, but try it for yourself, and let us tell you how to apply it. Get good seed and your crop is assured. Please call on us or write us, and we will see you. Respectfully,

T. R. Hubbard & Son.,
WILBUR W. HUBBARD, Sole Proprietor, Chestertown, Md.

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I will offer anything in our Clothing line 25 per cent. less than regular price. Overcoats and Suits of all kinds in Childrens's, Boys', Youths' and Men s. Also, Pants of all kinds will be cleaned out on this day at this great reduction.

JUST THINK OF IT!

$5 Overcoats go for $3.75, and $10.00 Suits for $7.50,

and so on through our whole line on this day, Saturday, Feb. 8.

REMEMBER, we are doing this simply to clean out our winter goods and get room for our large line Spring Goods, which is already ordered, and will be in by March 1st. Don't fail to take advantage of this one day and save 25c. on the dollar.

LADIES!

Don't fail to look at our line of Embroidery and Laces. It will please you, as it's strictly up-to-date in both style and quality.

Always remaining yours to serve,

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call and see our selections of Moulding before going elsewhere. They are the finest in town. We can be found at the old stand formerly occupied by P. T. McFeely.

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March 8 9 CHESTERTOWN, Md

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will represent us at Chestertown during the season of 1901. We will keep him thoroughly posted on the markets by mail and frequent telegrams, and invite the farmers of Kent and Queen Anne's to have Mr. Brown inspect and bid for their crops before disposing of them.

All grain will be settled for immediately upon delivery, and for the convenience of our customers we have arranged that our drafts may be cashed upon presentation at Chestertown National Bank.

We take grain by railroad, sail vessels and all the steamboat lines.

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