The Transcript.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.
—BY—
The Transcript Publishing Co
CHESTERTOWN, MD.

Subscription $1.00 Per Year.

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EDITORS.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1905.

THIS IS THE WAY the Wilmington Every Evening sizes up the situation in the Delaware Legislature: "The State has already paid $5,490 for seeing men make asses of themselves." Then why don't the people of Delaware send such men to their Legislature who their duty know, and knowing, dare maintain the right?

HOW TRUE IT IS that history repeats itself. The terrible scenes that have been enacted upon the streets of St. Petersburg, Russia, during the past week are but a repetition of the bloody scenes of the French Revolution, and while such procedures are a dark blot upon the fair escutcheon of modern civilization, yet they are but the inevitable results of the oppression of the masses by the cohorts of a weak and vascillating monarch. It seems that the reign of Democrocy is near at hand in the land of Czar.

THE TIME was never more ripe for calling a public meeting of the citizens of the town to discuss the means of securing an adequate fire apparatus for Chestertown than now. Several prominent citizens have approached us upon the subject during the week, and a prominent lady in Chestertown has offered to contribute $50 to start a fund for this purpose. The movement only needs a beginning to assume definite shape. Why cannot our Board of Town Commissioners issue a call for a public meeting? There have been three fires in our town within a very short time, each of which has been more serious than the other. Who knows but the next one may be a serious blow to the business interests of our beloved town. Let's wake up and do something before it is too late. An expenditure of $15,000 or $20,000 by the town for a good fire apparatus may save our people $50,000 sometime. Call a meeting and let's act

THE POLITICAL POT BEGINS TO SIMMER.

Already the Field is Full of Candidates and There are Prospects of a Battle Royal Between the Two Wings of the Democratic Party for Control of Primaries.

The political pot is beginning to simmer in Kent preparatory to the holding of the next primaries, and from indications there promises to be a battle royal between the People's Party and the Old Organization forces of the Democratic party for control of the next primaries. There was something doing in politics in Chestertown on Tuesday among the members of the latter wing and it is said that more candidates than those already mentioned were discussed. The People's wing sometime before the presidential election announced their ticket with the exception of the candidates for the legislature, and these candidates with their friends have been quietly at work getting their forces in shape. Only *one* candidate has been announced for any office by the People's party, while among the old Organization forces several candidates have been announced in some of the districts for the same office, and viewed from a non-partisan and non-factional point of view, the situation seems to be this: If the People's wing wins the next primaries, those candidates whom that wing has announced for the respective offices, and only those candidates, will be nominated, but if the old Organization forces capture the primaries just who will secure the nomination from the list of their numerous candidates for the same office is problematical. So far as we have been able to learn the following candidates have been announced and mentioned by the respective wings of the party:

CANDIDATES OF THE PEOPLE'S PARTY.

First District,
No candidate yet.

Second District,
Wm. H. Kelley, of Locust Grove, for sheriff.

Third District,
Dr. John H. Hessey, of Hanesville, for County Treasurer.

Fourth District,
No candidate yet.

Fifth District,
Charles D. Wood, of Edesville, for County Commissioner.

Sixth District,
Wm. T. Nicholson, for County Commissioner.

Seventh District,
No candidate.

CANDIDATES OF THE OLD ORGANIZATION.

First District,
Isaac Gibbs, for the Legislature, Henry J. Gray for Treasurer.

Second District,
Andrew Medders, near Kennedyville, for Sheriff.

Third District,
George S. Biddle, mentioned for County Commissioner.

Fourth District,
No candidate yet.

Fifth District,
Capt. Chas. Kerr for the Legislature.
Lewis C. Ayres, for Sheriff.

Sixth District,
Wm. E. Keyser, for Treasurer.
John E. Morris, for County Commissioner.
George E. Noland, for Legislature.
Samuel Gears, for County Commissioner.

Seventh District,
No candidate yet.

An analysis of these "tickets" shows that the "Old Organization" forces have *three* candidates for the Legislature, one in the First, one in the Fifth and one in the Sixth; *two* candidates for sheriff, one in the Second and one in the Fifth; *three* candidates for county commissioner, one in the Third and two in the Sixth; *two* candidates for Treasurer, one in the First and one in the Sixth, and still others are mentioned. It looks as if the Old Organization is going to concentrate its energies on the Sixth District, with the expectation of carrying three of the other districts. There'll be other developments later. This is the situation at present.

PERSONAL MENTION.

We are glad to state the Senator Garret Foxwell is recovering from his recent fall and attack of malaria. He is not yet able to attend to any business matters.

Announcement has been made of the wedding of Miss Harriet Ella Reed and Mr. George W. McWhorter at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Georgia Reed, on Park Row. The ceremony will be performed at high noon next Wednesday, by Rev. W. L White, pastor of the M. E. Church.

Mrs. Isaac Duyer, of Worton has been the guest of her aunt, Mrs. S. A. Ivens, on High street.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Bradley spent Saturday and Sunday with relatives and friends in Swedesboro, N.J. Mr. Bradley was not at home during the fire at his hotel, the Voshell House.

Mr. Thompson Gibson, of Bridgetown, was the guest of assistant telegraph operative, Wm. P. Milby, last week.

Miss Fannie McIntyre, of Galena, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Davis ast week.

The condition of Rev. Dr. Walter R. Graham, pastor of Calvary M. P. Church, Easton, who has been suffering from an attack of pneumonia for a week or more, is reported very much improved, we are glad to state.

Mr. J. J. Sheppard, of Baltimore, spent Saturday and Sunday in Chestertown.

The Misses Miller, of Rock Hall, have been the guest of their sister, Mrs. Chas. N. Satterfield, on Mill street.

Mrs. Daisy Williams, of the Manor, Cecil county, is the guest of her sisters, Mrs Annie Hayes and Mrs. Geo. D. Lofland. We are glad to state that Mrs. Williams is recovering rapidly from a recent illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Walter Chapman returned to Chestertown from their wedding tour of the South on Sunday evening, and registered at the Voshell House. They will occupy their handsome new home on Washington avenue about Feb. 1.

Mr. Edward Woodall has resigned as clerk in Mr. Wm. A. Carroll's shoe store. Mr. Carl Lynch, of Kennedyville, has accepted the vacancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. L. Fowler and little daughter, Kathrine, have been visiting relatives and friends in Baltimore during the week.

Miss Helen Jefferson, of near Chester bridge, has been the guest of Miss Grace Seward, in Baltimore. Miss Seward gave a charming reception in honor of Miss Jefferson last Thursday evening.

Mr. Cearles S. Smith has been in Baltimore on business this week.

Misses Louisa Muir and Christina Loeber have been the guests of Miss Annie Loeber, in Millington, Md.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gale, of Worton, have been the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Edward P. Beck, on Queen street during the week.

Miss Ethel Perkins, of Philadelphia, is the guest of Miss Irma Eliason, on Spring avenue.

Cards have been issued by Dr. and Mrs. Wm. Denton Schrack, of Germantown, Pa., for the marriage of the former's sister, Miss Helen Marguerite Schrack, and Mr. Samuel Wills Lusby, of Cecilton, on Tuesday, January 31, at 6 o'clock in St. Peter's Church, Wayne and Harvey streets, Germantown.

Mr. and Mrs. Otho Marvil celebrated the 25th anniversary of their marriage last Saturday evening, on their farm, near Townsend. Over 100 guests were present, chiefly from that locality where Mr. and Mrs. Marvil are very popular, but also from Kent county where they formerly lived and are equally popular. Many handsome and useful gifts were received.

Capt. Curtis E. Crane has been elected a director in the Chestertown Bank of Maryland.

Mr. Wm. T. Howard, the youngest son of the late Wm. P. Howard, of Randalia, Cecil county, and Miss Catherine V. Ferguson, were married on Jan. 17th, at St. Stephen's P. E. Church, Cecil county, by Rev. W. A. Coale.

Dr. Robert W. L. Rasin has been seriously ill at his city residence, 2402 St. Paul street, Baltimore, for a week past. Dr. Rasin, who is a prominent chemist, is the brother of Mr. I. Freeman Rasin, of Baltimore, and was formerly one of the principal stockholders in the Rasin Fertilizer Company. He is well-known in Kent, where he has relatives and many friends, who hope for his speedy recovery.

Mr. William S. Collins, brother of Mr. R. H. Collins, of the Chestertown TRANSCRIPT, left Philadelphia this week for a trip to California, to spend sometime with his sister.

Miss Mattie Davis, of Still Pond, has been visiting Miss Lydia Eliason, at Mt. Pleasant, Del.

A Prisoner in Her Own House.

Mrs. W. H. Layha, of 1001 Agnes Ave., Kansas, City, Mo., has for several years been troubled with severe hoarseness and at times a hard cough, which she says, "Would keep me in doors for days. I was prescribed for by physicians with no noticeable results. A friend gave me part of a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy with instructions to closely follow the directions, and I wish to state that after the first day I could notice a decided change for the better, and at this time after using it for two weeks, have no hesitation in saying I realize that I am entirely cured." This remedy is for sale by M. A. Toulson, druggist, Chestertown.

A NOTED KENT COUNTIAN.

Wins Fame in the Political World by his Honesty and Good Faith.

Mr. V. J. Kraft, a former Kent county boy, now living in Rico, Colorado, has made his mark in the political world of the West, and the following very interesting and complimentary account from one of the Denver papers of Mr. Kraft's long and successful career as treasurer of Dolores County, Col., will be read with much interest by his many friends in Kent:

"Among the many outgoing county officials, as a result of the late election in Colorado, is one whose passing from a public service to begin life anew in the business world for himself deserves special mention, as his case is unparalleled in this or any other state, so far as known. Reference is made to V. J. Kraft, who has served Dolores county for the past eleven consecutive years as treasurer. He was first elected to the position in 1893, and has served the people of that county up to date practically free of charge.

"Sept. 16, 1897, the Bank of Rico failed for $50,000, of which $11,300 were Dolores county funds, and Mr. Kraft and his bondsmen were called upon by the county commissioners to make good this amount, notwithstanding the fact that every one of them had suffered the loss of his personal cash account in the wreck. Consternation prevailed among those who were possessed of real property. The county was poor, the income small and the expense heavy. The fall term of the district court was due to convene in a few days, and there was no money with which to meet the expenses. Legal authorities advised Mr. Kraft and his bodsmen to fight the case through the courts, but he refused to agree to any proposition that would cause the county any further expense or loss of the people's money. Instead he made the county commissioners a proposition to the effect that he would pay all necessary expenses of the county from his own private resources, which consisted of an interest in a small hardware store and an interest in a lease on the San Bernardo mine, which at that time was paying a small profit. This was agreed to, and the court and other expenses were paid out in a short time by Mr. Kraft to the amount of over $2,500 from his own private exchequer, as the county was doing business on a cash basis and issuing no warrants.

"Mr. Kraft then made a further pro position to the people of the county, to the effect that if they would re-elect him to the office he would pay the entire amount lost through the bank failure from the fees of the office as far as possible and from the income of the little hardware store. It is needless to say that the gentleman was re-elected each succeeding term by a good majority, although there was violent opposition by a few, who did not fully appreciate the sacrifice he was making.

"Mr. Kraft has repaid the county every dollar of its loss, without calling upon his bondsmen for any assistance whatever, and this week he turned the books over to his successor without a penny shortage. He refused the nomination for a sixth term, stating that he had glory enough in working for the county eleven years free of charge, with the mental worry thrown in.

"V. J. Kraft, or 'Vet,' as he is better known by his many friends, was born in Galena, Kent county Maryland. He came west twenty years ago to Leadville and went to work for P. G. Thomas in his store at Kokomo. In 1884 Thomas moved his establishment to Glenwood Springs, taking young Kraft into the business as a partner. In 1888 they sold out their Gleenwood hardware store, and went to Denver, entering the real estate business. In the fall of 1890 Mr. Kraft went to Rico and embarked in the hardware business in partnership with J. J. O'Boyle, who died two years ago. Since that time Kraft has carried on the business in his own and the interests of the widow and children, in addition to his duties as county treasurer. Mr. Kraft is a Democrat, unmarried and very popular among his many acquaintances in the San Juan country." He is the brother of Mr. F. X. Kraft, a prominent and respected citizen of Galena.

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