

The Transcript.

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 PER YEAR.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 12, 1903.

LOCAL MATTERS.

Contract Awarded.—W. S. & A. M. Culp have been awarded the contract for remodeling the Methodist Episcopal Church at Clayton, Del. Work will begin about the first of October.

Fatal Shooting.—News reached Chestertown the other day of the death of Mr. Eben Massey, son of Mr. Robert Massey, of Millington, Md. Some years ago Mr. Massey went to Colorado Springs, and engaged in the diary business, and was very successful. The other day an altercation ensued between a neighbor and Mr. Massey. Shots were exchanged and Mr. Massey was killed.

Corn Crop in Danger.—Quite a number of farmers report that corn is rotting on the stalk, and that some of it is bursting in such a manner as to leave it exposed to the crows. Replant corn is just in silk, and the heavy rains have been so numerous, that the prospect for a good crop is by no means bright. We have heard of but few farmers who have begun cutting. One farmer near Crumpton, however, has finished cutting off his crop, and has his ground ready for seeding wheat.

The Circus Coming.—Sig Sautelle's great three ring circus will show on the Mann lot on Washington avenue, on Friday next, September 18. This is the same show that gave exhibitions on the same lot last year, except that it has been greatly enlarged in every department. Thrilling acts by high priced artists, wonderfully intelligent tricks by trained animals, a magnificent display of horses and comical clowns, a brilliant menagerie and hippodrome, all serve to make this one of the best shows on the road today. Look for it, wait for it and be sure to go to see it. Great street parade at 10 A. M.

Drowned Near Betterton.—Capt. William H. Salter, of Pikesville, was drowned at 8 o'clock on Sunday morning in the Chesapeake Bay, near Betterton, by the capsizing of a 40-foot canoe in which he and three friends were sailing. Capt. Salter, with John Kelly, proprietor of Kelly's Hotel, Baltimore, Capt. Rogers, of Shady Side, Anne Arundel county, and James McAllister, a commission merchant of Baltimore, had gone out in the early morning for a sail. A squall struck the canoe, capsized it, and Capt. Salter was drowned. The other men were rescued after the most desperate struggle with the high seas going at the time.

Fine Estate Purchased.—Mr. William E. Casey, of Massey, has purchased of Mr. Richard Hollyday the fine estate known as "Readbourne." This is one of the finest landed estates in the State of Maryland, beautifully located on the Chester river, in Queen Anne county, near Booker's wharf, and opposite Quaker Neck wharf in Kent county. This historic old country seat has been the scene of many gay and festive scenes in the days gone by, and for years was regarded as the center of all social gaiety on what was then termed in the quaint old Tuckahoe language, the Eastern Shore. Mr. Casey and his sister will make their home at Readbourne.

Serious Accident.—Mr. Harry Meekins, of near Still Pond, met with quite a painful accident the other day. Mr. Meekins was felling a tree, and in falling it lodged to his sappling. He attempted to cut the sappling when a piece of the wood struck him in the face, causing a severe bleeding at the nose. Dr. W. Frank Hines was summoned and succeeded in stopping the flow of blood for the time. Shortly after the doctor left the wound began to bleed profusely again, and Mr. Meekins' condition became so alarming that his life was despaired of. The doctor succeeded in checking the bleeding, and at last reports Mr. Meekins was out of danger. It is thought that the wood ruptured a small nasal blood vessel.

Still Navigable Water.—While many of the creeks and coves that find their outlet in the Chester river are fast filling up and becoming barren marshes, Grey's Inn Creek is still navigable water. Some years ago the Chester River Steamboat Company ceased to use the creek, and since that time only sail vessels or power boats have been used to transport the freight from the landings. The fact that its waters are still navigable to vessels of heavy tonnage may be seen from the following: Messrs. G. E. Leary and Son's power boat, "Eve," delivered to Mr. George H. Snitcher, at Deep Landing in three trips, 27145 feet of lumber, 45 window and door frames, 29 doors, sash and weights for windows, 13400 laths, 12850 shingles, Porch columns, brackets, mantels, etc., and 39 bus. of plaster's hair. On return trip from Chestertown and gets bricks from H. S. Barnett's yard. On Thursday delivered material for 1424 house for Mr. Walter Morris, near town.

KENNEDYVILLE ITEMS.

Miss Lucy Kilpatrick is visiting Mrs. Jesse R. Copper. Miss V. D. Jester and Miss Nellie Reese spent a few days the last of last week with Mrs. L. M. Lane. Mr. George Medders assumed his duties as principal of Galena High School last Monday. George has our best wishes for his success. Mr. J. N. Bennett made a business trip to Chester Pa., Thursday. Mr. J. H. Cleland returned home Tuesday from Gerry N. Y. Mr. Harry Hill spent Monday and Tuesday with his parents, Capt. and Mrs. D. Hill. Mr. Heighe Hill is very sick.

LITTLE LOCALS.

+ The people of Rock Hall are very much pleased with the improvements made to their school building. The increased space affords fine accommodations for the teachers and students, and Prof. Greenwood and his able corps of assistants will be able to do even more efficient work than in the past.

+ The storm of Saturday night burnt out the fuses in quite a number of the telephones in town.

+ The pleasant September days have brought good fishing off Chester bridge. Messrs. Wm. A. Biscoe, James Coleman and Q. Moody have caught some fine perch during the early morning fishing this week. Mr. D. A. Bacchus caught a 13 1/2-inch rock on Wednesday evening.

+ Tomatoes are still being shipped in large quantities from our wharves. Prices range from 15 to 18 cents per basket. Many of our farmers who contracted with canneries regret that they did not reserve a patch for shipment.

+ Sig Sautelle's big circus will be in town next Friday, and everybody, including our aunts and uncles, forty-third cousins and mothers-in-law, will be in town to see the elephant.

+ Labor Day was observed in Chestertown by the closing of the banks and public offices.

+ Mr. Frank Lambert has purchased from Mr. Richard D. Hynson the dwell on Cannon street, now occupied by Mr. George Cadwalader.

+ The Pennsylvania Railroad Company's pay car was in town on Monday.

+ Mr. A. Levine, the jeweler, has presented Christ M. P. Church with a handsome oak clock.

+ Farming implements and horses sold very well at the sale of William W. Beck, Esq., on Thursday. Cows brought only fair prices owing to small demand.

SCHOOL NOTES.

The Chestertown Public School opened on Monday morning with the full corps of teachers on hand and 127 girls, 92 boys, 219 scholars present. Quite a number have been admitted each day since then. The principal's room is already overcrowded, having at this writing five scholars more than its capacity.

Teachers and pupils seemed delighted at the commencement of school work and we doubt not that they will make this the best year in their history.

Amid the joys of opening school sorrow hung its gloom upon the whole assembly. Lewellyn Boyd, a member of the sixth grade, died on Friday morning and was buried on Monday morning. The grade suspended its exercises and most of its members attended the funeral of their beloved class mate.

Prof. Bruehl, principal of Manuel Training Department, has extended the work of his department to the fifth grade. Last year the lowest grade in this department was the sixth.

The Manuel Training Department is very promising this year. This department is the cause of having added several new pupils to the school, who prior to this year attended other schools in the county. The present enrollment of this department is ninety-three and several more pupils are expected to enter within a few days. The pupils are being trained in their work and promise by their actions to do better work than has been done before.

Washington College will begin the fall session on Wednesday next. Dr. Cain reports that the prospect for a large attendance is very good, especially in the Normal Department. The Board of Visitors and Governors has made great improvements to the buildings, both inside and out, and Dr. Cain, with his characteristic energy and ability, will look after the comfort and convenience of the students.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN.

"The News took a much more decided position for Jones, and as a matter of fact, Mr. Fred G. Usilton, the senior editor of the News, in reply to a request from Hope H. Barroll, Esq., (before the Hon. Spencer Jones withdrew from the contest for Governor, and told you) to vote for Edwin Wardfield, said, 'No, sir, I am in favor of Jones for Governor, and will vote for him.' Is not this true, Mr. Usilton?"

No, it is not true. We never held any other position than that of an advocate of Mr. Wardfield. This is well known by all except those who want to believe otherwise. We did refuse to accept Mr. B. as our confessor, and to what we considered an impertinent inquiry we simply replied that he could not be our dictator. We do not notice the many false scribbles against the News as the public well understand the motive of such attacks, but we will be excused for this departure because of the personal character of the above petty fling.

F. G. USILTON. MESSRS. EDITORS TRANSCRIPT—Gentlemen: The above clipping appeared in the Kent News Saturday, Sept. 5th, 1903. The first part of the clipping is a quotation from the TRANSCRIPT, and is substantially correct.

Some days before the meeting of the leading men of the party was held in Washington, and when I personally knew that such meeting was to be held, I visited the News office to see Mr. Fred G. Usilton. I told him one of the leading men of the State requested me to ask him (Mr. Usilton) to support Mr. Wardfield for Governor. He replied that he could not do so. I rather pressed the matter and his refusal was clear and matter of fact. Nothing unpleasant occurred or was said; beyond the fact that I told Mr. Usilton the gentleman's name and would write to him, and he said I could do as I pleased.

He did not refuse to accept Mr. B. as our confessor; he did not reply or intimate that "he (I) could not be our dictator;" nor did he for a moment intimate he considered my request "an impertinent inquiry." This would instantly have brought in sharp words and these are things Mr. Usilton has never been known to write.

I have lived here all my life and so has Mr. Usilton. I am content that the public should judge between us. Now as to his advocacy of Mr. Wardfield (and not blowing hot and cold) from start to finish, the people would like to see him republish a single editorial which has appeared in the News, favoring Mr. Wardfield, after Mr. Jones announced his candidacy.

There were many—very many more—Kent favoring the non-attitude of Mr. Jones, and they were actually in his

favor. It is known to the public prior to that eventful Friday morning in which camp was the News, and with whom Mr. Usilton was clearly and plainly identified.

Very Respectfully, HOPE H. BARROLL.

Chestertown, Md., Sept. 10, 1903.

MESSRS. EDITORS OF THE TRANSCRIPT—Gentlemen: In previous letters published in the Transcript the communications were not written as a lawyer's argument or brief. They were an attempt of a tax-payer and a citizen to explain briefly to other tax-payers and citizens the present deplorable condition of the finances of Kent county. In these letters it was stated that Kent county was in debt for a large sum of money and that its finances had been so handled that the annually increasing amount of the indebtedness was an outrage which the citizens should take in charge, have investigated and placed in such condition as would afford a reasonable basis in handling their private business affairs.

Effort has been made to make it appear that these letters stated facts which were untrue, as was disclosed by expert investigation and their author with tenacity of purpose and determination persisted in maintaining a position that is proven erroneous by facts and figures in the most emphatic and positive manner. Let us see if this be true.

Things undoubtedly today would be as they were on September 6th of 1902, only in an exaggerated form. Had these letters not appeared in the Transcript, in February last the first letter appeared and in the proper spirit asked for an investigation. After a proper period of waiting some two weeks, another and more urgent letter appeared. The investigation, and more determined letters, facts and figures taken from their own books, were published in the Transcript. The republicans fought off the investigation until the cry for publicity was so loud and so determined that the Republican Commissioners desisted and appointed their own attorney, Mr. Sydney P. Townshend and Mr. Frederick D. Willson, (who has since been rewarded with a Federal office), to examine themselves, the commissioners and to report the result of their examination. This was done at an outrageous expense of \$1,000 to the county. The people did not believe that this obscure "Report" showed such facts as should be known to the people of the county.

The examination of the Republican Commissioners was made by these two particular republicans, each of whom I understand were former democrats! The letters continued demanding an impartial investigation from an expert who might not be biased politically. Finally the grand jury, of its own motion, knowing of the scandalous condition of the financial affairs of the county, determined that it was their duty to see that they should be investigated and the result made known to our citizens by an expert accountant's report. This report showed there was a deficiency in the levy for 1903 of over \$60,000. Mr. Blacklock gave me the exact figures showing how they were reached and in his own hand writing called this \$60,000 by the ugly word which our friends sneeze at every time they hear it mentioned "Deficiency." This report cost the county a little over \$400, because business men were attending to it.

The grand jury accepted the report of Mr. Blacklock and condemned in words which stung and which made every man of them wince, whether Democrat or Republican, who had helped to build up this "Deficiency" of "Floating Debt." This report was received by our Circuit Court, Judge Pearce sitting on the bench, with words of commendation for the course the grand jury had taken in the matter, all of which is shown by the records.

Mr. Thomas W. Ellison, one of our most intelligent and highly respected citizens, has seen proper to discuss this report, and has attempted to combat the logical result of the action of the Republican Board of Commissioners which has held control of the finances of Kent county during the past four or more years. Mr. Ellison, like every other good citizen, is deeply interested in politics, and like many of his faith, rises instantly to defend any attack upon any official of his party. But Mr. Ellison in his "review" has looked at the subject from the standpoint which is most favorable towards the present Board of Commissioners. I do not say for one moment that he does this intentionally, but he is not infallible, nor is he or any man likely to divest himself of political prejudices when they arise to defend their party. But there is a different view to take of the matters from that taken by Mr. Ellison, and while his figures may be correct, the other view is likewise equally correct in its facts and its figures; and its result is damning to the party which has held control of our county during the past few years. This I shall undertake, in a future letter to show, (a fact which all along has been known to many citizens of the county.)

It is a condition and no theory. I like the Republicans have done right, the simple question is, why are our taxes this year, for county purposes alone, \$1.35 and \$1.52 for State and County? Why are our taxes to be for the next ten years, at the very least, \$1.10 per annum for county taxes, and \$1.27 for State and County? These are the questions well known to Mr. Ellison and their answer can be made clear by no man better than Mr. Ellison himself.

They have been caught like the wolf of old, with the bloody lamb in his mouth. And like the wolf, it makes no matter what the plea is, the people want his punishment. They likewise demand that no future Board of County Commissioners shall ever have the power to act as have our past Boards, either Republican or Democratic.

I do not know who wrote the "Questions" which have been very pertinently set or heard of them until they appeared in "The Transcript." You appear to have annoyed your republican friends by insisting upon categorical answers. My word that I did not write or suggest these questions; nor did I ever know who they were held control of our county during the past few years. This I shall undertake, in a future letter to show, (a fact which all along has been known to many citizens of the county.)

Yours very truly, HOPE H. BARROLL.

Advertisement for Pe-Ru-Na featuring portraits of Miss Elizabeth Uber, Mrs. William Dewey, and Miss Rosa Gerbing. Text includes: 'Praise Pe-Ru-Na as a Cure and Preventative of Catarrhal Disorders.' and 'BEAUTIFUL WOMEN WHO USE PE-RU-NA.'

Advertisement for John H. Evans, Ladies Tailoring Department. Text includes: 'GIVE US YOUR ORDER FOR A NOBBY AND Stylish Fall or Winter Suit.' and '\$15 AND UP.'

Advertisement for Pe-Ru-Na featuring testimonials from Miss Elizabeth Uber, Mrs. Wm. Dewey, and Miss Rosa Gerbing. Text includes: 'Praise Pe-Ru-Na as a Cure and Preventative of Catarrhal Disorders.'

Advertisement for American Strawboard Company. Text includes: 'Coals and Wood Under Cover.' and 'Straw Wanted.'

Advertisement for Tax-Payers of Kent County. Text includes: 'TO THE TAX-PAYERS OF KENT COUNTY. TREASURER'S SEPTEMBER SITTINGS.'