Kent News

SATURDAY, - - - FEB. 8, 1896.

ELECTION AND REGISTRATION LAW.

A Synopsis of the Provisions of the Proposed New Law.

The Reform League, of Baltimore, has prepared a bill to reform registrations and elections of Maryland, and it was introduced in the Senate by Senator Dobler, of Baltimore.

The bill covers 88 large printed pages and goes into very minute details.

It begins with the election of supervisors, of whom there shall be three in each county or city. Four candidates will be nominated, two from each political party. Each voter shall vote for 2 only and the governor shall commission the 3 receiving the greatest number of votes. Their salaries shall be $1,500 per year each in Baltimore city, and $75 per year in the counties.

The supervisors shall select 4 judges before the first day of July in each year, and two clerks before Sept. 15, in each voting district or precinct, two judges and one clerk to be from each of the leading political parties.

In the selection of clerks and judges, veto power will be exercised by the minority judge. The supervisors must also select polling and registration offices.

The officers in charge of vital statistics are obliged to furnish election supervisors with lists of males of voting age who die during each year.

Ten days' notice of registration must be given by posting notices and publishing the fact in two newspapers in the counties and in all English dailies in Baltimore. The judges shall be registration officers, and, while acting as such have the power of magistrates.

There shall be a general registration of all voters begun on the Tuesday 7 weeks preceding the first election after the passage of the law, and continued on the Tuesday 6, 5 and 4 weeks preceding election. The act goes minutely into the manner in which the registration shall be conducted. It provides that any voter shall have the right to be present and challenge every person seeking to register.

Beginning on Sept. 1, each year before the registration, the police board shall have a census taken, which it shall furnish to the registration officers in each precinct, and the officer taking the census in a precinct shall be assigned to duty at the registration booth of the precinct. After each day's registration the lists shall be signed immediately after each letter, so that no more names may be added without detection.

Voters suspected of irregular registration shall be notified to appear before the board and explain.

If the voter fails to explain his name shall be stricken from the list.

A final revision shall be made on the Tuesday three weeks preceding the election, but no new names added. When the registry is complete each clerk shall certify to the fact and to the number of legal voters registered.

List of voters dropped must be printed and posted within three days after last revision. There is an appeal from the action of the registers to the higher courts.

There will be an annual registration in Baltimore city, and a registration in the counties before each presidential election with annual revision. The registers must be open to the public inspection.

The act provides for nominations by convention or by petition. Names of all persons nominated for office must be published twice by the supervisors of election in all English dailies in Baltimore and in two papers in each of the counties.

Provision is made in the act for the construction of ballot boxes and printing of ballots, which shall be done under the direction of election supervisors and at public expense. None but official ballots shall be used, these to be of white paper, printed with black ink. The act prescribes in detail the way in which the ballots are to be arranged.

The ballots, ballot-boxes, poll-books, etc., shall be distributed by police commissioners of Baltimore and sheriffs of counties. The polls shall be open in Baltimore from 6 A. M., to 5 P. M.; in the counties from 8 to 5. Each political party or body of voters having a candidate is entitled to a watcher in election and registration booths.

The polling places and booths are specified at length. The booths are set off from the public by a guard rail, within which none but officers and the voter preparing his ballot can enter, but ballot boxes must be in plain view from outside. Ballot boxes must be opened and inspected before being used.

Before delivering the ballot to the voter his name and number is written on a coupon attached thereto and also on the back of the ballot. Ballots shall be counted before adjournment and in the presence of watchers. The coupons are destroyed and in the poll book the voters are marked as voting or not voting before the ballot boxes are opened.

The books are signed and the ballots counted and their number announced.

When the canvas of ballots is completed, each of the judges in turn shall announce in a loud voice the number of votes cast for each candidate. The judges shall make duplicate statements of the returns which they shall sign. These shall be sealed and endorsed in separate envelopes one directed to clerk of superior court of Baltimore, or circuit court in each county, as the case may be, and one to the mayor of Baltimore, or to county commissioners.

Tally sheets sealed and signed must be sent to the supervisors of elections.—When ballots are replaced in the box a slip of paper bearing the signature of the judges shall be pasted over the keyhole and slit in the lid of the box, so that opening the latter would destroy the signatures. One judge takes the box and another of the opposite party takes the key. In the same way the statements, tally sheets, etc., are distributed and must be delivered up to election supervisor before noon on the day after election in Baltimore; a day later in the counties.

The board of supervisors must examine and then deliver to clerks of court. Ballots shall be kept securely for six months and then destroyed.

The county commissioners, court clerks and mayor shall securely keep under lock and key the statements delivered to them until the canvasing board meets on Tuesday next following the election, when these statements shall be delivered to them. Supervisors of election, state's attorney and presiding judge of orphans' court shall constitute the canvassing board. They shall canvas and add up and transmit signed statement of result to clerk of court for record. Errors discovered whereof a mere clerical nature may be corrected. In case the board of canvassers fail to correct errors, they may be compelled to do so by writ of mandamus. In like manner the secretary of the State, comptroller, treasurer, clerk of court of appeals and attorney general shall be a State board of canvassers.

False registration, or attempted false registration, or in any way advising or aiding in such an act or attempt, or otherwise violating such a law, is made punishable by imprisonment for not less than six months nor more than five years.

The same penalty is attached to any attempt or participation in or advising of any such attempt to fraudulently vote or violate the law with regard to voting. When done by a check it shall be a felony punished by one to five years imprisonment. Signing or making false return shall be punished by imprisonment from one to ten years. Stuffing ballot-boxes is punishable by imprisonment from one to five years. Wilful [illegible] punishable by fine and im-

[illegible] same for attempted obstruction of [illegible] bery of election officers or challengers. Wilfully breaking a ballot box is made a felony. Destroying or defacing ballots, dispensing distilled spirits, betting on election, displaying troops at polls, etc., are punishable by heavy fines.

The attorney-general shall prepare instructions for election officers and voters. State's attorneys in counties shall be counsel to the board. The Baltimore city supervisors shall appoint an attorney to the board at a salary of $1,200 per year.

The remainder of the act provides for contests of the various officers. The act will take effect immediately on its passage.

How We Honor Hyland P. Smith.

May It Be Our Aim to Honor Our Father's Name.

When we think, when we sing, when we read,
when we write,
When we talk, when we walk, when we seek
for delight.
To always remember our papa, as though he
was in sight;
To always honor him in the darkness, as well
as in the light;
And live always in full trust, and never fear,
For we know our father is so kind and dear.
Whatever we think, in joy and in woe,
Think nothing we would not like our father
to know.
When we sing, sing our papa's song,
Which is, my children, never do wrong.
Whatever we read, though pages may allure,
Read nothing of which we are perfectly sure
That consternation would be seen in our look
If father should say, children, hand me that
[illegible] book.

THE KENT SENATORIAL CONTEST.

THE COMMITTEE WILL COUNT BALLOTS.

At a meeting of the elections committee the following was adopted by a party vote, Senators Michael, Crothers and Hering in the affirmative and Randall and Strobridge in the negative, on Friday night last, and the contest ordered for the following Monday night:

"The preliminary question submitted for the decision of the committee in this case is whether the ballots now offered as evidence of the contestant's contention are the original ballots cast at the election in Kent county on the 5th day of November last. Before such evidence should be received to establish errors in the orignal count the tribunal having determination of the case in hand should be satisfied that the ballots have been so preserved and protected as to negative any reasonable probability that they have been tampered with.

"The law of this State does not prescribe specifically where the ballot-boxes shall be deposited between the day of election and the return day, but a reasonable precaution would seem to demand that they should not be exposed to the public or handled by unauthorized persons.

"We have considered the evidence submitted to us upon this branch of the case and the arguments of the counsel for the respective parties, but we are unable to agree with the contention of the contestee that the ballots have been so exposed as to justify us in rejecting them as evidence in this case. There is no evidence whatever which would justify a reasonable suspicion that the ballots have been tampered with. The care which seems to have been taken of the ballots, while not negitiving the absolute possibility of their having been tampered with, does, in addition to the presumptions of law, negative the probability of such.

"The failure of the judges to cover the keyholes of the ballot-boxes in the cases testified to does not of itself render the ballots inadmissible, as the law requiring this to be done is merely directory and not mandatory.

"We will therefore proceed to recount the ballots offered in this case, retaining the testimony submitted on this branch of the case for further consideration upon the final determination of this contest."

Marriage Licenses Taken Out in January.

White—Alcade Porter and Mamie E. Hall; Geo. W. Sutton and Mary Pennington: Jas. H. Glenn and Laura Price; Wm. J. Jarman and Mary L. Thompson; Wm. T. H. Whitely and Mary A. Kirby; Lewis P. Atwell and Elizabeth Johnson; W. T. Harrison and M. L. Edwards; Arnold J. Stewart and Etta S. Hicks; John A. Hickey and Rachel E. Sanders; James F. Baker and Susie Thomas; George R. Apsley and Lillie A. Stevens; Ivanhoe Willis and Margaret C. Fisher; Wm. T. Dukes and Lulu P. Bonwill; John A. Myers and Mamie E. Walker; Fred J. Williams and Katie Jankowskie; W. J. Porter and Margaret F. McKivett;

Colored—George Holland and Ella Hammond; Thos. Frazier and Mary C. Rigby; Levi Kennard and Sarah C. Garrettson; John H. Pearce and Kate Blake; Horace Warren and Lucy Smallwood; Thos. C. Clarke and Lizzie Reed; Walter Massey and Bertha Mander.

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BEAUTIFUL ROCKERS
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BED-ROOM SUITS!

Easy Chairs, Tables,
Stands, Bedsteads,
and everything in the
Furniture line CHEAPER
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☞Call and see.

☞Curtains, Carpets and
Paints at city prices.

My stock is UP TO DATE in Style and price, and I will not be undersold.

Percy T. McFeely,

Furniture Store.
Opp. Voshell House.
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PRICES AT

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AND YOU CAN SEE MOST ANYTIME PLEASED PURCHASERS LEAVING OUR STORE WITH

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WE SAY pleased, Yes pleased from the fact that they know the saving by trading with a house that has led them to it by advertising facts and giving them better values than usually obtainable we are told that our quotations in mid season are quite as low as some claim when they profess to offer special inducements to get rid of surplus. Then when we say we have marked down prices on remaining stock the trade is fully aware of the meaning.

We will not consume your time by enumerating the different styles and prices we have pinned on them. LOOK IN OUR WINDOW and you can form some idea of what low prices mean, if we ean fit you and suit you then the price is an after consideration, for we are now placing orders for next spring and summer and we make it a positive point not to carry stock if price will hurry it. Thankful for the privilege extended us for mutual co-operation and promising to do as well and if possible better in the future. We are Respectfully,

MOODY & LUSBY,

Directly Opposite Court House — Square Dealing Clothiers.

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AT THE OLD STAND, KENNEDYVILLE, MD.

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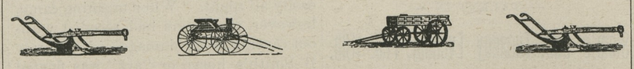

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GRASS SEEDERS POWER FEED CUTTERS AND CRUSHERS,
POWER GRINDING MILLS, ROOT CUTTERS, CUCUMBER PUMPS,
BARBED FENCE WIRE, BELTING OF ALL KINDS.

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SURPLUS	400,000.00
RESERVE REQUIREMENT AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS	269,776.38
	$1,419,776.38

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VERY CHEAP,
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SPECIAL TAX NOTICE.

All Corporation Taxes for 1895, are over-due, and unless paid by Jan. 1st., 1896, INTEREST will be charged. PROMPT SETTLEMENTS are requested.

M. WILBER THOMAS, COLLECTOR.
Dec. 28-tf.

T. M. BRITTON. R. WESLEY MOFFETT

BRITTON & MOFFETT,

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GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANT
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No. 125 Light St., Baltimore, Md.
☞Established 1892.

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for the sale of
GRAIN, FRUITS, LIVE STOCK, WOOL AND COUNTRY PRODUCE GENERALLY.
☞Special attention given to the sale of Grain and Fruits.
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Reference:—Merchants' National Bank.

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for the sale of
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No. 304 South Charles Street, Baltimore, Md.

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COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
for the sale of
GRAIN, FRUITS, LIVE STOCK, WOOL, AND COUNTRY PRODUCE GENERALLY.
Special attention given to the sale of Grain and Fruits.
18 East Camden St.,
Near Light St. Wharf, Baltimore, Md.

A. P. CREW,
WITH
CLIFTON & WOODLAND,
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217 S. Charles St., Balto., Md.
☞GRAIN and FRUITS a SPECIALTY.
Reference:—National Exchange Bank.
Members of the Corn and Flour Exchange.

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215 S. Charles St,, Baltimore, Md.
Reference:—Drovers, Mechanics' and National Bank.

CONTINUANCE.

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JOHN W. STEPHENS, surviving partner.
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IN FRUITS, PRODUCE, POULTRY, EGGS AND LIVE STOCK.
Quick Sales at top market prices and prompt returns, daily if requested. jy13.

R. P. STEWART & CO.,
WHOLESALE
COMMISSION MERCHANT
and dealers in
EGGS, POULTRY and CALVES,
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The old house solicits your shipments of Eggs, Poultry, Calves, and all kinds of Produce. Returns made as soon as sold.
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