Maryland Journal

TOWSON, MD.

Saturday, February 1, 1890.

ARBITRARY SPEAKER REED.

Last week the JOURNAL referred to the exceeding arbitrary tactics of Speaker Reed as Speaker of the House. On Wednesday 29th he gave another exhibition of how far he was willing to go to carry out the evident designs of the Republican majority of the House to so rush things and tie them up as to aid the Republican party to retain its hold upon the country. The attempt was to force a vote in the House upon certain contested election cases from West Virginia and the seat held by Hon. Barnes Compton, of the 5th Maryland District, before the adoption of rules for the government of the House. Upon a motion to take up the West Virginia cases, the Democrats refused to answer to their names. Speaker Reed then took the names of the Democrats and declared a quorum present. This arbitrary act greatly excited the Democrats, but they kept cool sufficient to prevent their committing any discreditable act. The unjustifiable act of the Speaker did not meet the concurrence of a number of fair-minded Republicans who love fair dealing. Mr. Crisp (Democrat) of Georgia administered a scathing rebuke to the Speaker upon his outrageous act, as well did ex-Speaker Carlisle. The House finally adjourned without the Speaker accomplishing his object.

Speaker Reed pursued the same disgraceful tactics on Thursday that he did on Wednesday, giving Republican members full sway in all they had to say and in motions made, and denying them to Democrats, and in counting as present Democrats who declined to vote on account of the arbitrary and revolutionary acts of the Speaker. The greatest confusion prevailed throughout the entire session of the House, which lasted until 6.30 P. M. The galleries were crowded.

A HARSH TAX.

The letter of Mayor Davidson to the members of the General Assembly in which he protests against the proposition of ex-Gov. Bowie that the Legislature release the City Passenger Railway Company from the power of the city, at each fifteen years to purchase its lines, is no doubt a good one. The ex-Governor evidently regards this provision very like a sword of Damocles hanging over his company, and says it is an effectual bar to them selling its lines, if it were desirable to do so. No doubt this it true, and it is no doubt Mayor Davidson's duty to get all he can for the city out of all the city railways. The Mayor in his letter says the stock is worth $90 per share, with only $17 paid up. This being the case the people should have relief. That odious tax of one cent from every passenger who rides, and that one cent to go to the maintenance of the various Parks in the city, should be abolished. Eight-tenths of the people who use the city railways are very poor people, and it is not right to tax them to maintain a pleasure ground for rich people to drive in their carriages. To be sure the poor can walk on the paths, and although the Parks are poetically called "the poor man's pleasure ground," yet it takes nearly all the thousands of dollars received to keep in repair the driving roads. The Park should be maintained from the general tax levy and the railway fare reduced to, say, 3 cents. We believe, with the late A. S. Abell, that the city railways would be handsomely remunerative at a 3-cent fare, and pay better salaries than now to its employees. No other city in the country taxes its poor people one cent every time he uses a city railway car to maintain its public parks. It is a harsh tax.

Gov. Bowie in a stinging letter in the daily papers of Wednesday refers to the Mayor's letter, and uses some very sarcastic language.—Evidently the Mayor's views struck the old ex-Governor as with a 40-pound sledge-hammer.

AN EXPENSIVE FELLOW.

Congressman Peters, of Kansas, says he cannot stay in Congress any longer and gives the following doleful reason:

"I simply can't live within my salary. That's all there is about it. I can make money as a lawyer at home, whereas as a law-maker here, I'm only losing more money every year. Just consider my expenses, and I know there are dozens of parallel cases. I pay $150 a month for an ordinary room at the National Hotel, and it is a very ordinary room.—Then I have to hire a stenographer to write my letters, and send off my documents and seeds. He costs me about $100 a month. My postage stamp account is about $1 a day. I pay out from $30 to $40 a month for carriages and hansoms and herdics, riding around on errands. If I didn't do this, I never would get them done. I have a man to look after cases in the Land Office—the cases of my constituents. He is an expert, and I pay him fees for whatever he does—$40 or $50 a month. I take and pay for about seventy-five newspapers, all but two or three of them published in my district, for which I pay about $360 a year, or $30 a month. Then, if you add about $60 a month for incidental expenses, for money loaned to impecunious persons who represent themselves to be my constituents, and for other purposes, you will have my expenses pretty well covered, and the total is $410 a month, or $50 more than my salary. I can't afford to keep this up."

Now, any Congressman who will give $150 a month (a little over $21 a day) for *any* room in that ancient old hostelry, the National Hotel, must be as yaller as the daisies of his State. But the most coolest thing of all Cong. Peters says he "takes and pays for about 75 newspapers (all from Kansas, and nearly all from his "deestrick.") This last statement is the best Cong. Peters makes, and shows his good sense. Those 75 impecunious Kansas editors, however, should let up on Peters. Kansas can't afford to loose so dear a fellow as that. If he takes 75 newspapers (a little over 10 a day) it will take him all night to read them. What in thunder does this busy fellow do for sleeping hours, supposing he attends to his duties in the House as well as his constituents and the calls of those "impecunious persons" from Kansas? As Peters comes from a Prohibition State, we wouldn't for a moment suspect that any of the "incidental expenses" referred to is for that peculiarly agreeable fluid which is said to "warm the cockles of the heart."

THE MUDD-COMPTON CASE.

The Mudd-Compton case was argued before the House Committee on Tuesday, 28th ult., and the Republicans hope to take it up for consideration before the end of the week.—The indications are that they have made up their minds to rush the cases of Smith against Jackson, and Atkinson against Pendleton, from West Virginia, and that of Mudd against Compton, from Maryland. The other West Virginia contest, that of McGinnis against Alderson, will, from all indications, be conceded to the Democrats. Alderson, the Democrat, has made his title quite clear, and the Republicans are too shrewd to undertake to unseat him. They will earn a reputation for fairness and non-partisanship by reporting in favor of Alderson and against the others.—*Baltimore American's Washington Correspondence.*

☞On Sunday 25th ult. during confirmation services at St. John's Episcopal Church, corner of St. John and Brown streets, Philadelphia, the congregation was startled by the actions of an apparently demented young man, who arose from his seat in the church, and, pointing a revolver at Bishop Whitaker, who was taking part in the services, fired a shot at him. Immediately there was great confusion, but it was quickly seen that no harm had resulted from the shot. An officer was hastily summoned, and the would-be-murderer taken into custody. At the Station House he gave his name as David Alexander. It is since ascertained the young man is demented.

☞The JOURNAL is indebted to Hon. J. Fred. C. Talbott for Vol. 27, Part 2, "Official Records of the War of the Rebellion."

BALTIMORE'S OPPORTUNITY.

How wonderfully appropriate and prophetic are the words of Shakespeare. He says:

There is a tide in the affairs of men,
Which, taken at the full, leads on to fortune.

This is true not only of men, but of a country, of a State, of a county, of a city; and especially of Baltimore city at the present time. She has splendid projects presented to her at the present time, which, if allowed to lapse or are pressed out of sight by onerous demands, may never again present themselves, or be deferred for many years. This tide to which Shakespeare refers may very appropriately be applied to the new railroad facilities now offered to her in the shape of the Belt Line Railroad. There is not a citizen of Baltimore, of Baltimore county, or of the State, who does not know and say that the building of this road would be of the utmost importance to the prosperity of the city as well as to Baltimore county. A partial examination of the map of the line shows that at no point would it seriously damage the face of the city. At its point of commencement on the west bank of tidewater, not far from Locust Point, it crosses several not vitally important streets, bridging two. When the line strikes Howard street the depressed portion is on the west side of that street, next to the Baltimore and Ohio Freight Station. It leaves one-half of that street open to traffic, and there are at any rate but little else than business houses of all kinds, some large, others small, on that street down to where the road branches off. The tunnel under Howard street certainly could not injure the houses along that thoroughfare. If it did, the company would be bound to pay for any damage. When the tunnel emerges near Preston street it would take some property that has a prospective value only because of Mount Royal Avenue, which will some day, in the considerable future, be a favorite drive to Druid Hill Park. As a business consideration, however, it will make no difference whether there be a fine drive or not to the Park—that fact merely concerns rich people with carriages, not the great body of the public. A very important provision is the raising of the grade of North Avenue Bridge ten feet above its present level. This would necessitate the filling up of the street from about Maryland Avenue on the east to about Stewart & Mowen's livery stable on the west.

As a matter of course a big enterprise like this through the heart of a large city like Baltimore cannot be accomplished without interfering somewhat with the face of the city, and the taking of private property, but this latter the railroad company is willing to pay for, as it is any private property it may need in Baltimore county. And, too, nearly all the property affected, either in the city or in Baltimore county, is on the market.

Our contemporary of the *Sun* is working itself into a stew over the matter and expects large returns to the city treasury for the privilege of passing through the city as well as a large annual income in addition. Here is where the trouble comes in. If the Councils' demands are onerous, it may almost amount to punitive considerations. Ins uch case the Councils have it in their power to kill a goose that will lay a golden egg. Just now everybody is hoping for prosperity in business affairs, and if the City Council's demands are so onerous as to prevent the expenditure of from $7,000,000 to $10,000,000, the expected business boom will have to look to other objects. And what could be better than the spending of at least $7,000,000! The matter cannot be long delayed. When the subject comes before the Council on its merits there should be no doubt that that body will deal with it so that the enterprise may be accomplished and the city fully protected.

MAYOR DAVIDSON'S MESSAGE.

The first message of Mayor Davidson, of Baltimore was read to both Branches of the City Council, on Monday evening, 27th ult. It is almost needless to say it is a highly interesting document to the citizens of Baltimore, whom it immediately concerns. The *Sun* has made a very careful summery which we append:

The Mayor's Message begins with some comment upon the advantages of this city for the successful prosecution of manufacturing, trade and commerce, which he finds to be numerous.

The funded debt of the city December 31st, 1889, was $36,738,107. If to this sum be added the indorsements of Western Maryland Railroad bonds the total funded and guaranteed debt on the date named is found to have been $37,730,107. Deducting productive assets the balance of debt over available income producing securities is $9,290,471. Taxpayers are called upon to provide interest upon $17,485,691, but of this amount the city pays interest to itself upon $6,552,491, which is in the sinking fund. This fund has been increased by $258,537 in the past year. The increase of bonded debt was $699,570; of floating debt $85,806. The amount of debt to be paid off in 1890 is $12,862,134. As the five million loan was paid off on January 2d, 1890, the bonded debt of the city at present in really but $31,738,086.

The receipts of the city in 1889 were $5,363,609, an increase of $514,218 over 1888. The disbursements of the city government in 1889 were $5,126,344, as against $4,086,235 in 1888.

The present payment by the city of interest on the Bolton Depot notes is disapproved, and it is suggested that the notes be paid. Money for the purpose may be had either from a saving in interest on the 6 per cent. bonds maturing in September next, or from a proper high-license bill, which would give the city $500,000 annually.

The probable cost of opening Douglas street in the manner proposed is found to be fully $500,000 in addition to the cost it will entail upon property-holders. This is pronounced excessive and out of all proportion to the benefit to be gained. A more reasonable and modest plan that would realize all the advantages properly to be aimed at would cost not over $225,000. The repeal of the ordinance to widen Douglas street is accordingly recommended.

The item of $23,777 allotted to the opening of Barclay street is also considered excessive.

Public schools cost in 1889 as much as $847,873, exclusive of $67,847 paid for repairs and new buildings. The average daily attendance was 40,014.—For 1890 the School Board asks for $955,500. The city paid into the State School Fund $100,000 more than it got from it—an imposition upon Baltimore taxpayers that ought to be corrected.

The city has at present no contract with the Gas Company nor with the Electric Lighting Company. It pays for gas $1.25 per 1,000 feet, whereas gas can be produced at a cost of 60 cents per 1,000 feet. It is recommended that the city borrow $5,000,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to make its own gas, just as it provides its own water. There is no reason, it is urged, why a Gas Board cannot be found as honest and capable as our Water Board. We have at present in use 5,423 gas lamps, an increase of 116. Of electric lights we have 603 arc lights, costing at present 40 cents each per night. In view of their number the cost, it is suggested, should be less.

It is recommended that the Commissioner of Street Cleaning be authorized to employ the men whom he has to direct, an ordinance to enable him to do so is submitted to the council.

The Belt Line Railroad project, with suitable safeguards, is approved, but should not be authorized until all claims for exemption from municipal taxation are waived and abandoned.

The right of the Western Maryland Railroad to use the Belt Line track on favorable terms should also be assured. Bayview Asylum had in the past year 1,236 inmates, 994 of whom were of foreign birth. It is recommended that an effort should be made to prevent other communities from saddling the care of their pauper insane upon this city.

If our new Mayor means by "other communities" the authorities of Baltimore county, "saddling the case of their pauper insane" upon that city, he is in error—the boot is upon the other leg. Paupers are turned loose from Bay View into Baltimore county, and find their way into the hands of our officers. They have on Bay View clothing but when returned to that institution the officers refuse to receive them; neither will the Mayor, as some were some time since taken to the Mayor's office and he refused to send them to Bay View. They should have been turned lose upon the streets of Baltimore, but humanity forbade it.

THE WORLD'S FAIR BILL.

The action of the House of Delegates of the New York Legislature, coupled with the act of ex-Senator Platt, who has turned the affair into the political channel, shows that the bill to permit New York city to issue $10,000,000 of bonds for conducting the proposed World's Fair, is of a disgraceful character. New Yorkers care nothing for the Fair only so far as they can make money out of it. Congress should not allow such condition of circumstances to control it, but order the Fair held at Washington and appropriate sufficient money from the public treasury. No $15,000,000 is necessary. There's a cat in the New York and Chicago meal tubs.

☞The work of double-tracking the Northern Central Railway from York to Harrisburg, a distance of 28 miles, is being pushed rapidly.

☞The JOURNAL is indebted to Col. L. Victor Baughman, Comptroller, for a copy of recent report to the Legislature.

☞Secretary Proctor has purchased the sword of the late Gen. Shields for the sum of $10,000.

[Correspondence of the Maryland Journal.]

OUR ANNAPOLIS LETTER.

ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 29th, 1890.

The Senate and House resumed their sessions on Monday night 28th and transacted a considerable amount of important business at the evening session.

SENATE.

Jan. 27th.—Bills introduced—By Mr. Lindsay, an Act to pay Charles T. Cookey a sum of money for work done and material furnished for fencing one-half of line fence between his property and the property of the State, viz: Pikesville Arsenal.

Also, a bill entitled an Act to pay to J. H. Medairy & Co. a sum of money due them for supplies furnished to State Tobacco Warehouse No. 2, and for accounts assigned to them (for valuable consideration). for supplies furnished to said Warehouse No. 2.

Jan. 28th.—By Mr. Lindsay, Senate bill entitled an Act to amend the charter of the Deer Creek Mining and Construction Company of Baltimore City.

Jan 29th.—Petition—By Mr. Lindsay, from H. C. Turnbull and others for a law to prohibit the sale of liquor within one mile of Govanstown School House.

Mr. Lindsay, from committee to notify Mr. John Gill of his election as Police Commissioner, reported, and Mr. Gill's letter of acceptance was read.

Jan. 30th.—Bill introduced—By Mr. Lindsay, to refund to J. Harman Schone, late Treasurer of Baltimore County, taxes paid in error.

The Senate passed a bill to make the 12th of September a legal holiday.

HOUSE.

Jan. 27th.—Second reading of bill—The bill entitled an Act, with amendments, Sec. 5, Article 3, Public Local Laws, title "Baltimore County," sub-title "Birds and Game."

Leaves—To Mr. Rich, to the Baltimore and Harford county delegations to introduce a bill, an Act to provide for the execution of the laws for the protection of wild fowl in the Gunpowder and Bush Rivers and their tributaries in the counties of Baltimore and Harford.

Jan. 29th.—Leaves for bills—By Mr. McCabe, to provide the mode of constructing and operating the Belt Line Railroad in Baltimore city and county. The provisions of the bill are as follows:

WHEREAS, The Baltimore Belt Line Railroad Company, a company duly organized under the Act of 1876, Chapter 242, now forming a part of Article 23 of the Code of Public General Laws, proposes to construct a line of railroad passing through parts of Baltimore city and parts of Baltimore county, and in making its said railroad to construct the same in a tunnel for part of the route thereof; and, whereas, the construction of said tunnel involves a large and heavy cost:

Section 1. Be it enacted, That for the transportation of passengers over said line or any part thereof the said company shall be entitled to charge any sum not exceeding the rate of 10 cents per mile or fraction of a mile for each passenger, and shall be authorized to construct its railroad or any part thereof in such tunnel under such ordinance or ordinances as may be passed by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore relating hereto.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the said railroad company be, and it hereby is, authorized and empowered to connect its tracks with those of any other railroad at any points upon its route, making such point its terminus if it should so desire, and to enter into agreements with any other railroad companies for the use of its tracks and other property upon such terms as may be agreed upon between it and such other companies, said companies being hereby authorized to make such connections and enter into such agreements.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That in the exercise of the powers of condemnation by said company for the acquisition of property or land or any easement therein or right appurtenant thereto for its said railroad, within said city, in the manner provided by Article 23 of the Code of Public General Laws of the State of Maryland, the Superior Court of Baltimore, the Court of Common Pleas and the Baltimore City Court and the Clerks thereof, and the Sheriff of said city and the jurors summoned by him from the inhabitants of said city, and any Justice of the Peace of said city and all parties interested in the exercise of said powers shall respectively have the same powers and rights which are conferred upon the Circuit Courts of the counties and the Clerks thereof, and the Sheriff of said counties and jurors summoned by them from the inhabitants of said counties and the Justices of the Peace of said counties and the parties interested in the exercise of the powers under said Article 23, and the inquisitions shall be returned by the Sheriff to the Clerk of the Court which may be named in that warrant of the Justice of the Peace, and said Courts may confirm said inquisition at any time after the return of said inquisition to the Clerk of said Court if no sufficient cause to the contrary be shown; but fifteen days after such return shall be allowed in which to file objections to the confirmation of any such inquisition.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

By Mr. Parlett, to give the 2d District of Baltimore county an additional Constable.

THE COMPULSORY HAY-WEIGHING BILL.

On Wednesday morning 29th a delegation of Baltimore county farmers, consisting of Messrs. C. Lyon Rogers, Washington Stevenson, John G. Rider, Geo. H. Merryman, Henry C. Merryman, Edward S. Peerce, George Peerce, Henry Doering, David Kalb, Samuel C. Heird, Chas. Forman, August Stern, appeared before the Ways and Means Committee in reference to the bill now before the Legislature to strike out the compulsory feature for the weighing of hay, straw, corn, &c.

The Committee, Dr. Shaw, Chairman, received the delegation at 11 o'clock A. M. There were present Senator Lindsay, Senator Peters of Howard, and Delegates Parlett and Drach of Baltimore county, and Delegate Richardson of Harford.

Senator Peters of Howard was the first to speak. He was in favor of the provisions of the bill. At present the fees paid by farmers in Baltimore, Howard, Carroll, Harford and Anne Arundel counties for the weighing of hay, straw, corn, &c., was greater in amount than the county taxes upon their property.—The Senator said that when the bill came before the Senate he would support it with great pleasure. The Senator stated that the aggregate amount of any fees received at the various scales does not amount to more than $500. This matter could have been settled long since, but the farmers themselves did not move in the matter. They should act promptly for their own interests, and the General Assembly would no doubt grant their request. At present no fees are required for baled hay or straw.

Mr. C. Lyon Roger, of Baltimore county, addressed the Committee. He desired to make no attack upon either the State Scales or of the employees. He referred to the great trouble and expense to which farmers were put when a load of hay is weighed, and a certificate given when presented to the person to whom the hay is sold, the seller, objecting to the certificate, is compelled to take his hay to the State Scales and have it weighed, and then take his hay back to where he first had sold it. This double tax was very heavy upon the farmers. Farmers pay a tax upon everything they possess.

Dr. Shaw read the provisions of the bill, when it was asked by all the delegation present that an amendment should be made to the bill, that where a buyer objected to a weigh receipt from any scales other than the State scales and desired a load of hay weighed at the State Scales, the buyer should be required to pay the expenses of such weighing.

Your delegates, Rich, (a member of the Ways and Means Committee,) Parlett and Drach, interested themselves in the request of the delegation to see that their wishes were granted. Delegate Richardson, of Harford, also expressed himself as favorable to the request of the delegation, and he would vote for the bill when it came before the House.

Mr. Charles Forman, of the 1st District, also addressed the Committee. He seemed opposed to any interference with the State Scales, or the compulsory feature of weighing. If the compulsory feature were stricken out it would seriously reduce the receipts at the State Scales, and he did not think that was justice to the officers at the Scales, as the laborer was worthy of his hire. Mr. Forman made quite a forensic effort and drew, in his remarks, upon poetry, the Bible, and metaphysics.

The Committee listened patiently to all the speeches from all who had spoken and informed the delegation that their wishes would very likely be respected.

CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO CANAL.

When the resolution to authorize the Attorney General to appear before the Court at Hagerstown in reference to the question before that tribunal to appoint receivers for the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal was before the House, your delegate, Mr. Edward N. Rich, in the discussion of the interesting question, showed that he was prompt and clear in debate. He handled the subject with much ability and had the House with him. The question was very ably discussed by Messrs. Carter (son of Hon. Bernard Carter) of the city delegation, Mr. Laird of Montgomery, and Dr. Shaw, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, and others. The debate upon the resolution was highly interesting as involving the existence of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal as a waterway. They showed that they fully understand the entire question. The resolution failed for want of a two-thirds vote, and went over until Thursday.

On Thursday the House passed the resolution by a vote of 50 yeas to 29 nays.

A big legal battle will no doubt take place for the corpus of the canal, when it is stated that Attorney-General Whyte, Senator John P. Poe, Bernard Carter, Bernard M. Carter, and Messrs. John K. Cowen, S. Teackle Wallis, Bradley T. Johnson, Bradley S. Johnson, H. H. Keedy, J. Clarence Lane and Hugh L. Bond were present on Friday at Hagerstown. It looks like it were a coroner's jury.

Jan. 30th.—Leave—By Mr. Shaw, (Ways and Means Committee,) to appropriate money to pay for repairs to the State Normal School building.

A SHORT AND SHARP TARIFF LESSON.

A cemetery, razor, coal-scuttle full of rain water and blood; dead man with throat cut leaning over coal-scuttle; note in dead man's pocket: "Machinist; out of work; no use struggling; good-bye." Wife and three children starving; rich country; plenty of wealth; everybody well off; Republican administration; good times; high tariff; 47 per cent; everything prosperous.

. Let the dead and the beautiful rest and the Christmas bells ring on.

[*Harrisburg (Pa.) Patriot.*

[Correspondence of the MARYLAND JOURNAL.]

BALTIMORE COUNTY ROADS.

GLYNDON, BALTIMORE COUNTY, January 25th, 1890.

To the Editor of the JOURNAL:

I have noticed for some weeks past that the county roads has been the all-absorbing topic. Various plans and suggestions have been offered as a remedy—some good and *some* good for *nothing.* With all due regard and consideration for the "Councilman law" and the bond system, both having their good points, it seems to me that the "proposed change" in the old Road Law, which was adopted at the meeting held at Mr. Barton's office, in Baltimore, on January 18th, is the most practical, for the following reasons:

1st. It will prevent Road Supervisors from economizing in the amount of work done on the roads, and citizens will be more likely to get the full value of the money paid by them in road tax.

2d. It remains in the hands of the citizens and tax-paying public to say *when* such extra levy of 10 cents shall be levied by the County Commissioners.

If this proposed change is adopted by the Legislature, I have no doubt that we shall soon have good roads in place of the mud ones, through which we are now compelled to "wend our weary way."

The old road system of Supervisors is "played out," at least here with us. As for the other Districts I cannot speak, only I am quite sure that the 4th is not alone in "mud roads."

The inefficiency of the Supervisor system is most plainly evident in this part of the 4th District. For instance, take the county road leading from Reisterstown to Cockeysville, one of the principal thoroughfares in the District. This road from Glyndon *to the cross road* leading by Barr's mill and thence to Woodensburg is in good condition, but *here* the good ceases. From the said cross road to St. John's Church and Dover Post Office is in some places almost impassable and unfit for travel, several places being nearly axle-deep, where, by a small amount of labor, it could have been made good.

The question may possibly suggest itself why is it that a part of that road is so much worse than the other? This is easily explained.—The work and money which, by right, should have been equally divided and "the rough places made smooth" with it, has been placed upon that part of the road which was not *really* in *need* of it, and where it would be useful to *only* a "chosen few," our Supervisor being among the "elect"—in fact, the greater amount of work has been put upon the Glyndon end, and nothing, comparatively speaking, on the part which has needed repairing most sadly for the last two years at least. "Quae cum ita sint." Can any one wonder at it that the residents of this part of the 4th District cry out like the frogs in the fable against the tyrannical rule of the stork praying for even a log instead, and are willing to try any system or plan rather than continue the present system of Supervisors and bad roads?

I have just noticed an article by your Woodensburg correspondent "Now and Then," advocating a system of taxation long since defunct, viz: poll tax. Poor "Now and Then!" How sad it is that he, like Rip Van Winkle, has been indulging in a long, long nap, and is not therefore fully awake to the great amount of progress which civilization has made in this nineteenth century. This seems to be the only reason that I can find by which to excuse him for not being fully aware of the *uselessness* of the poll-tax system; good enough, no doubt, in one way, but look at the vast injustice.

Now, perhaps, my "brother's" position would have been more tenable had he proposed a special tax to be levied only upon "old bachelors and contentious old maids," of which, I understand from one of "his brothers in office," "the woods are full of."

I am indeed greatly surprised to hear a man of his experience speak so highly of a plan which has long since been tried and abandoned in nearly every instance as a failure. Now, let us review some few of the methods by which the different States undertake to keep up their roads, and then compare them with the admirable plan which has been adopted by our committee on roads.

Let us first glance over the county roads in Eastern North Carolina, where a system very similar to that proposed by "Now and Then" prevails. Each man is taxed per capita and obliged to work out his taxes upon the road, either in person or by substitute, under what may be termed a "section boss," duly appointed by the county authorities. The result of this system, so far as my observation has been, is that there is not a decent road to be found scarcely in the whole eastern section of the State, and certainly none that could be called *good* during the winter and spring of the year. You are in mud nearly axle-deep, which, turn where you may, you cannot avoid; and one finds himself as did the Israelites of old on the banks of the Red Sea with no means of escape except to pass through it.

Let us come nearer home and enter the "Old Dominion State," where the poll-tax system is in operation and the money thereby collected used to make and keep up the roads. How do we find them? Take, for instance, the county roads leading from Alexandria to Georgetown via Arlington, the National Cemetery, and also the one from Alexandria to Bailey's Cross Roads, and thence to Carlin's Station and Vienna, on the W., S. & W. R. R., in Fairfax county. What is the condition of them? For three-fourths of the year they are almost impassable.

Go into Rappahannock and other counties where the road systems are nearly the same as the one now proposed to be used in this county, and we find good roads and roads upon which there is real comfort in travelling.

I could give a number of instances where the poll-tax system works in the same unsatisfactory manner, but I feel quite sure this is unnecessary. As I understand that the road systems of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and also some of the admirable systems in use in the Western States, where the roads do not depend upon the poll tax, have already been brought before your readers, I shall not speak of them in detail. The great blessing of such systems can only be fully realized and duly appreciated when, after having ridden over them, we return to our Baltimore county mud.

I am sorry indeed that "Brother 'Now and Then'" does not seem to be cognizant of the *very* best road systems. As I understand that "my brother in the High Lands" is a constant reader of the Pilgrim's Progress, it strikes me that perhaps he may have gotten his ideas from "Christian's" experiences. He has no doubt reached that insurmountable barrier at this point in the various road discussions, which "Christian" called "The Slough of Despond," and has wisely concluded to take advantage of the nautical maxim, "Any port in a storm," and has anchored his little barque safely in the harbor "Poll Tax."

He might perhaps be excused for putting forth such a proposition and suggestion as this if it were fully understood that the tax-paying citizens of the 4th District were too poor to stand the extra 10 cents to be levied "upon all taxable property." Then no doubt it might be pardonable to ask for a poll tax.

He speaks of the "pressing hard times" that are now being felt by the farming community. Ah! my "Brother 'Now and Then,'" if you feel with your farm, all your own, the loss of your 10 per cent. extra assessment, how must you think that poor man, renting his house and lot, with a large family to support who are entirely dependent upon his daily toil, feel the loss of his one dollar or fifty cents, as the case may be? You are, I understand, a constant reader of Holy Writ; take a glance, I beg you, at Nathan's parable to David, delivered after he had caused "Uriah the Hittite," the husband of Bathsheba, to be slain in order that he, with his countless thousands to select from, might get possession of "the poor man's" "one little ewe lamb," and see if that is not nearly the parallel case to what you and all other property-holders are doing when you advocate "taxing the poor." Very Truly Yours,

J. ARTHUR JOHNSON.

[Correspondence of the Maryland Journal.]

PROTECTION AND FREE TRADE.

PROTECTION:

God help me and my wife; brother Tom and his wife—*just we four, and no more!*

PRAYER OF MONOPOLY.

FREE TRADE:

A very wise man has written: "The world is my country, and to do good is my religion."

At present the United States of America is my country, where we are *all free traders with each other.* After awhile the "Three Americas" will be my country; and finally the "Three Americas," Europe, Asia, Africa, and "all the rest of mankind" will be my country, when the entire brotherhood of humanity will be *free traders.*

In old times one of the soundest planks in the platform of good, old-fashioned Democracy was: "Tariff for revenue, with *incidental* protection." At the present writing this "incidental protection" has grown to the gigantic proportions of *47 per cent!* and all for the benefit, not of our "infant manufacturing industries," but of enormous, vampire monopolies, which are fast sucking out the very life blood of our Nation! H. CLAY PREUSS.

ARLINGTON, MD., 1890.

[Correspondence of the MARYLAND JOURNAL.]

THE HEROISM OF THE MAN.

Editor JOURNAL:

One grand incident told by President Davis in the sketch of Gen. Lee, published in the *North American Review,* should be read or known of all men, of every creature, in fact, belonging to the race of mankind the world over.—One of the few consolations for having been born into this sad world of ours is to belong to the same blood, the same nation, the same race, the same humanity as this noble hero, "without fear and without reproach."

During the battle of Antietam a battery was so cut to pieces that it had to be withdrawn for reparation. After being partially restored it was ordered into the fight again, as there were no reserves. As it passed Gen. Lee a beardless boy, so battle-stained with smoke and grime that his father did not know him, said:

"Are you going to put us in again, General?"

Something in the tone of voice struck the General, and he called to the boy:

"Whose son are you?"

"Why, *I am Robbie!*"

Whereupon his father said:

"God bless you, my son, *you must go in.*"

Here is a rod of Aaron to smite even a dead rock into a fountain of tears.

A WORSHIPPER OF ONE HERO.

COCKEYSVILLE, MD.

[Correspondence of the Maryland Journal.]

OUR BALTIMORE LETTER.

The North Pole as a Refuge—A Poetical Question—The Policy of Activity—Absorbing Political Issues—Religious Performances—A Scientific Singularity—Fashions in Piety—Mammon Saying Prayers—Rescuing Southern Maryland—Suicidal Farming—Sorosis for Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, January 31st, 1890.

It is to be hoped that, if the infatuated arctic explorers who so recklessly insist upon risking their lives in search of the North Pole, ever succeed in discovering that mythical locality, they will find there a spot where the dizzy inhabitants of this planet may obtain the refreshment of an absolute rest. Being at the center of all things, the spindle, so to speak, around which the whole world revolves, if we could only contrive to build a huge bird box on the top of it, or even a sort of balcony arrangement winding up around it, we could have at least one refuge, above ground, where weary worldlings might retire from the incessant din and turmoil of mundane affairs.

But when we come to recollect that the friction produced by such a spinning of the earth upon its axis would probably develop an intense heat in that region whereas, it is reputed, on the contrary, to possess an exceedingly frigid climate, we can scarcely entertain any scientific hope of its affording us any such peaceful asylum. Especially when the masters of the fifty odd ocean steamers that have put into port at New York this month unite in averring that they never before experienced gales of such fierceness, or such awful seas. And as the terrible hurricanes through which these navigators passed seemed to come "right from the North Pole," it is scarcely likely that even this centre of things can be a very tranquil spot. So we must be content to sing on, with the poet, the question concerning where rest can be found; with his discouraging answer to the effect that in such a search it were "vain the ocean's depths to sound, or pierce to either Pole."

And such being the case, the world must continue to spin as aforetime; and we may as well be content to be whirled along in its course with it: collectively, individually, socially, politically, religiously, or in any other plane or direction, we must either be swept on with its revolutions, or be dragged along behind, like a captive bound to the chariot wheel of Time. So, even in conservative Baltimore, the up-and-be-doing policy is in about as full force as we could have it, without an earthquake, or some other abnormal commotion, to incite us to action.

Politically we have been kept very busy denouncing the high-handed course of Speaker Reed, in Congress; and in watching the unexpected turn which affairs have taken in our State Legislature, where the great interests that the people have at stake, and the influence which the methods employed will have upon the future of our Democracy, are very absorbing questions. The new elements of strength developing themselves among the lawmakers at Annapolis, and the serious earnestness which some of them display in the matters of deep interest to our people, make us hopeful of the results of their legislation. We may expect to see some interesting work during the session, and it will be anxiously watched by concerned spectators.

Our city politicians, too, are on the anxious bench with regard to the new appointments which Mayor Davidson is about to make. The inevitable delegations are taking up the line of march to the City Hall, in full force, inasmuch as the day of grace is nearly ended. But the people who know what the fates will put into the Mayor's green-bag keep their information profoundly secret. The "cats" that are concealed there will soon make their way out, and then, perhaps, certain mice will have to scamper. In the meantime, however, the Belt Line, and the gas question, and the murderous "bob-tail car," continue to be subjects of inexhaustible discussion.

On the other hand, certain of our religious activities are now at about the full tide of their annual achievements. It is rather strange that the piety business, being of a fervid nature, should, like the icicle, thrive best in the winter season. As the warm weather would seem to be better suited to the generation of necessary steam for such an undertaking, as well as more conducive to the melting of hearts; and as the terrors of a certain torrid region would appear most intolerable at a time of high temperature, the hottest month of summer would certainly seem to be the most propitious for the engineering of religious revivals. Yet the reverse of this most natural arrangement is inexplicably true.

Consequently, the piety, chastity, and morality people of this section have all taken advantage of our recent little cold snap to avail themselves of this singular scientific fact, and have been importing orators, and tuning up their orchestras, and working over their old fields to the best of their ability. Several of our churches were packed to overflowing, last Sunday, and one of them is said to have turned a thousand persons away, at night, for lack of room. The Prohibitionists, too, were out in full force, and held crowded meetings, both up town, and down. And the churches that fail to "revive" are nevertheless treated to sensational sermons, and music, which draw several of them crowds of notable converts from Rome, and thus make a great stir among the people.

So the piety business may be said to be booming ahead among us. It is not the same sort of business, though, that it was half a century ago, by any manner of means. For then it was required of persons professing Christianity, of the Protestant brand, at any rate, that they should give up worldly pleasures and fashions, and live plain and simple lives. Now, however, there is no "outward and visible sign," of any sort whatever, whereby we are able to distinguish even, very good Quakers from the worldliest of "world's people." Well; the fashions change in piety, as they do in everything else, and as it is natural enough they should; but the people who do not see that the famous old potentate, Mammon, and most of his numerous progeny, have settled down into respectable church members, must be very blind, indeed.

Another direction in which we can report a cheering and hopeful activity, is down in the fields of southern Maryland. About sixteen of our influential and enterprising citizens have been incorporated as "The Southern Real Estate and Trust Company of Baltimore City," for the purpose of promoting the prosperity, and developing the resources of the southern counties of western Maryland, and those of Baltimore and Howard, as well. To loan money, build roads of all descriptions, promote immigration, and build up towns and suburban resorts, are among the praiseworthy intentions of this new corporation, which has not undertaken is work one moment too soon. For the tidings from southern Maryland made it evident, long since, that the agricultural interests in the lower part of our State have been falling into line with those of New-England and certain parts of the West, in their retrograde career. In Vermont and New Hampshire, for instance, it is said that about half the area of the farming lands has been practically deserted by its once thrifty owners, and may be bought for almost nothing. In Massachesetts and elsewhere the same conditions of things is coming to pass; and in the West the business of farming is growing more and more unremunerative.

This decline of prosperity among our agricultural communities has been pronounced one of the most important and alarming phenomena of our times. For the production of food is at the basis of all our prosperity, and it is simply suicidal for any community to allow its farming interests to suffer. So when the farmers twist high-tariff ropes to hang themselves, and there is danger that our own rural population will be replaced by foreigners, it is time for enterprise to come to the rescue; and it is wise for somebody to attend to our home interests.

Reports come to us, too, of a bit of feminine activity in progressive Baltimore. It is said that a branch of the "Sorosis" business is to be established here by certain of our literary women. It seems that we have quite a number of such among us, who have already achieved the distinction of having published books, of which "*Metzerott, Shoemaker,*" is the most recent example. Hence, the project of a Club, with the prospect of an organization by the spring, it is supposed. CHELYS.

BONITA AVENUE.

PIKESVILLE, January 22d, 1890.

Dear JOURNAL:

The rallying over the opening of Bonita Avenue has developed some interesting facts. While the bed of the Reisterstown Turnpike at the entrance to Mr. B. F. Groff's mills is 50 feet higher than Bonita Avenue is at the other end in Worthington Valley, 4½ miles distant, the surface in Mr. John E. Phillips' fields adjoining Gill's school house is just as high as the top of Mr. Andrew Banks' barn in Reisterstown, 3 miles distant, and, while it will require $10,000 to open Bonita Avenue, $12,000 more to make it passable, and $6,000 to fence it, it is represented by only about 2500 acres of land—not more than 1500 cleared, the balance rough and rugged, including 150 to 200 acres, irredeemable marshes, some of it already mortgaged, the owners mostly farmers and not wealthy—we ask the question, how can the people along the line upon whom the cost will fall (when there is only $1,975 assessed for opening the road) bear the pressure financially, it imposing a tax of over $12 per acre upon their land, both good and bad? OBSERVER.

☞The Shippensburg (Pa.) *Chronicle,* Mrs. Belle Wolf, editress, has recently entered upon its sixteenth volume. Mrs. Wolfe, who is a Baltimore county lady, being the daughter of Mr. John F. Heisse, of Monkton, in her editorial on the 23d ult., says:

"The paper has passed through troubled waters since it began its fifteenth volume, the ill health of the late editor, Mr. J. E. Wolfe, making it a serious care, and his death in June placing it in new, strange and inexperienced hands. The burden has not been light, but we have worked faithfully to give our patrons a good paper, and we claim a fair share of success. Many friends have been pleased to be complimentary, while many others are found who do not know that the management of the paper has changed, or that it is edited by a woman. The latter we accept as proof that the paper has not fallen behind in literary merit. We have not edited an ideal paper, by any means, and are conscious of many imperfections, but we feel that we have done the best we could with no previous experience, and with the added disadvantages of being a stranger in a strange place, and thrust into the work by the saddest of all happenings—death."

She says that financially the paper is healthy, and after promising to make the *Chronicle* a better paper, she adds:

"Thanking our friends for their support and encouragement in the past, and hoping for the same in the future, we present the *Chronicle,* still in teens, but vigorous and healthy, and steadily approaching its majority."

GEN. EARLY'S FAITHFUL SERVANT.

"One of the greatest instances of devotion that I ever saw," said an old Virginian to The Man About Town, "outside of that of a dog for his master, is that shown by 'Early's nigger Joe.' Joe is an old negro about seventy years of age, who was born a slave in Gen. Jubal Early's family, brought up with 'Jube,' became his body-servant, served all through the war with him, as watchful of his master as a mother of her babe. After the war Joe was informed that he was free. 'I'se free?' said Joe, with a look of contempt. I'se not free. I belongs to Mas' Jube till I dies."

"Early is very fond of his servant, and has told every shopkeeper in Lynchburg to let Joe have anything he wants and send the bill to him. Joe follows his master around on certain occasions like a dog. When Early lets the mountain dew of old Virginny get the better of him, Joe will say:

"'Mass' Jube, you mus' come home.'

"'Why, you —— nigger, who are you talk-to? Who's boss, anyway?'

"'Well, Mass' Jube, when you's sober you's boss, but when you's drunk I'se boss.'

"And Early will resign himself to the faithful old darky's care."—*St. Louis Republic.*

Died.

There is a Reaper whose name is DEATH,
And, with his sickle keen,
He reaps the bearded grain at a breath,
And the flowers that grow between.

NORWOOD.—Suddenly, at Towson, on January 29th, 1890, EDWARD MAYES NORWOOD, in the 42d year of his age.

RIPPLE.—In Baltimore, on January 28th, 1890, LEWIS RIPPLE, in the 71st year of his age.

SHAW.—At Salida, Colorado, on January 21st, 1890, FLORENCE O. SHAW, in the 27th year of her age, wife of Wm. Shaw, formerly of Texas, Baltimore county. Her remains were brought home for interment.

SKIPPER.—At Mt. Vernon, on the Falls Road, on January 24th, 1890, Mrs. SALLIE L. SKIPPER, in the 57th year of her age.

The Markets.

BALTIMORE MARKET.

THURSDAY, Jan. 30th, 1889.

FLOUR—Howard Street Super	$ 2.25	@	$ 2.75
" " " Extra	2.90	@	3.60
" " " Family	3.85	@	4.40
" Patapsco Extra	5.00	@	0.00
" " Family	5.25	@	0.00
RYE FLOUR	2.80	@	3.25
CORN MEAL—City Mills	1.00	@	1.15
WHEAT—Southern Red	.73	@	.82
" Western Red	.80	@	.81
CORN—Southern White	.34	@	.36
" " Yellow	.36	@	.00
" Western	.36	@	.00
OATS—Southern	.28	@	.30
" Western	.29	@	.30
RYE	.50	@	.55
MILL FEED—Per Ton	13.00	@	15.00
PROVISIONS—Shoulders	.05	@	.06½
" Sides	.05¾	@	.05¾
" Hams	.10	@	.11
POTATOES—Per Bushel	.55	@	.65
BUTTER	.26	@	.28
EGGS	.13	@	.14

Reported for the JOURNAL *by N. B. Merryman, Eastern Hay Scales, Greenmount Avenue:*

TIMOTHY HAY—Per Ton	10.00	@	12.00
CLOVER HAY—Per Ton	8.00	@	10.00
STRAW—Wheat	7.00	@	8.00
" Rye	10.00	@	12.00
" Oat	8.00	@	8.00
CORN—Per Barrel	2.00	@	2.10

TOWSON MEAT MARKET.

STILL AT *THE OLD STAND,*

York Road near the Post Office.

We are selling to our customers and the public who may favor us with a call

BEEF, VEAL, LAMB, MUTTON, AND SMOKED BEEF TONGUES, PORK, BACON, SMOKED SAUSAGE, &c.

All of the best quality and at the lowest prices.

☞ORDERS PROMPTLY FILLED.☜

☞Meats delivered within a reasonable distance FREE OF CHARGE.

C. HARRIS COLLINGS, Successor to SAMUEL COLLINGS.

Jan. 3.—tf

New Advertisements.

MOUNT MORIAH LODGE, 116, A. F. & A. M.

A stated communication of Mount Moriah Lodge, A. F. & A. M., will be held in THE TEMPLE, Towsontown, on

Tuesday, February 4th, A. L. 5890,

At 7½ o'clock P. M.

☞25TH ANNIVERSARY.

By order of the W. M.

ROBERT FEAST, Secretary.

Feb. 1.—1t

George R. Willis, Attorney, Courtland Street, Baltimore.

MORTGAGEE'S SALE —OF— *DWELLING HOUSE & LOT,* AT HIGHLANDTOWN, 12TH DISTRICT, BALTIMORE COUNTY.

I will, in execution of the power contained in a mortgage from Conrad Goettig to the Confidence Loan and Savings Association of Baltimore City, dated November 25th, 1887, and recorded among the Mortgage Records of Baltimore County, in Liber J. W. S., No. 134, folio 290, &c., sell by Public Auction, on the premises, on

Tuesday, the 25th day of February, 1890,

At 4 o'clock P. M.,

ALL THAT LOT OF GROUND,

situated in Highlandtown, Baltimore County, on the east side of a forty foot street laid out between Third Street and Highland Avenue, and called Second Street, distant 85 feet south from Gough Street, and running thence southerly on the east side of Second street 15 feet and extending easterly of even width a depth of 84 feet. Subject to the payment of the annual ground rent of $26 25. Improved by A TWO-STORY BRICK DWELLING HOUSE.

Terms of Sale.—One-third of the purchase money in Cash on the day of sale, and the balance in two equal paymenss of six and twelve months, with interest, or all cash as the purchaser may elect.

GEORGE R. WILLIS, Attorney named in Mortgage.

MATTHEWS & KIRKLAND, Auctioneers.

Feb. 1.—ts.

By Thomas C. Biddison, Auctioneer.

EXTENSIVE PUBLIC SALE OF VERY VALUABLE STOCK AND *PERSONAL PROPERTY,* —ON THE— PREMISES OF THE UNDERSIGNED OWNER, ON THE PHILADELPHIA ROAD, NEARLY OPPOSITE NORTH POINT ROAD, HERETOFORE KNOWN AS THE "BIRCH FARM," ABOUT TWO MILES FROM THE CITY.

The undersigned, having rented the above farm, and desiring to dispose of his large stock of Horses, Cattle, Farming Utensils, &c., thereon, will offer for sale at public auction, on the premises,

On Monday, February 10th, 1890,

At 10 o'clock A. M.,

3 MULES, four head of GOOD WORK HOSES, 1 KENTUCKY MARE, in foal, very fast; 2 Colts by Almont, 2 Colts by Hannis, 1 Alderney Bull three years old, 1 Yearling Jersey Bull, 6 Milch Cows, springers; 3 Berkshire Brood Sows, 28 Shotes, 1 Berkshire Boar, registered.

—ALSO—

One six-spring Market Wagon, 1 light one-horse Wagon, 1 four-horse Manure Wagon, good as new; 1 two-horse Manure Wagon, 2 Carts, 1 Hay Carriage, 1 Carriage, built by Graff & Co.; 1 Mower, 1 Osborne Reaper, 1 Row Marker, one two-horse Cultivator, 3 one-horse Cultivators, 2 Hinge Harrows, 1 Double "A" Harrow, one three-horse Plow, 3 two-horse Plows, 3 one-horse Plows, 2 Shovel Plows, Single, Double and Triple Trees, 1 large Roller, 1 Horse Rake, 1 Corn Sheller, 1 Wheat Fan, 1 Straw Cutter, hand or horse-power; lot Wagon Harness, lot Cart Harness, lot Carriage Harness, Bridles, Collars, Hames, lot Hoes, Shovels, Rakes, Forks, Picks, and numerous other tools used on a farm. Also, lot of Doors, Sash and Shutters, Bedsteads and Bedding, about 40 tons Fine Timothy Hay, lot Corn by the barrel, 55 Chickens, &c.

Terms of Sale:—All sums of $25 and under, cash; on all sums over that amount a credit of 6 months will be allowed, credit payments to bear interest from day of sale and to be secured by notes of purchaser endorsed to the satisfaction of the undersigned, owner.

☞No postponement on account of weather.

HENRY SMITH, Owner.

THOS. C. BIDDISON, Auctioneer, Gardenville, Baltimore county, Md.

Feb. 1—ts

New Advertisements.

GRAND JURY REPORT.

DECEMBER TERM, 1889.

To the Honorable the Judges of the Circuit Court for Baltimore County:

The Grand Jury for the December Term, 1889, having finished their labors, respectfully report through their Foreman that we have been in session 30 days, docketed 183 cases, issued 268 summonses, examined 267 witnesses, found 87 presentments, ignored 4 and found 83 true bill of indictment.

The following shows the character of cases brought before us:

Selling liquor on Sunday	22
Selling liquor without License	3
Selling liquor to Minors	12
Petty Larceny	1
Simple and Grand Larceny	10
Disturbing the Peace	3
Murder	1
Gambling	8
Resisting Officers	3
Nuisance	3
Working on Sunday	2
Threatening to Kill	8
Cases of Insane Prisoners in Jail	4
Obstructing Highway	1
Disturbing Religious Worship	1
Vagrancy	1
Bastard	2
Indecent Assault	8
Assault	28
Assault with Intent to Kill	11
Drunk and Disorderly	12
Allowing Gambling on Premises	2
Carrying Concealed Weapons	8
Defrauding with Tricks at Cards	1
Perjury	1
Mayhem	1
Kidnapping	1
Total	183

REDUCTION OF COURT EXPENSES.

You will note that a number of the cases are of such character as to be termed light offenses, and in order to lesson Court expenses should not be brought before the Grand Jury except under appeal. Jurisdiction should be given Magistrates to hear and determine such cases unless jury trial is demanded by defendant. Were laws passed increasing the power of Magistrates long terms of Grand Juries would be a thing of the past. In this connection let us state in the year 1889 the County Commissioners of Baltimore County passed an order to withhold from Magistrates all fees but for issuing State writs, recognizance to Court, commitments to jail, release from jail, refusing to pay them for issuing summonses for witnesses, administering oaths, and for hearing cases. This order compels and forces the Magistrates to send all criminal cases to Court or do a large amount of work for nothing. The expensees of the Court are thus greatly increased. For example, a case can be tried before a Magistrate with 8 witnesses being summoned and sworn by him for the sum of $5.10, including writ, Constable fees of serving writ and return, and summoning the witnesses as follows:

J. P. Fees—1 writ	$ 25		
8 summons	1 00		
9 oaths	90		
Docket Entry	60		
		$2 75	
Constables Fees—Serving writ	$1 75		
Summoning 8 witnesses	60		
		$2 35	
Total			$5 10

Under present regime we have the following fees paid on same case when said case is dismissed by the Grand Jury:

Magistrates' State Writ	$ 25
Recognizance to Court	25
Constable serving 8 summonses	1 60
Clerk of Court issuing 8 summons	2 00
Sheriff summoning 8 witnesses	3 60
Swearing 8 witnesses to testify before Grand Jury	40
Pay of witnesses to testify before Grand Jury	8 00
One hour's time of twenty-three Grand Jurors at 50c. per hour	11 50
Making total cost of case	$27 60

Thereby paying and allowing a loss to the county of $22.50 on one case. This is false economy and should be remedied at once. We remark here that this order of the County Commissioners refusing to pay Magistrates' fees was brought about by their interpretation of the law. We therefore recommend that our Legislature pass such laws as to regulate the fees of Magistrates and make the law so plain that a matter of such vital interest to the tax-payers will not be so disastrously interpreted. We further recommend increased jurisdiction of Magistrates in assault and petty larceny cases.

VIOLATIONS OF LIQUOR LAWS.

You will notice that the number of presentments for violations of Sunday laws and selling liquor to minors are but few. The reason for this is lack of evidence. Our officers with some exceptions seem to fear the power of the violators of the liquor law. Constables, with some exception, are paid $2.50 to report to Grand Jury "that they have nothing to report," and witnesses, with but few exceptions, "can't recollect." As an incentive to memory, we recommend that in lieu of "High License" a law be passed by the Legislature making the penalty for violation of the Sunday law a fine of $500 and giving the informers $300 of the fine collected to be equally divided between those informants, the Foreman of the Grand Jury endorsing their names on true bill of indictment. This would refresh recollection and kill violations of the Sunday liquor law.

SUNDAY POLICE OFFICERS.

We would recommend that for the better protection of the residents of the 12th District that four or five mounted Police Officers be appointed to serve on Sundays only. This recommendation is urged at the request of a number of the residents of said District, owing to a rough element from Baltimore city, who, by reckless driving and other acts of violence, endanger the lives of their wives and children.

JAIL.

The Committee on Jail, Messrs. Edward L. Bland, Hugh Biddison and John W. Hughes, made frequent reports before the Grand Jury as to the condition of the prisoners, their care, &c. Three prisoners were found to be insane and were sent to institutions for the insane by order of the Court. We visited the Jail in a body on the 22d inst. and found 22 prisoners confined therein, 1 serving sentence, 1 for refusing surety to keep the peace, 18 awaiting trial and 2 insane awaiting the action of the Court. We make the following recommendations: 1st. That the basement floor of the Jail proper be cemented, as the filth accumulates in the cracks between the bricks and decomposes, making the ground floor offensive. The present brick pavement allows no drainage, filth penetrates in the dirt beneath and around the pump and sundry places; the bricks have been removed, leaving a dirt floor.

2d. That the County Commissioners purchase for the prisoners iron-folding bedsteads; every prisoner is obliged to sleep on a mattress on the floor. We found a number of the prisoners with colds taken from inhaling the foul air so close to the floor and from dampness after scrubbing the floors, which penetrates the mattress. Our recommendations are urgent, and if not heeded in this regard should be followed by indictment, compelling proper treatment of prisoners. We are aware that reports of Grand Juries are not often heeded and their recommendations pigeon-holed with their report. We would suggest that a following Grand Jury take up the report of the one preceeding it and act on its recommendations in the same order as referred cases are acted upon on its docket. This would compel our public servants to regulate and righten matters of import that are indictable.

3d. That a grating be placed at the south door of basement floor, as it is unsafe in its present condition, as at any time prisoners may escape unless remedied.

4th. That cells Nos. 20 and 21 on third floor above basement be repaired. Large holes are in the walls of these cells, and the south wall is receeding from the rest of the building, showing large cracks in these cells.

5th. That the stove-pipe from stove in basement be at once turned into some flue, and not run through the skylight as it now does; the lives of the Sheriff, his family and 22 prisoners are in jeopardy from fire. This matter should be remedied at once, as on last Sunday the Warden was twice compelled to go on top of the Jail roof and put out the fire that was burning the framework of the skylight. Immediate action is especially urged.

6th. That the Commissioners have the supply water pipe put in order, and also purchase a seive to sift the coal from the ashes piled up in jail yard. It is estimated that there is from 12 to 15 bushels of good coal but partly burned in the ash heap. A saving of from $50 to $75 can be effected at a small outlay.

COURT HOUSE.

We would recommend that the Court Room be ventilated. Witnesses have informed us that on account of the lack of ventilation and circulation of air in the Court Room they have been made sick and compelled to go out for proper breathing air. Members of Petty Jury have been likewise. The health and comfort of our Honorable Judges and members of our bar, Court Officers and others, is effected by breathing and re-breathing the same air. This should be remedied. Every effort should be made for the comfort and health of the Court and its officials. We therefore recommend that the County Commissioners advertise for proposals to ventilate the Court Room and have the same done by contract, to the lowest responsible bidder, with guarantee that proper circulation and ventilation be given. The outbuilding at the Court House is in a filthy condition, and recommend that a proper grading be made around the building and that disinfectant be used. The Clerk's officers and Sheriff, with his officials, are affected by the stench from this building and its surroundings.

TREASURER'S OFFICE.

We would recommend that the Treasurer's Office be enlarged, or that he be given some other room in the Court House. This particular and important office should be conducted where there is quiet.—Nothing is more essential to the comfort of an accountant, cashier or guardian of public funds than to be kept from annoyance. Mistakes are liable to occur and loss sustained otherwise when forced to transact business thus.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TREASURER'S BOOKS.

Mr. Foreman:—Your Committee to examine Treasurer's Books and accounts, make the following report with recommendation:

We attended to the duties required of us and found the Treasurer's Books neatly and correctly kept, but not closed for last year. We find also that the amounts received and the amounts expended, as per report of Treasurer to Board of County Commissioners on December 31st, 1888, are correct, showing amount received from ex-Treasurer Morgan to be $16,176 53

Amount received from other sources	22,413 23
Total	$38,589 76
Total amount disbursed	15,628 32
Balance on hand Dec. 31st, 1889	$22,961 44

From examinations made as far as we could go in a short time, we found orders on the Treasurer from Commissioners for all items charged or disbursed and the same charged to their proper accounts as per levy. We recommend that when the County Commissioners levy for a sum of money for any purpose that they should not issue orders on the Treasurer in excess of the appropriations for that specific purpose. In the year May, 1889, the levy for incidental account was $2,000; amount expended, $3,614.50. For the year ending May, 1890, the appropriation for incidental account is $1,000; amount expended up to January 23d, 1890, is $2,016 71. This shortage may be charged to the Contingent Account, for which the sum of $5,000 has been levied, but it appears to us that the levy for Contingent Account may, in like proportion, be too small to meet all deficiencies arising from too small an assessment for the fiscal year soon ending. The systematic way the Treasurer's Books are kept we think should be a sufficient guide to the Commissioners when making levy for 1889 not to levy for Incidental Account $1,000 when the levy of preceding year was $2,000 and $3,614.56.

Signed,
C. ELLSWORTH UPTON, DR. JOSEPHUS A. WRIGHT, JAMES H. NELSON, } Committee.

THANKS TO COURT OFFICIALS.

In conclusion we extend our thanks to the Honorable Judges, the State's Attorney, for valued instructions and advice; to Court Officers, Clerks and Bailiffs for their kindness and endeavor to aid us in our duties; to the Sheriff, his Clerk and Deputies for the prompt return of all papers directed to them; last and not least we extend thanks to the keeper of the Court House and his aids for the comfortable condition of the Grand Jury Room.

GEORGE S. KEIFFER, Foreman.

Feb. 1.—3t

Walter R. Townsend, 1 E. Lexington Street, Louis P. Hennighausen, E. Lexington St., Trustees.

TRUSTEES' SALE —OF— *VALUABLE LITTLE FARM,* —NEAR— CHASE'S STATION, P., W. & B. R. R., —IN THE— 12TH DISTRICT OF BALTIMORE COUNTY.

By virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for Baltimore County, in Equity, passed in a cause wherein Anna F. Gerwig and husband were complainants, and August F. Lay and others were defendants, the undersigned, trustees, will offer at Public Sale, on the premises, on

Monday, the 24th day of February, 1890,

At 11 o'clock A. M.,

ALL THAT NICE LITTLE FARM, CONTAINING ABOUT 21 ACRES OF LAND,

situated on the P., W. & B. R. R., near Chase's Station. The improvements consist of a STORE AND DWELLING, Barn, Corn House, Hen House, Wagon Sheds, &c.—This property is nicely situated and is convenient to Churches, Schools, Post Office, &c.

Terms of Sale as prescribed by the decree are:—One-third Cash, balance in two equal payments of six and twelve months each, the credit payments to bear interest and to be secured to the satisfaction of the Trustee.

WALTER R. TOWNSEND, LEWIS P. HENNIGHAUSEN, } Trustees.

Feb. 1.—ts

Wilton Snowden, Attorney, 211 N. Charles St., Baltimore.

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF A VALUABLE *LOT OF GROUND,* ON HUDSON ALLEY, IN BALTIMORE CITY, —RECENTLY— A PART OF BALTIMORE COUNTY.

By virtue of a power contained in a mortgage from Andrew Banks, Rebecca E. Banks his wife, and Henry W. Rogers to William Curlett, dated the 19th day of April, 1884, and recorded among the Mortgage Records of Baltimore County, in Liber W. M. I., No. 109, folio 476, &c., the undersigned, as attorney named in said mortgage, will sell at Public Auction, on the premises, on

Monday, the 24th day of February, 1890.

At 4 o'clock P. M.,

ALL THAT PIECE OR PARCEL OF GROUND,

situate and lying in Baltimore city, and described as follows:

Beginning for the same at the corner formed by the intersection of the west side of Hudson Alley and the north side of an alley four feet wide distant 90 feet north of Mankin, now Second Street, and running thence north binding on the west side of Hudson Alley 126 feet and 6 inches, more or less, to Sisson's Ground; thence west binding thereon 50 feet to the east side of a 10 feet alley; thence south bounding on said 10 feet alley, with the right to use the same in common, 126 feet and 6 inches, more or less, to the said 4 feet alley, and thence east bounding on the north side of said 4 feet alley, with the right to use the same in common, about 50 feet to the place of beginning.

Said lot is in fee. Taxes will be adjusted to day of sale.

Terms.—One-third Cash and the balance in equal installments at 6 and 12 months, with interest from day of sale, and to be secured to the satisfaction of the undersigned, or all cash at the purchaser's option. A deposit of $250 will be required of the purchaser at the time of sale.

WILTON SNOWDEN, Attorney named in the Mortgage.

MATTHEWS & KIRKLAND, Auctioneers.

Feb. 1.—ts

Samuel B. Mettam, Auctioneer.

PUBLIC SALE —OF— *STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, HARNESS, &c., &c.*

The undersigned will sell at Public Sale, at his farm, situated on the PIMLICO ROAD, 3d District, between the Falls Road and Smith Avenue, 1½ miles from Mount Washington, Baltimore county,

On Tuesday, February 11th, 1890,

At 9 o'clock A. M.,

THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL PROPERTY, VIZ:

2 FINE DRIVING MARES,

2 COLTS, well bred, (one by Mambrino Druid,)

1 GOOD WORK HORSE, 3 MULES,

—14—

HEAD OF ALDERNY COWS AND HEIFERS,

1 BULL.

1 BROOD SOW and 5 SHOTES,

A LOT OF FINE THOROUGH-BRED GAME CHICKENS, (about 100.)

FARMING IMPLEMENTS, &c.:

2 Road Wagons built by Slack, Market Wagon, Cutting Box and Horse Power, 2 Hinge Harrows, Sulky Cultivator, Roller, Hay Rake, Champion Mower and Reaper, Buckeye Mower, Plows, Cultivators, Corn Marker and a variety of farm implements needless to name. 1 two-horse Family Carriage, 1 Dayton, 1 Top Buggy, 1 Phaeton. Also, a collection of Harness—1 a fine double set of Carriage Harness, Wagon Harness of all kinds.

Also, Hay, Straw, Fodder, 1 Cider Mill, 5 barrels of Vinegar, a lot of Potatoes.

Terms of Sale—CASH.

HENRY S. FRUSH, Mt. Washington, Baltimore Co., Md.

Feb. 1.- ts*

W. Gill Smith, Attorney at Law, Towsontown, Md.

SALE OF MORTGAGED PREMISES —IN— THE SIXTH ELECTION DISTRICT, BALTIMORE COUNTY, ON THE ROAD LEADING FROM ROCKDALE MILL TO MIDDLETOWN, AND ABOUT FOUR MILES FROM MIDDLETOWN.

By virtue of the power contained in a Mortgage from Henry S. Baker, Jr. Sarah C. Baker, his wife, and Anna Baker, widow of Henry S. Baker, Sr., deceased, to Wesley Royston and Wesley A. Royston, dated 18th July, 1881, and recorded among the Mortgage Records of Baltimore County, in Liber W. M. I., No. 95, folio 82, &c., which said Mortgage was duly assigned by said Mortgagees to the undersigned by assignment, dated January 23d, 1890, and duly recorded among said Mortgage Records of Baltimore county, the undersigned, Assignee, will offer at PUBLIC SALE, AT THE DOOR OF THE COURT HOUSE IN TOWSONTOWN,

On Tuesday, the 18th of February, 1890,

At the hour of 12 o'clock M.,

ALL THE FOLLOWING TRACTS, PIECES, PARCELS OR PARTS OF TRACTS OF LAND,

Situate, lying and being in Baltimore county aforesaid:

FIRST.

ALL THAT PIECE OR PART OF A TRACT OF LAND, Called "Stiltz's Deer Park," or by whatever name the same may be called, situate in said county, and fully described in a deed from Henry S. Baker, Sr., and Anna, his wife, to Henry S. Baker, Jr., dated on or about the 18th day of June, 1867, and duly recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore county, in Liber J. H. I., No. 58 folio 485, &c., containing in one piece

47 ACRES AND 30 PERCHES OF LAND,

more or less, and in another piece

1 ACRE, 3 ROODS AND 25 PERCHES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS.

SECOND.

ALSO, ALL THOSE TWO PIECES OR PARCELS OF LAND,

Described in a deed from Jacob S. Baker and Elizabeth, his wife, to said Henry S. Baker, Jr., dated about the 10th day of October, 1877, and duly recorded among the Land Records of said county, in Liber J. B., No. 104, folio 59, known as "Stiltz's Deer Park," or by whatever name the same may be called, the first piece containing

39 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS,

And the other containing

2 ACRES AND 78 PERCHES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS.

THIRD.

ALSO, ALL THAT PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND,

Described in a deed from Ann Hughes and Geo. A. Hughes, her husband, to said Henry S. Baker, dated on or about the 13th day of December, A. D. 1876, and duly recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore county, in Liber J. B., No. 104, folio 56, &c., known by the name of "Lovely Plains Enlarged," or whatever other name the same may be called, containing

17¼ ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS.

The said land described in said second and third pieces are also described in a confirmatory deed from Jacob S. Baker and others to said Henry S. Baker, dated on or about the 16th day of July, 1881, and recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore county. Excepting out of the aforesaid parcels of land one acre, deeded by said Henry S. Baker to the School Commissioners of Baltimore county, and recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore county, in Liber J. B., No. 97, folio 98, &c., being all and the same land described in the aforesaid mortgage, containing in the aggregate about

109¼ ACRES.

Improved by a comfortable

LOG DWELLING HOUSE, STABLE, SPRING HOUSE, &c.,

Some fruit and well watered.

This property is situated in a healthy and flourishing neighborhood, convenient to churches, schools, postoffice, and would make a comfortable home and snug farm, and is in a good state of cultivation.

Terms of Sale:—One-half Cash, balance in one year, or all cash at purchaser's option, deferred payment to bear interest and be secured to satisfaction of the undersigned. A cash deposit of $250 will be required on day of sale.

W. GILL SMITH, Assignee of Mortgagees.

JOSEPH E. TRACEY, Auctioneer.

Feb. 1.—ts

FOR RENT.

THE HOUSE AND LOT IN TOWSON, property of the late Mrs. Jane Moore. The house has 10 rooms. Lot has a front of 140 feet and is 150 feet deep. For terms and particulars apply on the premises to

OLEVIA P. MOORE.

Oct. 12. —tf