

J. HARWOOD WATKINS, J. THOMAS CLARK, Editors & Proprietors.

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DEATH AND MARRIAGE NOTICES inserted free of charge. Obituaries five cents per line. Rule and Figure Work will be charged double the regular rates.

Correspondence is respectfully solicited from all parts of the County and State—but communications must, in all cases, be accompanied by some responsible name as a voucher for the writer's good faith.

DEMOCRATIC CONSERVATIVE TICKET.

GOVERNOR: WILLIAM T. HAMILTON, Of Washington County.

ATTORNEY GENERAL: CHARLES J. M. GWINN, Of Baltimore City.

COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY: THOMAS J. KEATING, Of Queen Anne's County.

CLERK OF THE COURT OF APPEALS: SPENCER C. JONES, Of Montgomery County.

STATE SENATE: A. P. GORMAN.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES: Robert A. Dobbin, John T. Hardey.

STATE ATTORNEY: Edwin Linthicum.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT: Louis J. Watkins.

SHERIFF: Joseph McCauley.

JUDGES OF THE ORPHANS' COURT: Anthony M. Johnson, Reuben J. Dorsey, George M. Buckingham.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Thomas H. Gaither, Joshua D. Warfield, N. Soper Childs.

COUNTY SURVEYOR: John T. R. R. Carroll.

THE Boston Post says: "Judge Merrick, at the Maryland State taxpayers convention spoke of Boston as perhaps the best governed city in America. The Judge delivers excellent opinions. Boston has a democratic mayor."

Mr. CHARLES COLE, editor of the Frederick Union, has been nominated by the Democratic Convention of Frederick county for the House of Delegates. Our journalistic brother will accept our congratulations and best wishes for his success.

We have received one or two communications of late which we would have been glad to have inserted in our columns had they been accompanied by the names of the authors. We thought the announcement had been often enough made that no anonymous communications can be given a place in the paper. We do not require the author's name for publication, but simply as a guarantee that the facts stated by him are true and that he writes in good faith. Letters and communications written with a lead pencil are apt to become illegible, and in writing for the press if correspondents are careful to write with pen and ink, plainly and on one side of the paper only, they will save editors, type-setters and the devil a good deal of unnecessary trouble and the loss of their tempers as well.

The admirable article on "State Rights" from the Baltimore Evening Bulletin which we reprint in another column is very opportune and worthy of a thoughtful reading. The Bulletin is very right when it says that there can be no doctrine more dangerous to our system of government than that which advocates an extension of Federal power by implication. Hon. Richard T. Merrick in the forcible speech which he delivered at our County Convention a week or so since warned his hearers that the great danger to the country in the future is not to be found in the attempted secession of States, but from the consolidation of Federal power and the destruction of the States, necessarily followed by the subjugation of the people. And the same note of warning is being sounded by thinking men in all parts of the country. It behoves Democratic voters,—and not Democratic voters alone, but every man who desires that our system of government shall continue as framed by our fathers,—to remember that the Republican party is the father and the advocate of this pernicious doctrine of the consolidation of all powers in the Federal government and the destruction of the States. That is the end towards which every effort of the stalwarts in the extra session of Congress tended and it is the interpretation to be placed upon every speech they made. The coming State elections are but preparatory to the great contest of next year, and it is right that these questions should be put clearly before the people now, that they may see the danger which threatens our institutions.

It is there even any Democrat who will not commiserate the administration, now that the Louisiana gang is once more showing its face in Washington. —Baltimore American.

The only feeling the position of the administration in its relation with the "Louisiana gang" is likely to inspire in Democrats and other honest people is one of contempt. But they may perhaps commiserate the Republican party because it is responsible for such an administration.

We are indebted to Rock Hill College for a copy of its catalogue for the scholastic year 1878-1879, and also for a copy of the able and suggestive address of the Most Rev. James Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore, delivered to the graduates of the college at the last commencement. As will be seen from the advertisement in another column the next session of the college begins on the first Monday in September. Rock Hill College maintains the high standard of excellence which has always marked it, and there is no institution in the country which deserves more the confidence of the public or in which students can acquire a more thorough education.

SENATOR CONKLING has a habit of keeping himself always prominently before the public, but not always in an enviable light. His most recent adventure cannot be looked upon as a particularly encouraging boom. It may be no disgrace to a man to be ordered out of another man's house, even at the point of a double-barreled shot gun. But it is a disgrace to a man to be in another man's house during the absence of the owner, under the circumstances in which Mr. Conkling was in the house of Governor Sprague. Whatever Senator Conkling's relations with Mrs. Sprague may be, his going to Canochet was an act of impudence and unmanliness which merited a more severe punishment than it received. Senator Conkling we believe is a Presidential aspirant, but if he ever hopes to reach the White House he must very materially mend his ways. An utter disregard for the truth, the most sacred rights of other men and the honor of woman is not among the qualities of the great men in whom the American people have had sufficient confidence to make their Chief Magistrates.

WHETHER or not it is a wise law which forbids the running of an excursion train to a camp meeting on Sunday may be a question; but granting the existence of the law, whether or not it is the duty of the police authorities of a city to enforce it, can be none. Whenever laws exist they should be strictly enforced, whether they are wise or unwise laws. If they are wise the interest and welfare of society and the community require their enforcement—and if they are unwise the enforcement of them is one of the strictest means of effecting their repeal. The action of Marshal Gray, of Baltimore city, in stopping the running of an excursion train on the Western Maryland Railroad last Sunday to a camp meeting on its line will be a good thing should it result in calling the attention of the next Legislature of our State to the many inapplicable features in the existing Sunday laws now on our statute books. Were our present Sunday laws strictly enforced according to their literal construction, we venture to say that most of our citizens would be alarmed to see how nearly akin they are to the ancient Blue Laws of New England. It is true that in Maryland we are allowed to kiss our sweethearts on Sunday, which was forbidden by the Blue Laws under the penalty of a fine of twenty dollars, and the enforcement of which must have bankrupted every young man in New England in less than six weeks; but we are not allowed to have our servants cook us a warm dinner on the Lord's day, because the Maryland Code says—"No person whatever shall work or do any bodily labor on the Lord's day, commonly called Sunday, and no person having children or servants shall command or wittingly or willingly suffer any of them to do any manner of work or labor on the Lord's day (works) of necessity and charity always excepted), nor shall suffer or permit any children or servants to profane the Lord's day by gaming, fishing, fowling, hunting, or unlawful pastime or recreation." Any one can readily see what an amount of inconvenience and trouble the literal construction of such a law would cause. Not only excursion, but regular trains as well would have to cease to run. Sunday newspapers could be neither published nor circulated. Telegraph offices would have to be closed. A thousand and one things which inure to the comfort, convenience and happiness of society, but which cannot be truthfully called either works of necessity or works of charity, would have to be left undone on that day. The enforcement of a law which brings such results will be sure to lead to its speedy repeal, and if enforced in one case it should be enforced in all. The tendency of the age is to leave the proper observance of the Sabbath to the conscience of the individual, and experience has taught us that the attempt to legislate a people moral is as hopeless as it is a thankless task.

State Rights.

In its issue of last week the New York Nation had an article on the subject of "State Rights and Federal Strength," which we commend to the attention of that class of stalwart Republicans who seem to imagine that the doctrine of State rights is only another name for treason and rebellion. In fact, as the Nation says, many of the Republican leaders "have of late been affecting, if they do not feel, a contempt for the division of powers created by the Constitution, and talk as if what the world has for a whole century been admiring as one of the happiest and most fortunate of political inventions was in reality a huge blunder, to be rectified as soon as possible. They apparently would have us believe that the slaveholders' attempt at secession had demonstrated the futility of the division

of sovereignty which the founders of the Government deliberately settled on, and the people solemnly adopted a hundred years ago, and that they are now going to provide against a new rebellion by putting as much power as possible into the hands of the pure disinterested persons, who every four years provide us with candidates for the Presidency." Indeed it is not only Stalwart Republican leaders who seem to take this view, but too many so-called Democrats appear to be disposed, if not entirely to acquiesce in the Republican idea, at least to consider it a prudent and more advisable to make the right, and more advisable to make the right against Republicanism on some other ground. They imagine, apparently, that they lay themselves open to suspicion by entering a protest against the undue extension of Federal power, and whenever they dare to touch upon the subject, handle it in a gingerly and cautious way, as if they were upon doubtful and dangerous ground. And this is the case of all others upon which the President by the vote of 1850 is to be fought, and by which it is to be decided, and it behooves all true Democrats that they should utter no uncertain sound on this question. In spite of the war and the constitutional amendments, the States still have rights which the Federal Government is bound to respect. The war may have settled practically the right of secession, and the amendments to the Constitution have definitely settled the questions to which they relate. But with these exceptions, the States still retain every right and power which they had on the day that the Constitution was adopted. There can be no such thing under our form of government as an extension of Federal power by implication, and there could be no more dangerous doctrine than the contrary view. Every additional power granted to the Federal Government must come in the shape of distinct constitutional amendment, and any attempt to enlarge the domain of Federal power without the express sanction of law should be resisted to the bitter end. The question is not simply whether the framers of the Constitution made a grand mistake in limiting the sphere of Federal supremacy and reserving individual rights to the States. It is a question not of political expediency, but of absolute constitutional right. There may be better day statesmen who imagine themselves wiser in their day and generation than the men who framed the Constitution, but whether they are or are not, until our form of government is changed in a constitutional manner any attempt to deprive the States of even the least of their guaranteed rights, is as much an outrage as any violation of the powers of the States to unlawfully curtail the powers of the Federal Government. Questions such as these, which go to the very heart of our political system, cannot be considered as trivial or unimportant, nor should the Republican party be allowed to obtain a judgment by default in regard to them. The Democratic majority in Congress showed its sense of their importance by the firm stand which it took at the recent session, and the position which has been presented to the popular decision is practically nothing more or less than one of States' rights. We cannot, therefore, agree with the singular conclusion of the Nation, that "the discussion which has arisen out of the discussion in Congress is as unimportant as well as unprofitable." On the contrary, the discussion is of the highest importance, and it should not be allowed to cease while the advocates of centralization continue their attacks upon the Constitution. —Baltimore Evening Bulletin.

Mysterious Death near Avalon.—Thomas Parren, colored, aged 80 years, living with his son, Clement Parren, at Avalon, Baltimore and Ohio railroad, died Tuesday morning from the effects of injuries received the night before. The circumstances attending his death gave rise to suspicions of foul play, which induced the holding of an inquest by Justice English. Parren had been living with his son about a month. He was found near the west-bound track about 8:30 o'clock Monday night. There was a contusion on the right side of the temple, and a laceration on the left eye. His left arm was broken and there was a bruise on the left hip. The toes of the right foot were also crushed. He was taken into the house, where he died Tuesday morning, not having received any medical attention. The jury—Monroe Mitchell, Frank T. Hovser, Taylor Gregg, Robert Baldwin, Charles Ross, Edward Young, George Gay, Edward Vandy, Wm. Walsh, E. H. Demond, Geo. West, and A. W. Eads—met at 6 o'clock Tuesday afternoon and Dr. Thomas B. Hall, who examined the body after death, described the wounds. Those on the head could have been made either with a club or by falling on the stone balustrade.

Clement Parren, Wm. Johnson, colored; wife Bertha Johnson, Lydia Preston, wife of Clement Parren, Araminta Johnson, Araminta Williams, colored; Henry Elizabeth Williams, colored; Betsy Weeks, colored; Charles Williams, colored, and Virginia Williams, colored, were examined, the railroad company being represented by Mr. J. N. McMillon. Their evidence in effect was that between 8 and 9 o'clock the old man went out on the porch. When he was there about ten minutes Clement sent his little daughter to get after him. The latter having left the porch, Clement went into the house. Betsy Weeks joined in the search and hearing a groan they went to the spot and found him as described above. He was attended by the colored people and during the night he was heard by Betsy Weeks to say "struck," "ear," which was all that could be made of his utterances. Araminta Williams said that Chris Williams, John Ridgely, Daniel Garrick and Edward Snowden were playing cards in the unoccupied part of the house that night. It was afterward ascertained that they had purchased two candles at the station but refused to say what they wanted with them. None of the other witnesses saw them. The jury retired to deliberate, some of them insisting on a verdict of "death from unknown causes." It was decided, however, to adjourn over to Wednesday evening when the jury resumed their deliberations. Chris Williams, John Ridgely, Daniel Garrick and Alex. Snowden, the four colored men who were supposed to be playing cards in the vacant room of the house at the time of the accident, were examined, but their testimony was of no importance. The jury returned a verdict that "from the evidence given before the jury as to the death of Thomas Parren, and the facts and positions of the body when found, he believes that he was struck by some part of a train of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad; said Thomas Parren being of unsound mind at times came to the house at the time of the accident, were examined, but their testimony was of no importance. The jury returned a verdict that "from the evidence given before the jury as to the death of Thomas Parren, and the facts and positions of the body when found, he believes that he was struck by some part of a train of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad; said Thomas Parren being of unsound mind at times came to the house at the time of the accident, were examined, but their testimony was of no importance. 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