

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. To Senator Robinson is committed the task of regulating the term of county commissioners under the new law. He is said to favor three commissioners in each county with six terms so arranged that one commissioner shall be elected biennially. It is also thought advisable to provide in the bill, which will come before the General Assembly, for the conferring of power upon county commissioners to regulate certain local matters at present requiring legislative intervention. These include control of road and bridge legislation, change of district lines and other matters of purely local concern.

"Another matter," says the Baltimore Sun's Annapolis correspondent, "in the same line which is attracting Senator Robinson's attention is a law providing a proper method and machinery for the prompt collection of taxes and the accounting for them to the treasury department. Such a law is sorely needed in the State. From almost every county comes the complaint of taxes in arrears and collectors in default. Many favor a general law providing the same method for each county."

It goes without saying that something will be done, whether under local law or general provision, to improve the system now in vogue in Howard county. The Times has repeatedly advocated the treasurer system, whether it be with or without tax collectors. In a small county like Howard, collectors may be dispensed with and upon the treasurer may devolve the duty of collecting. But if the Carroll county system, which gives the treasurer the assistance of collectors, strongly recommends itself to the public, of course there is no reason why it should not be given a trial. The point to be gained is bonded security on the part of the disbursing as well as the receiving authority.

Messrs. Edwin Bell and T. J. C. Williams have retired from the Hagerstown Mail. In their stead Mr. Edward J. Hamilton has been elected editor and Mr. James T. Briscoe, Jr., business manager. Mr. Bell is a veteran editor, and has been with the Mail for a quarter of a century. Mr. Williams is one of the brightest newspaper workers in Maryland and finds worthy scope for his abilities on the editorial staff of the Baltimore Sun. Those who succeed Messrs. Bell and Williams on the Mail have a good standard in the paper as it is by which to gauge their efforts. We welcome them to the journalistic field and trust the relations between the Mail and the Times may continue as pleasant in the future as in the past.

It is amusing to note how modern specialists theorize themselves back to the good old-fashioned methods of treating disease. The latest of these is a French medical big-wig, to whom the New York Herald gives much space, and who discovers that the best way to treat the grip is to put the patient to bed and let him sweat out the poison in his system. The medicine recommended is weak doses of sulphate of quinine and small quantities of whiskey. The object is to keep the patient perspiring, using such medicines as do not produce accompanying bad effects. This treatment does not differ materially from that of our grandmothers.

Elsewhere appears the treasurer's report of the Elliecott City and Clarksville Turnpike Company for the year 1891. The showing is most gratifying, not only to those financially concerned in the road, but must be likewise of all interested in the general welfare of this section. The company is out of debt and has been paying a fair dividend for the past three years. Treasurer John L. Clark, in his report, states that no reason appears why, with proper management, the dividend should not continue. A little more of the enterprise manifested by the owners of the Elliecott City and Clarksville Turnpike would prove an inestimable blessing to Howard county.

Governor McKinley, of Ohio, was inaugurated Monday. The retiring Governor, Hon. James E. Campbell, made a happy introductory address. The new Governor did not allude to national issues in his inaugural address, but confined himself entirely to State affairs. He advises that the ballot law of the Democrats be touched only to improve it and spoke against gerrymandering. At the same time he recommended a fair redistricting of the State.

OUR LAWMAKERS.

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