

**POLITICAL**—In reply to inquiries made of us, we have to say, that we are not as yet in receipt of any call from our County Central Committee to convene the County Primaries, nor do we know at this writing whether the call, when it is made, will embrace subjects other than the selection of delegates to represent the County in the State Convention of the Democratic party. We are fully satisfied that the party, thus far, has lost nothing by the non-action of the Committee. It is likely, from what we can gather, that the call will be made about the middle of the present month, probably in our issue of the 17th instant.

The present outlook in Baltimore is, that the regular nominees of our party will be confronted by an independent movement of rather uncomfortable dimensions. This opposition appears to be engineered at present exclusively by democrats.

Latest reports represent that the nomination of Hon. Stockett Mathews will be withdrawn by the President. We hope the democrats who have been fighting Mr. Mathews so long and persistently may not find out that they have swapped the devil for a witch.

The President returned the regular judicial bill with his signature on Monday last. Accompanying it was a message vetoing the marshal bill. The veto is based on the same grounds substantially with the veto of the former judicial bill. It is understood that Congress will now adjourn and that the President will not re-convene it. Exactly how this leaves the situation, we confess we are unable to make out. We hope to be better posted in our next paper, however, and to be able to make up an intelligent opinion as to what has been done and left undone by Congress and whether the latter or the President has come out victorious.

**The Law of Trespass.**

A correspondent of the *New England Farmer* puts a question to the editor, which is explained and answered as follows:

"This question of liability for damage caused by the poisoning of cattle which break into your potato field is, as it seems to us, by no means an intricate one. It is a fundamental principle in law that the owner of animals must both protect and restrain them. When you become the owner of an animal you are expected to shelter and feed that animal at your own expense, and not at the expense of your neighbor. So, when you build a stall, shed, barn or fence it is for the purpose of keeping your own cattle in a safe and comfortable place, and not for keeping your neighbor's cattle away. It is his business to do that, provided he has any cattle to keep. If he has no cattle he should certainly not be taxed for fencing in or providing in any way for yours.

"If you choose to use your land for growing potatoes while your neighbor uses his for pasturing animals, your duty to him or the public does not require you to keep watch over his cattle. That is his business. In the present state of public opinion, potato bugs have no rights which potato growers are bound to respect further than this: that all animal life has a claim upon man that, when for the protection of himself it becomes necessary to take that life, it shall not be done in a needlessly cruel or inhuman manner. To catch insects and then torture them by burning in a slow fire is barbarous, because it causes needless suffering to the insects, to say nothing of the moral effect upon yourself, your children or others who may witness the torture. Still, you have a right to destroy the bugs, and to do it in the quickest and cheapest way. If you can poison them by sprinkling the vines with Paris green cheaper or more effectually than by pinching them singly between the thumb and fingers, you have a perfect right to do so, provided you use due care that no person or animal is poisoned in consequence.

"You have no right to use the poison so freely or carelessly on a windy day that it shall be blown upon your neighbor's pasture and thus poison his cattle, but if your neighbor's cattle break through his fence into your potato field and get poisoned they are trespassing, and must suffer the consequences both of your loss and his own. And as your potato field needs no fence to keep your crops at home, you are not required to fence it, but can act according to your own convenience in the matter. It is your neighbor's business to keep his cattle out.

There is a statute law in Massachusetts (chap. 161, sec. 80, gen. sta.) which provides that "Whoever willfully and maliciously kills, maims or disfigures any horse, cattle or other beast of another person, or willfully and maliciously administers poison to any such beast, or exposes any poisonous substance with intent that the same shall be taken or swallowed by them, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison not exceeding five years, or by fine not exceeding \$1,000 and imprisonment in the jail not exceeding one year."

"Sprinkling Paris green on your own potato vines, in your own field, to kill insects in no sense 'willful or malicious exposure' with intent to kill your neighbor's cattle, which have no busi-

ness to be found in your potato field.—And we can see no difference in case your field borders the highway and is not surrounded by a fence. The public have the right to travel over the highway, but no rights whatever in the grass that grows along the side of the travelled path, nor in the crops on the adjoining land. Common law may be defined in a short way as common sense."

"The potato crop of the country is one of great value, and since the effect of the beetle no method so effectual for destroying the insects and saving the crop for man has yet been devised as by the use of Paris green. It does not poison or injure the tubers as human food. It has been used by the hundreds of tons for the past few years all through the country, from Colorado to the Atlantic. Cattle have been poisoned every year by eating vines on the fields of potatoes where the poison has been used, but we have yet to learn of a single instance where a cattle owner has attempted to collect damages where his cattle has been poisoned while trespassing.

"Paris green is used for painting window blinds, and if a neighbor's cow should stray into the highway, and having the curiosity to test the strength of the paint on the newly painted building, should lick off a few ounces of it, we think the owner of the cow would not only have to suffer any loss by poisoning, but would also be liable for the damage done to the house or paint, even though the house stood near the highway and was not protected by a cattle fence. If one should set his blinds out in the highway to dry, or if he carelessly threw his poisoned potato vines into the street, and a neighbor's animal while being driven over the highway partook of the poison and died in consequence, it might be different.—You have no right to obstruct or in any way endanger the safety of any person or domestic animal that is lawfully travelling over the public highway.—So much for the law in the matter. But how about policy and neighborly acts? In choosing between two fields, one bordering on the highway and unfenced, the other in a back lot surrounded by a good wall, if other things were equal, we would select the latter for potatoes if we expected to resort to poison to save the crop. But if we were troubled by neighbor's hens running and scratching in our garden and he neglected or refused to shut them up, we would by all means plant potatoes next to his line, that his hens might help to pay for their damage by eating our bugs, and if they were too lazy to earn their living in that way, or would only eat bugs when they could not find plenty of strawberries, we should sprinkle the vines with Paris green and notify the owner of the hens of the situation. He could certainly get no damage on account of the bad health of his fowls from eating spiced potato bugs on another's garden."

We publish the above for the purpose of showing what is the law in the case of the poisoning (and we believe it is the same in this state), and at the same time to draw attention to the passage fulfilled by an relative to cattle trespassing on the public paths or upon the fields of neighbors. We do this the more readily from the fact of our witnessing recently in Baltimore county the near destruction of the finest lot of what we have seen lately by the trespassing of a whole herd of cattle, whose owner evidently deliberately sends them forth day by day to gather the herbage which grows along the fencing of his neighbors. The farm alluded to is one of the most beautiful we know of, owned by a widower whose taste has adopted the homestead with almost every variety of flower and shade tree, and whose hospitality is so proverbial that it would require the entire services of a gate-keeper to attend to the numerous calls of friends. "The latch-string" is therefore, always outside, or the gate is ever open; and, although the entrance gate is some considerable distance from the truck patch and the wheat field, yet, often having found the way to them, there is no safety thereafter but to be constantly on the watch. Fortunately, in the case alluded to, a gentleman passing along the road in the rear of the mansion, discovering the whole herd in full possession of the wheat field, put himself to the trouble of reporting the fact to the family in time to prevent the ultimate damage of destroying and tramping down the grain, of which they had full possession for the time. This trespassing upon public roads is a positive violation of the law in this state, and the farmers in every neighborhood should unite in some decisive steps to put a stop to so injurious a practice as that to which we have alluded. In Montgomery county this evil has been completely cured and in some parts of Baltimore county, and we suppose in other counties, it has been abated, and should be permanently cured.—*Baltimore American.*

**VOICE OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS.**  
—Resolved by the House of Representatives of the United States, "That it is the duty of the House to declare, and this House does hereby solemnly declare, that Samuel J. Tilden, of the State of New York, received One Hundred and Ninety-six Electoral Votes for office of President of the United States, all of which votes were cast and lists thereof signed, certified and transmitted to the seat of government, direct to the President of the Senate, in conformity with the Constitution and laws of the United States, by electors legally eligible and qualified as such electors, each of whom had been duly appointed and elected in a manner directed by the Legislature of the State, in and for which he cast his vote as aforesaid; and that Samuel J. Tilden, having thus received the votes of a majority of the electors appointed as aforesaid, he was thereby duly elected President of the United States of America for the term of four years, commencing on the 4th day of March, A. D. 1877; and this House further declares that Thomas A. Hendricks having received the same number of electoral votes for the office of Vice-President of the United States that were cast for Samuel J. Tilden for President as aforesaid, the said votes having been cast for him by the same persons who voted for the said Tilden for President as aforesaid, and at the same time and in the same manner, it is the opinion of this House that the said Thomas A. Hendricks, who was duly elected Vice-President of the United States, for the term of four years, commencing on the 4th day of March, A. D., 1877."

**COMMUNICATED.**  
Messrs. Editors.—I have some idea, and knowing your "forte" of being wide-awake for items, I will give you a synopsis of the doings of the "Gazette" of the 27th inst. in relation to the last Nominating Convention, that it determined him of the man who said, on a certain occasion, that if he found his wife up on his return home he would knock her down, and if he found her lying down he would give her a whipping anyhow.

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**TRADE MARK.**  
  
Fowell's Prepared Chemicals.  
ALSO,  
Pure Disinfectant, Bleached Lye,  
Pure Grd Raw Bone, Plaster,  
Bose Ash, Sulphate Magnesia,  
Super Phos. Lime, Oil of Vitriol,  
Sulphate Soda, Nitrate of Potash,  
Alumina, Commercial Saltpetre,  
Kainit, Nitrate Potash,  
Fertilizing Soap, Sulphate Potash,  
Farm Stears.

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**LOCAL DOTTINGS.**  
**Public School Examinations.**  
The public white school in this village, taught by Mr. A. A. Drury, was examined on Thursday last, and the pupils dismissed for the holidays. We have been informed by the gentleman who conducted the examination, that the exercises were most satisfactory, and that the readings of English questions by the pupils and explanation thereof evinced a remarkable degree of application on their part and efficiency on the part of the teacher.

**THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.**  
The County Commissioners met at the Alma House on Wednesday last, present, Alistair, Alvey, Buckler, Parsons and Davis. The contract between the Commissioners and F. H. Bond, keeper, for the year 1880 was signed. The Commissioners made a thorough inspection of the Almshouse, with a view of discovering the condition of the inmates, and also to fitting up for an asylum for the insane. They found the paupers in a comfortable, clean and well cared for, being perfectly contented and pleased with the treatment they are now receiving. The matter of fitting up the Alma House was referred over for the purpose of ascertaining the probable cost. The Board then adjourned to the 2nd Tuesday of August next.

**Frederick Academy of the Visitation.**  
The annual distribution of premiums at the Academy of the Visitation, Frederick City, Md., took place on the 24th of June, ult. Having no catalogue at hand, we are unable to present to state, how the St. Mary's girls, studying in the Visitation, acquitted themselves beyond the honor of their class and that Miss Kate Leach was one of the fortunate few who received prizes in the housekeeping department. Miss Leach is also mentioned as the recipient of the second honors of the Senior class of the Academy.

**Our County Academies.**  
The report promised us of the closing exercises at Charlotte Hall School on the 27th inst., not coming to hand, and having no programme to work from, we are only able to state, that the highest honors of the Academy were awarded to Miss Anna Stone, born of the first honors of her class and that Miss Kate Leach was one of the fortunate few who received prizes in the housekeeping department. Miss Leach is also mentioned as the recipient of the second honors of the Senior class of the Academy.

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**The Soda Fountain.**  
Commenting upon the reference made in the *Beacon* of the 10th ult. to the Soda Fountain, lately set up in our town by our enterprising druggist, Messrs. Counts and Spalding, the *Post* issues Times, in its last issue, sweeps down upon "us and ours" to the following effect:—  
"Friend King is making a great blunder about something else. He has got mistaken in his conclusion. This time it is a soda fountain. Can it be that our brother of the *Beacon* has never seen a soda fountain before, or is this a mere afterthought cropping out of his mind? He has been drinking, or is it the outcome of a 'quart' of something else? As to the 'quack' and 'quackery' he alludes to, we have introduced here somewhere about the year 1875—was an importation from Leonardtown—satisfying the aesthetic taste of a civilized community, however, it was indignantly cast aside, and chucked into the garbage heap.—But, brother King, you ought just to see the gas we have now. It comes all the way from Paris, if you don't believe we've come up and sold for yourself, and if you don't find it 'all right,' we will make it so.

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**The Place to Get a Good Meal.**  
Wagner's Green House, 128 and 130 W. Pratt street, Baltimore. This Restaurant is the oldest and most extensive in its accommodations of any in the city. The Proprietors, Messrs. J. and E. L. Wagner, will be gratified for the continuance of the excellent patronage they now enjoy and will do all in their power to give entire satisfaction to all visitors.

**FOR SALE.**  
Horse, buggy, stage and double harness, all in first class order. Cheap for cash or approved paper.  
T. J. MOORE.  
July 3, 1879—d.

**Trustee's Sale.**  
OF VALUABLE  
**REAL ESTATE.**  
By virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for St. Mary's county, sitting as a Court of Equity, passed in a case in which J. D. O'Donnell, Guardian to Mary E. Tippet is complainant and Mary E. Tippet is defendant, and dated the 14th of June, 1879, the undersigned trustee will offer at public auction at the Court House door, Leonardtown, on  
**Saturday, the 26th day of July, 1879,**  
between the hours of 12 o'clock, p. m., and 4 o'clock, p. m., that valuable real estate, known as  
**LOT NO. 4,**  
or by whatsoever name or names the same may be called or known, containing  
**189 acres, more or less.**

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**Tuesday, the 29th day of July, 1879,**  
between the hours of 1 and 3 o'clock, p. m., the following real estate to wit:  
One tract or parcel of land, commonly called and known by the name of  
**The St. Inigoes Farm,**  
containing  
**151 acres, more or less.**

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One tract or parcel of land, commonly called and known by the name of  
**The St. Inigoes Farm,**  
containing  
**151 acres, more or less.**

**Trustee's Sale.**  
OF VALUABLE  
**REAL ESTATE.**  
By virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for St. Mary's county, sitting as a Court of Equity, passed in a case in which J. D. O'Donnell, Guardian to Mary E. Tippet is complainant and Mary E. Tippet is defendant, and dated the 14th of June, 1879, the undersigned trustee will offer at public auction at the Court House door in Leonardtown on  
**Tuesday, the 29th day of July, 1879,**  
between the hours of 1 and 3 o'clock, p. m., the following real estate to wit:  
One tract or parcel of land, commonly called and known by the name of  
**The St. Inigoes Farm,**  
containing  
**151 acres, more or less.**