Port Tobacco Times

PORT TOBACCO:

Friday Morning, February 24, 1882.

The Governor's Nominations.

Governor Hamilton sent to the Senate on Tuesday the following general nominations for the State at large:

Tobacco Inspectors.—No. 1, Augustine T. Brooke, of Prince George's, vice Wm. B. Bayne; No. 2, Dr. George H. Jones, of Calvert, vice Alexander Sommerville; No. 3. Jas. T. M. Raley, of St. Mary's, vice P. W. Hawkins; No. 4, P. Dorsey Carr, of Anne Arundel, vice Leo H. Hayden; No. 5, Eugene T. Joyce, of Baltimore, vice I. M. Denson,

Directors in Maryland Penitentiary—George P. Williar, vice Edwin Higgins, and Lawrence W. Counselman, vice Geo. R. Berry.

State Vaccine Agent—Dr. St. Geo. W. Teackle, vice Dr. Regester, resigned.

Inspector of Mines—Thomas Brown.*

Managers Insane Asylum—H. S. Taylor and Dr. Chas G. McGill, for six years.

Managers House of Correction—A. P. Burt, Oregon R. Benson, J. Alfred Ritter, vice Jno. H. Cooper; Richard Hynson and Herman Stump.

State Board of Education—Dr. E. H. Bartlett, vice Peter Witmer; Rev. Wm. Dall, vice Jno. H. P. Gilliss; Dr. Jas T. Williams, Wm. H. Harlan.

Commissioners of Fisheries—Thos Hughlett, of Talbot, and Gustavus W. Delawder, of Garrett, vice Thos. B. Ferguson, of Baltimore.

State Wharfinger—Joseph F. Sommerlock

Weighers Hay and straw in Baltimore—Western seales, Samuel E. Stout, vice Baker; northwestern, John F. Kerns; eastern, James Norris vice Jarrett; Canton, Chas. Adams,

Measurer of Carts in Baltimore—William J. Moore.

Inspectors Steam Boilers—George P. Hamlin and Patrick Mullen, vice Patrick O'Brien and E. F. Meginniss.

Weighers of Grain in Baltimore City—Weigher general, Luther Birmingham, vice Winters; assistance, Chas. R. Hamilton; John W. Dougherty; Wm. A. Collins Saml. H. Jamison, Geo. A. J. Hopkins.

Weigher Live Stock in Baltimore City—Edward Lynch, of Carroll county, vice Samuel Robinson.

The justices of the peace for this county have also been sent in, but have not yet been made public.

It will be seen from the above that Mr. Hamilton has fully carried out the predictions of some of his friends that only those who have opposed the regular organization of the Democratic party would be nominated by the Governor for all positions in which the nominating power is invested in him. All of his appointments of two years ago for the tobacco inspector ships have been revoked, for the sole reason, as far as can be ascertained, that the present incumbents have supported the regular Democratic organization. This, it is said, is in violation of an old custom of the Executives of the State to reappoint for the full gubernatorial term all the tobacco inspectors, unless where there were some charges of inefficiency against them. We cannot speak for all the tobacco inspectors. but it is the uniform testimony of all who have visited No. 3 warehouse during Dr. Hawkins' incumbency, that he has discharged his duties in a most efficient and satisfactory manner. The Comptroller's report also shows that this warehouse has made a better record during Dr Hawkins' term than for a long time past. We have not examined as to the others, but no complaint of inefficiency has ever been heard against any of them. Taking these facts in connection with the predictions made by the Hagerstown *Mail*, the Governor's recognized organ, and other of his indiscreet friends there can be but little doubt that the Governor has been actuated in making these changes solely by motives of a mere factional character.—Under these circumstances, and in view of the open and unexampled nature of the Governor's hostility to the regular organization of his party, it is thought very questionable whether the Senate will confirm the nominations the Governor has made for these positions.

Should the Senate fail to confirm, which is quite probable, an important and very interesting question will arise. The constitution provides that all civil officers which includes tobacco inspectors, shall hold for two years and until their successors are duly qualified according to law. If the Senate should fail to confirm the nominations for inspectors, it seems clear that the present incumbents would hold over under this provision of the constitution for two years longer. The Governor's friends, in their boastful predictions as to the course he would adopt, have boldly proclaimed that, if the Senate failed to confirm his "friends" whom he would nominate, that he would, after the adjournment of the Senate, appoint his nominees to the *vacancies* caused by the failure of the Senate to confirm. But this proposition seems entirely untenable. The constitutional provision in this regard is as follows:

"In case of any vacancy, *during the recess of the Senate*, in any office which the Governor has the power to fill, he shall appoint some suitable person to said office, whose commission shall continue in force until the end of the next session of the Legislature, or until some other person is appointed to the same office, whichever shall first occur."

It will be perceived that this provision has relation solely to vacancies which occur *during the recess of the Senate*. It is certainly very questionable whether the case of persons nominated by the Governor and not confirmed by the Senate can be said to come under this provision. It seems very clear that the constitution, when it especially requires the concurrence of the Governor and Senate to the appointment of civil officer, did not intend to invest the Governor with such an extraordinary power as is thus contended for. It seems far more reasonable to presume that the provision that the old officers should hold over until their successors are duly qualified, was intended to meet such cases as those under consideration.

But, even if there were some degree of plassibility in this construction as to civil officers, there seems to be a special difficulty in the way of placing this construction upon the tobacco inspectorship; because the constitution has provided in the case of these officers that their terms of office shall begin on *"the first Monday of March* next ensuing their appointment." It is clear, therefore, that if any vacancies occur in these offices by reason of the nonconcurrence of the Senate in the Governer's nominations, they will occur on the first Monday of March, and, as that will undoubtedly be *during the session* and not during the *recess* of the Senate, the constitutional power claimed for the Governor in this connection will clearly not be applicable to these offices, and that they will hold over under the other provision of the constitution referred to.

The Court House Question.

We publish to-day another communication from an advocate of the removal of the court house. This letter does not give the information we invited the advocates of the measure to lay before the readers of the TIMES, concerning the probable cost of the change, and the extent of liability the tax payers will incur in favoring it.—It is undoubtedly necessary that reliable information bearing upon that point be given to those who must bear the burden of such a measure, before they can be expected to sign petitions to have it submitted to so uncertain an arbitration as a popular election in Charles county. In the absence of such information, and a carefully digested plan of effecting the measure, our advice to the readers of the TIMES is to sign neither of the petitions now in circulation. If the advocates of the measure—and it has many earnest and some interested advocates—have not sufficiently thought over the practical accomplishment of it and the expense thereof as to give the tax-payers accurate and reliable information upon that point, it would be well perhaps to give them two years longer to mature their plans. We think under all the circumstances this would be the wiser course, and for this purpose it would be the duty of all tax payers to sign the petition opposing the submission of the question.

We do not think that it can be well disputed that a new and modern court house at an eligible point on the railroad such as La Plata appears to be, with thrifty and progressive surroundings, and free from evidences of delapidation and neglect, such as are seen in Port Tobacco, would be a great advantage to the county, and tend to the promotion of the moterial interests of every section of it. Such a change would conduce appreciably to the encouragement of immigration to our county, and the development of its natural resources. The appearance of the county seat is said to be always a controlling feature with agricultural settlers. We have an example in our sister county of Prince George's of a new and handsome court house being erected in order to keep pace with the times, although they had a much better temple of justice before than we now have. And in Montgomery county they now have in contemplation the erection of a new court house. It must be admitted, however, that both of these counties are far more wealthy than our own; and that the advantages of immigration have already been to a considerable extent realized in both of them.

We do not see any force in the suggestion of our Hill Top correspondent last week to the effect that there is no assurance that our railroad will be a permanent thing. Our county has already donated a very large fund to this road, and we must make up our minds that this must be held on to at all events. It would be a singular step of retrogression to build a railroad into so large and naturally productive a peninsular as ours and then abandon it. We believe that it is clear to the minds of the far thinking projectors of this road that in a quarter of a century from the present time, when, in the very nature of things, this county will be populated with a thrifty agricultural population, additional trains will be required to do the work of this road. The Southern Maryland road instead of operating to the prejudice of our road will be a great advantage to it. It will operate as a feeder to it, and the profits thus resulting will of course enure to the benefit of all portions of the road—that south of Brandywine as well as above it. We think it is obvious, too, that La Plata is decidedly the most eligible point on the railroad, because it is more central than any other point. It will furnish easier access to the people of Nanjemoy than any other point on the road and be only three miles further than Port Tobacco. and it will be more convenient to people of all other sections of the county, excepting perhaps the Cobb Neck section. Conceding then the advantages that would result from the change and the eligibility of the proposed site, still the important facts remain to be met: What will be the cost of the measure, and are we able to undertake it at present? Before the tax paoers of the county can be reasonably asked to favor such a measure they ought to know exactly, or at least approximately, how much the annual levy will be increased in order to meet the annual interest on the debt to be incurred in the erection of the new buildings, and for a small sinking fund for its gradual extinction. They should also have assurance that some responsible financial officer will be provided by the law as the custodian and disburser of this fund, and that the possibility of defalcation and the misappropriation of such funds will be effectually provided against.

It will be in order for the advocates of the measure to give us some information on these points and in the meantime we advise our readers to sign no petition upon the question, or if they sign any prefer the one against the measure. It is very desirable that no precipitate action be taken upon such an important matter, and it would no doubt be better if the consideration of this question be postponed for two years longer. In that time we could see whether the exemption of mortgages from taxation will be dispensed with by the Legislature, and our county revenues be thus increased from $500 to $800 per annum.

The Boundary Question.

The controversy between Maryland and Virginia as to their boundary lines in the Potomac river, across the Chesapeake bay and in Pocomoke sound, is almost as old as the foundation of the two colonies.—The early maps were confused and inaccurate; but a careful discrimination regarding them, and a comparison of venerable and musty manuscripts and other documents were absolutely essential to the settlement of a question that has steadily increased in importance. After some ineffectual attempts to arrive at a mutually satisfactory agreement, the two States appointed as arbitrators Judge J S. Black and Mr. Charles J. Jenkins, who made a report two years ago; but the necessary joint action to ratify it was prevented at that time by the adjournment of the Virginia legislature, and so the matter went over until this year. Early in the present session the General Assembly of Maryland appointment a committee to confer upon the subject with a committee of the Virginia legislature; and, as announced on Monday, they have accepted in the main the award of the arbitrators, and bills will be submitted at Richmond and at Annapolis to carry its provisions into legal effect. Unless some insuperable objection is found to this compromise of conflicting claims, it will abolish a constant source of irritation and of occasional danger to the harmonious relations of the two States. The disputed water area covers some prolific and valuable oyster beds, upon which the opposing dredgers have at times come into actual warfare.—A few years ago a force of Virginians raided some Maryland boats taking oysters in what was claimed to be the Virginia side of the Pocomoke, burned the boats and imprisoned the crews. There were sundry acts of reprisal on the part of the Marylanders that undoubted spurred up the efforts to fix upon a compromise. Incidentally, the agreement will tend toward the preservation of the beds, as it entirely forbids dredging in the Potomac and the Pocomoke, leaving them open to tongers and scrapers from October 1st to May 1st, and extending the season for the planting and bedding up to May 15th, and including all of September. The absolutely close season is from May 15th to September 1st; but the oysters may be taken at any time for consumption within the counties where they are caught. For the purpose of securing a more absolute sontrol over violators of the laws, it is provided that Maryland and Virginia shal have concurrent jurisdiction over these inshore waters, and shall enect the needful legislation. This we regard as one of the best features of the compact, for depredators on the beds of one State have been able to evade its penalties by escaping into the waters of the other. The details of the plan are left to the legislatures of the two States, and as the session of our General Assembly is halt exhausted, there should be no time lost in perfecting them. Considering of what ancient date is this controversy and how general is the opinion that it shou d now be brought to a close, it would be very unfortunate if any delay in the proceedings kept it open for two years longer. The arbitrators were men of impartial views and great ability, and their decision is the outcome of laborious and intelligent investigation. It may not suit all the dredgers, but this is a matter in which higher considerations than their convenience ought to rule.

Patent Outsides.

We were asked a few days ago what was meant by "patent outside," as applied to newspapers, and we proceed to answer it through the ADVOCATE, as others may desire to know also. A "patent outside' is a paper that has its first and fourth pages printed at some printing establishment that makes a business of thus furnishing those papers that use them. The printed paper costs but little more than the plain white paper, and enables publishers to publish a journal at small cost The office that furnishes them get part of their pay by the advertisements that appear in them, very many of which are humbugs. The inside pages—second and third—are printed at the office from which the paper is issued, and these two pages is all that the publisher has to edit and print. With the outside pages he has nothing to do, and he never sees its contents until a few days before he circulates his paper. The selections are not his, and they may or may not be of the kind he would insert. But there is no help for him; he must issue his paper whether the contents suit him or not.

"Patent outsides" are a curse of journalism and the printing business in general, and to the people. By using them the cost of publishing a paper is lessened about one-half, and the editor has but little work to do, hence the establishment of so many newspapers. In nine cases out of ten the paper that uses "patent outsides" not demanded by the community in which it is published. Not being demanded by the interests of the people, it is not sufficiently supported. To keep his establishment up the publisher is continually boring people to subscribe and business men to advertise. Both become annoyed and the paper is regarded as more of a nuisance than a benefit.

"Patent outside" are readily detected. Most of them contain two of three columns of closely printed advertisements on the fourth page, the picture of Lydia Pinkham usually occupying a prominent place, while many of the other advertisements hold out great promises, such as $77 a week, $99 a week, $777 a year, &c.

Several of our exchanges with "patent outsides" are valued ones. The papers are a necessity in their sections, yet the patronage is not sufficient to warrant the outlay in employing compositors and having their outside pages set up.—*Westminster Advocate.*

Baltimore Custom House.

On Saturday Col. E. H. Webster the new collector of the port of Baltimore, filed his official bond for $75.000 at the Treasury Department. Col. Webster then submitted the names of Wm. H. Dallam and David W. Gray as deputy collectors, which were approved by the Secretary of the Treasury. Dr. William R. Wilmer, successor of Mr. William Corkran as naval officer, took possession of the office on Saturday and appointed Mr. Corkran his deputy. Dr. Wilmer will not make any immediate changes. Mr. D. W. Rudy, the present deputy naval officer, will hold that position until the appointment of Mr. Corkran is confirmed by the Treasury Department. Dr. Wilmer has bonded in the sum of $10,000, with Capt. A. A. Lawrence, of St. Mary's County, and Dr. John W. Bayne, of Prince George's county, as sureties.

Gray hairs are honorable, but few like them. Clothe them with the hues of youth by using Ayer's Hair Vigor.

Democratic Prospects.

The following interview had by a *Sun* correspondent last week with Hon. R. M. McLane, of this State, will be read with interest at this time, as containing the views of one the most sagacious and careful of political thinkers now in Congress:

Question. "What do you think of the present condition of the national democratic party and its prospects for 1884; what character of candidate should be nominated, and what are likely to be the issues?"

"I think the present condition of the national democratic pary is most hopeful. One-half the voters of the country are democrats. It is amazing that a party which has been for twenty years in a minority, disrupted and disorganized by civil war, should have retained its organization and numerical force to the degree that the democratic party has. In 1876 it elected its candidates, and in 1880 it failed to elect its candidates, not through lack of numerical superiority, but through the selfish intrigues of its leaders. All that is necessary to secure success in 1884 is union and loyalty to party organization. As to the issues and the candidate there ought to be no difficulty. The issues are simple, whether they be fundamental or economical questions connected with the administration of the government. The fundamental issues command comparative unanimity of opinion and are traditional in their character; they involve the great principle of local self-government and secure to the people the largest measure of home rule. As to economical questions there is a greater diversity of opinion and embarrassments which arise from the existing condition of things, the result of twenty years of war legislation—the entire revenue and finacal policy of the country having been established during the war to meet the supposed necesities of war.

"These economical questions involve the revision of the taxing system, and the maintenance of a sound currency and the public credit. The republican party are responsible for an oppressive system of import duties and an internal excise system of taxation. The first, under the guise of protecting home industry, has well nigh destroyed the shipping interest and increased the cost of living to a degree that the highest protective imposts fail to secure remunerative wages to the laborer and a profitable market for the manufacturer. Were it not for the wonderful abundance of agricultural products in this country and exceptional scarcity abroad, our imports would have decreased and our public credit and national currency would have been again involved in disaster. Time is necessary to cure these evils, for which the democratic party is not responsible, and which it cannot remove until it secures possession of the government. Meanwhile it can formulate its policy, which should involve a revision of the tariff to a revenue standard, with such discrimination as would secure the revenue necessary to support the government, while incidentally it should protect home industry, restore to prosperity the shipping interests, relieve the country from internal taxation, and enable the government to interchange its paper and coin currency at the option of the people and the public creditor.

"No permanent and lasting prosperity can inure to the home manufacturer without a foreign as well as home market, and the former cannot be had without the importation of foreign articles, which are no less indispensable as a source of revenue than as a means of payment for the manufactured products of our country exported to foreign countries. So no sound currency can be maintained at home unless foreign importations are paid for in home products rather than in coin, and the great shipping interests must continue to decline and languish in the face of the existing system of exchanges, where the profits of a gigantic carrying trade are surrendered to the stranger. These economical issues should be involved in the canvass for the presidency in 1884, and with a candidate intelligent and loyal to them, notwithstanding all minor differences of opinion upon questions of detail, success would certainly be achieved Less than one hundred articles of importation would be sufficient to yield two hundred millions of revenue, and two or three articles now embraced in our system of internal revenue would yield another hundred, and this modification of our system of taxation would not involve the sacrifice of any domestic industry now protected and would secure an enormous addition to the profits of our exchanges in the revival of our shipping and navination interests."

DEMOCRATIC PROSPECTS IN MARYLAND

"What do you think of the condition and prospects of the democratic party in Maryland, and what should be done to harmonize, purify and strengthen it?"

"I think the condition and prospects of the democratic party in Maryland are not less hopeful than I have pictured them in the country at large. We have a certain and reliable majority of over ten thousand voters in the State, sound and earnest in their political convictions and opinions, and entirely independent of if not indifferent to the ambitions, hopes and aspirations of individuals. With these latter I have no concern, unless it be to deplore their existence and the evil consequences that result from them. With a new and honest registration of the people and the necessary laws to secure an honest vote, the State is largely democratic, and the democratic party is pledged in its most formal and authoritative organization to carry into execution these measures and then purify its politics. We are a prosperous and flourishing community in town and country, with the highest public credit, and manufacturing industries unsurpassed in skill and variety. For near twenty years the democratic party has held undisputed sway in the State, and it is entitled (its leaders and its masses) to the credit of successful administration; and unless it destroys itself, and pillages its own political camp, it will continue its ascendancy. In the foregoing observations I include all that I could say in connection with the harmonizing and purifying the democratic party, for the want of harmony results from the undue and excessive abuse of the 'spoils system' and the personal aspirations of leading men who apply this system to the domestic organization of the party. It produces great evils when applied to opposing political organizations, but when introduced into the domestic organization of any party it destroys all political fraternity and corrupts the organization to the core.

PARTY DISSENSIONS.

"What is your opinion of the dissensions in the republican party of Maryland and is that party likely to be benefited by the new deal in the federal offices of the State?"

"I do not think the divisions in the republican party in Maryland will prevent its union under the rules and guidance of the republican administration when we encounter it in the fall elections, but we may well take note of the changes made in the federal appointees and the personal influences that induced them. We may naturally expect such a policy to weaken the republican party and render it more easy to maintain the ascendancy in the State of the democratic party. Such an expectation, however, is not likely to be realized, if in our own city and State the highest and most efficient officers should be stricken down, including those whose faithful administration has been conspicuous in the reformatory and penal institutions and in the collection and safe-keeping of the public treasure—State and city—with no better or apparent reason than to make place for favorites whose political fidelity and capacity have not been tried and tested. It is to be hoped that such will not be our experience, and that those who have been elevated to the chief seats of power will be loyal to the great party whose united effort was indispensable to put them where they are."

The Legislature.

THURSDAY

In the Senate the bill giving the Governor the appointment of school commissions in the counties was discussed and made the order of the day for last Thursday. The bill to repeal and re-enact provisions of the code with regard to public printing was engrossed for a third reading.

In the House leave was obtained to introduce a bill for protection of employes in railroad tunnels. The bill to regulate public holidays was passed.

FRIDAY.

In the Senate a bill was reported favorable to fix and regulate the charges of elevators for the storage of grain. Senate bill repealing and re-enacting section 76, title, "Public Printer," was read a third time and passed. House bill to grant seven days leave of absence annually to members of the police force of Baltimore was passed. A message from the House providing for a special committee on the reapportionment of the congressional districts of the State was discussed.

President Williams offered the following message to the House of Delegates which was adopted, Mr. Steiner alone voting in the negative:

"The Senate having dispatched nearly all the business before it, respectfully requests that they may receive from your honorable body the appropriation bills, with all convenient dispatch, in the hope and expectation that the Legislature may adjourn *sine die* on or before the 10th of March next."

In the House leave was obtained to introduce a bill to provide for officers of registration in the counties after 1883.—The Senate adjourned until Tuesday, and the House until Monday at 8 P. M.

TUESDAY

In the Senate, a substitute for the House message on the reapportionment of the congressional districts was adopted, proposing to refer the subjects of the committee on elections. Senate bills providing for the valuation and assessment of capital invested in mortgages, and exempting executors from giving bond were discussed, and the latter was made the special order for Thursday.

In the House there was a spirited discussion on a motion to suspend the rules and take the Senate grand jury bill, with the House substitute, which was adopted. The bill reported by the city delegation was then adopted as an amendment to the Senate bill and passed.

Proceedings of Congress.

THURSDAY.

The Senate spent the entire session in debate on the anti-polygamy bill, which finally passed.

In the House a bill was passed granting a pension of $5,000 a year to Mrs. Lucretia R. Garfield. An apportionment bill was passed, fixing the number of Representatives in the lower house of Congress at 325, an increase of 32 over the present representation, of which the Southern gain 14, the New England States loses 2, the Northern gain 4, the Western including Missouri, gain 14 and California gains 2 Maryland retains its present representation of 6; Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina gain 2. Delaware retains its single representative.

Mr McLane presented a petition in the House from Mr. Wm. M. Pegram, asking Congress to purchase a silken knot which at one time adorned the hilt of Gen. Washington's sword. It has been appraised at $500. Mr. Pegram asks Congress to purchase the knot and restore it to the hilt of Washington's sword now in the library of the State Department. Mr. Hoblitzell presented a petition from the Baltimore Board of Trade praying for the improvement of the light at Sandy Point, Chesapeake bay, as recommended by the lighthouse board in its last report. The light is too far from the channel and the fog-bell can seldon be heard.

FRIDAY.

In the Senate a bill was passed appropriating $100.000 for the improvement of the harbor at Galveston, Texas. The census deficiency bill was passed. Adjourned until Monday.

In the House the apportionment bill perfected and passed. The bill to restore Thomas Little to the army with the rank of captain was defeated.

MONDAY

In the Senate Mr. Dawes presented numerous petitions for the better observance of treaty stipulations with the Indians, and urged that the nation shall keep its plighted faith with them. Messrs. Plumb and Teller replied, reciting the atrocitics committed by the Indians on the border, and demanding protection for western settlers. A resolution was adopted for an adjournment over until Thursday as a mark of respect to the memory of George Washingcon. The House apportionment bill was taken up, briefly debated and then passed by a viva voce vote. The Senate then adjourned until Thursday.

In the House the postoffice appropriation bill was taken up. To the clause appropriating $10,655,000 for transportation of mails by railroads an amendment was adopted requiring that the mails shall be carried on the fastest trains, without extra charge, with a forfeit of fifty per cent. of compensation on failure to do so. Mr. Holman offered an amendment providing that whenever any contractor shall sublet his contract for the transportation of mails on any route for less sum than he contracted to perform the service for, the Postmaster-General may declare the original contract at an end, and enter into a contract with the sub-contractor, without advertisement, to perform the service on the terms which he has agreed with the orginal contractor to perform the service; but pending action on the amendment the committee rose. The House adjourned until Thursday.

The Court in Banc.

The assassin's recent reference to his hopes of relief from the court in banc have moved several correspondents to ask the N. Y. *World* what this expression means It simply means a full court sitting for the determination of questions of the law exclusively, as distinguised from a court sitting to determine questions of fact—in which latter case the court is *nisi prius.* Banc is the old common-law word for "bench." In the infancy of the common law the King sat on the bench and dispensed justice to his people. In Guiteau's case Judge Cox held a court at *nisi prius* to convict Guiteau, and Judges Cartter, Wylie, Humphreys, MacArthur and Hagner of the District of Columbia Court, will hold the court in banc to hear the appellate law questions in Guiteau's case.

Court House Question.

Editor of the Times:

I am glad you have so kindly and wisely offered to publish a temperate and accurate discussion of both sides of the question of the proposed removal of the Court House from its present situation to La Plata. The general desire of our citizens for the removal of the Court House from poor old sickly delapidated Port Tobacco, to the new progressive little village of La Plata, which is in every way better situated for our county seat; shows they are awaking from their lethargy and are catching step in the march of true progress, and are trying to relieve Charles County of the unfortunate reputation it has so long justly merited, of being fifty years behind the times. For the past two years, this question has been much agitated and is one of general interest to our people; not only has it been contemplated and desired by the people "living or at or near La Plata so as to advance their personal interest," as seems to be the unfortunate impression of your correspondent from Hill Top, but by the majority of our tax-payers, *if not by our voters.* The *object* of the people in making this change certainly cannot be to burden themselves with heavy taxes without being ultimately benefitted by it, as has been intimated by a *few* of our *citizens*, nor to advance the interests of any particular class or set of men, but for the advancement of the common interests of the people of our county. In any ordinary business enterprise, money must be expended before profit can be expected, "nothing venture nothing have"——so in this case, and if our citizens will derive individual benefit from public blessings, as they undoubtedly will in this event, they certainly would be willing to contribute to its erection. Nor is the object of this removal, "for the pleasure of seeing the railroad" as stated in a communication in the *Independent* last week, for this purpose *might* be accomplished without necessitating the removal of the Court House at all. Strong effort has been made at considerable expense to the people, to make Port Tobacco a healthy place, from time to time levies have have been made to build the canal &c., and in all probability will continue to be made, and still it has the same reputation of being very unhealthy; we do not pretend to blame the citizens of Port Tobacco for this; for nature has fixed it so. Port Tobacco was made our county seat about 2 hundred years or more ago, but we are now living in a new age, and under wholly different circumstances, in the march of civilization other things about us have changed, and now in the course of progress this change is not only desirable but has become a necessity. Your correspondent from Hill Top, thinks that because "our fathers and grandfathers considered it good enough for them, it ought to be good enough for us" this truly breaths the spirit of content, but a spirit that does not belong to this age of progress, if it did, we would shudder for prosterity. Our honored grand fathers lived without the conveniences of the floating palaces that now plow the great waters, railroads, telegraph &c., but this mode of living was not *good enough for us.*—No: Hill Top, neither States, cities or counties can live on the past, progress is the necessity of their life.

Hoping Mr. Editor I have not occupied too much space. I am yours truly, LEX.

MARRIED,

On the 15th instant at the residence of the brides parents in Nanjemoy by the Rev Samuel Sanders, WILLIAM L. OWEN to Miss E. C. ADELAIDE DEAKINS both of this county.

In Baltimore on the 2nd instant, by the Rev. W. R. Monroe, FULTON E. GIBBONS and Miss EMMA MONROE, both of Prince George's county.

BE NOT DECEIVED.

By plasters claiming to be an improvement on ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTERS.

ALLCOCK'S is the original and only genuine Porous Plaster; all other so-called Porous Plasters are imitations. *Beware of them.*

See that you get an ALLCOCK'S PLASTER, which we guarantee has affected more and quicker cures than any other external Remedy.

SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

fe 10-6m.eow.

A CARD.

MRS ADELAIDE QUENZEL wishes to inform the old customers of her late husband and the public in generally that she has made arrangements to continue the business of WATCH and CLOCK repairing, JEWELRY mending and anything in that line; work entrusted to her will receive prompt attention, will be done up in the best manner, and at the lowest possible prices; will also keep a full line of SPECTACLES and EYE-GLASSES on hand.

ALSO

GARDEN SEED, on hand, a lot of fine SEEDS, most of my own raising, in particular extra fine CABBAGE SEED, raised from prize specimens.

ADELAIDE QUENZEL.

Feb. 24-tf.

ORDER OF RATIFICATION

In the Circuit Court of Charles County in Equity. February Term 1882.

William B. Gregory, vs. Julia G. Chapman and others.

No. 603 Equity

ORDERED that the sale made and reported by A. G. Chapman, Trustee for the sale of the mortgaged premises and property in these proceedings mentioned to wit the fishing shore known as "Chapman's Point" and all the rights thereto together with the fishing fix used in fishing said shore, the property of John S. Chapman deceased, be ratified and confirmed unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the first Monday of April 1882, provided a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper published in Charles county for three successive weeks before said first Monday of April next.

The report states the amount of sales to be $7.800.

R. FORD,

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Feb. 24-4t

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A. HAYDEN, Manager. feb. 10-tf.

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