

LOCAL MATTERS:

The subscription price of THE TIMES is \$1. per annum if paid in advance or at any time within the current year; if not paid within the year \$1.50 will be invariably charged, as always heretofore, and from this rule no exception will be made.

TO ADVERTISERS.—The Times having a larger circulation than any other paper among the intelligent farmers and business men of Charles County, offers superior inducements to advertisers to insert their announcements in its columns. Send for card rates, which are as low as any other paper in Southern Maryland, to any address on circuit.

Another Pigeon Shooting.

In keeping with the spirit of the period, awakened to pleasure as to the wants of the sportsmen, Mr. P. R. Williams will give a large pigeon and glass-bird shooting at the Cox's Station, on Tuesday next, the 29th instant. Match shooting will be made between Baltimore and Bryanton marksmen. The Baltimore team that was worsted in Bryanton a few days since, can now have the opportunity of redeeming their laurels. It is anticipated that a large crowd will be in attendance to witness the contest and to participate in generous rivalry.

100 Miles in 17 Hours.

Dr. Jno. W. Hawkins, recently started from his residence, "Monticello," about Cocksville, in the 8th District of Baltimore county, about 9 o'clock P. M., in a slight with a single horse and his driver, and he took dinner with his father next day in Charles county at 6 o'clock P. M., making the distance traveled 100 miles in 17 hours.

Sickness at Benedict.

We learn that the typhoid fever, which has prevailed in the little village of Benedict since the 1st of October last, has begun to subside in the village, but is spreading in the surrounding country. One more death is reported in Benedict, making the total number seven. The last victim was Mrs. North, who visited Benedict to assist in nursing the sick family of her sister, Mrs. Hurley. Mrs. North was an aged lady, and a resident of Talbot county, Washington, D. C.

Eiseman Bros., popular tailors and clothiers.

Washington, D. C.

Mammoth Oyster.

Mr. J. Frank Ford, of Melles's Neck, brought to our office last week two oysters caught in Peter's Creek, one of which was 5 inches long and 5 inches wide, the other 8 inches in length and 8 inches in width. We would have sent these oysters to our brother of the Times had we not feared that Fort Tobacco was not large enough to hold them.—Bacon.

Pensioners.

The following is a list of persons in Charles county who receive pensions from the government. The list is furnished us by publication by the Secretary of the Interior:

Table with columns: NAME, RESIDENCE, AMOUNT. Lists names like Turner, Oath, Bryant, etc., and their respective pension amounts.

Personal.

We received a visit at our sanctum on Wednesday last from Mr. T. Piny Moran, who is traveling through the county in the interest of the well known clothing firm of Robinson, Parker & Co., of Washington. Mr. Moran is a native of our county, he having formerly resided at Hughesville, and we found him to be a pleasant, courteous and agreeable gentleman. The firm Mr. Moran represents is one of the largest and most reliable in Washington, and both Messrs. Robinson and Parker of the firm are natives of our county; we therefore take pleasure in recommending them to our citizens, knowing that all who deal there will be honestly and fairly treated. To all from whom they may call there we would suggest that they ask for Mr. Moran and we guarantee that his fellow county men will receive a hearty welcome and kind and polite attention from this gentleman, and will be fully satisfied with whatever purchases they may make on his representation.

Eiseman Bros., Dress Suits, cor., 7th and E Sts., Washington, D. C.

Another Fire.

Mr. W. J. Norris, doing business at the Oaks, a short distance from Alex's Farm, had his store and dwelling with their entire contents consumed by fire on Tuesday night last. The store and dwelling were in one building, but the ground floor was used for the mercantile pursuits while the family of Mr. Norris occupied the rest of the building. We understand that Mr. Norris is ignorant of the origin of the fire, but when it was discovered it was impossible for him, being without much assistance, to save more than a portion of his stock of goods or household furniture. The building was rented by Mr. Norris and we learn that there was no insurance on it. The stock in the store was insured in the Montgomery Mutual Company, though not for half its value, as Mr. Norris had made large additions to his stock since taking out his policy. The frequency of fires this winter has been alarming, and it behooves everyone to be especially careful that they may not be the next sufferers from this destroyer.

Tobacco Inspections.

A correspondent writing himself "Planter" writes to the Baltimore Sun in defense of the present State inspection system. As the reasons he gives are weighty and just we give them for the benefit of planters in our county, and especially commend them to any who may be opposed to the present system: "Persons may differ from me on the question of tobacco inspections and the propriety of political considerations. A system that had served the planting interest for one hundred years should not be abolished without weighty considerations. How it can embarrass trade because the sampler is a political appointee and not a private individual or the agent of a corporation I cannot conceive. If a Governor in the past could appoint efficient judges from political parties for motives of political policy, why cannot a Governor of to-day appoint tobacco inspectors who are competent, and are influenced by the same motives? "That the inspections had grown in great disrepute at one time I am free to confess, but that was the overgrowth of the demoralization which was consequent on the war. But a better state of things exists now, and I question if any article is put on the market from so many and varied producers as the tobacco, where the purchaser has the same amount of guarantee. It would be far more wise to complete the system than to abolish it. Planter should be ever slow to make changes, as any error to them is impossible to correct."

Local Measures.

We are glad to observe that our neighbor the Independent concerns in the views heretofore expressed by the Times in reference to the propriety of having county taxes collected and disbursed by one responsible officer who should give an ample bond which would be answerable for any delinquencies that might occur. In a well considered article in the last issue it fully endorses the proposition. We are glad to have observed also that our neighbor, the Calvert Journal, so far recognized the pertinency of our remarks upon that question as to reprint our article in full in its columns. We observe too that a bill has recently been introduced into the Legislature asking the appointment of a county treasurer for Montgomery county.

There can be no doubt that such a measure would be a most desirable one. The rule of conducting business in nearly all public concerns as well as in well regulated private corporations is to have the funds placed in the custody of a responsible treasurer who is organized with the disbursement of the same upon the warrant or order of the property authority. This is the case without State government and that of nearly all the counties; owing to the singular looseness and want of method and system with which the affairs of the land and some other counties of the State have been conducted in such a provision has never been made here, and in some other counties. This method would be a cure several of the public evils which are complained of by the people of the county against any misappropriations, and of the State against delinquencies in payment of State taxes, it would diminish the cost of collecting, insure more prompt collection of the taxes. The theory of this provision has already been recognized in the framing of the law providing for court expenses. It is a proper and consistent that its provisions should be placed under the direct control of a competent superintendent. The original Page system seemed to be well adapted to that purpose and produced excellent results. It would be well if this law could be reinstated, either with or without the gratuitous labor clause. It seems just that all who use the roads should contribute to keeping them in condition. But even if the free labor clause had to be left out, it would be a wise measure to have the funds of the Page system. It is desirable that the men employed in this service should render full and faithful work, and that their labor should be intelligently directed to the accomplishment of permanent results. How about that convention of tax payers? Have all of those rural statesmen a little while back, were so loud spoken in this matter, elapsed into their accustomed slumbers?

Local Measures.

ESSEMAN BROS., popular tailors and clothiers, Washington, D. C.

Railroad Conductors Removed.

We learn from the Washington Star of Wednesday last week, that some weeks since a person, believed to be engaged in the stock-peddling business, dealing in rapidly inflated stock certificates, gave information to Mr. George W. Boyd, assistant general passenger agent of the Pennsylvania railroad, as to alleged crookedness on the part of employees of the road handling railroad and parcel tickets. This information led to the arrest of several conductors on the main line, and it was believed here that most of the conductors at this end of the line were involved. About ten days since several of the conductors employed at this end, among them Messrs. O'Neal, Luckett and Armstrong, were ordered to report in Philadelphia. They spent several days there, and it is understood that the result has been that Mr. Armstrong has been discharged, Mr. Luckett has resigned, and no definite action has been had in the case of Mr. O'Neal. Last Saturday Superintendent H. H. Carter went to Washington, and shortly afterwards Conductors John Fisher and Samuel DeWane were removed. The cases of their removal has not been made public, and the officers there know nothing of it. The men named here all heretofore have been suspicious, and express themselves confident of a final vindication. Three of these conductors, Messrs. Armstrong, O'Neal and Fisher were at different times on our branch of the road, and are known to the traveling public through this section. It is hoped they may get safely out of the difficulty.

How Bertha Ward was Taken off the Boat.

The officers of the Inland and Seaboard Coasting Company state, in relation to the suit entered against the company in Washington on Friday by Bertha J. Ward for \$10,000 damages for injuries alleged to have been received by being forcibly ejected from the steamer John W. Thompson, that no witness was offered her by the agents of the boat. The plaintiff, they say, is a colored woman, who at the time was employed as a servant by the wife of Count Mikiewicz. On the boat she and the Count's wife had some disturbance, and the officers of the boat, considering it a matter personal to them, did not interfere. When the boat arrived at Lancaster, where she was engaged to call, she came aboard with a police officer of the Rock Point Oyster Company and took the colored woman by force off the boat. The captain of the boat protested against this action. None of the officers of the company, directly or indirectly, had anything to do with the ejection. These facts appeared in proper form, and it is stated, appear in the company's answer to the suit filed against it.

Children's Suits, Eiseman Bros., 7th and E Sts., Washington, D. C.

Agriculture in Maryland.

In the yearly report of crops issued by the C. commission to Agriculture, Maryland ranks twenty-fourth in the production of corn, and in acreage twenty-seventh. The yield of corn in the State was 16,251,200 bushels; acreage, 691,542; 23.5 bushels per acre. Wheat, 7,577,000 bushels; 626,200 acres, and 12.1 bushels per acre; rye, production, eighteen; acreage, twenty-one. Oats, 2,023,800 bushels; acreage, 166,523; 12.2 bushels per acre; 20.2; rye, production, twenty-five; acreage, twenty-five. The total grain production throughout the country for the year was as follows: Corn, 1,511,609,855 bushels; wheat, 420,154,500 bushels; oats, 571,233,400. In his report the Commissioner of Agriculture says that the past year had been favorable to grain crops. The production of oats was increased. The wheat yield was reduced below an average by the effects of unpropitious weather. The yield of corn, too, was reduced somewhat by the unexpected drought. On the whole, however, the Commissioner is gratified, and declares the year's harvest a good one. Maryland has, it is shown by the report, 90,927 persons engaged in agriculture, being 28 per cent. of the population of the State. The value of agricultural products is \$28,839,281, the average income of the farmers of the State being \$317 for the year, while the average for the farmers of the country generally is about \$320.

How to Propagate Oysters.

How easy oyster propagation may be demonstrated is told by the Cambridge (Md.) Democrat and News, which says: "Some four or five years ago, while Capt. Thomas Eaton was conducting a grain transportation line from the Choptank to Baltimore, he sometimes brought a return cargo of shells for ballast which were used by the farmers near town for killing purposes. On one occasion, however, when a large quantity of grain awaited him on his arrival from the city he did not have time to land his shells, but took them out on a clear sand bar near Cambridge and as his vessel tacked back and forth there, them on shore without any effort at regularity. Where the shells were thrown ashore as clear and bare sand bar, as can be found on the Choptank at the present time, but the shells formed a breeding ground for oyster spawn and now dozens of oysters and oyster workers daily upon the oyster beds made from Capt. Eaton's shells. 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