

# St. Mary's Gazette

DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, NEWS, AGRICULTURE, AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. I.

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NO. 18

## SAINT MARY'S GAZETTE

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## EQUITY NOTICE

In the Circuit Court for Saint Mary's County, sitting as a Court of Equity.

Wm. T. Briscoe, Edward T. Briscoe, Elizabeth E. C. Briscoe, James T. Briscoe, John H. Briscoe, Philip M. Carroll, Henry S. L. Briscoe, Fanny Briscoe, Robert A. Young, Albert Young, Jr., Lucretia B. Young, Evelina Young, Susan M. Young, Rachel A. Young.

THE object of this suit is to procure a decree for a sale of certain real estate, whereof Philip Briscoe died seized, for the purpose of dividing the proceeds of said sale among the heirs at law of said Philip Briscoe.

The bill states that the said Philip Briscoe died sometime in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty two, seized of a tract of land situated in the upper part of Saint Mary's County, containing about two hundred and sixty acres, leaving a widow, Maria Briscoe, who has lately died, and the following children, his heirs at law, viz: William T. Briscoe, Edward T. Briscoe, Elizabeth E. C. Briscoe, of Saint Mary's County, James T. Briscoe, of Calvert County, John H. Briscoe, who is a non-resident, Philip Briscoe, who has died intestate, unmarried and childless, Gustavus B. Briscoe, who has died leaving as his heirs at law two children, Henry S. L. Briscoe and Fanny Briscoe, who are infants of tender years, Lucretia, who intermarried with a certain Henry Carroll and has since died, leaving, as her heir at law, Philip M. Carroll, who is a non-resident, Rachel A. Briscoe, who intermarried with a certain Albert Young and who has also since died, leaving, as her heir at law, Robert A. Young, Albert Young, Jr., Lucretia B. Young, Evelina Young, Susan M. Young and Rachel A. Young, who are infants of tender years.

The bill further states that the said Philip Briscoe divided the said real estate to his wife, the said Maria Briscoe, during her life and made no further disposition thereof, and that the said complainants hold with the said defendants the said real estate, as tenants in common, and that it would be for the interest and advantage of all the parties concerned that the said real estate should be sold and the proceeds of said sale distributed between the parties entitled thereto, and that the said Henry S. L. Briscoe, Fanny Briscoe, Robert A. Young, Albert Young, Jr., Lucretia B. Young, Evelina Young, Susan M. Young and Rachel A. Young are infants, under the age of twenty one years, and that the said John H. Briscoe and Philip M. Carroll reside out of the State of Maryland.

It is thereupon adjudged and ordered, that the complainants, by causing a copy of this order to be inserted in some newspaper, published in Leonard Town, once in each of four successive weeks, three months before the third Monday of March next, give notice to the said absent defendants of the object and substance of this bill and warn them to appear in this Court, in person or by solicitor, on or before the third Monday in May next, to answer the premises and show cause, if any they have, why a decree ought not to pass as prayed.

JOHN A. CAMALIER, CLE.  
JOHN A. CAMALIER,  
Clerk of the Circuit Court for Saint Mary's County.  
Dec. 24th, 1863—4w.

**JOSEPH H. KEY,**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW.  
Leonard Town, St. Mary's County, Maryland.  
Will practice in the Courts of the first Judicial Circuit—St. Mary's, Charles and Prince George's Counties.  
March 5th, 1863—6m.

## POETRY.

### ROCK ME TO SLEEP.

Backward, turn backward, oh! Time in your flight,  
Make me a child again just for to-night!  
Mother, come back from the school-house side,  
Take me again to your heart as of yore;  
Kiss from my forehead the furrows of care,  
Smooth the few silver threads out of my hair,  
Over my slumbers your loving watch keep;  
Rock me to sleep, mother, rock me to sleep.

Backward, flow backward, oh! tide of the years!  
I am so weary of toils and of tears,  
Till without recompense; tears all in vain,  
Take them and give me my childhood again!  
I have grown weary of dust and decay,  
Weary of tinging my soul with away,  
Weary of woeing for others to reap!  
Rock me to sleep, mother, rock me to sleep!

Tired of the hollow, the base, the untrue,  
Mother, oh! mother, my heart calls for you!  
Many a summer the grass has grown green,  
Blissed and faded, our faces between,  
Yet with strong yearning and passionate pain,  
Long I to-night for your presence again;  
Come from the silence so long and so deep;  
Rock me to sleep, mother, rock me to sleep!

Over my heart, in days that have flown,  
No love like a mother-love ever was shown;  
No other worship abides and endures,  
Faithful unselfish and patient like yours;  
None like a mother can cheer away pain  
From the sick soul and the world-weary brain,  
Slumber's soft calm over my heavy lids creep;  
Rock me to sleep, mother, rock me to sleep!

Come, let your brown hair just lighted with gold,  
Fall on my forehead again as of old;  
Let it fall over my forehead to-night,  
Shedding my faint eyes away from the light;  
For with its sunny-tinged shades as once more,  
Happily will through the sweet visions of yore,  
Lovingly, softly, its bright billows sweep;  
Rock me to sleep, mother, rock me to sleep.

Mother, dear mother, the years have been long,  
Since I last hushed to your lullaby song;  
Sweet they, and merry, and full of life seem,  
When mother's arms have been but a dream,  
Clasped to your arms in a loving embrace,  
With your white lashes just sweeping my face!  
Never hereafter to wake or to weep,  
Rock me to sleep, mother, rock me to sleep!

## CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION BILLS.

### Majority and Minority Reports.

In the House of Delegates on Friday Mr. Stockbridge, from the Committee to whom was referred so much of the Governor's Message as related to the calling of a State Constitutional Convention, reported the following bill, entitled:

**An Act to Provide for Taking the Sense of the People of Maryland upon the Expediency of Calling a Convention to Frame a New Constitution and Form of Government for the State, and to Provide for the Election of Delegates to said Convention.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND:

1. That on Wednesday, the 6th day of April next, an election shall be held in the several counties of the State, and the city of Baltimore, at the places, upon the hours, and, save as hereinafter provided, subject to the laws and regulations governing general elections in this State; and each voter entitled to vote at such election may cast his ballot, bearing the words, "for a Convention," or "against a Convention," together with the names of such persons as he may choose to vote for as Delegates to said Convention; and the Sheriff of the several counties and of the city of Baltimore shall give the same notice of said election which they are required by law to give of an election for Delegates to the General Assembly.

2. That each of the counties and the city of Baltimore shall be entitled to the same representation to said Convention; and they have respectively in the Senate and House of Delegates; and no ballot which may be cast at said election shall be counted for Delegates to said Convention if it has written or printed upon it the names of more persons as candidates than the county or city in which said ballot may be cast is entitled to elect to the said Convention; *Provided*, that any such ballot shall be counted for a Convention, or against a Convention, if the words "for a Convention" or "against a Convention" shall be found written or printed upon such ballot.

3. It shall be the duty of the Judges of Election, whenever any vote shall be challenged upon the ground that the voter offering the same is not a citizen, has expatriated himself, or does not admit his allegiance to the United States, to administer to him the following oath of allegiance, as a test to citizenship, and to reject the vote of any voter declining or refusing to take such oath:

I, do solemnly swear that I have never voluntarily borne arms against the United States since I have been a citizen thereof; that I have voluntarily given no aid, countenance, counsel, or encouragement to persons engaged in armed hostility

thereto; that I neither sought, nor accepted, nor attempted to exercise the functions of any office whatever, under any authority or pretended authority in hostility to the United States; that I have not yielded a voluntary support to any pretended government, authority, power or constitution within the United States, hostile or inimical thereto. And I do further swear that, to the best of my knowledge and ability, I will support and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion. So help me God.

4. That it shall be the duty of the several Judges of Election to receive, accurately to count, and in due form, within three days, to return the number of ballots so cast "for a Convention" or "against a Convention," and for each delegate to the same, to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the county respectively, and the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Baltimore City, and the several Clerks aforesaid shall make return to the Governor, within ten days after said election, of the number of ballots given for or against a Convention, and for each of the several persons voted for as delegates to the same.

5. That as soon as the Governor shall receive the returns as aforesaid of the number of ballots cast for or against a Convention, and for the several persons voted for as delegates thereto, it shall be the duty of the Governor to cast up the same, and immediately after so doing he shall issue his Proclamation announcing to the people of the State the number of votes cast against a Convention, and also, if the majority be in favor of a Convention, the number of votes received in the several counties and in the city of Baltimore by each of the persons voted for as delegates.

6. That said Convention shall determine on the validity of the election and qualification of its members, but no person shall be eligible to said Convention, or hold a seat therein, unless he was at the time of the election be eligible to a seat in the House of Delegates of Maryland. Nor any one who has at any time been engaged in insurrection, rebellion or war against the United States, or given aid, counsel, comfort or encouragement to any person so engaged. Nor any one who has not before the election taken and subscribed the oath for affirmation herein before prescribed, as a test of citizenship, and caused the same duly certified by the Magistrate before whom it was taken and subscribed, to be recorded among the land or chattel records of the county, or city of Baltimore, in which he may reside.

7. In making their returns of the election to the Governor the Clerks of the several courts making such returns shall certify who of the persons voted for, and who gave no vote, prior to the election, filed and caused to be recorded in their respective offices, a certificate that the said oath was taken and subscribed by them; and the Governor in casting up the votes, shall reject or rest as blanks, all votes cast for any person who has not so taken and subscribed said oath and caused the same to be recorded.

8. If upon casting up the votes the Governor shall determine that a majority of the votes cast are "for a Convention," he shall so declare in his proclamation, and the delegates elected to said Convention, fifty of whom shall constitute a quorum, shall meet at the city of Annapolis on Wednesday, the 27th day of April, 1864, and shall continue in session until the business for which they were convened shall be fully completed and finished; and the compensation of said Convention shall be five dollars a day during the session thereof, and the mileage now allowed by law to the members of the House of Delegates; and such Convention shall have power to appoint such clerks or other officers as may be necessary to facilitate its business, and to fix their compensation; and the pay of said delegates, clerks and other officers shall be paid to them respectively in the same way and manner as the pay of clerks and other officers of the House of Delegates are now paid, *provided* that it shall be the duty of the Speaker of the House of Delegates and the President of the Senate to provide a reporter of the debates and proceedings of said Convention who shall act until the said Convention shall have provided its own officers.

9. If any vacancy or vacancies occur in said Convention by death, resignation or otherwise, either before or after the qualification of the delegates thereto, the sheriff of the county, or city of Baltimore, in whose delegation the vacancy or vacancies may occur, shall, upon the order of the Governor, if the Convention shall not yet have assembled, or upon that of the President of said Convention if the Convention shall have assembled, immediately issue public notice for holding a special election to fill such vacancy or vacancies; and such special election shall be held at the usual places of holding elections in the county, or city where such election is held, and subject to all the regulations controlling the

original. Delegates to said Convention shall be sworn to act the members of said Convention shall take and subscribe the following oath, which shall be read before the delegates prescribed, and to be taken by each of them as a member of this Constitutional Convention.

Said oath shall be administered to the President, when elected, by a member of the Convention, and by the President to the members.

11. In case of any refusal or neglect of any of the Judges of Election, or any clerk of the court or sheriff of any county or Baltimore city, to make any of the returns or perform any of the duties required of them respectively by the provisions of this act, such judge, clerk or sheriff, or refusing or neglecting, shall be liable to indictment for such offense, and upon conviction thereof shall be sentenced to a fine of not less than five hundred dollars or to imprisonment in the jail of the county or city, where such offense may have been committed, for a term of not less than six months.

12. The said Convention shall first report and pass upon a Constitution and form of government by articles and sections, and after the same shall be so reported and passed upon, it shall be passed upon by said Convention as a whole instrument, at which time the vote shall be taken by yeas and nays, and no Constitution and form of government shall be considered as adopted by said Convention or submitted to the people by their adoption or rejection, which does not, upon the vote taken thereon as a whole instrument, receive the vote of a majority of the whole number of delegates to said Convention.

13. The Convention and form of government adopted by the said Convention, as aforesaid, shall be submitted to the legal and qualified voters of the State for their adoption or rejection at such time, in such manner, and subject to such rules and regulations as said Convention may prescribe. The report accompanying this bill is signed by all the members of the Committee except Mr. John S. Tyson, Jr., of Howard, viz: Messrs. Stockbridge of Baltimore, Jones of Cecil, Frazier of Dorchester, and Jail of Frederick.

### THE MINORITY BILL.

Mr. Tyson, of Howard, presented as a minority the following bill. It will be observed that this bill virtually postpones the calling of the Convention until the meeting of the next General Assembly:

**An Act to Provide for Taking the Sense of the People of Maryland Upon the Expediency of Calling a Convention to Frame a New Constitution and Form of Government for the State.**

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That on Wednesday, the 6th day of April next, an election shall be held in the several counties of the State and the city of Baltimore, at the places, upon the hours, and, save as hereinafter provided, subject to the laws and regulations governing general elections in this State; and each voter entitled to vote at such election may cast his ballot, bearing the words "for a Convention," or "against a Convention," and the same notice of such election shall be given that is required by law to be given of an election for Delegates to the General Assembly.

Section 2. *And be it enacted*, That no blank ballot shall be counted at the election herein provided for, and the Judges of Election shall not receive any ballot not printed or written on plain white paper.

Section 3. *And be it enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the several Judges of Election to receive, accurately to count, and in due form, within three days, to return the number of ballots so cast "for a Convention," and the number so cast "against a Convention;" and the Judges of Election in Baltimore city shall make their returns to the Clerk of the Superior Court of Baltimore City, and the other Judges shall make their returns to their respective counties; and the several Clerks aforesaid shall make return to the Governor, within ten days after said election, of the number of ballots given "for a Convention," and of the number given "against a Convention," in their respective county or county.

Section 4. *And be it enacted*, That so soon as the Governor shall receive the returns aforesaid, of the number of ballots cast for and against a convention, it shall be the duty of the Governor to cast up the same, and immediately after so doing he shall issue his proclamation announcing to the people of the State the number of votes cast for a convention; and the number of votes cast against a convention; and the Governor shall communicate to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly at their first session thereafter, when he shall have convened the said General Assembly, or if he shall not convene them in extra session, then at the next regular session of the Legislature, a statement showing the number of votes cast in each county and in the city of Baltimore for or against a convention, the Legislature may then provide

for assembling such convention and for electing delegates thereto at the earliest convenient day in conformity with the Eleventh Article of the Constitution, and with the First and Forty-third Articles of the Declaration of Rights.

Section 5. *And be it enacted*, That in case of any refusal or neglect of any of the Judges of Election, Clerks of Court or sheriffs, to make any of the returns or perform any of the duties required of them respectively by this act, such Judge, Clerk or other officer so refusing or neglecting shall be liable to indictment for such offense, and upon conviction thereof shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than five hundred dollars, and to imprisonment in the jail of the county or city where such offense may have been committed for a term of not less than six months.

Section 6. *And be it enacted*, That this act shall take effect from the day of its passage.

## SENATOR FOOT'S VIEWS OF A DICTATOR.

The eccentric Governor Foot, in the course of a debate in the Confederate Congress, remarked: "He chanced to know that there were men not far from where he stood—God forbid, that they should be found in this hall—who were the open advocates of a military despotism. Rumor says that this portentous symptom is not altogether confined to this vicinity, but that one or two servitors of pampered power are to be found even in the ranks of our army. Now, let him say, once for all, that he should not willingly surrender up an atom of the present controlling power over the reserved militia force of the States to the President, and add to his present dangerous capacity for mischief, especially as he was sure that he would never willingly surrender power of any kind once vested in him, and would be but too apt to seize all convenient opportunities of extending it. The President will have to show himself a little more free from his strange and unreasonable partialities and prejudices, a little more regardful of well-known public sentiment, before he could yield him any increase of his military capacity. He had but little relish for the notion of establishing a dictatorship. He had not yet so far desponded as to our cause as to perceive the necessity of resorting to this ancient Roman expedient; but he would deliberately announce that, when he should consider the time for a dictatorship to have arrived, he would not be willing to vest supreme power in the person who is now the incumbent of the Presidential station; but he should, in preference, join in selecting a confidant chief the only man in the Confederate States whom he believed it would be safe to trust with such overwhelming authority, the present illustrious commander of our Army of Northern Virginia, who, in all the attributes which are supposed to have belonged to Washington himself, is superior to any other living being."

### Special Dispatches to the New York Times.

**NEWS FROM RICHMOND.**—CONFEDERATE PREPARATIONS FOR THE SPRING CAMPAIGN.—An intelligent printer who arrived here to-day from Richmond by the underground line, states that the Rebels are straining every nerve to recruit their armies, and pushing into the field every male capable of bearing arms—even boys of 16 and old men of 65. They impress, too, into the service, all horses they can find, and give formal receipts for them. He says, too, the Rebel Government will astonish us in the spring with the number and effectiveness of its troops. Lee's army, we understand, has not received any reinforcements, but Johnston's army in the Southwest is being heavily augmented by conscription. He thinks there is no doubt that the R-bels will soon consent to an exchange of prisoners, as they wait their men back in the field, and our prisoners are a burden to them.

The construction of the iron-clads at Richmond has been abandoned. The iron which was intended to be used in their construction has been sent to Charleston and Savannah, to complete several iron-clads which are being built there. A universal feeling of terror and despondency pervades the South, and it is with difficulty that the Government is able to stem the current of popular feeling setting in against it.

The Fayette County Pioneer, Iowa, says:

"An eminent lawyer entered, one of the principal dry goods stores in this place this morning, and asked the price of cotton yarn, and was told by Sam (one of the clerks) that it was worth \$5 25 per bunch, when the lawyer proposed to trade 40 acres of land for some, whereupon Jonathan, otherwise known as 'Little Jonathan,' wisely informed him that they did not wish to break a bunch."

### From the White Register.

**THE REINFORCEMENT OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMIES.**—In addition to the 300,000 stragglers, it is demanded that almost all of the producers be put in the field, and women, children and details be left alone to clothe and feed an army. In other words we want everybody to go into an army already naked, hungry and not at all equipped, and ready to support them.

Again, as to the size of armies.—Is it the number of men or the handling of them that wins battles? Were Pemberton's men well fought at Baker's Creek? The same number, or nearly the same, won the battle of Chickamauga, that were driven from one of the strongest positions on the continent, of Lookout and Missionary Ridge. Minus Longstreet's corps, Lee whipped Hooker at Chancellorsville; plus that corps, with Jenkins, Jones, and others added, he was repulsed at Gettysburg.—Fifteen thousand fighting men won the first battle of Manassas, and less than forty thousand achieved the victories of Shiloh and Murfreesboro'.

More than forty thousand in a large never, since the war began, been brought into action to advantage by either side.—And now we are called upon to believe that big mobs of raw recruits, half starved and poorly equipped, are to do next Spring what veterans have not been able to do after three years of hard and repeated trials. What we want is the genius to conceive and the courage to date—not unwillingly herds of awkward squads, with nobody at home to support them.

### PARISIAN Gossip.

There are some whispers that the private life of the Emperor of the French is not at the present the happiest. It may be that the insurance of the Emperor's life in the London offices for a large sum is the foundation of the rumor; but another bit of gossip also leads to the same conclusion. It may not be altogether forgotten that before the Emperor's marriage he had held for many years intimate relations with a Mrs. Howard, by whom he had two children, and when the Emperor married, the lady was handsomely provided for and sent to England, where, before long, she was married. The marriage did not turn out a happy one, and Mrs. Howard returned to Paris. There is no doubt that this lady had the character of being very clever, and of advising Louis Napoleon, at the desperate crisis in his fate, in such a manner, as when acted on, led ultimately to his elevation to the French throne. Not long since it was announced that the Emperor was in the habit of leaving Compiègne late at night by special train, and appearing in Paris. It now appears that Mrs. Howard is the attraction, and that after a lapse of years, she has resumed her sway over Louis Napoleon's mind, and is once more his confidential chief. Hence, perhaps, the whispers of the hour take their rise.—*London Correspondent of the Irish Times.*

### SYSTEM OF FURLOUGHS.

General Johnson is said to have established a new system of granting furloughs, which works well. No regimental or company officer can get a furlough unless he leaves behind him three officers of the regiment or company, and no private is entitled to a furlough unless he leaves thirty non-commissioned officers and privates in condition for service, and one furlough is issued for every thirty men in the company. The result of this is a general and lively interest to keep up the effective force of the army.—*Richmond Whig.*

### AN EASTON IS TROUBLED.

The recent exposure of the programme of the future operations of the Army of the Potomac, in a letter from Washington, published in the New York Times, and reprinted in part, in the Transcript of Tuesday evening, has occasioned a writer a correspondent of the New York Herald—much excitement among the military authorities, and it is said that an order has been issued for the arrest and incarceration in Fort Lafayette of Mr. Stanton, one of the editors of the Times, who is charged with the authorship.

### THE NEGROES—Says a Hilton Head correspondent of the New York Tribune.

cannot yet fully estimate the necessity for labor. One of them said: "That 'Chaplain of the Twenty-fourth is a regular Scotch. He told us to work, and that is what the Scotch told us."

### Gen. Foster Asks to be Relieved.

It is stated that General Foster has been relieved by Gen. Halleck that General Foster, who is suffering from his wound, has asked to be relieved. He requests that either Gen. Schofield or Gen. M. P. Sherman be immediately assigned to that command.

The number of prisoners at present confined in the Old Capitol, in Washington, appears from the report of Mr. Wood, the Superintendent, to be 997.