

Senator. This rendered him ineligible. He was last elected to the State Senate in 1897. Mr. Wilkinson is an attentive member to the business of the session, and believes in a broad system of advanced State government.

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*Somerset County*—LEMUEL E. P. DENNIS, Republican.

Mr. Dennis was born in Somerset county. He is a successful merchant of Crisfield. He served a term as collector of the port of Crisfield. His high character brought him a large vote in his native county.

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*Talbot County*—H. CLAY DODSON, Republican.

H. Clay Dodson was a member of the House of Delegates in 1888 and also in 1896. He is slightly over fifty years of age, was born and raised in St. Michael's, and is a prominent drug merchant there. He was elected to the State Senate in 1897.

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*Washington County*—R. ABNER BETTS, Democrat.

Mr. Betts was born January 8, 1852, and raised in Chewsville, Washington county, being the son of the late Luther D. Betts. At the age of 12 years he became clerk in the store of Mr. A. B. Barnhart, at State Line, Pa. After a year and a half in his service, he returned home and entered his father's store, clerking in the summer and going to school in the winter. At the age of 20 years he purchased a half interest in the business, and the firm continued for eight years as L. D. Betts & Son. He then engaged in the grain and fertilizer business and branched out for himself. In 1889 Mr. Betts was elected a County Commissioner, being the only democrat elected on the ticket that year. In 1891 he was elected a director of the Western Maryland Railroad, serving four years, and is now a director in the Baltimore and Cumberland Valley Branch. In 1895 he again received the nomination for County Commissioner and was defeated, with the balance of the ticket, by a small majority. In 1897 he was elected a member of the Maryland Legislature. For a time he operated grain elevators for the Western Maryland Railroad at Fairfield, Southampton and Shippensburg, Pa. He is a member of the Masonic order.