THE ELK ADVOCATE.

TUESDAY, MAY 29, 1866.

JOHN C. MOTT, JOSHUA THOMPSON, } EDITORS.
J. E. MOORE, PUBLISHER.

FOR GOVERNOR,

HENRY CLAY RAMSEY,
OF ELK COUNTY.

NEWS SUMMARY.

The latest [illegible] from Europe are of a serious importance. By the arrival of the steamer Cuba on the 21st, we have dates up to the 12th inst.

The prospect of war in Europe, which may involve England, France, and Russia, is now almost certain.

It is believed that no formal treaty has yet been concluded between Italy and Prussia.

The last rebel Mexican volunteers have entered the American army.

Napoleon indicates that he defies the treaty of 1815.

There is a great financial panic just now in Great Britain. The failures amount to one hundred millions of dollars. Sir Morton Peto, the head of the A. A. G. W. Railroad, in this country, is heavily involved. This will likely have a tendency to depreciate the stock of said company.

Gen. McClellan is expected to return home from Europe shortly.

The Bankrupt Bill passed the House on the 22nd instant.

Gold closed on the 22nd, at 1[illegible] — As a consequence of this, every kind of goods have advanced, and still have an upward tendency.

☞ A meeting of Republicans who are in favor of the reconstruction policy of President Johnson was held in Philadelphia on Saturday last. Eloquent and able speeches were made by Senators Doolittle and Cowan and others. The meeting was large and enthusiastic, and the resolutions do not read as though the disunion candidate for governor can derive much consolation from them.

☞ It is amusing to see the twistings and wriggllings of a certain *journal*, not over forty-four miles from Ridgway, in its endeavors to support the President, Congress and Geary. Why don't you come out and show your hand, and be "fish or flesh." Scripture says "no one can serve two masters."

☞ The Democracy are every day gaining accessions to their ranks. Let the work go on. Let every man remember that in supporting HENRY CLAY RAMSEY he supports President Johnson, and deals a death blow at the disunionists.

☞ Yesterday the Laurel Run Mill, belonging to Judge Dickinson, was entirely consumed by fire. The bridge over Laurel Run was consumed along with a barn, attached to the property.

☞ The President has vetoed the Colorado Bill, and thus squelched a most unjust piece of legislation, passed with no other object than to increase the radical majority in Congress. Most of the radical press have given an additional howl over this veto; but the Erie *Dispatch* (Rep.) makes the following truthful comments:

THE VETO OF THE COLORADO BILL. As we expected and hoped, the President has vetoed the bill erecting the territory of Colorado into a State. His reasons are those we urged in favor of the veto; the insufficiency of population, the migratory and unsettled condition of its people, and the injustice to other States. Colorado, as a State, would, with her less than thirty thousand population, be entitled to a representative and two Senators, while the basis for a representative is 120,000.—The discrepancy is too large. The main object of this move is entirely party and political, and we confidently expect the veto will be sustained.

A NOBLE ACT.—Like an oasis in the desert was that pleasing incident which is recorded in the Columbus (Miss.) *Index*, as having taken place in that city on the 26th of April, on the occasion of decorating the graves of the Confederate dead with flowers, when the same ladies decorated the graves of the Federal dead who had fallen so far from home among a hostile people. This tender, kindly, Christian act cannot fail to touch the heart of every one at the North who has a friend or relative buried on the battle-fields of the South. It kindles a spark of hope that we may at some future time, become, in heart, one people. We have one God, one language, one Government; and may we not hope that we shall become indeed one people? Such expressions of gentle pity and charity are very grateful and pleasant to hear of. May God bless the kind hearted ladies of Columbus, who forget not, in paying tribute to the memory of their own loved and lost, that loving mothers, and sisters, and daughters in the North mourn also for *their* loved ones, who are lying in lonely graves far away among strangers.—*Memphis Post.*

$90 A MONTH!—AGENTS wanted for *six entirely new articles*, [illegible] out. Address O. T. GAREY, City Building, Biddeford, Me. [may 17'66-1y.

HISTORY OF ELK COUNTY.

By a Northwestern Pennsylvanian.

EARLY SETTLEMENT OF RIDGWAY AND VICINITY—CONTINUED.

The first settlement nearest to Ridgway was at "the forks" where the east and west branches of the Clarion river unite, and was made by a Mr. David Johnson from Salem county, New Jersey. This [illegible] before Ridgway had a habitation or a house, and long preceded the organization of Porter, Metcalfe and Jefferson counties for judicial purposes. It was laid down upon the maps of Conyngham, named after a Mr. Cooper, a well-known and large landholder, by which name it was called until within a few years when it was changed to Johnsonburg in honor of its first founder. He has been represented as a man endowed with good common sense, industrious habits, and an interesting family of wife and children. He must have possessed some eccentricities of character from the fact of his having penetrated so far into the wilderness, without roads, and [illegible] miles within twenty [illegible] the fact, that [illegible] was made upon [illegible] commencement of [illegible] emergency, three and [illegible] last, Mr. John[illegible] diligent. He [illegible] his advent; collecting [illegible] "plunder" like a "fluttering [illegible] and taking his flocks and his [illegible] steered on a direct west or westerly course through the trackless wilderness to strike the Allegheny river, which he accomplished. Whether he was guided by the compass, or by a "cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night," history does not inform us. Other pioneers in the same region subsequently made as perilous emigrations and departures. He determined to quit the country, because neighbors were too close upon him; he would go where "there was more room;" he did quit, but no doubt he thereafter met with obstructions to his solitary habits fully equal to a three and a half miles neighbor. The querulous reader may object to or sneer at this allusion to a man like Mr. Johnson whom they would call a mere squatter, living without any apparent purpose of society or for the general good; but this man's *footsteps* may have and indeed did have its influence in exciting attention in after years to this wilderness. It showed what could be done towards a penetration into its depths either from curiosity or from other motives, which so often guide and direct to paths of adventure, so characteristic of American character. Daniel Boon was but a "squatter" when he emigrated to, and in fact was the settler of Kentucky.

An episode not irrelevant to these remarks actually occurred on these very premises, and shows to what extent the spirit, of adventure bordering somewhat upon the romantic may be carried: About the time of Johnson's exit, a young man by the name of Charles Creamer with his newly wedded wife, imbued with the same spirit of wild adventure arrived, and built a small cabin—say 10x12—of round logs. The front part was high enough for a person of low stature to enter, the roof sloped down to perhaps 4 or 5 feet from the ground at the back part of the dwelling. This cabin stood upon the bank of the east branch of the Clarion; as beautiful a spot as the eye need rest upon. Thirty years ago it was a retreat [illegible] its inmates had left [illegible] er." To some, [illegible] this little family, [illegible] brief, would ap[illegible] is considered that [illegible] their first-born [illegible] the howling of the [illegible] attendance so [illegible] course with but few of the [illegible] life, they went through these [illegible] circumstance is worthy of mention. They named their little daughter Clarion after the beautiful stream upon the margin of which she was born. Only a few years since she resided near Cincinnatti. A matron enjoying the comforts, if not the superfluities of life. Should this brief sketch ever meet her eyes she will perceive that her birth has long been chronicled in the memories of those she never saw. There are probably some relics of Johnson's sojourn about the premises. The little stone that ground the corn for the family meal, which was kept near the great fire-place and turned by hand, was seen by the writer a few years ago. But very likely the spirit of vandalism, which is so prevalent in the age in which we live, has used it up for the base purpose of sharpening knives or perhaps for a flagging stone about the cabin door. "Johnsonburg" is now a place of mark note. Since the surveys [illegible] the Sunbury & Erie R. R. it had been so quite a "point," and it was not unusual for young engineers as far back as 1847 while encamped in the neighborhood to take their letters up to Johnsonburg on a Sunday to be mailed to their friends in Philadelphia. It would be as difficult to depict the surprise of the letter writer at the embarrassment of the poor Irish woman, the occupant of the only cabin in the place, the one, requesting his letter to be mailed, the other insisting it was no office "at all, at all." "Och sure and you must take your letters down to Ridgway, to the Postmaster down as they call him and he will tell you more about it." The young men were undoubtedly "roasted" by their companions, as there were wags among them, who doubtless sent them all the way up to Johnsonburg to mail their letters, although they were perhaps nearer to Ridgway.

As [illegible] no order as to [illegible] and although [illegible] Ridgway [illegible] been spoiled depending upon labor without capital, the whole would now be a wilderness indeed. Bears and wolves would hold their carnival undisturbed. The land owners were generally rich and could afford to pay the taxes which in those days were light compared with the present, being assessed at a very low rate. The county and township expenses were light. The supervisors were *honest*, and no *unnecessary* taxes for road purposes were levied. Indeed, their integrity was too rigid, because they had hardships in even procuring the necessaries of life, besides being obliged to cut their own road every time they left their cabin, to meet a neighbor or attend a meeting. But as before observed the land holders were rich and were ardently desirous of becoming more so, to do which, their lands must be improved and settled. *First*, settlers in a new country are generally poor; and in no section was capital more necessary than here. The timber heavy, roads bad; and no bridges across the streams, locomotion was expensive and slow. Provisions must be hauled or *packed* until a clearing could be made and something raised. Then, the winters; they must have been felt as long indeed, shut out from the world, they would appear as anchorites to those who had never dwelt within the enclosure of a forest. But there was in reality a comfort compared with those who resided upon the open prairies of the so ardently sought *west*. The sweeping storm as it came howling or moaning, exhibited itself upon the tops of the mighty trees, was slightly felt by those at their base; if there was tumult *above*, even as the sound of the rushing of "mighty waters." All *below* was comparatively quiet and tranquil, the strength of the mighty blast of winter was broken by the huge forest; Thus, on the whole there was physically more comfort, than on the wide prairies and open country of Illinois, and less danger to man and beast. After all, though [illegible] were poor as to worldly goods; there was a quiet happy contentment, the [illegible] land holders. They [illegible] the [illegible] especially [illegible] encouraging [illegible] earth [illegible] should [illegible] former, properly fitted [illegible] not so easily obtained. Jacob Ridgway of Philadelphia, one of the largest proprietors and whose wealth was commensurate, after due exploration determined upon opening out his lands, and first commenced that system of improvement, and employment of labor which may be considered as the "entering wedge" which has exposed to view the forest and mineral products of this hitherto secluded, unknown spot of earth. Mr. Ridgway was the owner of a large body of land in McKean county, the centre of which was about thirty miles from the York state line, also another large body of lands in Jefferson (now Elk) county), the centre of which was near Montmorency, six miles north-east of Ridgway. To commence and carry out his improvements in KeKean was not so difficult as in Jefferson. The former location was only eight miles from the established seat of justice in the county and settlements had been pushed to within four miles of his location on that side, and within two or three miles of settlements on Potato creek. Mr. Ridgway selected high ground long since known as Bunker Hill; though it was first known as Clermontville, under which cognomen the Post Office was established, and it is proper to remark, as evidence of the peculiar trait of mind in Mr. Ridgway that here, as also at Montmorency he had selected elevated ground on which to make his improvements. That at Bunker Hill is probably three hundred feet above the waters of Potato creek, and Montmorency about four hundred and fifty feet above the Clarion at Ridgway. His argument was this, "I will settle and encourage improvements on the high grounds, the vallies will settle and take care of themselves." Mr. Ridgway fully understood this doctrine applied to cities. It requires but little moral courage or action, when upheld by contiguous support, and it is only when a self reliance is fully demanded and required that great results can follow an exclusive individual enterprise. Mr. Ridgway no doubt discovered a mistake in his application. [illegible] observation is necessary for the reader to understand why Mr. Ridgway [illegible] these two locations.

It is somewhat singular that the shrewd, *accountative* mind of Mr. Ridgway should have entertained the idea that settlements of large tracts of uncultivated land, by individuals would be facilitated by exposing its *weakest* points, showing off its poorest soil, and exhibiting its worst features to the hardy emigrant.

When a boy, the writer was not unusually led to devour the *poorest* part of viands *first* when presented to him—but afterwards found that by eating the *best* first, then all was *best*.

As it afterwards proved, Mr. Ridgway's lands were unoccupied by individual enterprise, except chosen with a view to making a living off them. It requires *people* to settle a country, and the greatest freedom of choice must be left to the pioneer.

The superintendence of the work on Bunker Hill was confided to Paul E. Scull, then quite a young man. He had been brought up in the counting-room of Mr. Ridgway, in Philadelphia, and of course was ignorant of forest or "shanty life." He had a valuable counsellor in the appointment, by Mr. Ridgway, of John Colgrove, Esq., a well-known citizen of Intelligence and strict probity, whose proximity and experience was of the greatest importance to young Scull; and here the writer finds it necessary to make another digression. Names must, at all stages of our history, be frequently mentioned, and whilst motives will never be questioned, actions, as delineators of character, must be judged by the reader. It may be necessary to recur to the success of this outlay in improvement hereafter.—Mr. Colegrove has for some years retired from the active life he formerly led, and prominent part he took in all the affairs, both public and private, in the settlement of this portion of Pennsylvania. We shall be obliged to use his name quite frequently. Bunker Hill settlement was now under full headway. Mr. Ridgway next turned his attention to his lands in Jefferson county. He had, as before observed, selected his location. But this was a more difficult undertaking, from the fact of its remoteness from all human companionship. It was twenty five miles from Bunker Hill, and twenty-three miles from Judge Bishop's, thro' a dense and heavy timbered wilderness. The nearest settlement on the southeast, was Mr. Rebuken, a distance of sixteen miles, and it was, as it were, an illimitable solitude in every other direction.—An agent to carry out the owner's designs must possess rare, and we may say, *extraordinary* qualifications and resources. There could be no one at hand to advise, much less to *encourage*. This was in the year 1822. But the sagacious mind of Mr. Ridgway soon discovered the proper man for the purpose.—This was James L. Gillis. He was a young man full of life, courage and hope. He married a niece of Mr. Ridgway, and was ready to enter upon the duties of his enterprise.

The judgment and discrimination of Mr. Ridgway was fully exemplified in this selection, as subsequent events will show. As Mr. Gillis may be considered the pioneer settler of Ridgway, and particularly identified with all that pertains to the improvements, not only in the vicinity of Ridgway, but over a wide spread region of northwestern Pennsylvania, and as his agency throughout will frequently appear upon the record; it is proper to give the reader a *touch* of his earlier history.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Political Movements.

The revolutionists in Illinois have issued a call for a State Convention to meet at Springfield in the month of August. The call proceeds from the State committee of the Radicals, and is in this language: "The Republican Union voters of Illinois who are in favor of keeping traitors out of the halls of Congress, and of asserting and maintaining the right of the loyal people, through their representatives in Congress, to fix and determine the condition on which States lately in rebellion shall be permitted to participate in the government of the United States, will meet in convention." This means an indorsement of the disunion action of Congress. No friend of the Union reconstruction policy of President Johnson will be admitted into that convention, nor will a measure be proposed or advocated having a tendency to reunite the States on the basis of the Constitution. The same spirit which animates the revolutionists in Congress, and prompts them to urge a disfranchisement of the great body of the Southern people until after the next Presidential election, will be the animating and controlling sentiment of the Illinois State Convention. The members of that body will not assemble as patriots anxious to perfect such measures as will restore peace and harmony to the nation. They will come together as revolutionary partisans and bigots, prepared to widen the gulf between the States of the Union, and to estrange still more the people of the States, if by such means they can keep hold of the reins of political power. The intent of the coming Radical convention in Illinois is disunion, and that fact the people should know and remember.

In Kentucky the Democratic party has nominated a candidate for the office of Clerk of the Court of Appeals, and are preparing for the contest. The revolutionary or Radical party in this State is seeking to sow the seed of discontent between the Democratic and Conservative elements, and are willing to support any and every thing that will break down the true Union men of the State. Independent candidates will be started by the Radicals in all parts of the commonwealth, and local jealousies and animosities appealed to and stimulated by all possible appliances. As in Illinois, so in Kentucky the revolutionary factionists are anxious to feed the flame of disunion and keep the States apart.—under the peaceful administration of wise, constitutional laws the power and influence of such men as are leading the radical party in Kentucky will vanish, and hence the country is interested in the success of the Democratic and Conservative organisation at the coming contest. The Union can never be reunited by such means as the revolutionists propose. They do not wish or mean it shall.—*The Age.*

THE MARKETS.

RIDGWAY, May 24, 1866.

FLOUR, per bbl	$12 00 @ 13 00
PORK do	35 00
WHEAT, per bushel	2 70
RYE	1 60
CORN	1 10
OATS	65
BUCKWHEAT	1 25
DRIED APPLES	4 00
BEANS	3 00
BUTTER per pound	45
LARD	50
CHEESE	30
MACKEREL	12
WHITE FISH	10
EGGS per dozen	30

ERIE, PA., May 24, 1866.

FLOUR per bbl	$11 50 to 14 00
PORK	31 00 to 32 00
BEEF	18 00 to 20 00
WHITE FISH ½ bbl	8 75 to 9 00
MACKEREL	11 00 to 12 00
WHEAT per bushel	2 30 to 2 50
BEANS	1 75 to 2 00
EGGS per dozen	20 to 22
LARD per pound	21 to 24
CHEESE	22 to 24
BUTTER	40 to 45

PHILADELPHIA & ERIE RAILROAD.—This great line traverses the Northern and Northwest counties of Pennsylvania to the city of Erie, on Lake Erie.

It has been leased by the *Pennsylvania Rail Road company*, and is operated by them.

Its entire length was opened for passenger and freight business, October 17th, 1864.

TIME OF PASSENGER TRAINS AT RIDGWAY.

Leave Eastward.

Erie Mail Train	3 39 p. m.
Erie Express Train	10 20 p. m.

Leave Westward.

Erie Mail Train	1 30 p. m.
Erie Express Train	3 24 a. m

Passenger cars run through without change both ways between Philadelphia and Erie.

NEW YORK CONNECTION.

Leave New York at 9.00 a. m., Arrive at Erie 9.15 a. m.

Leave Erie at 1.55 p. m., arrive at New York 3.40 p. m.

ELEGANT SLEEPING CARS on Express Trains both ways between Williamsport and Baltimore, and Williamsport and Philadelphia.

For information respecting Passenger business apply at the S. E. corner 30th and Market Sts.

And for Freight business of the Company's Agents:

S. B. Kingston, Jr. Cor. 13th and Market Sts. Philadelphia.

J. W. Reynolds Erie.

W. Brown, Agent N. C. R. R. Baltimore.

H. H. HOUSTON,
Gen'l. Freight Ag't. Phil'a.

H. W. GWINNER,
Gen'l. Ticket Agt. Phil'a.

ALFRED L. TYLER,
General Supt Wms't.

New Advertisements.

SHERIFF'S SALES.

BY VIRTUE of sundry writs of *Vend. Exponas*, *Alias*, *Alias Exponas*, issued out of the Court of Common Pleas of Elk county, and to me directed, there will be exposed to PUBLIC SALE, at the Court House in Ridgway on Monday, the 2nd day of July, 1866, the following described real estate to wit:

All that certain tract of land situate in Spring Creek township, south of the Clarion river, known as the Lynn settlement, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at its northeast corner a hemlock, thence south along warrant No. 2951 on hundred and eighty perches to a hemlock, thence west eighty perches to a post, thence north thirty-four degs. west two hundred and fifteen perches by Samuel Baird warrant to a hemlock, thence east two hundred perches to place of beginning, containing one hundred and fifty acres, with about three acres improved, and an old log house and log barn thereon erected. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of Thomas Lynn.

ALSO—All that certain tract or parcel of land situated in the town of Ridgway, Elk county, Pennsylvania, known as town lots Nos. ninety-nine (99), and one hundred (100) on John J. Ridgway's plan of said town, bounded on the north by Centre street, on the east by town lot No. 98, on the south by an alley, and on the east by Mill street, containing half an acre (½), more or less, upon which is erected a two story frame dwelling house and a woodshed, all improved. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of A. H. Head and Adaline Head.

JAS. A. MALONE, Sh'ff.
Sheriff's Office, Ridgway, Pa.

U. S. TAX APPEALS.

U. S. ASSESSOR'S OFFICE, 19th DIST. PA. }
Office, Curwensville, Clearfield Co., Pa. }

NOTICE is hereby given that the assessment lists, valuations and enumerations made and taken within the assessment district composed of Elk county by the assistant assessor, under the laws of the United States, will remain open to all persons concerned for examination for the space of ten days from the fourth day of June A. D. 1866, at the office of John C. Luther, Assistant Assessor, 3d Division at Ridgway, in the said county of Elk.

And, at the same place, the undersigned assessor of this Collection District, will attend on the fourteenth day of June 1866, to receive, hear, and determine all appeals relative to any erroneous or excessive valuations or enumerations by the assistant assessor.

In regard to appeals, the law provides, "That the question to be determined by "the assessor, on an appeal respecting "the valuation or enumeration of property, or objects liable to duty or taxation, shall be, whether the valuation "complained of be or be not in a just relation or proportion to other valuations "in the same assessment district, and "whether the enumeration be or be not "correct. And all appeals to the assessor as aforesaid, shall be made in writing, and shall specify the particular "cause, matter, or thing respecting "which a decision is requested; and "shall, moreover, state the ground or "principle of inequality or error complained of."

DANIEL LIVINGSTON,
Assessor of the 19th Col'n Dist.
May-24'66-1da.

TEETH! TEETH!!

DENTISTRY

Preserve Your Teeth!

W. M. SHAW, Desires to inform the citizens of Ridgway and vicinity, that he will be here on the 14th inst., and that he would be happy to do all work entrusted to his care.

Rooms at the residence of Mr. P. T. Brooks [may-10'66-tf.

FURNITURE!

THE UNDERSIGNED TAKES pleasure in announcing to the citizens of Ridgway and adjoining towns, that he has just opened a Furniture Shop in Ridgway, and is prepared to sell all kinds of furniture at the lowest prices. His stock consists in part of

COMMON CHAIRS, TABLES,

BEDSTEADS,

SPRING BEDS & MATTRESSES,

BUREAUS, WASH STANDS,

Cane seat Chairs of all kinds,

BABY CHAIRS,

CRIBS,

SOFAS,

LOUNGES,

TETE A TETES,

BEDROOM SETTS

of Chestnut, Mahogany and Black Walnut and every thing usually found in a first class country Ware Room.

PICTURE FRAMES

of all sizes, and of Mahogany, Rosewood, Black Walnut and Gilt

MADE TO ORDER.

ALSO COFFINS kept on hand, and made to order, of every kind and description.

Please CALL and examine my stock before purchasing elsewhere, for I hope by strict attention to business, and keeping all the market demands in my line, to merit the patronage of the public. For the present I occupy the Methodist Parsonage for Ware Rooms. HENRY H. THOMAS.

May-17'66-1y.