# Cambria Freeman.

L. M'PIKE, Editor and Publisher.

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## New Advertisements.

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Each one of the very Best Quality.
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The Pittsburgh (Pa.) *Leader*, in its issue of May 20, 1870, says: "The firm of G. P. Rowell & Co., which issues this interesting and valuable book, is the largest and best Advertising Agency in the United States, and we can cheerfully recommend it to the attention of those who desire to advertise their business **scientifically** and **systematically** in such a way: that is, so as to secure the largest amount of publicity for the least expenditure of money."

CAMBRIA COUNTY BONDS.—The Commissioners of Cambria County are now prepared to sell to those desiring the same, the BONDS of said county, in sums of $100, $200 and $500. These Bonds are issued by authority of the Quarter Sessions of Cambria county, for the purpose of raising money to build the New County Jail, and pay interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum—said interest being payable semi-annually—and are redeemable at the pleasure of the Commissioners after the 13th day of **December, 1874**, and payable the **13th day of September, 1881.**—Coupons are attached to each Bond for the semi-annual instalments of interest.

Parties desiring to invest in this Loan will call on the Commissioners at their Office in Ebensburg.

Witness our hands this 10th day of April, A. D. 1871.

MAURICE MCNAMARA,
JAMES E. NEASON,
FRANCIS O'TRIEL, } Com'rs.
Attest—J. A. KENNEDY, Clerk. (apr.15.-tf.)

VALUABLE REAL ESTATE FOR SALE.—The undersigned Executors of M. LEAVY, Esq., late of Loretto Borough, dec'd, offer at private sale, on accommodating terms,

**A FINE TRACT OF LAND**

in Allegheny township, Cambria county, situated on the road leading to St. Augustine and about one mile from Loretto, containing **71 Acres**, fully **40 Acres** being cleared, well fenced, well watered and in a good state of cultivation, and having a first rate LOG BANK BARN thereon erected. The balance of the land is covered with chestnut, oak, sugar, and other valuable timber. For terms and other information apply to either of the undersigned.

MARGARET LEAVY, Loretto,
AUG. WALTERS, Carrolltown,
Feb. 18.-tf. *Executors of M. Leavy, dec'd.*

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The subscriber offers for sale on fair terms and easy payments, that most desirable and excellent FARM recently occupied by him, adjoining the Borough of Loretto, containing **146 Acres**—100 *Acres* of which are in a good state of cultivation and the balance well timbered. There is a comfortable *House*, a good *Barn*, and an excellent *orchard* on the premises; also, an abundance of *pure water*. It is a desirable property, beautifully located, and is convenient to churches, schools, market, etc. Title indisputable. For terms and other information apply to or address A. WALTERS.
Feb. 18.-tf. *Carrolltown, Cambria Co., Pa.*

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PRICES REDUCED!
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MONUMENTS, TOMB STONES, BUREAU and TABLE TOPS, made of the finest Italian Marble and in style of workmanship not surpassed by any manufacturer. Give me a call before deciding upon purchasing or ordering work elsewhere. JAMES WILKINSON.
Loretto, April 22, 1871.-tf.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE—In the matter of the Account of Joseph S. Mardis, Executor of Elizabeth Patterson, dec'd. The undersigned, an Auditor appointed by the Court to report distribution of the funds in the hands of said accountant, will sit at his office in Ebensburg, on WEDNESDAY, July 26th, at 2 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of attending to the duties of his appointment; when and where all interested may attend if they wish.

GEO. A. BERRY, Auditor.
Ebensburg, June 24, 1871.-3t.


## LOVE IN THE OIL DISTRICT.

A STORY OF MINGLED AFFECTION AND NITRO GLYCERINE.

Pennsylvania has been the scene of other loves and woes beside those recorded in "Gertrude of Wyoming." The latest tale of affection is thus told by a Titusville correspondent:

"In Clarion county, near the celebrated oil producing district known as Parker's Landing, and not a great distance from where the Clarion river mingles its pellucid waters with the swifter rolling tide of the Allegheny, has lived for years a man named Howitt, who came to this country in its early history, erected a cabin, and maintained an humble existence by following his profession of horse-shoeing.

"Years glided along, and nothing occurred to vary the monotony of his humble and happy life save an occasional fracas with an unruly horse, or now and then being confined to his bed for a few weeks from the effects of a mule kick on the cranium, or a dig in the ribs from the hind foot of a rebellious ox; for Howitt used to pursue his trade in all its branches, and furnish shoes for every thing that came along whereby an honest penny could be made. Meanwhile a daughter was born to him, who grew up in her mountain home like the pines that surrounded his dwelling, and was as graceful and beautiful as the wild flowers amid which she played. Laura, for that is her name, obtained a fair education at the district school, aided by her mother, who was an accomplished graduate from an Eastern academy, and her natural beauty was increased by an occasional visit to Pittsburgh and Eastern cities, where, amid higher social scenes than those which surrounded her birth place, she rapidly acquired the numerous little graces and coquetries of fashion which go to make up the "girl of the period." It is no wonder, then, that to the old man she was as the apple of his eye—as a bushel of apples, in fact, of the old-fashioned, rosy-cheeked "non such" kind—and that, as she attained woman's age and stature, the father looked with a jealous eye upon the native admirers who surrounded her, and sternly frowned upon the forward young cultivators of buckwheat, who, by the slightest action, sought to win her young heart's affections and transplant his little flower to another soil and home.

"About this time the oil excitement which for several years previously had been confined to Oil Creek and its tributaries, opened up in the vicinity of Parker's Landing, an influx of strangers, operators and speculators began, and shortly after a portion of Mr. Howitt's farm was discovered to be on the belt, and leased for a round sum to wealthy operators. Though now comparatively wealthy Howitt still followed his original trade, though with a light heart as he thought of the bank account which would enable him to bring up and educate his family in superior style, and place his daughter in a position socially to which her attractions and attainments entitled her.

"But at this juncture a cloud appeared upon the old blacksmith's horizon; at first it was about the size of a man's hand, but it speedily grew to the full size of a man himself, who proved to be a workman upon a well at a short distance from the Howitt cottage, and who fell head over heels into that delicious pool of affection, in which most of mankind have paddled blindly during their young days. At first Laura resisted her suitors advances, but as weeks passed and there was a lack of society, which at other times might have served as an antidote to the growing admiration, she began to feel for the young driller, who was comely, young and strong, and possessed the not unpleasing name of Henry Richardson. She gradually sought his society (her father had long since forbidden his coming to the house,) and hardly a day passed but that she was seen near his derrick, watching the pulsations of the walking beam and her heart at the same time, and listening to his stories of adventure by flood and [oil] field.

"'She loved him for the danger he had passed,' and he loved her because she believed his yarns, and no one else would; and finally one bright day, as he had just finished a terrible recital of escape from death by a falling sand pump pully, she shrieked and said she 'wished that heaven had made her such a man,' when Henry abandoned the temper-screw rope, and caught the fair Laura to his petroleum stained bosom, wiped the benzine from his brow and lips, kissed her, and said, 'I am the man.'

"While enjoying the few moments succeeding their betrothal—blissful moments that only come twice in a man's lifetime, once when he finds his mother's preserves, and the other as mentioned—the lovers were startled by the sudden entrance of the 'village blacksmith,' who seized his daughter, and without a word to the disconsolate Harry, carried Laura home and locked her up. Days passed without communication between the lovers, and while Laura grew thin, Henry also experienced bad luck. His tools got fast, the sand pump bursted, and his heart promised soon to follow suit. But just here a happy thought struck him. Outside of the derrick was several hundred feet of gas pipe; he could not lay a telegraph wire, but he might lay a pipe line to his Laura's house, through which, perchance, two hearts could 'beat as one,' and hold communication sweet in spite of the defeated free pipe bill. No sooner suggested than acted upon; that night he laid six hundred and eighty-one feet of half inch gas pipe underground between his derrick and the prison of his betrothed; a happy junction with the eave spout was effected during the next night and shortly after messages were sent and received between the lovers—Laura having brought the end of the water pipe close to the window, and Henry had his end of the line directly beneath his pillow, where, after he was 'off tower' he would whisper words of undying affection that only ended when he fell asleep and the pipe slipped out of his mouth.

"But while love giggled at the 'blacksmith,' the blacksmith was preparing to short right out at love; for one day while Laura was at dinner her father had, while looking around the room, discovered the misplaced pipe, and while gazing with a critic's eye at the strange spectacle, was more than startled by the soft words coming apparently from the cistern, 'Laura, dear, is the old man round?' Mr. Howitt smelt a mouse; he did more than that; he inhaled the odor of a genuine wharf rat; but saying nothing, he merely descended the stairs and returned with a pint of oily looking liquid, which he handled with extreme care. Making a cartridge of paper that would hold nearly all of the mixture, he inserted it in the pipe several feet, and then placing a bar of iron upon that, called out loudly enough to be heard through cartridge, pipe and all, 'Henry, my dear, are you there?' Quickly there came the faint reply, 'Yes, Laura'—'Place your ear at the hole, Henry'—Here the parent raised a sledge hammer and struck the iron rod; an earthquake followed, before the echoes of which had rolled away could be seen the disappearance of an engine house, in mid-air, followed by the gable end of the Howitt mansion.

"And now for the sequel. In his anxiety to see 'how it was, himself,' old Howitt remained too near the pipe, and when the glycerine went off, he did, also, and was picked up in Armstrong county a few days later. But where was Henry? Instead of applying his ear to the hole, he had stepped to the derrick for a moment, during which the explosion occurred. He was only stunned, and a few moments later met his betrothed running to see if he was hurt. They fled at once to a neighboring justice of the peace and were married. They have patched up the old house and are happy, though the mysterious disappearance of their father was a subject of conversation for months after. This is the story as told us by an old man who lives near Henry and Laura, who heard the noise, and also saw where the grouud had been torn up by the father's vengeful experiment. If any one doubts the story, the derrick is still to be seen."

A WONDERFUL RACE.—Some clever unknown in England, catching an idea from "Skitzland," has managed, by creeping through a crack in the shaft of a mine, to find out that the heart of the earth is filled, not with fire, but with a race called the Vril-ya, among whom civilization has reached its highest limit. Each man carries a stick about with him, which is a condensation of heat, light, electricity and magnetism, by means of which he accomplishes by a touch all work tediously wrought out here by machinery. The government of the tribe, among whom our discoverer landed, is more remarkable. "This single community elected a single supreme magistrate styled Tur; he held his office nominally for life, but he could seldom be induced to retain it after the first approach of old age. There was indeed in this society nothing to induce any of its members to covet the cares of office. No honors, no insignia of higher rank, were assigned to it. The supreme magistrate was not distinguished from the rest by superior habitation or revenue.—There being no apprehensions of war, there were no armies to maintain; being no government of force, there was no police to appoint and direct. What we call crime was utterly unknown to the Vril-ya; and there were no courts of criminal justice. There are no lawyers in this blissful state, all laws being promulgated under the formula "It is requested not to do so and so." The women share in the superior beauty of their sex here and also have larger muscles than the men, which hardly seems fair. This people are shortly, it appears, to make their way above ground through landslides and earthquakes, and we are heartily glad to hear it, although our own less civilized race would disappear before them as the Indians before the whites.

A TRAVELER, who saw a pretty little girl in the same car with himself, says: "In a few years, thought I, that infant will be an ornament to society; but had she not better die? Very soon they will tie some dead man's hair to the back of her head, fasten her ribs with a corset, and hang a bird-cage around her lower limbs. Worse than that, when she arrives at maturity, she will be compelled to determine whether she is for protection or free trade, to understand the intricacies of pig iron and go to the polls and vote."

WHY are fashionable young ladies like letters? Because, unless they have stamps the males reject them.

## DIVORCED BY DEATH.

The people residing in the vicinity of St. Francis Station have for several days past been agitated by what many of them deem a remarkable dispensation of Providence. A farmer named Niesson, an old resident of that section, had until quite recently lived in the enjoyment of a happy home, gladdened with the presence of a loving wife, and a family of eight interesting children. Trifling circumstances led him to suspect his wife of an evil design to rid herself of his presence. And step by step an unkind fate led the wife into a position of seeming enmity to the partner of her life. While kneading dough for bread, two pins disengaged themselves from her dress and were not noticed until breakfast on Saturday morning, when the husband found them in his slice of bread. Blinded with suspicion, he immediately accused her of an attempt upon his life. She indignantly denied the imputation, and wept to see her husband leave the threshold of the once happy home for tha avowed purpose of instituting proceedings for a divorce.

While the husband was wending his way to the convent of St. Francis, to seek advice as to his course under the unfortunate circumstances, the wife went sorrowingly out into the meadow to perform her usual task of milking the cows. While so employed, one of the cows, a vicious animal, set upon her and gored her so terribly that death ensued in a short time after she was carried into the house. A neighbor witnessed the horrible occurrence, and, having learned of Mr. Niessen's mission to St. Francis, hitched up his team and hurried after him. He was not long in reaching him, and told the story of how a cruel fate had relieved him of the trials of a divorce by calling his wife from the bosom of her family to the grave

It may very well be imagined that the information startled the husband, who but a few hours before left his wife in the enjoyment of good health, and his sorrowing circle of motherless children caused the strong man to bow in anguish of soul. The occurrence has given rise to many an idle tale, and Dame Rumor, ever busy on occasions of this kind will have it that Mr. Niessen was shot during an altercation with a neighbor, seon after the death of his wife.—*Milwaukee Sentinel June* 20.

BAPTIZING THE BABY.—In an Eastern town there is a woman who is extremely deaf, and her affliction has caused an extremely unpleasant mistake of which her infant child is the victim. She took this babe to church to have him baptized.—While she was waiting in the vestibule she thought she would keep him quiet by feeding him from a bottle of milk. While the child was still taking his sustenance the mother was summoned to the church with the announcement that the minister was ready. In her agitation she drew the bottle from the baby's mouth hurriedly, when the gum nozzle came off, and a part of the milk was spilled on the child's new clothes. When the clergyman took the child in his arms, he looked down at it, and asked the mother what name should be given it. She, with her mind troubled about the accident, thought he was asking how the clothes became soiled, so she answered:

"Nozzle came off."

Rather surprised, he asked again, for the name, and she thinking he did not understand her, brawled out:

"Nozzle came off, I say!"

Whereupon the astonished divine poured water on the child's head, and said:

"Nozzle came off Furguson, I baptize thee," etc., etc.

What this woman wants to know is, whether the legislature or something can't have that child's name changed to Henry, or Lucullus, or William, or some other euphonious appellation.

FUN IN COURTS.—Courts sometimes have their moments of fun and amusement, as will be seen from the subjoined items. One bears upon the gentleman of color and the other squints towards the lawyers pretty hard.

A colored man was arraigned before one of the Camden, N. J., courts a short time since, charged with the larceny of some wood. When called on to plead to the indictment, he said: "I bought de wood and dat I knows I did; but to save my soul from de gallis I cannot tell de man I bought it of, kase I bought it in de dark. Guess I'll plead guilty."

The other anecdote is more in the nature of repartee. During the pause in the examination of a witness who had been testifying about some bank bills hid in a Bible, Justice Cassady was mechanically thumbing the leaves of the official copy of the Scriptures, just used for swearing the witness, when Mr. Pancoast, counsel for the defence, jocularily asked, "Are *you* looking for money, too?" "Looking for money?" promptly answered the justice; "I should not expect to find any after the book had passed through the lawyers' hands."

IF 20 grains make a scruple, how many will make a doubt? If 7 days make one week, how many will make one strong? If 5½ yards make a pole, how many will make a turk? If three miles make a league, how many will make a confederacy? If four quarters make a yard, how many will make a garden?

## The President Judgeship.

**Correspondence between certain Citizens of Blair County and the Hon. Geo. Taylor.**

[Published by request—see editorial remarks.]

ALTOONA, PA., February, 1871.

HON. GEORGE TAYLOR: SIR—As the time is rapidly approaching for another election of President Judge of this district, and so near that some interest is already manifested on the subject, the undersigned, without respect to party, not regarding the office as a political office, and feeling satisfied that the citizens of the district of all parties have the most assured confidence in your capacity, integrity and strict impartiality as a Judge, respectfully ask you to allow yourself to be an independent candidate. Respectfully,

| | |
|---|---|
| Wm. M. Lloyd, | John Shoemaker, |
| A. Roush, | B. F. Patton, |
| John Lloyd, | M. Runyen, |
| T. McCauley, | Wm. O'Neil, |
| John M. Bowman, | Jacob Snyder, |
| H. C. Dern, | Edward Hodnett, |
| Chas. C. Shannon, | Chas. J. Stahl, |
| E. B. McCrum, | John F. Bowman, |
| Lewis Plack, | Clement Jaggard, |
| E. J. Hutchinson, | R. A. O. Kerr, |

James Clabaugh.

To Wm. M. Lloyd, John Shoemaker, Esqs., and others, Altoona, Pa.:

*Gentlemen*—Your communication has been before me, and the subject of serious consideration, for several weeks.

I had *heard* of such a letter before I saw it, or saw the signatures to it, and had heard also of similar letters which I have not yet seen, and know not who have signed, thro' certain *newspapers* in your county. I scarcely know, therefore, gentlemen, whether this is to be regarded as OUR personal correspondence. I have not been accustomed to having my letters opened, and, in a distorted and garbled form, PUBLISHED, before I received them. It occurs to me, as it has doubtless occurred to you, gentlemen, that it would have been decorous in OTHERS, who, upon rumor or surmise, have seen fit to undertake to step in between us, to have waited until they knew what communication you had made to me, and my response to it, before they undertook to make your conduct or mine the subject of public animadversion. But it was thought, perhaps, that you might be doing something, and did not know or understand what you were doing, and might need the friendly aid of some disinterested monitor; or might be induced to follow and recall a surmised letter to me; or that others might be deterred from like acts of indiscretion; or, at least, that I might be intimidated into hesitancy in complying with your invitation to be an independent candidate. Waiving, however, all questions of etiquette or good manners, (of little significance among mere politicians,) let me here at once relieve this part of the subject of all difficulty by saying explicitly, in answer to your kind letter, that I *am*, and if God shall spare my life until the day of the next general election, *I will then be*, an independent candidate for the office of President Judge of the XXIVth Judicial District.

My RIGHT, at least, to be a candidate, whether on my own volition, or at the suggestion or invitation of you, gentlemen, and others, even without the permission of some other aspirant and his friends, will not, of course, be questioned. No one, certainly, will question the right of any other gentleman to be a candidate on any platform he may choose. I will say further, in relief of those who kindly volunteer to be our monitors or guardians, that I do not hold any one of you, gentlemen, or any one else who has addressed me on this subject, either in writing or orally, *committed to my support* beyond his conscientious sense of duty when he shall come to cast his ballot, with all the candidates that may be in the field before him. And I will here say further, gentlemen, that if I be found doing or saying anything unjustly to disparage or injure any gentleman who may desire to be a candidate, in order to promote my own success or cause his defeat, I am willing that you should regard it as evidence that I am unfit for a high judicial office, and unworthy of it, and cast your votes against me.

Having thus placed myself before the people as a candidate for the high and responsible office I now hold, it is due alike to my self and the public, that I should make, and I know you will excuse, a frank statement of the reasons which have brought me to this conclusion, and for assuming the attitude I now occupy before the people.

My duty to those dependent upon me will not permit me to cease from laboring at something; and, so long accustomed to looking at both sides of questions, I feel it would be awkward for me to go back to the bar; and I have, besides, a strong distaste for engaging again in the practice of the law; while my long training upon the bench renders my labors there lighter than in my earlier judicial life. Besides, I have been, and am, so identified with this Judicial District, that it will not be thought strange that I am warmly attached to it. When it was first formed, I was called to be its first President Judge; and, through the indulgent partiality and confidence of the people, I have continued to preside in its courts ever since. The changes and reminiscences of over twenty years have served to strengthen that attachment. What I say will be readily appreciated, therefore, when I declare frankly that there is no field of labor, while I must toil at something, that I would prefer, although the work in it is onerous to a degree that no one who has not felt the labor and responsibility involved in the discharge of all the judicial duties in a heavy district like this can know or appreciate. I would still prefer it to any political office that could be named or offered me.

I have, at the same time, gentlemen, with the estimate I place upon the office of Judge, and particularly in view of prospective toil beyond that period of life when years of rest, should they come, are to be desired, no anxiety for success that would induce me to seek or accept the office upon ANY terms. I would rather not be a candidate, or, if a candidate, be defeated, than descend to the degrading appliances of selfish political partisanship to attain it. I have carried with me from my earliest manhood a strong impression of the almost sacred value of the purity and independence of the Judiciary as a branch of the government; and I glory now in the fact that, while other departments have often been, through the corrupting tendencies of party politics, justly or unjustly brought into reproach, the Judiciary of Pennsylvania has hitherto stood, and still stands, high above suspicion. In this earnestly cherished sentiment, I opposed with my pen and vote the call for a convention to amend the constitution of 1790, and opposed the amendments submitted in 1858, which were carried only by a few hundred votes, and carried, as I have never doubted, by a citizen of your county, long since deceased, and who afterwards sat with me upon the bench. Upon the same grounds I voted with a majority not very much short of two thousand of the voters of this Judicial District, against the amendment of 1850 making the judiciary elective. I need scarcely add, that I entirely agree with you, gentlemen, when you say that you do not regard the office of a Judge "as a political office."

To say that it is NOT a "POLITICAL office" is only to enunciate a TRUISM, as every one feels. It is a simple, self-evident truth which no process of reasoning could make more plain. In the practical working of our political system, POLITICAL PARTIES, organized to carry out in matters of government the measures which constitute their political creeds, find it necessary to select those as candidates for that purpose, who will represent their views. It is a necessary and proper qualification for a candidate that he be of and true to his party and carry out its measures. This is plain enough. But how it is, or can or should be, A QUALIFICATION FOR A JUDGE, who should know no man or party—whose only business it is to hold the scale of justice with a steady hand, and unsuspected, between men of all parties and creeds, political or religious, and mete out "equal and exact justice to all"—TO BE A PARTISAN, or that he should be chosen upon party principles, through corrupt party appliances, in heated and demoralizing political contests, is what common people are unable to comprehend—what common sense intuitively rejects as absurd—and what all judicious and reflecting minds must deprecate. Accordingly, we find it to be the prevailing sentiment of the masses—the common sense of the public—that judicial offices should be kept above the sphere of party politics; and no intelligent man of any party regards himself, or regards any one else, as compromising his political principles or his party *status*, by casting off all party trammels and following out, in this most important exercise of the elective franchise, his conscientious convictions of duty.

These views are felt to have peculiar force applied to me, in view of my past record and present attitude. Ten years ago, when mere partisanism was for a time lost in a higher and holier sentiment, upon the written invitation of the members of the Bar of the whole district, I was an independent candidate. There was no other candidate, and I was of course elected without opposition. It was a high and more than merited testimonial—a compliment which I shall remember with grateful emotion until my dying day, and of which I shall preserve the evidence as the most valued relic I can leave to my children. Since then, though my political sentiments have been unconcealed, and as well known as those of any man in the district, I have not been a POLITICIAN. I have felt it my duty to avoid personal arguments on politics—have attended or participated in no delegate or other political meetings—but have felt it my duty to abstain entirely from mingling in the details of partisan politics. To this, no doubt, is largely to be ascribed that freedom from bias, or suspicion of bias, which I believe has been universally accorded to me on the bench. To be a candidate now upon any other than independent grounds would be, I feel, to come down from an elevation which I have hitherto occupied.

I leave here then, gentlemen, this subject with the citizens of the district, who are the most deeply interested in it. They will make a choice, I have no doubt, in entire independence of thought and action, as they should do, with a single view to what is best, not for me, or for any other candidate, or for any party, but for the interests of the public. They have known me as long and have had the means of knowing me as well as any who might undertake to instruct them upon my merits or deficiencies, or the merits or deficiencies of any other candidate; and, a jury of the vicinage, I, for one, will approve and acquiesce in their verdict, whatever it may be. I am, gentlemen,

Very respectfully,
GEO. TAYLOR.

BLAIR COUNTY, February, 1871.

HON GEO. TAYLOR—As the time is approaching for another election of President Judge, and the subject already discussed in some quarters, the undersigned, believing, as we think the mass of the people believe, that the office is not and should not be regarded as a political office, and believing, also, that the people of the district, of all parties, feel the most assured confidence in your capacity, integrity and impartiality as a Judge, respectfully ask you to allow yourself to be, as when last elected, an INDEPENDENT candidate for said office.

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| Crawford Irwin, | Fred. Hyle, |
| James M. Cooper, | H. C. Nicodemus, |
| Jacob Snyder, | A. J. Anderson, |
| Bernhard Goldman, | J. B. Skyles, |
| James H. Cramer, | F. G. Bloom, |
| John H. Law, | J. C. Shoemaker, |
| Jeremiah Ritz, | John Breneman, |
| J. C. McKee, | E. Hammond, |
| Henry Learner, | S. M. Royer, |
| James Bingham, | Joseph Kyler, |
| Joseph Hutchison, | David Klepser, |
| G. H. Steiner, | Thos. King, |
| Daniel K. Reamey, | Levi Miller, |
| Christian Hauser, | John G. Rhodes, |
| R. R. Hamilton, | Robert Taylor, |
| Theodore Sickles, | Paul Mauk, |
| O. E. Crissman, | G. W. Mauk, |
| Jos. S. P. Harris, | Samuel Shock, |
| E. D. Wise, | H. K. Hammond, |
| Samuel Moore, | Joseph Blackburn, |
| E. S. Eberman, | Stephen Hammond, |
| David Robeson, | Samuel E. Honstein, |
| A. L. Holliday, | Robert S. Cunning, |
| F. McCoy, | Abram Burket, |
| P. McNally, | Samuel L. Hare, |
| John G. McGraw, | Frederick Shafer, |
| Wm. L. Ake, | James W. Neely, |
| Theophilus Snyder, | Adam Shafer, |
| Jerome Bladdo, | David Stewart, |
| J. C. Snyder, | Fred. N. Berry, |
| James Funk, | Thomas Cunning, |
| H. H. Crissman, | Adam L. Hare, |
| F. McGraw, | John Harpster, |
| Peter Stroup, | Milton Hileman, |

Samuel F. Fox.

HUNTINGDON, 23d April, 1871.

To Messrs. Dr. Crawford Irwin, Jacob Snyder, James H. Cramer, James M. Cooper, and others, citizens of Blair county:

GENTLEMEN.—Before your letter came into my hands, I had, in reply to similar communications from gentlemen in Wilmore borough, Cambria county, and in the city of Altoona, announced myself as an INDEPENDENT candidate for the office of President Judge of the XXIVth Judicial District. My letters to those gentlemen, which disclose explicitly and frankly my reasons for assuming the attitude I now occupy before the public, have been published in nearly all the newspapers in the District outside of your county, and in one at least of your county papers, and have doubtless come to your notice. A formal reply, therefore, to your communication might seem unnecessary; and yet, I feel that I would be doing injustice to myself and be withholding what is due to so many respectable citizens of the central county of the District, many of whom I have so long and well known, and who have so long and well known me, if I failed to make some proper public acknowledgment of the high, though I feel unmerited, compliment which you bestow upon me.

You ask me, gentlemen, to be an INDEPENDENT candidate for the high and responsible office which I have so long held, and the duties of which I have conscientiously endeavored to discharge,—"as when I was last elected"; and, for the reasons which you state: reasons which, so far as they relate to the nature and character of the office, are in entire consonance with my own convictions; and of which, so far as they relate to me personally, I am quite willing that the people of the district who have known me as a practitioner in their courts, or as the presiding Judge, for thirty-five years, with my record in view, shall judge.

When you say "that the office is not and should not be regarded as a POLITICAL OFFICE," you utter a TRUISM, as every intelligent and sensible man feels, and which no process of reasoning could elucidate; and when you further say that you "think the mass of the people believe" as you do in this matter, you state a FACT, which no one even tolerably acquainted with the popular sentiment, doubts. That more than a hundred intelligent gentlemen, of both parties, in this district, avow this view publicly to me, is good evidence that it is the popular sentiment; while those who have mingled and conversed with the people on this subject, well know that the number of such witnesses might be many times multiplied. In truth, it is the common sense of the public, that judicial offices should be kept above the sphere of party politics, and I venture to affirm that there is scarcely a candid, intelligent and disinterested man of any party, to be found, who will acknowledge in the presence of intelligent men, that he regards himself, or regards anybody else, as bound by his political principles, or party affiliations, in casting his vote for a Judge whose duty it is to hold the scales of justice with a steady hand, and unsuspected, between men of all parties and creeds, political or religious. I might add, in corroboration of the fact, that a majority not very much short of two thousand of the citizens of the district, voted against the constitutional amendment making the judiciary ELECTIVE. A contrary sentiment is only advocated by interested POLITICIANS.

With the views I have ever entertained, and still entertain, of the Judicial office, I would not agree to descend to the arena and appliances of modern political partizanism, to attain it, I would rather not be a candidate. Should I do so, and be successful, after such a success, it is possible that I might discharge judicial functions with integrity and impartiality; but it is impossible, in the very nature of things, that I could do it without suspicion, and next, as it respects the evil of it, to corruption on the bench, is the suspicion that it is there—The Judiciary, the ultimate safeguard and security of the rights of the people in every government, is greatly weakened, at least, when it ceases to be not only pure but unsuspected.

"When I was last elected," as you suggest, there was no selfish partisanism; and I was a candidate upon independent grounds; at the request of the members of the bar of the entire district, without respect to party. I have occupied that ground ever since; and, in view of any result, I desire to occupy no other. To be a candidate now, upon any other than independent grounds, I feel would be to descend from an elevation which I have hitherto occupied, and to endanger my past record and my future usefulness. I am unwilling, gentlemen, to do either.

For the strong terms in which you speak of me as a Judge, not doubting your sincerity, I return my most hearty acknowledgment; although I feel that the plaudit is scarcely merited. I have never claimed any qualification for a judge, except a firm PURPOSE TO DO RIGHT, according to my best judgment and ability; and the power to hold up a question and view it in all its aspects, without feeling the temptation to think or care who are the part ies before the court, or how they might be affected by the decision; or what might be their circumstances in life, their politics, or their religion. Starting out alone on the journey of life, in early youth, and never having been in a school in the capacity of a learner since I was thirteen years of age, the literary acquirements which I was enabled to bring to the bar and upon the bench, were but the scanty gleanings by the way side; and, it is only surprising to myself, in every retrospect of my professional and judicial life, that I have sustained myself as I will have. I feel that I have been borne along and borne through, by a purpose to do right, and the sustaining confidence of the bar and the people, in my common sense, integrity, and impartiality.

I am, gentlemen,
Very respectfully and truly,
GEO. TAYLOR.

TWENTY years ago a farm eight miles square, in Livingston county, Illinois, was entered by its present owner at $1.25 per acre. It is now subdivided into thirty-two farms of 1,280 acres each, every farm being run by separate sets of hands, and the whole under direction of the owner, M. L. Sullivan. There are 15,000 acres under the plough; 150 miles of ditch for draining.—One hundred men and four hundred work horses and mules are employed on the farms, besides two book-keepers, four blacksmiths and eight carpenters. An accurate account is kept with each sub-farm, and with each man, horse and mule, the animals being all named, or numbered, and charged with the amount paid for them and their food, and credited with their labor. The entire farm, with improvements and personal property on it is now valued at about $2,000,000.

A REMARKABLE CASE.—Miss Clauton, of Winterset, Iowa, is subject to nervous spasms, which set every muscle in her body in motion with a quickness that cannot be reached by any person in health. Her arms fly from side to side, and she rolls to and fro with frightful rapidity. Accompanying the motion is a quick panting, barking noise that sometimes can be heard a half mile. She is perfectly conscious, and suffers much. The spasms last just two hours, and leave her very weak. They have now come with regularity for many months.