



## CAPITOL GOSSIP

### CONGRESS WILL BE ASKED TO TAX BEER.

Secretary Carlisle Will Recommend a Tax of One Dollar on a Barrel Which Will Greatly Increase the Revenues.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7th.—Secretary Carlisle is still in doubt as to whether he will again speak in Kentucky during the state campaign, with the chances against his doing so, but he has accepted an invitation to deliver a financial speech before the Boston Reform Club, at its annual banquet, to be given on Saturday next.

It is reported that Secretary Carlisle has about made up his mind to recommend, in his annual report to Congress, that \$1 a barrel be added to the tax on beer, which, it is estimated, would add \$32,000,000 a year to the receipts of the government. Whether the Republicans would accept this recommendation if it be made will depend upon whether the high-tariff-or-bust Republicans control the House. If that faction gets on top the country will be in for another tariff agitation. Mr. Reed, who will rule the House with a rod of iron, only bending when he thinks he can improve his chances for getting the Presidential nomination, is credited with not wishing to touch the tariff during the coming session of Congress.

Secretary Olney declines to discuss recent sensational publications concerning the action taken by this government towards compelling England to respect the Monroe doctrine in its dispute with Venezuela about the ownership of certain lands, but I can state on high authority that the action of the administration has been as yet, with the exception of renewing the suggestion made by Secretary Gresham that the claims be submitted to arbitration, confined to gathering facts to fortify it in the position it will take later on, if it becomes necessary to uphold the Monroe doctrine.

Whenever a man who is or has been prominent becomes ill or dies the country is at once flooded with misstatements concerning his life. The case of ex-Senator Mahone, of Virginia, is the latest striking instance. From the time he was stricken down with paralysis the misstatement mill has been steadily grinding. One prominent newspaper writer stated over his own signature that Gen. Mahone and his family were blue-blooded, F. F. V. aristocrats, and that so long as he remained in the Democratic party he was rich and prosperous in business, idolized for his war record, and his family the pets of the highest society, but that after he became a Republican he and his family were socially ostracized, and his business discriminated against until he was gradually driven to bankruptcy. About the only true thing in the whole article is what is said of his war record. The people of Southampton county, Virginia, where Gen. Mahone was born, and where he has relatives now living, would smile at his being called an aristocrat, and old citizens of Petersburg where he has lived since the war would do likewise upon being told that the Mahones ever were social pets. Mahone was plebeian born. He was a civil engineer and helped to build the Norfolk and Petersburg railroad, which was a part of the A. M. & O. system, of which he became president after the war, at a salary of \$25,000 a year. He came out of the war poor, as he entered it, but his war record made him a railroad president, and the boss of the Democratic party of Virginia, which position he maintained until forbearance ceased to be a virtue. About the time his control of the Democratic party was broken he also lost his railroad job. Then came his organization of the readjuster party, his flop to the Republicans and his term in the Senate. He was credited with being a rich man and was a lavish liver and a daring speculator, but since he left the Senate he has been known simply as a lobbyist. His bankruptcy was the result of bad investments some of which were shared by Democrats, instead of their driving him to bankruptcy. In Petersburg the social status of the Mahones is as good as it ever was. Gen. Mahone was a great soldier and a brainy man, but when that much is said it is best to stop.

Mr. Ransdell, who was Mr. Harrison's Marshal for the District of Columbia, and who is his close personal and political friend, says Mr. Harrison would accept another nomination if it were tendered him. Mr. Ransdell says paradoxically of one of the most popular Democrats in Indiana: "The Democratic friends of Governor Matthews are not backward in putting him to the front as a Presidential candidate. There is no doubt that state pride would help him wonderfully in Indiana were he to get the nomination, but there is not much likelihood

of that. Everybody concedes that he is an estimable gentleman about whom only good can be spoken. He has scarcely enough of national reputation, however, to lead his party in 1896." If the friends of Gov. Matthews can get all the Indiana Republicans to talk that way about him when they are outside their state he will soon be enjoying the biggest sort of a boom. The lack of national reputation counts for little. How much national reputation did Grover Cleveland have in 1884, when he beat the wisest known man of that day—James G. Blaine?

**Broad-Tired Wagons.**  
The advantages of broad-tired wheels for wagons carrying heavy loads have been dwelt upon by writers on the subject of good roads for many years, but it cannot be said that their arguments have had much effect upon the farmers of the country, who have bad roads to endure. The matter has been called to the attention of Pennsylvania farmers by the last Legislature in a way which ought to compel or at least attract attention to the fact that broad tires are a very important thing after good roads have been made.

The new law allows a rebate of one-fourth of the highway tax where broad tires are used, and the limitations made indicate that the law was rather viewed with suspicion than favor by bucolic members. The most good the law can do is to call the attention of farmers to the undoubted fact that good roads will add, in most cases 25 per cent. to the value of their farms. Good roads will retard the depletion of the country population, and also serve to reduce the cost of living to townspeople.

Let Centre county farmers give this matter the attention it deserves.

**Can Vote for Seven.**  
Attorney M. E. Olmsted of Harrisburg is the opinion that each qualified elector has the constitutional right to vote for seven candidates for judge of the superior court at the Nov election, and that if he shall choose to exercise that right his ballot cannot lawfully be thrown out because containing more than six names. Mr. Olmsted's opinion is given after a careful investigation into the matter and the suggestion of one of his clients who is interested in a candidate for superior court judge.

Mr. Olmsted holds that the constitutional provision as to the election of all judges except those of the supreme court, is founded upon the principle that the majority shall in every case rule. The act of 1895, creating the superior court, is in conflict with the constitution, in that it is an attempt to deprive a majority of the qualified voters of the privilege of participating in the election of the seventh superior court judge. No matter how wise the principle of majority representation may be, it cannot be enforced if contrary to the letter and spirit of the Constitution, and if, as is apparently the case, the act of 1895 seeks to qualify, limit and restrain the right of suffrage, which the Constitution has, in plain terms, conferred without any limitation whatever, then to that extent the act of 1895 must fall.

**The Ideal Panacea.**  
James L. Francis, Alderman, Chicago, says: "I regard Dr. King's New Discovery as an ideal Panacea for Coughs, Colds and Lung Complaints, having used it in my family for the last five years, to the exclusion of physician's prescriptions or other preparations."

Rev. John Burgess, Keokuk, Iowa, writes: "I have been a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church for 50 years or more, and never found anything so beneficial or that gave me such speedy relief as Dr. King's New Discovery." Try this Ideal Cough Remedy now. Trial bottles free at J. D. Murray's Drug Store.

An effort will be made to pardon state robber Bardsley, upon which the Patriot comments thus, and the REPORTER endorses it: So long as John Bardsley keeps to himself the names of his accomplices in Philadelphia who profited, or expected to profit, with him in speculating with the city's funds there can be no excuse for the pardon board considering his plea for release from punishment. When he once shows signs of penitence and joins the state in helping to convict other felons there will be an excuse for showing him leniency. But not until then. Exclusive of interest Bardsley and his assistants got away beyond recovery, over \$935,000 of public money. Bardsley cannot make restitution but some of the money if not all might be recovered if Bardsley would open his tightly closed lips. Until he is willing to "tell the truth" the pardon board should make no favorable recommendation and the Governor must grant no pardon.

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## SOME NEW LAWS.

Abstracts of Some of the Acts of General Interest.

The last legislature placed a great many new laws on the statute books, many of which are specially of local interest. During the session of the legislature it is almost impossible to keep track of any except the most important bills, and many acts are therefore passed of which the public in general is entirely ignorant. A brief digest of such acts as have a direct bearing upon Centre county and its people is here given as follows:

Making the weight of a bushel of onions fifty pounds, and clover seed sixty pounds.

Requiring clerks of orphans' courts to keep marriage license dockets open for the inspection of the public, and to allow copies of abstracts of the same to be made for publication, subjecting them to a fine not exceeding \$50 for non-compliance.

Authorizing county commissioners to appoint a county solicitor, fix his compensation and prescribe his term and duties.

Authorizing county commissioners in addition to furnishing office furniture, blank books and stationary for county officers, to also furnish printed court calendars and trial lists of the respective courts of common pleas for the use of the officers and attorneys of said courts, and all needed fuel and light.

School directors are required, at least once during each school term, and prior to the first of January of each year, and also within thirty days after the close of each school term, to have removed all excrement and waste matter from every water closet or out-house connected with or standing on the premises of school buildings, or have the same properly disinfected. They are also required to have every water closet or out-house properly scrubbed, washed out and cleaned, the inside walls whitewashed, and the vaults or receptacles covered with a layer of fresh dirt or dry slaked lime within ten days of the opening of each annual school term.

Prohibiting any but citizens of the United States to be employed in any capacity in the erection, enlargement or improvement of any public building or public work.

Sewing machines and typewriters, leased or hired, are exempted from levy or sale on execution or distress for rent.

School directors are authorized to qualify each other before entering upon the duties of their office.

Requiring tax collectors of townships and boroughs to give a numbered receipt from a book, to be furnished by the county commissioners, containing a correspondingly numbered stub, and requiring a sheet setting forth name, amount of tax paid and number of receipt to be sent, twenty days before each election, to the county commissioners for public inspection. The penalty for non-compliance is a fine of not more than \$200 or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both.

Making it a fine of \$50 and an imprisonment of not less than thirty days, or more than one year, for the placing in the waters of the state of any torpedo, giant powder, nitro-glycerine, dynamite, electricity, lime or any poisonous or explosive substance for the purpose of catching fish.

Making 2,240 pounds of coal a ton in delivering by retail dealers.

Constables and high constables to be elected for three years on and after the third Tuesday of February, 1896.

Authorizing county commissioners to erect work-houses and transfer from the county jail all persons committed for more than ten days for vagrancy, drunkenness or disorderly conduct.

Providing a penalty of a fine not exceeding \$100, or imprisonment not exceeding six months, or both, for writing, printing or distributing, or causing to be written, printed or distributed, a circular or poster, cartoon or other written or printed paper which is designed or tends to injure or defeat any candidate for nomination or election to public office, by reflecting upon his personal character or political actions, unless the same shall be published in a newspaper avowedly responsible therefor, or unless there appears upon such circular, poster or paper, in a conspicuous place, either the names of the chairman and secretary, or at least the names of two officers of the political or other organization issuing the same, or the name of some duly registered elector with description of his election district, as responsible therefor.

To remove the constipated habit, the only safe treatment is a course of Ayer's Pills, followed by a laxative diet. Most other cathartics do more harm than good, therefore leading physicians recommend Ayer's Pills, especially as a family physic.

—Subscribe for the REPORTER, \$1.50

## COLLEGE TWP.

### HISTORICAL DATA OF THIS PROMINENT DISTRICT.

When Organized—Early Settlers—Surveys Incidents, &c.—Prominent Families Still Represented.

College township was formed in the year 1875, from parts of Harris and Benner. The early settlement, however dates back to 1786, and perhaps farther, as an attempt at settlement had been made prior to that time, but the attempt did little more than give name to one branch of Spring Creek, viz., "Slab Cabin," so called from a slab or log cabin having been found on the bank of the stream. College lies partly in Penn's and partly in Nittany valleys.

Robert Moore was the earliest settler in the territory of College; he lived on the John Robinson warrant, later William Thompson's farm, adjoining Houser's land on the southeast. He died in May, 1831, and was buried on his place. When Jacob Houser first moved up to his land there were two squatters upon it, David Lewis and a man named Connelly.

In early life Robert Moore was distinguished for active and energetic services rendered in defense of the inhabitants of this section of the State. "Jacob Houser, who, as the inscription on his tombstone says, "came to Spring Creek in 1788," and settled on the site of the present hamlet of Houserville, which bears his name.

Jacob Houser was of German descent his father came to America as a redemptioner, being compelled to work a year for one of his more fortunate countrymen to pay his passage. He was a thrifty, frugal, hard-working German, and the result of these good qualities soon began to show themselves. Fields were cleared, cattle and stock increased, and Jacob became a prosperous and wealthy farmer.

He erected a fulling-mill, on the site of the present factory. In that early day disputes about land were of frequent occurrence. Jacob Houser was not exempt from these disputes, and as his land joined that of Gen. Philip Benner, he and the general were constantly in the courts. Many funny anecdotes are related of old Jacob and his wealthy neighbor. At one time a dispute arose concerning some land, and Mr. Houser determined to take possession. Benner warned him not to do so, and told him that if he did the crows would bother him so that he could not work. Houser took possession next day, and sure enough the crows came, and kept up such a constant cawing that Houser became frightened and left. The old general had hauled a dead horse to the disputed land, and that had attracted the crows. The descendants of Mr. Houser still live in College and Benner townships; he had three sons and five daughters, the sons were Daniel, Martin and Jacob.

David Whitehill, Esq., settled where the town of Lemont now stands, in 1789, and cleared up a large farm. He died in 1809. His daughter Sarah married Jeremiah Rankin; his son James, made the first double bit ax in the valley.

Christian Dale was one of the earliest permanent settlers in what is now College. He came about the year 1790, and began clearing land near Oak Hall; he was a German and came up from Buffalo valley. There were seven children, viz.: Henry, Christian, Philip, Felix, Frederick, Cornelius and Rachael. Christian and Frederick moved to Ohio. The descendants of the others are still living in that section. Henry Dale, the oldest child, was a soldier in the revolution, and was a member of Capt. Foster's company, of Buffalo valley, which was sent up to Potter's Fort to protect the settlers from the ravages of the Indians. Two of the great-grandsons of Christian Dale, Clement and Alfred, practice law in Bellefonte.

Between 1800 and 1820 came the Cobles, Haldemans, Shukeys, Eiters, Cronemillers, and others. Gen. James Irvin built the brick mill at Oak Hall about 1822. The Thompsons, Glenns, Fosters, and others, came into the township much later. The Housers, Groves, Mitchells, Wassons, Gillilands are families of prominence in the township, Hon. Samuel Gilliland having represented his county in the Legislature with great credit, and is still living, respected in old age.

It is traditional that the widows Lewis and Connelly, mothers of the famous Centre county highwaymen, were squatters upon Houser's land, and that they held so tenaciously to what they claimed as their improvement rights that formal ejections were called into service. Indeed, the widow Connelly would not go even then until removed bodily by force. She was, therefore, bitter in her denunciations against Houser, and swore

to put upon his land a weed that would not easily be got rid of. By a strange coincidence a weed did afterwards appear upon Houser's farm and thrive to an amazing degree. It was variously known as "Houser's flax," "Devil's flax," and "Mary Connelly's flax." The stalk grows to the height of about two feet, and bears a yellow flower.—(Linn's History.)

## THE SUPERIOR COURT AND THE VOTERS.

The voters of Pennsylvania will, of course, vote for six candidates only of the seven Judges of the Superior Court to be elected in November, says the Record. If any voter should undertake to exercise his constitutional right of voting for seven candidates the Board of Elections would throw out his ballot. Boards of elections are not judges of the Constitution, but must strictly follow their instructions under the statute. But if any citizen should vote for seven judges in accordance with he may deem his right, the rejection of his ballot by the election officers might raise in the Supreme Court the question of the constitutionality of the law creating the Superior Court, or of that portion of the law which puts a limit upon the free choice of Judges in this Commonwealth. Should it be decided that this mode of election is unconstitutional the Judges cannot be lawfully elected under it, and the Court thus constituted would be a nullity. There will doubtless be other methods of testing the validity of the Superior Court besides the action of a voter in defense of the political right.

In the meantime the citizens of the Commonwealth should take the most effective means of condemning the erection of this needless and costly tribunal, which menaces to impede and delay the administration of justice. This means consists in rejecting at the ballot-box the Hastings Judges, for whose personal benefit alone this Court was invented. The Republican platform relative to State affairs, which, as is well known, was written and inspired by Senator Quay, denounces among other grave abuses the wanton increase of offices and salaries. The most prodigal of all these office-grabbing jobs was the Superior Court with its seven highly salaried Judges to decide only such cases as may involve a less sum of money than one thousand dollars. Although the Republican platform does not verily recount the long bead-roll of legislative inequities in creating and increasing offices and salaries, it is fair to assume that the Superior Court was the chief object of its denunciation. What other of the office-grabbing jobs of the last Legislature which come under the Republican promise of reform compares with this in enormity?

But how is the next Legislature to redeem the Republican pledge of reform intelligently unless the people give an indication of their wishes at the ballot-box next November? If the voters reject the Hastings Judges of the Superior Court at the ballot-box in November the Legislature will not be slow in taking the hint to abolish the Court itself. There are two potential reasons to control the action of voters on this question. The first is that the Superior Court is not only necessary, but will prove a mischievous obstruction to the administration of justice in this Commonwealth. The second is that the act creating this Court violates the fundamental Republican idea of the rule of the majority in accordance with the organic law ordained by the people. Either of these reasons should be sufficient to determine a question with which party has no legitimate concern. Taken together they should have an irresistible influence upon the popular judgment in condemnation of this Court.

## It May Do as Much for You.

Mr. Fred Miller, of Irving, Ill., writes that he had a severe kidney trouble for many years, with severe pains in his back and also that his bladder was affected. He tried many so called kidney cures but without any good result. About a year ago he began use of Electric Bitters and found relief at once. Electric Bitters is especially adapted to cure of all Kidney and Liver troubles and often gives almost instant relief. One trial will prove our statement. Price only 50c. for large bottle at J. D. Murray's Drug Store.

IN Bucks county prayers were offered in the churches, a few days ago, for rain. The water famine in many parts of the country is distressing.

Confusion as to the choice of a blood purifier is unnecessary. There is but one best Sarsaparilla, and that is Ayer's. This important fact was recognized at the World's Fair, Chicago, 1893, being the only blood-purifier admitted to be placed on exhibition.

## CHRONIC MALARIA.

A Very Prevalent Disease Following the Hot summer of 1895.

The continuance of hot and dry weather is sure to produce the prevalence of chronic malaria. The past summer has been exactly suitable for the production of a great deal of malaria. Even in localities where malaria has been previously unknown many cases of malaria are developed. This form of malaria is distinguished from the old fashioned fever and ague by the insidiousness of its attack and the difficulty with which it is cured. It does not come on quickly, like chills and fever. The symptoms pester and provoke sometimes for several weeks before the patient is made sick enough to take medicine.

Slight, chilly sensations, cold, sweaty spells, frontal headache, biliousness, furred tongue, bad taste in the mouth, sticky mucous in the throat, constipation, languor, etc.

A medical treatise on chronic malaria will be sent free by The Peru-na Drug Manufacturing Company of Columbus, Ohio. This book is a complete guide to the prevention and cure of malaria in its various forms. Peru-na has long since been recognized as the only infallible cure for the chronic form of malaria. While quinine has become the standard remedy for acute malaria, commonly called fever and ague, many people have found by bitter experience that it will not cure the chronic form. Peru-na cures these cases promptly and permanently.



HON. B. F. MEYERS,  
Democratic Candidate for State Treasurer.  
SPRING MILLS.

## Interesting Items from Our Neighboring Town.

Several improvements which we had under way have been postponed till next spring owing to disappointment in material, lumber, etc., but there is one improvement which can be made at any time, and that is the demolition of all the old rickety sheds and half-tumbled down stables around town. These old relics, evidently standing since the foundation of the town, are simply homes for owls, bats and toads, and a nuisance generally. Why not remove them at once? Why not improve and beautify the town, and not go from bad to worse and eventually die with the dry rot.

Mr. C. P. Long is now in the city completing his fall and winter purchases. Mr. Long is one of our live merchants, and always selects the most desirable goods early, and consequently has the choice of the market. Much of his fall and winter stock was selected in July last. His boots and shoes were purchased before the advance in leather and are now sold at old prices.

The old reliable coal yard of J. D. Long has been fitted up with enlarged coal bins and stocked with all sizes of coal. Whether the business will be conducted by Mr. Long himself or his son Frank I am not advised. For the last few years Mr. Long has been spending most of his time on his farm in Georges valley.

Politics is somewhat quiet, possibly its calm which precedes the storm. The Republican leaders in this valley however, are fighting a little shy, and not predicting the tornado of a year ago as they did a month or two since, of course not, if they hold their normal vote they will be doing very well. The Democrats seem bold and appear aggressive, possibly they are just starting out on the war path. I heard some Republicans remark the other day that Centre county would again be in their column this fall—what stupendous boss.

## AARONSBURG.

The Old Jordan Homestead Sold to Wm. Jordan.

James S. Weaver had the misfortune to lose a horse; the animal dying with colic.

Charles Rupp came home from Kansas a few days ago, having received the message too late to get here in time for his father's funeral.

The Jordan homestead was sold by the executrix, Miss E. R. Jordan to William Jordan for \$1500. Miss Jordan has rented rooms in the old hotel from Mr. Philips, and has vacated the homestead, and it will soon be occupied by the purchaser.

Beaver the butcher expects to quit about November 1st and go back to Union county; John Bower, however, will continue.

Miss Lillian Fisher, of Boalsburg, spent last Sabbath with her cousin, Miss Katie Musser.