

# The Centre Reporter.

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## CONGRESS OPENS

### REED WILL BE ELECTED SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE.

#### Noticeable Absence of Members.—Have Fought for Years in the Democratic Ranks.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—The most noticeable thing about the opening of Congress, to a Democrat, was the absence of so many of the men who have for years fought in the Democratic party. Among the absentees in the Senate are Butler, of S. Carolina, who has been succeeded by Ex-Governor Tillman; Hunton, of Va., whose successor is Martin, a good Democrat; McPherson, of N. J., succeeded by a Republican, and Ransom, of N. Car., whose successor is a Populist. But it is in the House that the hole in the Democratic ranks is the biggest. It seems strange to hear a roll called without the names of such veterans in Congressional harness as Holman and Bynum, of Ind.; Springer, of Ill.; Kilgore, of Texas; Hatch and Heard, of Mo.; Outwaite, of O.; and a score of others who have won honors and scars battling for Democratic principles.

Ex-Speaker Crisp will, of course be the leader of the Democrats of the House during the present session, the man who will call down Crisp Reed every time he attempts to trample on the rights of the minority. There has been no thought among Democrats that this would be otherwise, as was shown by the votes of the Democratic caucus—all cast for Mr. Crisp. The stories about the administration desiring another man for leader had their origin with those who wished to add to the unfortunate differences already existing in the Democratic party by making it appear that President Cleveland was demanding that no silver man should be given a post of honor. It is needless to say to any intelligent Democrat that President Cleveland never thought of such a thing as dictating or interfering in any way with the Democrats in the House.

Representative Oley, of Va., has a scheme that will injure no one and may greatly benefit needy ex-Confederate soldiers if it can be carried through. In the Treasury there is an accumulation of money sequestered during and directly after the war for want of evidence to show its proper owners, amounting to about \$25,000,000. Inasmuch as this money belongs in the south and that its rightful owners will probably never be found, Mr. Oley proposes to try to get a bill through Congress, providing that the interest of this money shall be distributed among needy ex-Confederate soldiers, and that when they no longer need such aid the principal shall revert to the government to be used as any other money provided by Congress. In order to avoid any charge of partisanship, even by implication, Mr. Oley proposes having the bill introduced by a Republican, if he can get one to do it.

The calm which now prevails among the Republicans of the House is as ominous in its way as that which precedes a storm at sea. To the inexperienced onlooker, Speaker Reed is a czar indeed. But there is a reason why everything seems to be going Mr. Reed's way among his party colleagues in the House. He hasn't announced the committee assignments. Until he does the calm is likely to last; all of the Republicans want to get as good committee places as they can. But after the assignments are announced the disappointed ones will be numerous and Mr. Reed cannot let them down easy by saying that he was bound by promises made before his election to disappoint them, as his friends have for weeks been making a special point of claiming that he would become speaker without having made a single promise and that he was free to arrange the committees just as he wanted them. Therefore every disappointed man will know just who to hold responsible. It is charged also that Mr. Reed took a hand in naming the minor officers of the House who were elected today, which made him some more enemies in his own party. On the whole the outlook for him can hardly be considered a pleasant one.

President Cleveland's message was ready to go in today, but, as has often been done at the assembling of a new Congress, it was held back to give the House a chance to organize and will go in tomorrow.

Secretary Hoke Smith has gone to Atlanta, where he will, by special invitation, deliver a financial address before the Ga. legislature. He is expected to return to Washington this week.

Lyon & Co. have made a still further reduction in all lines. They publish their prices, and you get the same at their store.

Christian Dale.

We regret to announce the death of Christian Dale, of Pleasant Gap, early on last Sabbath morning, at his home. Mr. Dale was one of the most estimable citizens of this county, without an enemy, a Christian gentleman, and useful in all the walks of life. He never entertained a thought of doing a wrong deed or that which would grieve a fellow mortal. He was a devoted and life-long member of the Lutheran church, active in all church work, liberal in contributing to its support and one of the kindest of neighbors. What a blessed tribute to a departed one!

His esteemed wife died several years ago. They leave no children, except an adopted daughter, Mrs. Blanche, wife of Siney Hoy, who occupies the Dale homestead where the deceased breathed his last. The interment took place at the Pleasant Gap cemetery on Wednesday forenoon, a large concourse of friends and relatives accompanying the remains to their last resting place. His age was about 60 years.

His health became delicate in the past few years, quick consumption set in, altho he was in Philadelphia several times for treatment, he found no relief, and the grim messenger overtook him.

He was an original member of the grange but liberal in his views which gained him much respect; he was secretary of the patrons' fire insurance company for many years. He also was a veteran of the late war, having served all thro the campaign and risen from the ranks of company H, 49 P. V., to its captaincy at the close of the struggle. He was a prominent member of the Grand Army of the Republic and also of the Veteran League. He is survived by a number of brothers and sisters, two of the former being prominent members of the Bellefonte bar. In his demise the editor of the "Reporter" mourns the loss of a cherished friend.

Barn Burned.

Wednesday morning between the hours of three and four o'clock the large bank barn, hog pens, straw and carriage sheds on the Abram Elder farm, half mile east of Stormstown, was burned to the ground together with all their contents. The farm is owned by the Bates heirs and is now occupied by Isaac Walker. Tuesday Mr. Walker and his men threshed out five hundred bushels of oats and it curled up in smoke together with the thrasher. All his farming implements and the entire year's crop was destroyed. Two horses and four calves also suffered in the flames. It is not known how the fire originated, as it seemed to have caught near one of the feeding rooms.—Gazette.

Hogs Stolen.

Last September, says the Centre Democrat, Mr. Austin Dale, of Spring twp., had two hogs stolen which would weigh at that time about 200 pounds each. Trace of the hogs was gotten, and last week Mr. Dale went to Snowshoe and identified the hogs. The man in whose possession they were, told from whom he had purchased them, for \$13. He had fattened them and was going to butcher them the next day. He paid Mr. Dale \$20 for them and kept the porkers. The thief is known but has not yet been arrested.

A New Health Law.

By an act passed by the last legislature and approved the 18th day of June, it is made unlawful for anyone, but near adult relatives, to attend the funeral of any person who has died of cholera, yellow fever, smallpox, typhus fever, diphtheria, diphtheria croup, membranous croup or leprosy. In addition to the immediate adult relatives of the deceased, a sufficient number of pall bearers may be in attendance.

Cattle Theft.

Nine head of cattle were stolen from the farm of Sprinkle Bros., near Tyrone, a few days ago. Detective Barr got on the trail and soon learned that they had been sold to a butcher in a neighboring town. It cost the butcher \$500 for buying the cattle.

Suicide Near Lewistown.

H. D. Musser, truck farmer, committed suicide by hanging himself to a rafter in the garret of his home. Financial troubles and the insanity of his wife are said to be the cause. He was a native of Lancaster county.

—Although all lines of clothing and dry goods have advanced in prices, the customers of Lyon & Co., Bellefonte never are aware of the fact. In the face of the advance a big reduction has been made in dry goods, clothing and shoes. See their price list on page five.

—Subscriber for the REPORTER, \$1.50

COUNTY NEWS.

From all Around, Clipped and Condensed.

The people of Pinegrove were very much surprised to hear of the sudden death of H. M. Meek, who had been living in Altoona for the last few years. He formerly was a citizen of Ferguson twp. He leaves a wife and four children to mourn their loss, the children are all married. Two sons and one daughter living in Altoona, namely, David, Bigler and Mrs. Lilla Gillafor and Mrs. George Miller, living near Pinegrove. His death was caused by a stroke of paralysis. Interment was made at Altoona, Sunday, 24.

D. F. Fortney, esq., is taking quite a bit of interest in the coming annual meeting of the School Directors Association of Centre county, on Thursday the 19, institute week. Important topics and timely matters will be discussed.

David Burrell, of Spring Mills, expects to move to Centre Hall. He is the father-in-law of our next landlord Ruhl now of the Fort hotel.

The Boalsburg Modoc hunters came back from their Stone creek hunt with no deer, the fate of most hunting parties this fall.

Capt. James P. Smith, of Co. C., 49 P. V. I., died at his home in Roslyn, Washington, on Oct. 7, aged about 55 years. He was born near Potters bank, and served during the war, being wounded twice.

Bishop McGovern Speaks

In all the Catholic churches of Harrisburg and in other parts of the diocese last Saturday, says a dispatch from Harrisburg, a letter was read from Bishop McGovern, in which he calls into the patriotic societies. He calls them deadly microbes and says:

"Outside the Catholic church, perhaps not twenty per cent. of our young men are consistent members of any denomination of Christians, and have no fixed notions of Christianity to serve as an anchorage against infidelity. If these secret political societies are the legitimate offspring of purely secular education, as taught in our public schools, and the inference is forcibly borne in on us by the fact that nearly two generations of our youth have grown up under its influence, then it is time for all true Christians and true patriots, desirous to perpetuate the republic and hand down to posterity the blessings of civil and religious liberty to remove the impending dangers which threaten our national life with premature decay. If Christianity, the true light which enlighteneth the world, is worth preserving, then education must be Christian. Secular and Christian must go hand in hand to form the manners, habits and morals of our youth and instill into their minds the virtues which make good citizens and God-fearing Christians."

He Catches a Deer.

One day last week Harry Shirk, a stout boy, captured a doe, about a year old, in a field about 40 rods from the premises where he lives about three miles from here. The animal evidently had been run down by dogs, and reaching the Shirk premises nearly exhausted, Harry spied the deer and set his own dog on it which fastened to the doe's ear, it fell and Harry threw himself on it, when his brother Charles came to his assistance and the game was captured alive and is now kept in a pen. On one of its hindquarters it bears a scar as if from a former cruel rifle shot.

A Clearfield County Owl Story.

In July 1890, Jacob M. Smith, a farmer living a few miles from Penfield, set a mink trap on top of a chestnut post to catch an owl that was carrying away his fowls. The next morning the staple was broken off and the trap was gone. On Thanksgiving night this year Smith set another trap and at 7 o'clock he found in it a large owl. When he killed it he discovered his other trap and chain fast to its left leg, the bird having carried them for over five years. The owl measured four and one-half feet from tip to tip of wings.

A New Industry.

Wm. Colyer's new building, erected near the railroad station within the past six weeks, is nearing completion, and will serve for a steam saw-mill, planing mill and stove factory, likely to afford employment for a number of hands.

Mr. Colyer has purchased 100 acres of timberland from Mrs. Gov. Curtin's farm about 1½ miles east of this place, for \$4000, which he intends to have cut out and logs brot to this mill to be manufactured into lumber.

—A new overcoat will be needed for this cold weather, you will want to keep warm, and that can easily be done by making your purchases at Lewins, Bellefonte. He has everything in the clothing line.

## PENNS VALLEY

### WHEN THIS VALLEY WAS FIRST DISCOVERED.

#### Lin's History Describes the Occasion When a White Man First Set Eyes on this Beautiful District.

Among the Potter papers I found, Oct. 8, 1882, a paper in the handwriting of Wm. H. Patterson, without the date, but from its reference to Chief Justice Tilghman, must have been written prior to 1820, which gives the then tradition of the first entry of the white man into Penn's valley. W. H. Patterson was one of Judge Potter's first clerks at Potter's Mills.

Alluding to a notice which Mr. Chief Justice Tilghman, as president of the Agricultural Society takes of the valley, and prefacing the remark that a narrative of the events which led to the discovery of Penn's valley would be interesting, he says, "Capt. James Potter was a man of strong and penetrating mind, and one to whom early habits rendered a life of peril, toil, and enterprise familiar. Nature had given him a powerful and athletic frame of body, with a mind which might well give tone to an herculean frame. As an officer of the British Provincial army, engaged in the defense of the frontier, he conceived the natural idea that, inclosed by the range of mountains which on every side met his view on his return from Kittanning, there must be a fine country. After being ordered to Fort Augusta, his idea of a fine country to be discovered again returned to him. Having obtained leave of absence, he set off with one attendant in the summer of the year 1794. Passing up the West Branch, he reached the mouth of Bald Eagle Creek, a distance of seventy-five miles. Then passing up Bald Eagle Creek to the place where Spring Creek enters it, a distance of thirty miles, they took to the mountains, and having reached the top of Nitany mountain, Capt. Potter, seeing the prairies and noble forest beneath him, cried out to his attendant, "By heavens, Thompson, I have discovered an empire!" Immediately descending into the plain they came to a spring, at a place which was in after-days of some distinction, now known by the appellation of "Old Fort," owned by Capt. Potter's grandson.

"Here the adventurers found themselves out of provisions, and for two days and as many nights the flesh scraped from a dried Beaver's skin was their only subsistence. With starvation staring them in the face, Capt. Potter determined on striking through the mountains for Fort Augusta, and by good fortune happened on a creek, to which they gave the name of John Penn's Creek, little dreaming it was the same creek which entered the Susquehanna at the Isle of Que, known as Penn's Creek. Pursuing the stream, they arrived where provisions could be had, and finally reached Fort Augusta. Capt. Potter and his companion communicated their discovery, and it so happened that an Indian, Job Chilloway, was at the fort on their arrival. Learning that they had been in the valley, and determining that if it must be lost to the Indians he at least would profit by their loss, he goes to Col. Hunter and sells to him the right of discovery. Col. Hunter makes speed to Philadelphia and sells his right to Reuben Haines. In the mean time Capt. Potter hurries to Philadelphia to make application and procure warrants."

On this we remark that it is true that Capt. Potter was on the 2d of Oct. 1754, in command of three companies on the northern frontiers, and possibly Thompson was the Thomas Thompson alluded to in Fithian's Journal page 17, post. But we are satisfied the discovery was in 1759, just after the purchase of 1758, when Potter was at Bedford and had been just promoted captain of Wm. Thompson's company, Capt. Thompson having resigned, and that Capt. Thompson was his companion. The tradition is that Haines and Potter compromised, Haines taking the eastern end of Penn's valley up to Spring Mills, and Potter from there up. Certain it is that one of Potter's first warrants of Aug. 1, 1766, was laid on the farm late Gen. George Buchanan's just south of Penn Hall.

That the discovery was made in 1759, or at least before 1764, is decided by the fact that the warrant of reservation of the manor of Nottingham, west of the fort is dated Dec. 16, 1763, and is accurately described as near the Indian path from the head of Penn's creek to old Frankstown.

All of Penn's valley was within the purchase line of 1758, but it was not until after Col. Henry Bouquet had dictated his own terms of peace to the subdued Delawares and Shawanese, on the banks of the Muskingum, on the 14th of Nov. 1764, and Lieutenant-Governor John Penn's proclamation

thereof, Dec. 5, 1764, that settlements and improvements were resumed west of the Susquehanna.

On the 5th of Aug. 1765, the land-office was opened for settled lands only on the west side of the river, and on the 5th of Aug. 1766, it was opened for lands on the west side, on the same terms as for those on the east side. No more than three hundred acres could be applied for by any one without a special order, but this restriction was evaded by applications in the names of friends or employees, who by deed-poll subsequently conveyed their right to the person paying the purchase money. Baynton, Wharton, and Morris, for instance, used the names of their sailors, stevedores, and clerks.

Their instructions required the deputy surveyors to survey for the use of the honorable the proprietaries one-tenth of all the land surveyed, or five hundred out of every five thousand acres. These proprietary lands were selected and surveyed first. Accordingly the first legal survey in Penn's valley was the "Manor of Succoth," made under the direction of Wm. Maclay, deputy surveyor, on the 22d day of September, 1766, described as on the head of Penn's creek, above the great spring and northwest thereof.

MANOR OF SUCCOTH.—This survey calls for an elm which stood N. 37 degrees W. 50 perches from the mouth of Sinking creek; thence N. 70 E. 97 per. to W. O.; thence N. 53 E. 369 per. to a B. O.; thence S. 59 W. 672 per. to a poplar; thence S. 48 E. 230 per. to a W. O.; thence N. 53 E. 168 per. to a walnut; thence S. 37 E. 82 per. to a W. O.; thence N. 53 E. 115 per. to the elm; and contained eight hundred and twenty acres and allowance. The Penns, of whom John lived until Feb. 9, 1795, when he died at the country seat of Andrew Allen, in Berks county, held the manor until in January, 1791, when they had it divided into three purparts. No. 1, the western purpart, they sold to George Riddles, Gen. Potter's son-in-law, and George Woods. It contained two hundred and nine acres et al. No. 2, adjoining No. 1, they sold May 18, 1791, to John Harper. No. 3 was sold by the Penns to Archibald Allison, and embraces the property still owned by his descendants.

MANOR OF NOTTINGHAM.—This was surveyed under Mr. Maclay's directions, Sept. 23 and 24, 1766, for the proprietaries. He began at a white oak which stood on the west line of what is now Samuel Vantries' farm, 1881, and ran south 41 east 254 perches to a white oak, along Vantries and Gingersich farms; thence north 49 east 851 per. to a white oak, about 200 perches easterly of Old Fort hotel, 1881; thence north 41 west 158; thence south 55 west 857 perches back to the beginning. This manor contained 1035 acres, and was held by the Penns until 1794, when they divided it into three parts, marked a white oak for northwest corner and odd purpart; No. 1 on the west, next Vantries and Gingersich's, June 24, 1794, to Jacob Straub, 340 acres 64 perches; No. 2, Feb. 7, 1794, to Michael Jack and Wm. Young, 344 acres 148 perches; and No. 3, next to Odenkirk's, 1881, April 16, 1794, to Gerardus Wycoop. In 1794 the Sunbury road to Huntingdon ran along the southern boundary of the manor. The manor in 1766 is described as being "near the Indian path leading from the head of Penn's creek to Frankstown." This manor is wholly within Potter township, commencing near the school house west of the Fort hotel, bounded on the south by the public road to Boalsburg, and embraces Dr. W. I. Wilson's second farm, Maj. Wm. F. Reynolds, and all the farms thence up to and including George Boal's, Leonard Rhone's and E. Keller's. The southwest white oak is still standing.

The last survey made under the purchase of 1754, confirmed in 1658, was the "Matthew Troy," surveyed Sept. 28, 1768, by Samuel Maclay, patented March 9, 1768, to Henry Falls and Fergus Potter, embracing now the Joshua Potter farm, Leech's etc., and Harris township.

Electric Bitters.

Electric bitters is a medicine suited for any season, but perhaps more generally needed in the spring, when the languid exhausted feeling prevails, when the liver is torpid and sluggish and the need of a tonic and alterative is felt. A prompt use of this medicine has often averted long and perhaps fatal bilious fevers. No medicine will act more surely in counteracting and freeing the system from the malarial poison. Headache, indigestion, constipation, dizziness yield to Electric Bitters. Only fifty cents per bottle at J. D. Murray's Drug store.

As an emergency medicine, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral takes the lead of all other remedies. For the relief and cure of croup, whooping cough, sore throat, and the dangerous pulmonary troubles to which the young are so liable, it is invaluable, being prompt to act, sure to cure.

DR. HARTMAN SAYS

### Now is the Time to Guard Against Colds—The First Cold Weather.

In a recent lecture at the Surgical Hotel Dr. Hartman is reported as saying that no one need catch cold if he is willing to give the matter slight attention; that a cold is beginning of chronic catarrh, consumption, disease of the liver, stomach kidneys and pelvic organs. All this could be prevented by taking his advice. The doctor's professional duties compelled him, for many years, to be much on the road night and day, by carriage, railroad and steamboat. During all this time he never caught a cold. This could not have been done without Pe-ru-na, he says. At the slightest evidence of a cold a few doses of Pe-ru-na invariably checks it.

This is especially reasonable advice, for the cold winter is here, with its storms, sudden changes, sleet, rain and snow. Thousands of people will contract diseases from which they will never recover, by catching cold. Dr. Hartman's advice should be heeded. Pe-ru-na cures catarrh of any stage or location. It is a most popular remedy for la grippe, coughs, colds, etc.

Send for a free copy of an illustrated book on catarrh. It contains sixty-four pages of valuable instruction. Address The Pe-ru-na Drug Manufacturing Company, Columbus, O. Ask your druggist for a copy of The Pe-ru-na Almanac for 1896.

A Generous Offer.—\$200.00 in Gold Given.

R. H. Woodward Company, Baltimore, Md., are making a very generous offer of \$200.00 to anyone who will sell within three months 200 copies of "Talks to Children about Jesus." This is one of the most popular books of recent years. Agents often sell from 10 to 15 copies a day. It contains a great many beautiful illustrations, and is sold at a remarkably low price. They give credit and pay freight, and send complete canvassing outfit for 35 cents. It is just the book to be sold for the holidays. They also offer an Estey Organ, retail price \$270, to any one who will sell 110 books in three months. It is an excellent opportunity for a church or society to secure one of these organs. A \$100.00 bicycle to be given for selling 80 copies in two months, or a gold watch for selling 60 copies in one month. This premium is in addition to the regular commission. They have also published a new book, "Gems of Religious Thought," by Talmage, which is having a large sale. Same terms and premiums as on "Talks to Children about Jesus." Agents who do not get any of the premiums are given a liberal commission. They also make a specialty of other books and Bibles for Xmas holidays. Write them immediately.

A New Legal Tender.

Here is a pointer for Centre county ladies when going shopping, especially if they fall short in stamps: A young lady walked into a Millintown store, and after selecting a piece of cloth asked what it was worth. "Four kisses per yard," said the polite clerk. The young lady stood abashed for a moment and replied that she would take four yards. The cloth was cut off, nicely wrapped up and handed to the fair purchaser who received it with a smile and said: "Send the bill around to my grandmother, she will settle it."

Local Bits of Interest.

This fall's rains, up to Monday last, has helped the cisterns and softened the ground deep enough to aid plowing but did not cause but a slight rise in streams, and not helped the springs any.

Rev. Rearick on last Sabbath afternoon treated the juveniles of the Sabbath school to an illustrated lecture on the ways of Satan in binding his victims to prevent them from doing good.

Living Associate Judges.

At the Centre County bar meeting over the death of Judge Rich, Judge Furst, in an admirable address, named the living ex-associate judges as follows: Hon. Samuel Frank, of Rebersburg; Hon. Chester Munson, of Phillipsburg; and Hon. Thomas F. Riley, of Boalsburg. The ex-president Judges are Hon. Charles Mayer, of Lock Haven, Hon. J. B. McEally, of Clearfield, and Hon. A. O. Furst, of Bellefonte.

The wife of Mr. D. Robinson, a prominent lumberman of Hartwick, N. Y., was sick with rheumatism for five months. In speaking of it Mr. Robinson says: "Chamberlain's Pain Balm is the only thing that gave her any rest from pain. For the relief of pain it cannot be beat." Many very bad cases of rheumatism have been cured by it. For sale at 50 cents per bottle by Wm. Pealer, Spring Mills, S. M. Swartz, Tusseyville, R. E. Bartholomew, Centre Hall.