



THE ABOLITION OF THE PARTY CIRCLE on the official ballot, a mark in which votes the whole party ticket, is the essence of ballot reform in this State so far as it can be accomplished by legislation. Personal registration and the abolition of the tax qualification are also necessities of thorough ballot reform, but can be accomplished only by constitutional amendment, and a remedy of that kind is under way. The case as to ballot reform by this Legislature is well stated in a memorial to the Legislature from the Ballot Reform Association. What is demanded, it says, is—

That upon every official ballot the list of candidates for each office shall be placed together in alphabetical order under the title of the office and with no distinguishing marks but the names of the political parties.

That each voter shall make a separate mark or other indication of his wish for each candidate for whom he votes, and that there shall be no voting by groups or columns except in the case of presidential electors.

The objection to the party column is not that it makes it easy to vote a straight party ticket, but that it provides two ways for marking the ballot, only one of which can be used, but both of which are attempted at the same time by a good many voters, thus rendering their ballot void. The experience of the past has shown that fully 15 per cent of the ballots are thrown out because citizens have marked in the party circle and then marked individual names on the tickets of other parties.

Speaker Marshall and Chairman Orr, of the committee in charge of the ballot bills, have made public declaration that the circle must not be abolished. The speaker says: "The circle is desired by three-fifths of the voters of Pennsylvania. They want it. There is no reason why the will of three-fifths should be made to suit the convenience of two-fifths." This is a reckless and unfounded statement. How does the speaker arrive at his fractions, three-fifths one way and two-fifths the other? It is nothing but partisan guess work, the guess being to fit party needs or advantages. At the election last fall and in the preliminary canvass the stalwart Republicans, the Insurgent Republicans the Democrats and the Prohibitionists, polling nearly 1,200,000 votes, declared themselves for ballot reform. The demand was therefore backed by a unanimous vote. What was understood by ballot reform? Speaker Marshall knows as well as anybody else that it meant the abolition of the party circle on the official ballot. Yet he has the audacity to declare that three-fifths of the people of the State are opposed to it. The record shows that the people with wonderful unanimity were for it. All parties indorsed it—no political leader declared against it.

THAT WAS A QUEER DECISION of Speaker Marshall in the House of Representatives, the question being on the fraudulent makeup of the roll on the passage of bills. It has been charged and the fact established that the clerks recorded as voting members who were far distant from the capital. The speaker decides that the question of the legality of such a vote can be raised only by the member in whose name the illegal voting was done. On the contrary, it is a question that concerns not only every member but every citizen.

Marriage Licenses.

Reuben Alexander and Maude C. Slivisher, Julian.
R. Keller and Mary Clouston, Tyrone.
Newton C. Neidigh, Pine Grove Mills, and Bella Bors, Spruce Creek.
Wm. H. Wells, and Jennie C. Mann, Howard.
Samuel O. Coons and Stella Kapp, Benore.
Wm. H. Yost, Lewisburg, Savilla A. Gengerich, Potters Mills.
Hiram K. Fetternoff and Blanche E. Tate, Bellefonte.
Wm. K. Harshberger, Hublersburg, and Anna Kauffman, Zion.
George H. Hazel and Emma C. Wagner, Bellefonte.

Bought Barber Shop.

Frank P. Geary, of Millheim, bought the barber shop in this place from Jerry Miller and will take charge of the same Monday, April 1st. Mr. Geary is skilled in the art, and is a young man of excellent character, and cannot fail to do well in Centre Hall.

Creasy's Bill.

A revenue bill which allows the counties to retain about \$3,000,000 annually of the taxes now collected by them for the State, was prepared by the committee, and was introduced in the house by Mr. Creasy, of Columbia county. He presented at the same time a petition from the State Grange urging the legislature to enact a law to make up the revenue which it is proposed to divert from the state treasury by taxing such subjects which the Grangers claim, do not now bear their equitable share of state taxation.

Senator Heinle has introduced a bill in the senate authorizing the abandonment by turnpike road or highway companies of such portion of their turnpike roads or highways as are separated as to ownership or possession from the longest continuous portion thereof remaining in the possession or ownership of such companies, after the appropriation or condemnation to public use of an intermediate portion thereof.

Legislative appropriations to schools, hospitals and other institutions which expect aid from the State are to be cut to the lowest limit. The excuse given is that a large sum of money is needed to complete the State Capitol.

Senator Foelt, of Union county, has introduced a bill in the Senate providing for the erection of and maintaining eel baskets and eel wjer in streams between April 15 and November 15.

PENNSYLVANIANS IN ILLINOIS.

A Correspondent Writes Up Centre County People Living in Illinois.

There are many Pennsylvanians in Stephenson county, Illinois, and since the Reporter requested a further account of Centre county people living in that section, the following is a partial answer:

We have with us in Orangeville, two brothers, natives of Pine Grove Mills—W. J. and Jacob Musser. The Mussers are carpenters by trade, and are industrious and first-class mechanics. They are not only prospering, but are good citizens, the heads of fine families, and respected by all who know them.

Mrs. Benage is a native of Spring Mills, and is a daughter of Solt Evans, who died in 1850. She was first married to the late Capt. John Musser, who gave his life in defense of the Union flag. She is highly respected. Her husband is well-to-do, and is a good citizen.

James Miller, whose native home is Millheim, and a son of Capt. John Miller, who crossed the plains to California in 1849, lives three miles east of Orangeville. He has a good farm with fine improvements. John, as he is familiarly called, is a well preserved man. He enjoys society, is a good citizen and respected wherever known.

George Easton, is another of our thorough business men, who is deserving of notice. He is chief clerk in a large general store, owns a fine home in town, is generally prosperous, and a good citizen. He is a man who would be greatly missed if he would leave the place.

Mrs. Henry Bolander and Mrs. E. Musser, daughters of John A. Confer, are Centre countians and live in Orangeville. They are held in the highest esteem by all who know them, and are comfortably situated.

The Buzz Saw.

Clare Stamm got his fingers into a buzz saw at the Linden Hall saw mill on Monday and had several of them badly lacerated. The unfortunate young man was at once driven to the office of Dr. Kidder at Boalsburg, where the wound was dressed.

The postoffice department announces that after April 1 the United States domestic rates of postage and classification shall apply to all mail passing between the United States and Cuba.

D. H. ROTE, ESQ., DEAD.

A Prominent Aaronsburg Citizen Passed Away Monday Evening.

D. H. Rote, Esq., of Aaronsburg, died Monday evening after an illness of some duration. His age was over fifty-nine years, having been born March 12, 1842. The funeral took place this, Thursday forenoon. The services were conducted by his pastor, Rev. F. W. Brown.

Squire Rote, on account of physical disability was unable to attend public school during his early days, but through the instructions of his mother he began teaching school at the age of fifteen years. Afterward he learned the jewelry trade, and in 1862 became a type setter in the Reporter office, which was then published in Aaronsburg. Later on he opened a jewelry shop in Aaronsburg, and continued in the business until his death.

His brave and successful struggle with an adverse fate has won him the esteem and admiration of all who knew him and given him a host of warm friends. In politics he was a Republican, and from 1884 to 1894 he served as Justice of the Peace. In 1869 he was married in Aaronsburg to Miss Susan Crommiller, a native of that town and a daughter of Thos. Crommiller, a well-known citizen. They have an adopted daughter, Mamie. Mrs. Rote is an active member of the Reformed church and has taken a generous interest in many lines of philanthropic work.

BRIEF LOCALS.

Those who can are moving to-day, Thursday.

Reitz Bros. expect to open a meat market in Boalsburg.

Sidney Miller, who worked for J. Q. A. Kennedy last year has moved to the Benner farm.

Mrs. Benner is having some repairs made to the house now occupied by Dr. W. E. Park.

Samuel Boob will move from the Hoffr farm this week to the farm of Mrs. Virginia Curtin, in Bald Eagle Valley, near Roiland.

Jerry Stump, who will move from Church to Main Street today, Thursday, will do the farming for S. W. Smith during the coming year.

Miss Janet Bryson, a member of the Senior class of the Lock Haven Normal, visited her brother, Prof. J. C. Bryson, principal of the Boalsburg public schools, at that place last week.

George Reish has given up going to farming on the Benner farm this spring, on account of the continued ill health of Mrs. Reish, and will move into the Logan house owned by Mrs. Sparr.

Frank Shutt has moved from the Old Fort to the house he bought from B. D. Brislin last fall, on Hoffer street and has his smith shop fitted up for doing all kinds of work in the line of blacksmithing.

Jolly Joe Winters, New Berlin, was a candidate for Associate Judge in Union county before the Republican primaries Saturday of last week, and fell short just 104 votes of becoming the regular nominee.

Wm. Brooks, living on the Leech farm near Linden Hall, had the misfortune to fall from a wagon Wednesday while assisting in moving the household goods of Mrs. Showers to Pleasant Gap. The fall resulted in a dislocated shoulder blade, which Dr. W. E. Park adjusted.

If you want to see a Potter township young man who is making things bloom in Philadelphia, call around at the South east corner of Second and Vine streets, where John Glasgow is conducting a well equipped and regulated saloon. Mr. Glasgow erected a splendid three-story building on the corner mentioned, and besides being successful in the saloon business, he is "one of them," having been elected a councilman.

G. Bruce Goodhart writes from Free port, Illinois, that he has received employment with a breeder of Poland China hogs, and is receiving \$25.00 per month. His employer Henry Schmetzman, sold fifty hogs that averaged in price \$39.75. Mr. Goodhart is delighted with his western location and speaks well of his employer. The other young men who went west at the same time have not been heard from up to this time.

Messrs. James Dubbs and Hugh Calahan, were callers Saturday, Mr. Dubbs is the young man who was unfortunate enough some time ago to have his face badly cut by a flying piece of t-ava. These young men are at present working on the McNitt stave mill north of Linden Hall, and relate that the workmen had an exciting time at the mill last week one day when a temporary wooden flue, calculated to carry away the smoke from the refuse pile, took fire. By prompt action a conflagration was averted.

DEATHS.

Prominent Citizens of Centre County Called to Rest.

MRS. JANE DEWEES.

Mrs. Jane Dewees died at her home in Milesburg Saturday evening. She was walking in the garden at her home when she suddenly dropped over and in a few minutes was dead. Death was due to the infirmities of old age.

MRS. MARY GRIFFITH.

Mrs. Mary Griffith died at her home at Axe Mann Monday of this week. Her age was over eighty-six years. She is survived by two sons, James Waddle, of Lock Haven, and Harvey Griffith, of Axe Mann. Deceased was a granddaughter of General Philip Benner, who was connected with the early history of this county.

MRS. JAMES DUCK.

Mrs. James Duck died at her home in Sugar Valley Sunday morning after a lingering illness from consumption, aged twenty-seven years. She is survived by her husband and two children. The funeral took place Tuesday afternoon, services in the Evangelical church at Loganton; interment in Loganton cemetery.

MATTHIAS STRAYER.

Matthias Strayer died from the effects of apoplexy Wednesday at his home one mile south of Rebersburg. His age was eighty-two years, and he was highly respected by all who knew him. The deceased was a bachelor, and together with Rev. Eusebius Hershey and wife lived for many years near the death of this subject occurred, the reverend and his wife having died first. One brother survives.

MRS. JAMES LEITZELL.

Mrs. Leitzell, wife of John Leitzell, of Lewisburg, died at her home in that place Monday morning, and will be buried at the Green Grove Evangelical church to-day, Thursday. The deceased was the daughter of Michael Fiedler, deceased, of Green Grove. She leaves a husband and three children to mourn her loss—one son and two daughters. Her husband is a son of Samuel Leitzell, of Jersey Shore, and is employed as hostler at the round house.

MRS. NANCY BRUNGART.

Mrs. Nancy Brungart, widow of Jacob Brungart, who died many years ago, died at her home four miles east of Rebersburg Tuesday of last week, and buried Friday. Rev. Harmon, pastor of the Lutheran church of which the deceased was a member, officiated. Her age was seventy-nine years. Two sons survive, Charles, a prominent citizen of Miles township, and John, of Bethlehem, Lehigh county, a carpenter. The deceased's maiden name was Goss.

MRS. CATHARINE BIERLY.

Mrs. Catharine Bierly died at the home of her son, Charles Bierly, at Rebersburg, Tuesday morning of last week, at the age of eighty-eight years, five months and eighteen days. Two weeks previous to her death she was stricken with paralysis which left her in a helpless condition. She never rallied but gradually grew weaker, until death occurred at the time stated. The deceased was the widow of Melchior Bierly, who died in January, 1895, and is survived by two children, Charles, with whom she made her home, and Mrs. Jane Brungart, of Salona. The funeral took place last Friday afternoon, from her late residence; the services were conducted by Rev. Harmon, of the Lutheran church.

SPEER HETTINGER.

Speer Hettinger died at his home near Egg Hill, Tuesday morning at five o'clock, after a short illness from kidney trouble. The deceased was born July 24, 1846, and August 5, 1870, he was married to Miss Bella, daughter of Robert Lee, deceased. A family of eight children and a widow are left to mourn his departure. The children are, John, Farmers Mills; Mary, Harrisburg; George, Centre Hall; and Elmer, Harry, Mabel, Lottie and Ida, at home. The services will take place Friday forenoon at nine o'clock at the house. Interment at the Cross Church, where further services will be held by Rev. J. M. Rearick, pastor of the deceased.

Business Notice.

I desire at this time to thank my patrons for their cordial business dealings at my store in the past ten years, and will say that by inquiring at my house all unsettled accounts and balances can be referred to after April first, when I expect to leave for Ohio.

The store room will be filled with goods, and business continued by a new firm, for whom I request the same cordial support and who can assure you very satisfactory results.

Very Respectfully,
G. H. Lutz.

BRIEF LOCALS.

Rev. J. M. Rearick Monday morning went to Snyder county.

The shoe factory at Middleburg was closed by the sheriff last week.

Davis Evans, of Potters Mills, who has been seriously ill, is improving.

Feathers, 35, 65, and best grade at 75 cents a pound, at Swartz's, Tusseyville.

Prof. James Gregg, of Milesburg, spent Saturday with friends in Centre Hall.

Miss Sara Wieland, of Osceola Mills, is visiting her aunt, Mrs. D. C. Hess, at Linden Hall.

Mr. J. Barger is located at Beech, Centre county, instead of Milroy, where he had been living.

The rain of Tuesday interfered seriously with a number of people who were moving on that day.

Mrs. D. W. Geiss, of Bellefonte, spent Monday at the home of her father, Mr. George Goodhart, at Centre Hill.

The carpenters are at work repairing the damage done to Mrs. Keller's building during the fire at Linden Hall.

Mrs. Irvin Gettig, of Bellefonte, was the guest of her mother, Mrs. Mary McClenahan, at this place Saturday.

The Centre County Medical Society adopted a fee bill at its last meeting, which went into effect on the 18th of March.

I. V. Royer, law student at Bellefonte, spent Saturday and Sunday with his father, C. E. Royer, at Spring Mills.

Dr. J. A. Swartz died at Harrisburg at the age of seventy-six years. Dr. Swartz for many years practiced in Millin county, being located at McVeytown.

Mrs. James Duck, of Sugar Valley, died Sunday at 9:30 a. m. of consumption after a lingering illness. She was 27 years old. Her husband and two children survive.

Daniel Hess, Esq., of Linden Hall, expects to have his house in that place remodeled throughout. New ceilings will be placed, and many other improvements made.

Messrs. James Alexander and son Abner and Elmer Royer last week began hauling stone for the new house Mr. Alexander purposes building during the coming summer.

Work was resumed last week at the Mann Edge Tool Works, in Millin county, after an idleness of three weeks. A compromise was effected between the workmen and the management.

George M. Hall, one of Huntingdon's young business men, is visiting his friend, Miss Freda Hess, at Linden Hall, before leaving for Pittsburg, where he expects to take charge of a large wholesale store.

The Treasury department gives notice that all documentary and proprietary revenue stamps in the hands of purchasers on and after July 1 will be redeemed by the collector of internal revenue from whom they were purchased.

Read the advertisement of J. S. Dauberman, furniture dealer and undertaker, in this place. Mr. Dauberman will be able to furnish you all kinds of goods in his line and at prices that will be an inducement to purchase from him.

Harry Fishburn, of Potters Mills, was in town on business one day last week. Mr. Fishburn learned the blacksmith trade with M. L. Emerick some years ago, and lately located at Potters Mills, where he is building up a good trade.

"Walks and Talks with Tolstoy," an illustrated article by Andrew D. White, Ambassador to Germany, in McClure's Magazine for April, affords a vivid picture of the Russian genius' character and personality.

Messrs. David Glasgow, of near Tusseyville, and Lloyd Brown, of near Linden Hall, were callers at this office Tuesday. Both gentlemen are preparing for the approaching busy season on the farm, and were in Centre Hall to look after affairs in that connection.

J. W. Wolf, grocer and provisioner at Ardmore, Pa arrived at this place Tuesday morning and at once began packing goods and preparing for the sale Saturday of this week. The family will leave Centre Hall beginning of next week for their new home at Ardmore, eight miles from Broad Street Station along the Pennsylvania railroad and on the Lancaster pike.

Mrs. Eugene Shadle and little son, of Williamsport, spent the past week at the home of Station agent F. W. Bradford. Mrs. Shadle has just returned from Parsons, West Virginia, where her husband is now located and extensively engaged in the lumber business. He is now erecting a saw mill and tram road on his lumber job. Mrs. Shadle left this week for Williamsport and as soon as arrangements can be made they will remove to Parsons.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Mrs. D. F. Luse Friday afternoon went to Coburn.

Miss Virna Geiss is recovering from a severe attack of grip.

Pittsburg will drop the vertical writing system in the public schools.

Jacob Lee moved on Tuesday to the Sparr farm near Linden Hall, formerly occupied by David Bohn.

Henry Moyer, of Colyer, spent several days at the home of his sister, Mrs. Mary Smith, at Spring Mills.

Miss Martha Tressler, of Tyrone, is spending a few weeks with her sister, Mrs. Robert McClellan, at Linden Hall.

Rev. A. B. Collins, of the Lewisburg Presbyterian church, has resigned as pastor because of ill health.

These spring rains seem to have a very desirable effect on everything that grows, including the subscription list of the Reporter.

W. H. Kuhn, of Jersey Shore, father of Mrs. S. W. Smith, arrived at Centre Hall Friday evening, and remained over Sunday.

W. A. Curran will move from this place to Potters Mills on Thursday, and will become tenant on one of the Allison farms.

Peter Shires, for the past week had charge of the Coburn House, at Coburn, during the illness of the landlord, Simon King.

Miss Mabel Boal will retire as assistant postmistress as soon as her successor, W. D. Shoop, gets acquainted with the business of the office.

Farm operations have already begun in Union county. Last week farmers could be observed plowing in various sections of that county.

Miss Blanche Rossman, of Tusseyville, daughter, of M. F. Rossman, Tuesday returned from a visit to Millheim among friends.

Aaron N. Runkle, son of ex-Associate Judge Runkle, deceased, of Potter township, is connected with a large general store at Santa Anna, Cal.

Robert McClellan will rebuild the barn which was destroyed by fire at Linden Hall recently. He expects to begin work on the structure at once.

Mrs. B. F. Arney went to Rebersburg last Thursday, and the following day attended the funeral of her aged aunt, Mrs. Catharine Bierly, at that place.

Rev. J. M. Runkle, of Williamsport, passed through Centre Hall Thursday on his way to see his mother at Spring Mills. He was accompanied by his little daughter.

Messrs. Philip and John Durst, of near Centre Hall, Saturday attended a public sale near Glendon on the farm which the latter bought after April first.

W. D. Shoop, selected assistant postmistress of Centre Hall post office.

en himself a politician and his country and his country.

Peter Geary, known to all at his home, is a model farmer.

A German marriage is considerably the doctor of thinking the live longer men than they do.

Tuesday Charles W. removed from the er-in-law, Capt. Geo. Centre Hall, and now the Dinges house in ard Brooks, of Pleasant the farm vacated by

Prof. L. F. Lybarger, politician, stopped in Philadelphia Saturday night to write at the Bir

Prof. Lybarger went New Jersey where ment to speak.

Miss Luella Higen, principal of High School, accompanied brother, visited Miss Igen is a Haven Normal, complied with the posed by that institution take a college course.

Frank Shaffer, of Williamsport, spent the past week passed through Centre Hall on a spring tour of Central Pennsylvania in the interest of the chant tailoring establishment at 1303 Arch Street. The State formerly of State College, conducted a similar business on a large and extensive scale. At their present arrangement they are enjoying an