THE
"CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN,"
PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY, BY
GOODLANDER & LEE,
CLEARFIELD, PA.

ESTABLISHED IN 1827.

The largest Circulation of any Newspaper in North Central Pennsylvania.

Terms of Subscription.

If paid in advance, or within 3 months....$2 00
If paid after 3 and before 6 months..... 2 50
If paid after the expiration of 6 months... 3 00

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Auditors' notices..... 2 50
Cautions and Estrays..... 1 50
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Professional Cards, 5 lines or less, 1 year,.... 5 00
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YEARLY ADVERTISEMENTS.

1 square.....$8 00 | ¼ column.....$50 00
2 squares.....15 00 | ½ column..... 70 00
3 squares.....20 00 | 1 column.....120 00

G. R. GOODLANDER,
NOEL B. LEE,
Publishers.

CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN.

GEO. B. GOODLANDER, Proprietor. PRINCIPLES, NOT MEN. TERMS—$2 per annum in Advance.

VOL. 50—WHOLE NO. 2479. CLEARFIELD, PA., WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 1876. NEW SERIES—VOL. 17, NO. 28.

Cards.

W. C. ARNOLD,
LAW & COLLECTION OFFICE,
CURWENSVILLE,
x26 Clearfield County, Penn'a. 75y

THOS. S. MURRAY. CYRUS GORDON.
MURRAY & GORDON,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in Pie's Opera House, second floor.
9:30'74

FRANK FIELDING,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Will attend to all business entrusted to him promptly and faithfully. nov1'73

WILLIAM A. WALLACE. DAVID L. KREBS.
HARRY F. WALLACE. JOHN W. WRIGLEY.
WALLACE & KREBS,
(Successors to Wallace & Fielding,)
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
11-12'73 Clearfield, Pa.

JOSEPH S. M'ENALLY. DANIEL W. M'CURDY.
McENALLY & McCURDY,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Legal business attended to promptly with fidelity. Office on Second street, above the First National Bank. jan1:76

G. R. BARRETT,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Having resigned his Judgeship, has resumed the practice of the law in his old office at Clearfield, Pa. Will attend the courts of Jefferson and Elk counties when specially retained in connection with resident counsel. 2:14:72

A. G. KRAMER,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Real Estate and Collection Agent,
CLEARFIELD, PA.,
Will promptly attend to all legal business entrusted to his care.
Office in Pie's Opera House. jan1'76.

WM. M. McCULLOUGH,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Office in the old Western Hotel building. Legal business promptly attended to. Real estate bought and sold. jel1'73

A. W. WALTERS,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Office in Graham's Row. (dec3-1y

H. W. SMITH,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
n1:1'73 Clearfield, Pa.

WALTER BARRETT,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Clearfield, Pa.
Office in Old Western Hotel building, corner of Second and Market Sts. [nov21,68.

ISRAEL TEST,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Office in the Court House. [jy11,'67

JOHN H. FULFORD,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Office on Market street, opp. Court House. Jan. 3, 1874.

JOHN L. CUTTLE,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
and Real Estate Agent, Clearfield, Pa.
Office on Third street, bet. Cherry & Walnut.
Respectfully offers his services in selling and buying lands in Clearfield and adjoining counties; and with an experience of over twenty years as a surveyor, flatters himself that he can render satisfaction. [Feb. 28:63tf.

J. BLAKE WALTERS,
REAL ESTATE BROKER,
AND DEALER IN
Saw Logs and Lumber,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in Graham's Row. 1:25:71

J. J. LINGLE,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
1:18 Osceola, Clearfield Co., Pa. ypd

J. S. BARNHART,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Bellefonte, Pa.
Will practice in Clearfield and all of the Courts of the 25th Judicial district. Real estate business and collection of claims made specialties. n1'71

DR. W. A. MEANS,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
LUTHERSBURG, PA.
Will attend professional calls promptly. aug10'70

DR. T. J. BOYER,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
Office on Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.
Office hours: 8 to 12 a. m., and 1 to 5 p. m.

DR. E. M. SCHEURER,
HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIAN,
Office in residence on Market st.
April 24, 1872. Clearfield, Pa.

J. H. KLINE, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
HAVING located at Penfield, Pa., offers his professional services to the people of that place and surrounding country. All calls promptly attended to. oct. 15 tf.

DR. J. P. BURCHFIELD,
Late Surgeon of the 85d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, having returned from the Army, offers his professional services to the citizens of Clearfield county.
Professional calls promptly attended to. Office on Second street, formerly occupied by Dr. Woods. [apr4,'66-tf

DR. H. B. VAN VALZAH,
CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.
OFFICE IN MASONIC BUILDING.
Office hours—From 12 to 2 P. M.
May 18, 1875.

DR. JEFFERSON LITZ,
WOODLAND, PA.
Will promptly attend all calls in the line of his profession. nov.19-75

D. M. DOHERTY,
FASHIONABLE BARBER & HAIR DRESSER.
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Shop in room formerly occupied by Naugle Market street.
July 14, '76.

HARRY SNYDER,
(Formerly with Lew Schuler.)
BARBER AND HAIRDRESSER.
Shop on Market St., opposite Court House. A clean towel for every customer. may 19, '75.

WHOLESALE LIQUOR STORE.
At the end of the new bridge,
WEST CLEARFIELD, PA.
The proprietor of this establishment will buy his liquors direct from distillers. Parties buying from this house will be sure to get a pure article at a small margin above cost. Hotel keepers can be furnished with liquors on reasonable terms. Pure wines and brandies direct from Seeley's Vinery, at Bath, New York.
GEORGE N. COLBURN.
Clearfield, June 16, 1875-tf.

JUSTICES' & CONSTABLES' FEES—We have printed a large number of the new FEE BILL, and will on the receipt of twenty-five cents, mail a copy to any address. my26

Cards.

JOHN D. THOMPSON,
Justice of the Peace and Scrivener,
Curwensville, Pa.
Collections made and money promptly paid over. feb22'71tf

RICHARD HUGHES,
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
—FOR—
Decatur Township,
Osceola Mills P. O.
All official business entrusted to him will be promptly attended to. mch29, '76.

GEO. ALBERT.....HENRY ALBERT.....W. ALBERT
W. ALBERT & BROS.,
Manufacturers & extensive Dealers in
Sawed Lumber, Square Timber, &c.,
WOODLAND, PENN'A.
Orders solicited. Bills filled on short notice and reasonable terms.
Address Woodland P. O., Clearfield Co., Pa.
e25-1y W. ALBERT & BROS.

FRANCIS COUTRIET,
MERCHANT,
Frenchville, Clearfield County, Pa.
Keeps constantly on hand a full assortment of Dry Goods, Hardware, Groceries, and everything usually kept in a retail store, which will be sold, for cash, as cheap as elsewhere in the county.
Frenchville, June 27, 1867-1y.

THOMAS H. FORCEE,
DEALER IN
GENERAL MERCHANDISE,
GRAHAMTON, Pa.
Also, extensive manufacturer and dealer in Square Timber and Sawed Lumber of all kinds.
Orders solicited and all bills promptly filled. [*jy16'72

REUBEN HACKMAN,
House and Sign Painter and Paper Hanger,
Clearfield, Penn'a.
Will execute jobs in his line promptly and in a workmanlike manner. apr4,67

G. H. HALL,
PRACTICAL PUMP MAKER,
NEAR CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.
Pumps always on hand and made to order on short notice. Pipe bored on reasonable terms. All work warranted to render satisfaction, and delivered if desired. my23:typd

E. A. BIGLER & CO.,
DEALERS IN
SQUARE TIMBER,
and manufacturers of
ALL KINDS OF SAWED LUMBER,
8-7'72 CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.

JAS. B. GRAHAM,
dealer in
Real Estate, Square Timber, Boards,
SHINGLES, LATH, & PICKETS,
9:10'73 Clearfield, Pa.

JAMES MITCHELL,
DEALER IN
Square Timber & Timber Lands,
jel1'73 CLEARFIELD, PA.

JAMES H. LYTLE,
In Kratzer's Building, Clearfield, Pa.
Dealer in Groceries, Provisions, Vegetables, Fruits, Flour, Feed, etc., etc.
apr14'75-tf

T. M. ROBINSON,
Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.,
MANUFACTURER OF
Light and Heavy Harness, Collars, Saddles, Bridles, &c. Repairing neatly done.
May 24, 1876-6m.

JOHN A. STADLER,
BAKER, Market St., Clearfield, Pa.
Fresh Bread, Rusk, Rolls, Pies and Cakes on hand or made to order. A general assortment of Confectionaries, Fruits and Nuts in stock.—Ice Cream and Oysters in season. Saloon nearly opposite the Postoffice. Prices moderate.
March 16-'75.

J. R. M'MURRAY
WILL SUPPLY YOU WITH ANY ARTICLE OF MERCHANDISE AT THE VERY LOWEST PRICE. COME AND SEE. (3:3:73:y)

NEW WASHINGTON.

MILL NOTICE.—
Any party having logs to saw at Lock Haven, can have them manufactured at the lowest rate and in the best manner by calling at the Saw Mill of Towne, Shaw & Co., Water street, Lock Haven, Pa. N. SHAW.
Lock Haven, April 26, 1876-3m.

CHEAP GROCERIES!
LUMBER CITY, PA.
The undersigned announces to his old friends and patrons that he has opened a good line of GROCERIES & PROVISIONS at the old stand of Kirk & Spencer, for which he solicits a liberal patronage. H. W. SPENCER.
Lumber City, Pa., March 20-tf.

MARBLE AND STONE YARD.
Mrs. S. S. LIDDELL,
Having engaged in the Marble business, desires to inform her friends and the public that she has now and will keep constantly on hand a large and well-selected stock of ITALIAN AND VERMONT MARBLE, and is prepared to furnish to order TOMBSTONES, BOX AND CRADLE TOMBS, MONUMENTS, &c.
Yard on Reed street, near the R. R. Depot, Clearfield, Pa. jel4,76

S. I. SNYDER,
PRACTICAL WATCHMAKER
AND DEALER IN
Watches, Clocks and Jewelry,
Graham's Row, Market Street,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
All kinds of repairing in my line promptly attended to. April 23, 1874.

Livery Stable.
THE undersigned begs leave to inform the public that he is now fully prepared to accommodate all in the way of furnishing Horses, Buggies, Saddles and Harness, on the shortest notice and on reasonable terms. Residence on Locust street, between Third and Fourth.
GEO. W. GEARHART.
Clearfield, Feb. 4, 1874.

MITCHELL WAGONS.
The Best is the Cheapest!
Thomas Reilly has received another large lot of "Mitchell Wagons," which are among the very best manufactured, and which he will sell at the most reasonable rates. His stock includes almost all descriptions of wagons—largeand small, wide and narrow track. Call and see them.
apr8'74 THOMAS REILLY.

ANDREW HARWICK,
Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.,
MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN
HARNESS, SADDLES, BRIDLES, COLLARS,
and all kinds of
HORSE FURNISHING GOODS.
A full stock of Saddlers' Hardware, Brushes, Combs, Blankets, Robes, etc., always on hand and for sale at the lowest cash prices. All kinds of repairing promptly attended to.
All kinds of hides taken in exchange for harness and repairing. All kinds of harness leather kept on hand, and for sale at a small profit.
Clearfield, Jan. 19, 1876.

UNDERTAKING!

The undersigned are now fully prepared to carry on the business of
'UNDERTAKING,'
AT REASONABLE RATES,
And respectfully solicit the patronage of those needing such services.
JOHN TROUTMAN,
JAMES L. LEAVY.
Clearfield, Pa., Feb. 18, 1874.

CENTENNIAL HYMN.

BY WM. CULLEN BRYANT.

Through storm and calm the years have led
Our nation on from stage to stage,
A century's space, until we tread,
The threshold of another age.

We see there, o'er our pathway swept,
A terrent stream of blood and fire;
And thank the ruling power who kept
Our sacred league of States entire.

Oh! checkered train of years, farewell,
With all thy strifes and hopes and fears,
But with us let thy memories dwell,
To warn and lead the coming years.

And thou, the new beginning age,
Warned by the past and not in vain,
Write on a fairer, whiter page
The record of thy happier reign.

1776--JULY 4TH--1876.

A Good-Bye to the Old Century!

MILES OF MEN, WOMEN, CARRIAGES AND WAGONS!

A Gala Day for Clearfield!

Celebrations Elsewhere in the County on the Centennial Fourth!

In accordance with the preliminary proceedings of a meeting held in Pie's Opera House on the evening of the 17th of May, and again on the 30th of May, a grand demonstration came off on the Fourth.

The active members of the Executive Committee, Dr. A. M. Hills, A. I. Shaw, Jas. L. Leavy, R. M. McEnally and Henry Kerns, are deserving of the thanks of the public for their vigilance in perfecting arrangements for the celebration. The committee, as originally constituted, was composed of nine members, and Messrs. Dr. Blandy, of Osceola, Geo. H. Woodin, of Woodward twp., and Jas. L. Cook, of New Washington, finding it too inconvenient to attend the meetings, they approved the actions of the majority. At their first meeting, the committee elected R. M. McEnally Secretary—just the place for him. A committee with Dr. Hills at one end and Manning at the other, is certain to accomplish something on a Fourth of July.

The Committee on Decorations and Receptions, consisting of Messrs. H. W. Smith, Chairman, John F. Irwin, Jas. Kerr, Cyrus Gordon, Dr. J. P. Burchfield, had a very busy time of it, and they executed their duties in a becoming manner.

The Chief Marshal, Dr. Burchfield, and his Aids, Messrs. John A. Gregory, James Kerr, John Simmons, George Weaver, T. M. Robinson and Al. B. Reed, had their hands full during the forenoon of the Fourth.

Those persons who did not participate in making arrangements for this Centennial effort, have not the least idea of the amount of labor it took to put everything in order. We believe all the committees performed their parts well, except that on finance. We believe the Finance Committee never met. The "panicy" times evidently frightened them off. However, volunteers circulated a subscription paper, and succeeded in raising $565, leaving the Executive Committee short about $59.51, as will be noticed by the report of the Chairman of that committee. The Finance Committee will, no doubt, yet retrieve its reputation for financiering, by liquidating this indebtedness.

Pole raising and decorating by our citizens for a week previous was no small effort in point of labor and expense. It looks "a little high," but a a forty-foot flag-staff was placed on the tower of the Court House and a large flag suspended therefrom. The first effort to raise a large pole in the Diamond was a failure. When it was about half way up, the pole broke near the middle, the top piece coming down end foremost and standing erect for a short time, not indicating which way it was going to fall. To witness the scatterment North, South, East and West, by the hundreds of persons who were within reach, was good sport, indeed. Some pretty old nags moved at a 2:40 pace for some distance. The pole fell lengthwise in the street, injuring no one, except the unusually nervous, who imagined they saw a score of dead men and boys after the break occurred.

Another pole, 108 feet high, was successfully raised at the crossing of Market and Fourth streets.

The next day after the breaking of the large pole (Friday), a pole 152 feet in length, was hauled into the Diamond and raised without much trouble, except to keep the fire-cracker brigade out from under it while it was being put up.

A tall flag-staff was put up on the top of the "Leonard Graded School" building.

All of these poles were appropriately decorated with evergreen wreaths and large flags.

Four arches were sprung across the Diamond from the large pole in the centre, wreathed and flagged with scores of small emblems.

The Court House was deluged with small flags at each window, and flagging material was festooned and fastened to the sash of the lower tier of windows.

The 3d was a very busy day in the decoration line. Some of the dwellings of our patriotic citizens were literally covered with flags, evergreens, Chinese lanterns, and flowers, which gave to the town a magnificent appearance.

Two handsome arches were sprung across Market street—one at the Shaw House, and one at the Post office. There was also an arch over Second street, opposite Sackett & Schryver's hardware store, and one across Reed street, opposite the Leonard House.

A fine cable wreath was thrown across Second street, from the residences of Messrs. Jona. Boynton and E. A. Bigler, which attracted universal attention.

To give in detail the decoration of private residences, we must abandon for want of room, and for fear of becoming too tedious for this generation.

The evening of the 3d is at hand. Such a night! We do not want to listen to the like of it again for a hundred years to come. "Lots of fun," of course, but the hours of midnight and 4 o'clock in the morning were made hideous with joy. Think of the ringing of all the bells—Court House, schools and churches—the blowing of steam-whistles, the firing of cannon, anvils, guns, pistols, fire-crackers, and every other noise that powder will assist in making! Thirteen guns were fired off on Cemetery hill, east of town, in honor of the family of States one hundred years ago, and they were replied to by thirty-eight more from the hill west of the borough, in accord with the number of States now in the Union, or family of Nations.

Well, here we are at 5 o'clock A. M., July 4th, 1876, about 3,000 strong—all red-hot patriots, ready for a Centennial fandango. The sun and surrounding nature never seemed brighter, and even man and beast seemed to be ready to celebrate. Delegation after delegation entered town from the four quarters. The members of the Committee on Reception were flying around in every direction as busy as bees, while Chief Marshal Burchfield and his Aids, mounted on their steeds, were visible everywhere, directing and ordering delegations into line, and bringing order out of confusion.

By 10 o'clock, the crowd increased to a multitude too numerous to be all seen at once. After the special trains from Curwensville and Houtzdale were unloaded, the streets were literally alive with human beings and horses. It has been our pleasure to witness a number of large gatherings of the citizens of our county during the past thirty years, but this occasion surpassed all for numbers that we ever looked at in these woods. We are satisfied that by 2 o'clock P. M. there were at least 6,000 persons moving around on our streets and at the Park, and on the way going and coming thither.

Finally, at about 11 o'clock A. M., Marshal Burchfield and his Aids got all the vehicles into line, and ordered a movement toward the Park grounds. It took the procession a full hour to pass over the Second street bridge, while a number forded the river, and many of those who had come from the West and North repaired to the Park immediately upon their arrival. The grove in the Park was soon crowded with persons and vehicles.

THE OPENING CEREMONIES.

At about 12 o'clock M., Dr. Hills, Chairman of the Ex. Committee, called the multitude to order, and, after repeated calls, succeeded in getting the members of the Choir Committee on the platform, made up of the following gentlemen: Cyrus Gordon, George W. Weaver, P. K. Sprenkle, F. O'L. Buck, Jas. C. Bloom, A. J. Smith, H. T. King, C. W. Arthurs, Geo. W. Reynolds, J. P. Moore, and J. K. Wrigley. Mr. Wrigley performed on the organ. The first piece executed was, of course, "The Star Spangled Banner," at the conclusion of which, Rev. H. S. Butler, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, came forward on the platform and opened the ceremonies with an appropriate prayer. Music again: "The Flag without a Stain."

READING THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

At the conclusion of this piece of music, Wm. C. Arnold, Esq., who had been selected for the occasion came forward and read the Declaration of Independence. He performed his duty well. Music: "The Flag that Waved One Hundred Years."

Just at this point we were struck with the emblematic combination on the platform. There stood the reader with a copy of the Declaration of Independence in one hand, pointing to a beautiful silk flag overhead, and with the other pointing to a genuine American eagle, which had been killed, and stuffed, and placed on a pedestal on the platform. We are satisfied that a similar combination of the true elements of "Virtue, Liberty and Independence," upon which our system of government is based, was witnessed in but few localities.

ORATION BY MR. MURRAY.

At this point, Thomas H. Murray, Esq., orator of the day, was introduced to the assemblage by Chairman Hills. The following correspondence will explain itself:

CITIZENS' LETTER TO MR. MURRAY.

CLEARFIELD, PA., July 5, 1876.

To Thomas H. Murray, Esq.:

DEAR SIR:—Being fully conscious of the worth of the eloquent and entertaining oration delivered by you to the citizens of Clearfield county, assembled at the Centennial celebration, on the 4th inst., and believing there are many of our citizens who were deprived by unavoidable circumstances of being present on that occasion, we, the undersigned citizens of Clearfield, respectfully request a copy thereof for publication in the county papers.

A. M. HILLS, T. J. BOYER,
A. I. SHAW, J. M. ADAMS,
S. J. ROW, WM. M. MCCULLOUGH,
J. G. HARTSWICK, DAN. W. MCCURDY,
JOSEPH B. MCENALLY.

MR. MURRAY'S REPLY.

To Dr. A. M. Hills, and other citizens of Clearfield:

GENTLEMEN:—In response to your communication of the 5th inst., I herewith enclose a copy of my address, as requested.

Very respectfully, yours,
THOS. H. MURRAY.

CLEARFIELD, PENN'A., July 6, 1876.

Ladies and Gentlemen, and Fellow-Citizens of Clearfield County:

I congratulate you upon the very appropriate demonstration with which you greet this Centennial anniversary of our great Republic. This is an occasion well worthy just such a celebration as that with which you have honored the day. It is an occasion full of the proudest memories of the past, and suggestive of the highest hopes of the future. On this natal day of our liberties, a spirit of just pride inspires every American citizen, as he reviews the past and realizes that the wise system of government established by our fathers has withstood the storms and conflicts of an hundred years. As he looks with a prophetic eye to the future, he beholds his country starting out with majestic tread upon the second century of her life—with a long line of banners streaming, alike from the humblest cottage homes, and the dwellings of the rich—the centre of attraction to all the nations—crowned with an illustrious history—inspired by a renewed faith, and full of promise of still greater achievements and a nobler destiny.

THE WORLD NOT TRAINED TO FREE GOVERNMENT.

The form of government which we possess is the highest type of national life. It requires the highest degree of civilization to maintain it, and the most heroic patriotism and sacrifice to preserve it. This is the only government of the people which has successfully fought the battles of freedom, and endured the ravages of time. Every other nation based upon the idea of man's capacity for self-government, has either gradually surrendered to the encroachments of monarchy, or been blotted from the map of history. For long centuries the world has been educated to the ways and means by which kings and aristocracies were maintained. It was only by the severe lessons of experience, obtained in prison cell, and on the battle field, that man was aroused to a consciousness of his manhood. The one-power man had sown the seeds of conflict, and reaped the fruits of conquest for nearly four thousand years. As it marched down through the centuries, its footprints were hoary with the dust of time, and it wielded a sceptre that was gilded with the lustre of ages.

ORIGIN OF FREE GOVERNMENTS.

Far back, in the beginning of history, and by divine proclamation, the principles of free government had been first announced to the world. Under their benign influence the Hebrew Commonwealth flourished, and filled the valleys and adorned the hills of the promised land, with a race of statesmen, poets, historians, and soldiers whose achievements have challenged the admiration of all succeeding ages. But the glory of their history was forgotten in the relentless clamor for a King, and monarchy began its reign over the ruins of the first republic. In the lapse of time a beautiful cluster of republics sprung into life along the Southern coasts of Europe. "Their memory still fills the earth with its fragrance of heroic deeds and exalted achievements." They brought to the stage of action an illustrious line of orators and poets, whose masterpieces have stood unrivalled amid all the progress of the ages. But in an evil hour they surrendered their rights, and crowned heads again ruled, with an iron rod, this land of eloquence and song. Uniformly, this had seemed to be the fate of republics. To our rude but brave ancestors, who first peopled these shores, there were but few bright spots in history to encourage them. But they had cut themselves loose from the rest of the world, and planted their homes so far away from the busy haunts of life, that the rough elements with which they came in contact—the rugged mountains—the unfettered rivers—and the boundless forest—fostered in them a spirit of liberty which overstepped all the barriers that the lessons of history presented.

ORIGIN OF OUR REPUBLIC.

One hundred years ago, then a poor and oppressed people gathered from every land, they framed a government of their own, and started out upon the broad highway of national life. This infant republic flung out to a then tyrannical government, that boasted a parliament seven hundred years old, their solemn protest against wrong. They submitted to the judgment of a candid world, their firm declaration of right. They selected for their flag, first, a sheet of pure white, typical of their honesty and integrity of purpose. Then to represent their courage and patriotism, they striped it with the red, emblematic of the blood with which their soil had been consecrated. To exemplify their steadfastness and heroic faith, they mingled its ample folds with "The steel blue canopy of the stars." For their standard bearer, to carry their flag over the land, and over the sea, they called down "from his mansion in the sun," that proud bird of the air, who always soars above the storm cloud, and nestles nearest the mountain crag around whose summit the sunshine pours its grateful lustre.

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE—ITS TRUTH.

When they subscribed and published to the world this immortal charter of their liberties, they arrayed against them the most formidable nation in history, the mistress of the seas, and the proud arbitress of the world. History was against them. In the long line of nations they could find no precedent upon which they could base any prospect of success. They went back of everything else, to "the natural and inalienable rights" with which they had been "endowed by their Creator," and planting themselves upon this firm footing, they bid defiance to the crowned heads of tyranny, and challenged the criticism of an unbiased world. There is always an innate magic power in every fearless proclamation of right. When the men of 1776 sent out their Declaration of Independence, they let loose upon the world, a document which carried terror to the hearts of kings, and compelled the aristocracies of powerful nations to stand with uncovered heads before the American people. It was the greatest State paper the world had ever seen. None other is so finely written, or so far-reaching in its results. At each recurring anniversary, the recital of its soul-stirring words will continue to awaken in American hearts a tide of patriotism, which will flow on until the flood-gates of life are closed in eternal rest." The best feature of this declaration was its absolute truthfulness. In this respect especially it serves as a model to all times. It is also illustrative of the tendency of the human mind to cling more closely to truth, as it loses sight of human systems and throws itself back upon those resources which are of divine origin. Too often, the question with politicians, (whose purposes cover but a narrow space,) is, whether the paper is in such form and phraseology as will answer the purpose. But the stalwart statesmen who framed this document, and who were acting for prosperity, and for eternity, were anxious to state the exact truth, and run the risk of success. They dared to do right. By the power of the truth they proclaimed, they compelled a recognition of their rights. Although the "signers" have long since passed away, this paper, still pregnant with eternal truth, remains full of the vigor and power which inspired its great authors.

ENDURING CHARACTER OF OUR GOVERNMENT.

So with every other great achievement in our history. All that is good and true will remain, though its authors may pass away. The institutions of freedom which have been reared upon this solid foundation have remained, amid all the the changes of legislation, and the corruptions of official life. A few years ago a dark and fearful war cloud burst upon us. For four years a patriotic people poured out their blood and their treasure upon their country's altar. The whole South land was billowed up with new made graves. But when the storm had spent its fury, and the cloud passed away, and the sunshine again greeted the hills and valleys, we beheld still floating from the ramparts of our country the old flag, with not a stripe blurred nor a star erased. Four millions of bondmen stood up amid their broken manacles and beheld inscribed upon that glorious ensign, in letters of blood, this language: "All men are created equal, they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, among these are life, liberty, and the pursuits of happiness." In the crucible of war the power of this great truth of the declaration was tested. Many persons grew fearful of our institutions because here and there a man falls or fails in duty, but so long as the people have intelligence to appreciate the grandeur of their institutions and patriotism to defend them, there is no danger. It is only because the betrayals of public trust are exposed to the glaring sunshine of an enlightened public opinion, that these offences become so notorious. It is only when every intringement of the rights of citizenship is placed side by side with the exalted standard of personal protection established by the fathers of the republic, that the infraction becomes odious. The wide spread indignation which follows every act of official corruption, and every attack upon private right, is the best assurance we can have that the people are still zealous for the protection of primitive honesty, and for the protection of their primal rights of liberty. I have not much respect for either the wisdom or patriotism of that man who ignores Republican institution, and doubts the ability of the people to govern themselves, every time he hears of a public man becoming faithless to his trust. I have the faith to believe that there is still honesty enough, and courage enough in the American people, to cut off every corrupt member from the body politic, and to maintain honesty in official station, as well as to preserve the liberties of the people.

EDUCATION IS THE BASIS OF PERPETUITY.

In order to maintain such a healthy and vigorous public opinion as will correct abuses, and punish corrupt practices, the education of the masses is of paramount importance. To most persons, the idea of compulsory education is distasteful, and is regarded as not being in harmony with our free institutions. It is certainly to be avoided if the object can be obtained in any other way. But if a considerable proportion of the people grow up without education, in a country where opportunities are so abundant, then an evil, and a source of corruption and crime exists, which must, be met in some way, and by compulsory education, if by no other means. For the present, it is to be hoped that an end can be attained by fostering our system of Free School Education. Upon this, more than upon any other single thing, depends our freedom and prosperity. Whatever antagonizes this institution is unfriendly to the true interests of our country. No matter how insinuating or clandestine the attack, it is our plain duty to repel it with all the vigor that we would repel an attack upon the flag. Even if the outer border of this grand system be but touched by an unfriendly hand, let that hand be removed peaceably, and in kindly spirit, if it can be; if not, then by force and arms. Take away our free schools, or dwarf their power, and you make the people easy victims to the evils which have sapped the life-blood of other Republics! Encourage this institution, and you give to the present generation an absolute assurance that those who come after them will properly appreciate, and heroically defend the liberties we so justly value. It is a cardinal principle of our national character that each citizen counts one in the race of life. In order to make this theory good, each man must be prepared to act intelligently. Although education is not in form, a qualification for the exercise of the elective franchise, it is, in fact, such a qualification. For without the power to discriminate, the ignorant voter too often, permits some one else to control his right, and thereby loses his vote, and by his own act defrauds himself of that great franchise which was designed to make him a sovereign among men. As our country secures greater rights, and entrusts greater privileges to her citizens than are given to the citizens or subjects of any other nation, so she also imposes greater responsibilities. Just as the people measure up to that standard of intelligence which these sovereign rights and exalted privileges require, just in that far will they enjoy freedom and prosperity in all the pursuits of life. Just as education is diffused among the masses, so will the material wealth and the comforts of life, which belong to a high order of civilization be enjoyed by the masses.

HOW POPULAR EDUCATION HAS MOULDED OUR CIVILIZATION.

This principle is abundantly illustrated by our past history, in the effect which popular education has had in moulding the character of our civilization. Amongus the most valuable inventions and discoveries have been applied directly to the development of our resources, and to increase the material wealth of our country. They have been made to contribute rather to the necessities and comforts of the poor, than to the pleasures of the rich. Some nations have applied their inventive genius, and their discoveries in art to the benefit of certain favored classes, while the great body of the people have reaped no advantage. Other nations have perverted these improvements to the arts of war, and to gratify a bad ambition. But with us they have been employed in the arts of peace, and for the benefit of the whole people. A few years ago our government opened up a great highway from ocean to ocean. The very purpose of this enterprise was to enable the poor homeless citizen of the East to find his home in the great West. Our own "Centennial City" has furnished to its poor population, more homes than have any of the other cities of the world. This fact, if nothing else, would have rendered it a fitting place for the Exhibition which will crown it with so much honor; for one purpose of this great Exhibition is to illustrate to each other, and to the world, the character of our civilization, by the nature of our production, and by what we have accomplished in the past century. The visitor to this great repository of the nations, will find among the varied productions of different nations, very many which surpass us in those finer arts that pertain to the luxuries of life, but among them all, he will find few if any nations that excel us in those improvements which bring comfort to the humblest home, and that may be enjoyed by the entire people.

EQUALITY THE CROWNING FEATURE OF OUR CIVILIZATION.

The crowning feature of our civilization is that spirit of equality pervading our whole system, which enables the industrious faithful citizen to rise from the lowest station in life to a position of distinction and honor among men. Many of those who have adorned the highest places in the gift of the people, even our Chief Magistrates, have come from the humbler walks of life. Titles, and coats of arms, and family histories have made a great many Kings, but they have proven a very poor material out of which to make Presidents. With all our mistakes and defects as a nation, there is no other country in the world which pays as little for empty titles, and at the same time furnishes such a high premium to real, solid manhood. With us it matters very little at what place a man has been educated, if he be a real, true man. Oftentimes the poorest log school house in our land, planted near some humble mountain home, with no other ornaments than the dew drops of earth to gild it, and the sunbeams of heaven to shine upon it, has been as highly honored as the most ancient seats of learning in Europe, "with their spires and domes glistening in the rising and setting suns of a thousand years."

OUR PROGRESS IN THE PAST.

In this Centennial year the nations of earth have buried their past resentments, and come up to greet this young Republic, and bid her God speed in her great mission. As they file into the historic grounds of Independence Square, to engage in celebrating her anniversary, they unite with us in attesting that our experiment at popular government has been a glorious success. Our soil has not been more fertile, nor our vegetation greener, nor our skies bluer, than those of other climes, but under the benign influence of such a government, and the broad civilization which it has brought us, our "wilderness and solitary places have been made glad," and our "deserts caused to rejoice and blossom as the rose." It was by their unwavering confidence in the God of nations, and their deathless faith in the natural rights, older and more impregnable than all the systems of oppression on earth, with which He had endowed them, that the fathers ensured the triumph of their cause, and transmitted to their posterity this great heritage of freedom. By a liberal system of education, which has brought the elements of knowledge to every home, and given us a civilization that has dug wealth and comfort from our rugged mountains, and planted peace and prosperity in our deepest valleys, that posterity has preserved this glorious heritage for an hundred years.

OUR FUTURE.

Let us emulate their example, and in the future, "untrammelled and free, and cultivated and virtuous, our country will continue to lead in the van of nations. Her voice will break in thunder tones across the oceans and make the world feel the magic spell of her great power. The beacon light of freedom will break upon the islands of the sea and myriads of the race groping in darkness, and in the shadow of death they will lift up their eyes and hail its long expected approach, and welcome the day of their redemption. She will bear the torch of inspiration into the dark and benighted places of earth, and enlighten and elevate, and save humanity."

At the conclusion of Mr. Murray's oration, the choir sang the "Centennial Ode," at the conclusion of which, the multitude was disturbed by the alarm for dinner, and a recess was declared. After the "inner man" had been supplied, the crowd was called to order, and, gathering around the stand, listened to Dr. John P. Hoyt, who had been chosen County Historian.

HISTORY OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY.

The Doctor's address was delivered from memory, but the following outline will indicate the drift of his remarks:

Came to Clearfield town in 1819. There were but three dwellings here at that time; one on the present "Mansion House" property was occupied by a man named Collins, a carpenter by trade, who afterwards built the first Court House in Clearfield; he opened his house to the traveler as a hotel. The second stood near where Shirk's tannery now stands and was occupied by the father of our citizen, M. Shirk, and was also a tanner. The third stood near the present property of C. Kratzer, and was occupied by the father of Ed. Perks, a former Sheriff of this county.

In Curwensville there was but one occupied dwelling and two vacant ones. The former was occupied by Mark Jordan, and one of the latter belonged to Josiah Evans.

Probable number of inhabitants in the county, two hundred. The people were characterized by honesty and benevolence, but superstition prevailed to a certain extent.

The clearing of land was done by first girdling the larger trees to kill them, and then grubbing out the smaller trees and roots, otherwise it would have been impossible to use the wooden plows—the only kind then in use; in a few years after this the iron plow made its appearance.

The roads were mere paths brushed out through the woods and could only be traveled on horseback.

There were three or four school houses in the county in 1819. They were quite small and built of logs.

Whisky was kept in almost every house; used by everybody; little or no drunkenness. When a settler cleared a piece of ground it was customary to have a "log rolling" and call all his neighbors to his assistance. At these, fights were frequent, but always settled without lawsuits.

All kinds of game—such as deer, bears and wild turkeys—was very plenty. Deer and bear skins were taken to other settlements and traded for amunition, etc.

The speaker then referred to the Carthegenian Republic and its existence for seven hundred years, until overcome by the Romans. We would refer the reader to Rollins' History of Rome, as we have not the space to quote.

He directed the attention of his hearers to the 4th Section of the 4th Article of the Constitution of the United States, which guarantees to every State, a Republican form of government.

He closed his remarks by saying: "We meet to-day as brothers and sisters, in kind and friendly feeling, with none of those heart-burnings incident to meetings of a political character."

The next exercise down on the programme was to be an address from Hon. John Patton; but he did not put in an appearance.

CENTENNIAL POEM.

Dr. Hills was then called out, who recited a Centennial Poem written by himself for the occasion. The following correspondence took place:

CITIZENS' LETTER TO DR. HILLS.

CLEARFIELD, PA., July 5, 1876.

To Dr. A. M. Hills:

DEAR SIR:—Sincerely desiring to perpetuate the grand and patriotic sentiment contained in the excellent poem you composed and recited, on the occasion of the very successful celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of our existence as a Republic, we would respectfully solicit a copy of the same and your permission to have it published as a part of the literature of the Centennial year, that those who had not the opportunity of hearing you read it may enjoy the privilege of reading it.

A compliance with this sincere request is urgently solicited by your grateful fellow-citizens.