

CONGRESSIONAL CONTEST

Will be Extended Into Every Section of the District

MANY VOTES WERE ILLEGAL

Mr. Hall Will Make a Complete Canvass of the Vote—Appears that Billy Arnold is After Boodle—Hall Will Win.

During the next few months the voters of this district will be interested in the congressional contest that has been instituted by A. A. Clearwater, the defeated republican nominee, against J. K. P. Hall, of Ridgeway, the democratic member who was declared elected by a plurality of 621 at the polls last November. Soon after the election there were rumors from the defeated candidate, and published in the republican papers, that gross frauds had been committed in the district that secured Mr. Hall the majority. No one paid any serious attention to the report until December the 6th when Mr. Stillwater served proper notice upon Mr. Hall that he proposed to contest his seat in the next Congress and filed his bill of particulars wherein he set forth that a great many illegal votes had been cast in Elk county for Hall; that many votes had been secured by Hall's agents by the use of money and other questionable methods which would be more than sufficient to wipe out his plurality. Mr. Clearwater's complaint applies only to Elk county, and for that reason he can not open the contest in any other part of the district in his behalf. According to the regulations governing such proceedings, on the 5th of January, Mr. Hall filed his reply to the complaint of Mr. Clearwater in which he fully answers the various charges made by his defeated opponent and among the other reasons assigned that Mr. Clearwater is not entitled to his seat, is the great number of illegal votes cast over the entire district, which has been investigated carefully by Mr. Hall and his friends, and as a result they will carry the contest on their part into every county.

The method of procedure in the case of contests has been carefully outlined by congress, and apply in all cases. During the next forty days Mr. Clearwater will be given time to take testimony. After that Mr. Hall will have the same time, forty days, to take testimony in his behalf; and then ten days more will be given Clearwater for rebuttal. All the testimony will be forwarded to Washington where it will be printed in a book and the same submitted to the Congressional Committee on Contests for their consideration, and their report will finally be submitted to the House for approval or rejection.

The taking of testimony can be done before any justice of the peace, notary public, or judge of any court. All witnesses who will be summoned to attend any of these hearings will be paid customary fees and mileage. When they are summoned and do not attend the hearing they make themselves liable to a fine of \$20 dollars and are subject to imprisonment, so that it will be advisable for all summoned to answer the same. Each party is allowed \$2000 by the government as expense money in the contest, and whatever goes above that amount must be born by each individual.

In this case, Mr. Clearwater confines his contest only to Elk county, and since the late (now politically dead) Wm. C. Arnold is the active spirit in the contest for Mr. Clearwater, it is generally commented that Arnold is working this scheme more to handle the \$2000 from the government than with any hope of unseating Mr. Hall. It is quite natural to think so, too.

In Centre County Mr. Hall's interests are being carefully looked after by Messrs Taylor & Johnston, attorneys. A greater portion of the voting districts of the county will be opened up and the vote canvassed to search out all the irregularities that were practiced at the last election, and there was an alarming amount.

By virtue of his certificate of election issued by the regular election officers, Mr. Hall will retain his seat and have all the privileges of other members until the house decides to award his seat to the contestant.

In 1879 this section had a congressional contest between A. G. Curtin and Seth Yocum, in which the latter was successful in retaining his seat.

Boys Coming Home.

A special from Manila, under date of the 7th inst, says:

Thirty-seventh infantry is scheduled to sail for San Francisco Tuesday on the transport Sheridan.

Elmer Fox, Frank Candor and Thomas Egglert, of Lock Haven, and a young man named Myers, of Mill Hall, are members of the Thirty-seventh.

EXPERT FEELS CONFIDENT.

That Both Oil and Gas Exists in Bald Eagle Valley.

The announcement in Saturday's issue of the Lock Haven EXPRESS, that several thousand acres of land had been leased in Bald Eagle valley for the purpose of putting down test wells for natural gas and oil was a surprise to the public and especially to those who are usually interested in enterprises of that kind in this section. It is stated that the leased land embraces territory a mile square midway between Lock Haven and Beech Creek. The negotiations for the leases have been conducted quietly for several weeks past and about 5,000 acres have been secured. An expert geologist has been in the Bald Eagle valley for some time, it is said, examining the different stratas of rock and making measurements of the hills.

His conclusions are that the basin that feeds the Pine Creek oil field is located in Bald Eagle valley and that both natural gas and oil will be found. The parties who have been securing the leases state that the work of developing the land will be commenced at once.

Got Tumbled Over a Bank.

One day last week as conductor Reamer's train was approaching the M'Cool crossing, mile and a half south of Spring Mills, Mully Snyder with horse and wagon halted close to the crossing to wait until the train passed it. But his trusted horse made a sudden wheel and horse, wagon, Snyder, and some berries and other fruits went down over the bank in a grand mix. The mess was complete. No injuries to horse or driver, but the wagon was wrecked. Snyder says himself was to blame for the mishap. This is the crossing where Weaver was killed as he was passing over the place, and he was struck by the train, about a dozen or more years ago.

Strike at Mill Hall.

The American Axe Co., of Mill Hall on Tuesday posted a notice that a reduction of twenty-five per cent. would be made in the wages of forgers and twelve per cent. in the wages of helpers. A move ment was then among the men to strike rather than accept the cut. The Company employs 187 hands, and it is said that they will all go out with the 40 expert workmen affected. Prosperity is depicting the hands in shops all over the country. Every week brings an additional industrial plant announcing a reduction of wages, and no ruffle is caused thereby upon the countenance of McKinley, although its rough for the working men, their wives and little ones.

Lutheran Women Vote.

At the annual meeting of the First Lutheran church, of Selingsgrove, a motion was carried suspending that article of the constitution which precludes the women from voting. This action is unprecedented in this congregation.

In the Centre Hall Lutheran congregation the women have voted these many years upon every question brought before the congregation and there never was any cause for complaint, their vote being as much in the right direction as that of the men.

Runkle Hotel Sold.

Runkle's hotel at Centre Hall, was sold on Thursday, 3rd, and the papers executed at Belleville on Monday. The purchaser is James W. Runkle, of Middleburg, formerly a Potter township farmer. The price paid, as we are informed, is \$1800. The new landlord will take possession about February 1, next. The retiring landlord, Will Runkle, has purchased a hotel stand in the suburbs of York, Pa., and will move thither in February.

Church Opening.

The United Evangelical congregation at Spring Mills, will have an opening of their church on next Saturday evening and Sunday Jan. 12th and 13th. Dr. A. E. Gobble, president of Central Pennsylvania College, New Berlin, and Rev. N. J. Dubs, from Rebersburg, will be present. Also, Rev. J. A. Hollenbach from Altoona, and Rev. W. W. Rhodes, Centre Hall, are expected to be present on the occasion. Preaching Saturday evening, Sunday morning and Sunday evening.

An Honest Conductor.

William Hinkley, the well known passenger conductor, found a purse containing \$4,800 on the seat of a coach near Northumberland a few days ago. He turned it into the office at Harrisburg, when he learned that the owner had already begun telegraphing for it. The owner was on his way to Watsonstown, where he intended purchasing property. He did not discover his loss until after leaving the train.

Age 104.

At the age of 104 years Mrs. Frances Pepper, the oldest woman in Northumberland county, died last Friday. Her home was at Locust Gap.

OUR HISTORICAL REVIEW

More Incidents Showing the Hardships of the Pioneers

ABOUT STANFORD FAMILY

Mr. Houser of Near Linden Hall Furnishes Some Interesting Data—An Invitation to a Picnic, One Survivor of the Committee.

Among other grievances the poor Germans suffer, is one, viz: that when the ignorant Germans agree fairly with merchants at Holland for seven pistoles and a half, when they come to Philadelphia, the merchants make them pay whatever they please, and take at least nine pistoles. The poor people on board are prisoners; they must not go ashore or have their chests delivered, except they pay what they owe not; and when they go into the country they complain loudly there, that no justice is to be had for poor strangers—they show their agreements, in which it is fairly mentioned, that they are to pay seven pistoles and a half to Isaac and Zachary Hope, at Rotterdam, or their order, at Philadelphia, &c.—and this is much practiced, the country is wronged £2000 or £3000 a year.

In another letter to the governor, dated Germantown, May 12, 1755, C. Sauers says, "The merchants and importers filled the vessels with passengers, and as much merchandise as they thought fit, and left the passengers' chests behind—sometimes they loaded vessels with the Palatine's chests only. The poor people depended upon their chests, in which they had some provisions, such as they were used to, viz: dried apples, pears, plums, mustard, medicines, vinegar, brandy, gammons, butter, clothing, such as shirts and other necessary linens, and some of them had money and what they brought with them, and when their chests were left behind, or shipped in other vessels, they suffered for want of food—and when there was not a sufficiency of provision laid in for passengers, they famished and died—when they arrived alive, they had no money to buy bread, or any thing to sell of their spare clothes—neither had they clothes so as to change linens, &c.; they were not able to keep themselves clean and free of vermin.

If they were taken into houses, and trusting on their effects and money when they come, these effects and moneys were either left behind, or their chests were either plundered by the sailors on the vessels, or if the vessels arrived before the sailors broke open the chests, they were searched by the merchant's boys, and their best effects all taken—and there was no remedy for all this. And this last mentioned practice, that their chests were broken open and effects stolen, has not only been common these 25, 30, 40, 50 years, but it is a common custom, and the complaints are daily.

The Palatine Redemption servants were sold for from two to five years. Many of them often serving out their time faithfully, became, by frugality and industry, some of the most wealthy and influential citizens of the state.

"In later times, say about the year 1753 to 1756, the Germans having become numerous, and therefore powerful as make-weights in the political balance, were much noticed in the publications of the day. They were at that period of time, in general, very hearty co-operators with the Quakers or Friends, then in considerable rule in the assembly.

The number of Germans about the year 1755, was not short of sixty or seventy thousand in Pennsylvania; nearly all of them Protestants; whereof, according to the Rev. Schlotter's statement, at the time, there were thirty thousand German Reformed—the Lutherans were more numerous. Besides these, there were other Germans, viz: Mennonites, German Baptists, (Dunkards,) Moravians, some few German Quakers, Seventh-day Baptists, Catholics, and Schwenkenfelders.

According to Mr. Watson's statement, Irish immigrants did not begin to come to Pennsylvania as soon as the Germans. It appears few, if any, arrived in the province, prior to 1719. Those that did then arrive, came principally from the north of Ireland.

The principal, of the numerous murders committed by the Indians upon the whites, within the limits then embraced by the upper part of Lancaster county, and of Cumberland, forms the subject of several chapters of this part of this compilation.

As settlements became somewhat extended, the white people, especially Indian traders came in closer contact with the Indians; and despite of the efforts of the government serious conflicts ensued, and, in some instances, blood was shed. This was, however, owing as

much to the imprudence of the whites as to the temerity of the Indians.

Sometime in the year 1744, John Armstrong, a trader among the Indians, west of the Susquehanna, with two of his servants or men, namely, James Smith and Woodworth Arnold, was murdered by an Indian of the Delaware tribe, Mosemeelin, on the Juniata river. Seven white men and five Indians went in search of the bodies of those murdered; after some search, found and buried them. The murderer was afterwards apprehended, and delivered up by his own nation, and imprisoned at Lancaster, whence he was removed to Philadelphia, lest he should escape, or his trial and execution produce an unfavorable impression on his countrymen about to assemble, for a conference with the whites at Lancaster. The governor directed or required that the property of Armstrong should be returned to his family. He also invited a deputation to attend the trial of Mosemeelin, and his execution, if found guilty.

Alexander Armstrong, of Lancaster county, a brother of the deceased, addressed a letter to Allumoppies, king of the Delawares, at Shamokin, touching the death of his brother, and some threats made by some Delaware Indians upon his life.

April 25, 1744.

To Allumoppies, king of the Delawares: Great Sir, as a parcel of your men have murdered my brother, and two of his men, I wrote you, knowing you to be a king of justice, that you will send us in all the murderers and the men that were with them. As I looked for the corpse of my murdered brother; for that reason your men threaten my life; and I cannot leave my house. Now as we have no inclination or mind to go to war with you, our friends; as a friend, I desire that you will keep your men from doing me harm, and also to send the murderers and their companions.

I expect an answer; and am your much hurt friend and brother.

ALEXANDER ARMSTRONG.

ABOUT THE STANFORD MASSACRE. Linden Hall, Dec. 24, 1900.

EDITOR DEMOCRAT: I see that you have been publishing in the Democrat in regard to the Standford Indian massacre arguing a marker for their graves as a memorial of our frontier life. I see you are considerably mistaken, as McBrides gap is on the north side of Nittany mountain in Nittany valley—the murder was committed about one and a half miles south of Nittany mountain in Penns valley and about two and three-fourths miles west of Potters old Fort, and you were wrong in the date. Grandfather Houser came to Spring creek, now called Houserville spring, in 1788, and he lived there the time the murder was committed. There was a man by the name of Robert Moore followed trading on a pack horse, from Spring creek over to Lewistown, taking furs, hinds and produce over and bringing store goods back; so he often stayed over at Standfords. About that time he called there off his return and found the family murdered. He was afraid to stay over night in the house for fear of the Indians; so he took some of the bed clothes to the stable and crept in the straw, but one may know he didn't sleep much. The next morning he took the sad news of the murder of the Standfords to Spring creek, and a crowd came over in pursuit of the Indians but lost the trail up at the end of Nittany mountain. I am not certain whether my father's oldest brother, Martin, was with the crowd in the pursuit. The Indians gave young Standford his choice, to go with them or to be killed, and he preferred going with them, so they went out to Erie, Pa. Some years afterwards young Standford came back and learned the trade with my grandfather, Jacob Houser, a miller right and Miller. After he had served his time he said he was going back to the Indians again. That was the last account my father had of young Standford.

Yours respectfully,

C. B. HOUSER.

(Mr. Houser's letter is interesting in so far as it furnishes additional facts as to the massacre of the Stamford family by the Indians. Contributions of this nature are solicited in order that all that pertains to the early history of the county may be preserved by getting into print. We invite all such matter to a space in the Democrat's columns.—Ed.)

PICNIC RELIC.

The following, found among the papers of Hon. John B. Linn, dec'd, was handed us by ex-representative Wetzel. Likely many of those invited and attending the picnic are still living, but of the names appended to the invitation, only one signer, Dr. J. H. Dobbins, survives, and remains a familiar figure upon the streets of Belleville:

PICNIC & TOURNAMENT. THE pleasure of Mr. J. P. Weaver's company is requested to attend a PICNIC and TOURNAMENT, at Belleville, on Friday the 22nd inst.

COMMITTEE.

CLINTON WELCH, EDMUND BLANCHARD, SAM'L H. REYNOLDS, W. ASH THOMAS, JR., M. T. MILLIKEN, JACOB D. VALENTINE, REG'N VALENTINE, J. H. DOBBINS, WM. P. WILSON, L. A. HARRIS, JOSEPH MILES.

Belleville, August 17th, 1851.

The invitation was folded after the old letter style, sealed with a wafer, and bears the address:

"Mr. John P. Weaver, Clearfield, Clearfield Co., Pa."

THE SOLDIER'S MONUMENT

Sculptor Barnard Instructed to Prepare a Design

MEETING HELD LAST WEEK

The Monument to be Massive With Figures and Tablets—One way to Pay for the Monument—Too Many Irons in the Fire.

An impetus has been given the Centre County Soldiers' Monument and Curtin Memorial movement by a visit here of Geogr Gray Barnard, the sculptor, of New York, to consult with the committee on design relative to the monument and memorial to be built.

Mr. Barnard suggested something massive, to include figures and inscription tablets, with figure of the "War Governor" surmounting all. This suggestion met with the approval of the committee, and Mr. Barnard will prepare several designs, which he will submit for the committee's approval.

As this was the sculptor's early home he will take special pains to present a creditable design.

There is little excuse left for any one in this community who is charitably inclined not to find an appropriate object to which he can give some of his surplus funds. We have the Soldier's Monument scheme which will require probably \$10,000 or \$12,000 to complete the undertaking. There is a large amount subscribed, but much more will have to be raised. Next we have the Petriken Hall, which the ladies of the Belleville W. C. T. U. are trying to erect on the lot on High Street, donated for that purpose. They have considerable money raised for the building, but not enough to insure their beginning operation. The erection of this building will necessitate the creation of another fund, and that we understand will be for the purpose of placing a fine library in this building which will be open for the public. Another noble and worthy project is that of establishing a hospital at this place. That is something that is much needed, and would be a godsend to many a poor individual who is stricken down and frequently must suffer and die, for the want of proper attention.

To all of these funds subscriptions have been made, and they are moving along at a snail's pace. The fact of the matter is, it might be much better if there could be a general movement along one line at a time. In that way something definite could be accomplished in a short time. At the present rate there is a lag in all. Would it not be better for all to pull together on the Monument fund until we have that assured and then turn to one of the other worthy projects. Seems that would be a practical way of getting something accomplished. The trouble is, Belleville people have too many irons in the fire at the same time.

THE "DEAR OLD HOME."

MR. EDITOR:—A short time ago we saw a piece in your valuable paper which interested us very much, and which might be a subject written on, but we seldom see it mentioned in print, "Leaving the Old Home." You referred to Mr. Evans, who expects to leave the "Evans Homestead" next spring, "The Honored Homestead of his father and mother." Mr. Evans, according to the statement, will, at his removal, have spent forty-nine years at the homestead, being six years of age when his father went on this farm.

We can give you a case which is much more "touching." Miss Lizzie Hartsock, of Buffalo Run, was born in 1843 at her father's home and he died years ago. Miss Hartsock, who was afflicted for years before her father's death, and was an invalid at that time, remained in the old home with her widowed mother, who died last February, at the advanced age of 88 years, and 9 months. Miss Hartsock left the "Home" soon after she sustained the loss of her mother, her only companion. This was where she was born, and spent her childhood; it was there and there alone she had passed through all her sorrow; this was the only "Home" she ever knew, and will in her memory, be the only home in her life.

There was a strong affection between mother and daughter—the latter regained her health to care for her aged mother for years before her death.

X.

Cost \$100 to Hunt Deer With Dogs.

Justice Patton, of Lewistown, fined John Moist, Samuel Stroup and John I. Kauffman, of Granville township, charged with using dogs in hunting deer on Thanksgiving day, \$100 each and cost of prosecution. The same Justice fined James and William Heck \$25 each and costs for hunting on Sunday.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

Don't worry. In this tangled skein Of life, a worrying thought But complicates the kink of pain, And tightens up each knot. Make will the master of your mood; Through anxious fear and doubt No peace, no pleasure, and no good, Was ever brought about.

Don't worry. Do the best you can, And let hope conquer care, No more is asked of any man Than he has strength to bear. The back is fitted for the load, Your burdens all were planned; And if you sing along the road Kind fate will lend a hand.

Clue should be sold by the stick. It's only natural for a bright man to reflect.

One way to get rid of creditors is to pay them.

The man who owns an oil well has the fat of the land.

A harness dealer calls his storeroom a bride chamber.

The chiropodist has a job on hand even when it's on foot.

An egg is best when fresh, but it's different with boys.

A man without hands can't very well do things like clockwork.

REASONS WHY.

Why is a man in bed like a book unbound?—Because he is in sheets.

Why is a kiss like rumor?—Because it goes from mouth to mouth.

When is a horse not worth a shilling?—When it is worth less.

Why do we all go to bed?—Because the bed won't come to us.

Why is a cow's tail like a swan's bosom?—Because it grows down.

Why should a poor man drink coffee?—Because he has no proper-ty, (tea).

What is that which never asks any questions and yet requires a great many answers?—A door bell.

Why are clergymen like railway porters?—Because they do a good bit of coupling.

LIFE A CENTURY AGO.

One hundred years ago a man could not take a ride on a steamboat.

He could not go from Washington to New York in a few hours.

He had never seen an electric light or dreamed of an electric car.

He could not send a telegram.

He couldn't talk through the telephone, and he had never heard of the hullo girl.

He could not ride a bicycle.

He could not call a stenographer and dictate a letter.

He had never received a typewritten communication.

He had never heard of the germ theory or worried over bacilli and bacteria.

He never looked pleasant before a photographer or had his picture taken.

He never heard a phonograph talk or saw a kinesiscope turn out a prize-fight.

He never saw through a Webster's Unabridged Dictionary with the aid of a Roentgen ray.

He had never taken a ride in an elevator.

He had never imagined such a thing as a typesetting machine or a typewriter.

He had never used anything but a wooden plough.

He had never seen his wife using a sewing-machine.

He had never struck a match on his pants or anything else.

He couldn't take an anaesthetic and have his leg cut off without feeling it.

He had never purchased a ro-cent magazine which would have been regarded as a miracle of art.

He could not buy a paper for a cent and learn everything that had happened the day before all over the world.

He had never seen a McCormick reaper or a self-binding harvester.

He had never crossed an iron bridge.

In short there were several things that he could not do and several things he did not know.

Rather Be a Dog.

From an Exchange.

A Dutchman, addressing his dog, said: "Mine dog, you haf a snap. You vas only dog and I vas man, but I wish I vas you. Ven you vant to go mit der bed in you go, but I haf to lock up der place and vind op der clock and undress mine-self, and mine wife she scolds me, den de baby cries and I haf to walk hum up and down; den bymy ven I must go to sleep it's time to get up again. Ven you get up and stretch yourself a couple of dimes you are up. I haf to light der fire and put on der kettle, scrap some mit my wife aretty, and mabe I get some breakfast. You play around all day, and I haf plenty of droubles. Ven you die den you shust lie still. Ven I die, mabe I haf to go were ter devil get yet."