

A Singular Petition.

We do not know who is the author of the singular petition in circulation in many parts of this county to secure the removal of the county seat from Ebensburg to Johnstown. Let the author be who he may, we desire to treat him with courtesy. Yet one of these things is certain: Either he has violated all claims to courtesy by plain and reckless disregard for truth, or else, through some cause or other, is clear of ordinary responsibility for what he has uttered. We had not intended to enter upon a discussion of the merits and demerits of the proposed change, and shall not now, only so far as is necessary to expose some of the more glaring misrepresentations set forth in this petition. Nor would we undertake this task were the statements of the petition to go before the people of this county alone. They are so foolish, so childish, and exaggerated, that the author, though possibly persuading himself to believe them, could not induce any intelligent man, woman, or child, in the county to do likewise. But they must go before others, who are strangers to the topography of our county and to nearly all other facts or data relating to the present controversy.

Ebensburg is located in the geographical center of Cambria county, and is accessible from all parts thereof by roads as good as are ordinarily found in other sections of the State, making due allowance of climate, soil, topography, and length of time the county has been settled. It has good communication by rail with Johnstown and the greatest portion of the eastern border of the county. It is the most convenient point to be obtained for the people in the central and northwestern portions of the county. To make Johnstown the county seat would be to require the citizens of north western Cambria to travel from forty to sixty miles to attend to their legal business. Yet the writer of this petition hesitates not to say that "the seat of justice, as now located, is entirely out of the way for all the practical purposes of a county seat"—these being the writer's exact words, excepting that he ornaments his text with a greater abundance of capitals than accords with our taste.

This petition also sets forth that if the people were not "compelled to transact their judicial and county business at Ebensburg," they would have no occasion "to even visit that place." At the coming term of court, beginning on the first Monday in March, the Register and Recorder of the county will present some fourteen accounts of executors, administrators, and guardians for confirmation. At least eight out of these fourteen are from the center and north of the county. Five civil cases will be on the list for trial. Of these five, three are from northern, and one from southern Cambria. The remaining case can hardly be claimed by either section. Twenty-five cases will be on the list for the second week. Of these, not over five, if that many, are from sections known as comprising the south of the county. At the last September sessions, some thirty-two civil cases were down, of which at least twenty were from the northern portion of the county. We admit, freely and cheerfully, that our friends south have a greater population and more wealth than we. But it must be remembered that the bulk of that wealth is centered in one vast corporation, the largest corporation in the State aside from the Penna. railroad. We mean not to say one harsh word, or any word springing from envy or enmity, but only to speak what every thoughtful man knows to be simple truth, when we say that the presence of so large a capital under one control in a community of fifteen thousand means an unequal distribution of wealth; and the more unequal wealth is distributed, the less often will courts and juries be required to sit in the trial of civil causes. In northern Cambria, the extremes of wealth and poverty are seldom seen. Few are very poor, and none very rich. Nearly all are well doing. In this lies the entire secret of the excess of civil causes in the northern over the southern portion of the county. There are thirteen members of the bar resident in Ebensburg and eight in Johnstown. Yet it is a fact no one will dispute, that the legal business of the southern districts passing through the hands of attorneys resident in Ebensburg, is a mere bagatelle. As to the mercantile business of the place, we are bold to say that we have business houses as complete in all their appointments and as varied in their assortment as can be found in any town of two thousand people in the State. The average daily expenses of one single firm are over three hundred dollars. We publish two weekly papers, and Johnstown the same number. In point of ability, variety of matter, and the extent of their circulation, they will not shrink from

comparison with their Johnstown contemporaries. There are now lying in our lumber yards awaiting shipment more than four millions feet of lumber, varying in value from eighteen to sixty dollars per thousand, the gathered surplus over and above the daily shipments. Each secular day of the year, a train averaging six cars carries away the products of our mills, consisting of poplar, ash, cherry, pine, &c., as also cooper's stuff, barrels, flooring, and quantities of hay-rake, shovel, hoe and brush handles, &c.

As regards population, there are at least six thousand persons, nearly all of whom, excepting those residing in the borough, are engaged in agricultural pursuits, who make Ebensburg their market and commercial center. The districts known as comprising "Northern Cambria" contain about thirteen thousand people, estimating six persons to each voter. Among these twelve or thirteen thousand people are probably one-half of all the free holders of the county. At any rate, not far from one-half. Nearly this entire population holds direct and important relations with Ebensburg, and would do so whether the county seat or not. There is no floating population, or speaking with strict accuracy, it is so small as not to be worthy of consideration, within these districts. The entire people have a direct personal interest in the question at issue. On the other hand, a vast ratio of the population in the southern districts have very little or perhaps no direct personal interest at all in the matter. Very many who took part in the election of last fall, will be residents elsewhere by next fall or sooner. Nevertheless, this petition recklessly and blunderingly says "There is no community of interests between the interests of the county seat and the interests of any other portion of the county,"—an instance of very queer English. And again, "In going there, the people go away from all business; in coming away from there they return to business." "It is difficult of access from all portions of the county," as though it were more difficult to come from Johnstown by rail to Ebensburg than to go from Susquehanna, Chest, Carroll, Allegheny, Munster and other townships through Ebensburg to Johnstown. But here is the climax, "It (Johnstown) is easier of access to the remotest portion of the county than Ebensburg,"—that is, it is not so easy to travel fifteen or twenty miles as if you would first travel that distance and then go twenty-five miles further. The petition also sets forth Johnstown to be a city, while the fact is notorious that its people persistently refuse to obtain a city charter, although to do so, would afford opportunity for the quick disposal of many of its criminal cases.

Never, indeed, did we see so many misstatements in so small a space. We have never jealousy nor enmity toward Johnstown. We rejoice in its prosperity, and hope it may continue. Nor do we attach any blame or censure to any honest effort to advance their own interests. But we trust we still have left some respect for truth and fairness, and this petition is not truthful nor fair, and is in striking contrast with the remonstrance of our citizens against the proposed removal, which is fair in its statements, truthful and dignified.

Our Friend Wilson.

The following is an extract from the proceedings of the State House of Representatives on Wednesday, 17th inst.:

Mr. Wilson, (Allegheny county), continuing, said that one little paper in Cambria county had the impudence to attack him, a copy of which he had received from the editor, who doubtless hoped to receive five dollars for telling the truth afterwards. The clerk would bear him witness that he had urged him on more than one occasion to employ men who would not stay away when duty demanded his presence.

Mr. Porter, of Cambria, asked what paper he alluded to.

Mr. Wilson said he believed it was printed at Ebensburg. He did not recollect its name, never saw it before and would perhaps never see it again.

The honorable George does us more honor than he bestows on himself. If only a five dollar bill separates us from the truth, we keep pretty close company with that virtue. We can assure George that, judging from his own words and actions in the pasting and folding business, the gap between him and the truth is a gulf somewhat similar to that between Dives and Lazarus. We acknowledge to one mistake. Every material statement we made about this disciple of Solon, to "attack" whom is such great "impudence," we took from a communication published by him, under his own signature, in the Pittsburgh Commercial of the 23d of last January. And now, he tells us we did not speak the truth! Alas! for Wilson! What poor stuff this human frame is made of. He failed, too, send us a copy of his cruel remarks. Was it out of regard to our feelings?

Our State Legislature, it is believed by those capable of judging, will remain in session about six weeks, or until the middle of April next.

Our Washington Letter.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20, 1869.

To the Editors of The Alleghenian: All around me is wild excitement and commotion. It seems that the crowd of anxious expectants of some legislation favorable to this scheme or that have only just "waked up" to a realization of the fact, that the present Congress is on the eve of dissolution. Like the drowning man clutching at a straw for support, or crying out for the helping hand of some humane friend to save him from a watery grave, he who has had committed to his protecting care some (to him) valuable bill before Congress, is trembling for its fate, while imploring for its immediate consideration. It is not improbable that, in nine cases out of ten, his loss would prove to be the people's gain.

It is to be regretted that so many very important public measures have been left in an unfinished stage, to this late day of the session. All who are familiar with legislation know, that what are technically styled "snakes" wind themselves into, and coil themselves up under the exterior of bills brought forward in the hurly-burly haste which invariably marks the proceedings at the closing of the term of our National or State legislatures. The appropriation bills must be passed, that the wheels of government be kept in motion. There are, however, others of urgent necessity, which can not possibly be reached between this and the 4th proximo. It is also to be borne in mind, that all bills passed within the last ten days of the session, if not approved by the Executive, can be "pocketed" by him, and thereby prevented from being passed into laws by a two-thirds vote, notwithstanding his objections.

The Internal Revenue tax-bill, making some essential changes in the law as it now stands, is in the possession of the Senate. It is possible, if not probable, that it will not be reached, although its friends express some hopes that it may be finally acted upon before adjournment.

On Thursday, the House passed a bill which provides for a redistribution of the National Bank currency, by which a portion of the circulation will be taken from the eastern and the middle States, and given to the western and southern States. Members and lookers on appear to attach much importance to this bill, and probably the States having more than a pro-rata share of the circulation will be injuriously affected by it. As banking and the intricacies of fiscal operations are out of the line of your inapprecious correspondent, he being more deeply interested in the inquiry as to "what he shall eat, and wherewith he shall be clothed," he will not undertake to enlighten your readers on a subject concerning which he knows so little.

The Army Appropriation bill gave rise, during its discussion in the House, to spirited debate. Mr. Butler, of Massachusetts, made strenuous efforts to have the army immediately reduced in the number of officers and men, without regard to the present or prospective exigencies of the service. The sense of the House was opposed to this sudden reduction, in view of the difficulties still existing in the unconstructed States, and the necessity of keeping in the field, for a time at least, a large force in the Indian country. The amendment of Mr. Butler was voted down, and the following, offered by Mr. Blaine, of Maine, adopted in its stead:

And be it further enacted, That, until the military force is reduced to twenty regiments of infantry, five regiments of cavalry, and five regiments of artillery, no new commissions shall be issued in any regiment, and the Secretary of War is hereby directed to consolidate regiments as rapidly as the requirements of the public service and the reduction of the number of officers will permit, until the above named minimum is reached.

And be it further enacted, That, until otherwise directed by law, there shall be no new appointments and no promotions in the Adjutant General's Department, in the Inspector General's Department, in the Pay Department, in the Quartermaster's Department, in the Commissary Department, in the Ordnance Department, or in the Medical Department.

The bill, as amended, passed the House by a very large majority.

It is generally understood that the treaty made with the English Government, by Minister Reverdy Johnson, for the settlement of the Alabama claims will be rejected by the Senate, while that made by Gen. Cushing, with the Government of Columbia, for the right of way to construct a ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien will be ratified. It is instructive to ponder upon the contrast which characterized the diplomacy that resulted in effecting these treaties. Hob-nobbing, beef-eating, wire-guzzling, windy-speaking, knee-bending, and humiliating sycophancy marked each step of our Minister to the Court of St. James, in the negotiations, which ended in this abortion called a treaty. How different was the course of Gen. Cushing. The first intimation the public has had of the object of his mission, is the announcement of his success in making a treaty, which will be attended by immeasurably greater benefits to this country, than any that could be hoped for from the treaty with England.

The Senate has under consideration the House bill for the repeal of the tenno-offence act. There seems to be some difference of opinion among Republican Senators, as to the propriety of the entire repeal of the law. Some advocate its modification instead of its repeal. In the discussions on this question, the political friends of Gen. Grant have, one and all, reiterated their declarations of confidence in his integrity and patriotism, but it is held, by many Senators, that legislation on this subject should have in view, that what has happened under the present administration may occur under future administrations, and that it would be unwise to remove the law of restraint in toto. They, therefore, advocate the modification of the law, in accordance with the report of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, while disavowing any want of confidence in the President elect. On the other hand, it is said, that it is due to Gen. Grant to

remove this impediment to the free exercise of the Presidential prerogative, during his administration—that he comes into office, fresh from the ranks of the people, unstained by the commission of any political sin—that he has been selected as the depository of a trust, which his constituents know will be discharged honestly and faithfully—that the people, in conferring the power, imposed the responsibility of using it properly—and that it is meet and just to remove restrictions which were enacted under peculiar circumstances, none of which will exist on the inauguration of the new administration. Such are the opposing opinions presented. It will, probably, be decided which shall prevail, before your paper goes to press.

The resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution, as it passed the House, was voted down in the Senate. That resolution prohibited any distinction in the right to vote, on account of color, race, or previous condition of servitude. The Senate then passed a resolution as follows: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote and hold office shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State on account of color, race, or previous condition of servitude." On Saturday, the House, by a vote of 140 to 33, amended the foregoing, by making it read: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote and hold office shall not be denied or abridged by any State on account of race, color, nativity, property, or previous condition of servitude." In this shape it goes back to the Senate, and, as the same proposition previously passed that Branch, by a vote of forty to sixteen, it is to be presumed that it will again be adopted, and be a finality on this question, as far as Congress is concerned.

I have already given my opinion as to the justice and policy of this amendment to the Constitution. It has in view an entire obliteration of distinctions between men, on account of the mere accidents of birth. On calm consideration, the amendment will commend itself to every unprejudiced mind. It is the emanation of a correct patriotism and an exalted spirit of liberty. No man has a right to the enjoyment of a freedom which he is unwilling to extend to his fellow-man. Coeval with the adoption of the proposed amendment, there will spring up a more widely spread philanthropy, and a brighter hope that our country will fulfill its mission among the nations of the earth.

It is really amusing to witness the perplexity of the "quid nuncs," caused by the utter impossibility to gain even a slight indication from the President elect as to his selection of gentlemen to form his cabinet. Those whose occupation for years has been that of vaticinating or foretelling the events to be developed in the future, are thrown into confusion by Gen. Grant's taciturnity. I know of no more appropriate simile to express the idea I wish to convey than that of the hound following the trail with eagerness and the expectation of catching the wary fox, but, by some unforeseen cause, he snuffs the air, but no tell-tale sensation on his olfactory betrays the course sly Reynard has taken. The dog abandons the chase, and, with tail between his legs, retires to his kennel, to ruminate on the folly of his having exhausted lung and muscle in so fruitless an effort. Your reader can apply the figure as well as I.

That Petition.

We give below the full text of the petition being circulated in the southern portion of the County for the removal of the County-seat from Ebensburg to Johnstown:

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met: The petition of the undersigned, citizens of the County of Cambria, Humbly Represents, that both the public and private interests of the County of Cambria demand the Removal of the seat of Justice from Ebensburg to Johnstown in said County. The seat of Justice as now located is entirely out of the way for all the practical purposes of a County Seat.

Were it not that they are compelled to transact their judicial and county business at Ebensburg, the people of the county would have no occasion to even visit the place. In going there, the people go away from all business; in coming away from there they return to business. There is no community of interests between the interests of the County Seat and the interests of any other portion of the county. The developments of the great resources of the county are all away from the County Seat, and never can have any relations with it. Going to Ebensburg is in truth going away from every business relation of the County, simply to transact that business at Ebensburg. It is difficult of access from all portions of the County, and is an additional tax and encumbrance upon the people and business of the County. By reason of its location, the expense attending the administration of justice amounts to a denial of it, to a very great extent. Johnstown, on the contrary, is located, that all the principal business of the County centers in it—it is the general market for the products of the County; it is there the farmer gets everything he needs in exchange for his products. It is the business chart of the County and surrounding counties. The people of this County go there to traffic and transact business, and while there could attend to their legal and county business, without any additional expense. It is easier of access to the remotest portion of the county than Ebensburg. It is a growing city, with a large, industrious, and increasing population, and destined ere long to be one of the great cities of the State. The city, with its surroundings, is one of the greatest manufacturing and mining districts in the Commonwealth. The necessity of its be-

ing the Seat of Justice of the County must be apparent to all. We repeat, that the public, judicial, county, and private interests of the people of the County demand the Removal of the County Seat from Ebensburg to Johnstown. We therefore pray your Honorable Bodies to pass a law to submit the question of the Removal of the Seat of Justice to a vote of the people of said County, and as in duty bound will ever pray, &c.

A NEW VELOCIPED.—A gentleman, resident of this city, says the Cleveland Herald, of the 18th inst., has patented a three wheeled velocipede, which he claims will excel anything yet brought out. As a test of its powers he intends next week to give a public exhibition of its merits by making a trip to Rocky river and back against time. Then on the 15th of next month he will start for Boston, via the old State road, and will make one hundred miles in twenty-four hours on his invention or forfeit a large sum of money. This new machine is rigged up very much like a common carriage, having a seat for the rider and a calash over to protect him from the sun and rain. Due notice will be given of the public exhibition. The merits claimed for the new invention are that it will run on any road, in the mud or on the pavement, up hill or down, and all without any very great exertion of power.

WATER is furnished by the city of Philadelphia to ninety-three thousand private dwellings, or to over eight hundred thousand people.

TAKE NOTICE.—All persons indebted to the firm of E. & H. NUTTER, by either note or book account, are requested to call on the firm and settle their respective accounts on or before the first of April next, as after that time the firm will be changed. All persons interested will save trouble and costs by complying, as all old bills will and must be collected after that date by due process of law. E. & H. NUTTER, Chest Springs, Feb. 4, 1869-3t.

THE FARMER'S BOOK.—140 beautiful and useful illustrations. 700 octavo pages. Showing just what every farmer wants to know: How to make the farm pay. Send for circular giving full description. Farmers! Farmers! sons! experienced book agents and others wanted to take this book to every farmer in every community. Business permanent. Pays from \$150 to \$200 per month according to experience and ability. Address: ZIGLER, MURPHY & CO., Philadelphia, Pa. Cincinnati, O., Chicago, Ill., St. Louis, Mo. [Aug. 27-6m]

NOTICE.—The partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned, under the firm of E. HUGHES & CO., is this day dissolved by mutual consent. All debts due to or by the firm are to be settled by THOMAS J. LLOYD, who continues the Lumber business at the old stand. E. HUGHES, THOS. J. LLOYD, Ebensburg, August 24, 1868.

The undersigned will continue buying and selling Lumber. The highest market price will be paid, in cash, for all kinds of good Lumber. Particular attention paid to filling orders. [aug13] THOS. J. LLOYD.

M. L. OATMAN, DEALER IN CHOICE FAMILY GROCERIES! consisting in part of DOUBLE EXTRA FAMILY FLOUR, GRAIN, FEED, BACON, SALT, FISH, DRIED APPLES AND PEACHES, ALL KINDS OF CANNED FRUITS!! SUGARS! TEAS! COFFEES! SYRUPS! MOLASSES! CHEESE! &c., &c., &c.

Also a large stock of the best brands of CIGARS AND TOBACCO! Store on High-st., three doors east of Crawford's Hotel. [Feb. 4.]

L. L. LANGSTROTH'S PATENT MOVABLE COMB BEE HIVE! Pronounced the best ever yet introduced in this county or State. Any person buying a family right can have their bees transferred from an old box to a new one. In every instance in which this has been done the result has been entirely satisfactory, and the first take of honey has invariably paid all expenses, and frequently exceeded them. Proof of the superior merits of this invention will be found in the testimony of every man who has given it a trial, and among the number are the gentlemen named below, and their experience should induce every one interested in Bees to BUY A FAMILY RIGHT! Henry C. Kirkpatrick, of Carroll township, took 100 pounds of surplus honey from two hives, which he sold at 35 cents per pound. Adam Deitrich, of Carroll township, took from two hives 100 pounds of surplus honey. James Kirkpatrick, of Chest township, took 60 pounds of surplus honey from one hive. Jacob Kirkpatrick, of Chest township, obtained 72 pounds of surplus honey from one hive, worth not less than \$21, and the right cost him only \$5. Peter Campbell from one hive obtained 36 pounds of surplus honey at one time.

Quite a number of similar statements, authenticated by some of the best citizens of Cambria county, could be obtained in proof of the superior merits of Langstroth's Patent Movable Comb Bee Hive. Persons wishing to purchase family rights should call on or address PETER CAMPBELL, Nov. 26, 1868-1f Carrolltown, Pa.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL CONFECTIONERY! WEST END CAMBRIA HOUSE, EBENSBURG, PA. A. H. FALLER, Proprietor.

BARGAINS! BARGAINS! The subscriber desires to call the attention of the citizens of Ebensburg and vicinity to the trade generally, to his LARGE AND EXTENSIVE STOCK OF CONFECTIONERY! embracing every variety of candies manufactured, such as— GUM DROPS, STICK CANDIES, FANCY CANDIES, LOZENGES, &c., &c. together with an extensive stock of such as— RAISINS, PRUNELLES, CARTON PIGS, MALTA DATES, CURRANTS, APPLES, &c. All of the above goods will be sold at GREAT BARGAINS!

SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS WILL be given to the trade, and a trial will satisfy any and all that my goods are of best quality and at prices that

DEFY COMPETITION! The attention of the public is called to the fact that in connection with my confectionery is a first-class

RESTAURANT! where will be served at all hours OYSTERS, stewed or fried, HOT COFFEE, PIGS' FEET, TRIPE, SARDINES, DRIED BEEF, &c., &c.

FRESH FISH RECEIVED EVERY THURSDAY! CALL AND EXAMINE GOODS BEFORE GOING ELSEWHERE! I hope by fair dealing and strict attention to business to merit the patronage of the public. Jan. 7, 1869. A. H. FALLER

DOBBINS' ELECTRIC BU POLISH! Makes a lasting shine. Those who wear their boots on Saturday night with ordinary blacking, don't have much shine on Sun as the polish fades off; but the shine of Dobbins' Blacking lasts Saturday night and day Sunday. IT BEATS ALL OTHER BLACKING made. Manufactured only by J. B. Dobbins at his immense Soap and Blacking Works, Sixth Street and Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. For sale in Ebensburg by C. T. ERBTS and GEO. HUNTLEY.

REES J. LLOYD, Successor of R. S. Decker in PURE DRUGS AND MEDICINES, PAINTS, OILS, AND DYE-STUFFS, PERFUMERY AND FANCY ARTICLES, PURE WINES AND BRANDIES FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES, PATENT MEDICINES, &c., &c. Letter, Cap, and Note Papers, Pens, Pencils, Superior Ink, and other articles kept by Druggists generally. Physicians' prescriptions carefully compounded. Office on Main Street, opposite the Hotel House, Ebensburg, Pa.

NEW TAILOR SHOP! The subscriber has removed his Shop into READE'S NEW BUILDING, Center street, near Colonsa Row, and respectfully informs his old customers and the rest of mankind that he is now prepared to manufacture all kinds of GENTS AND YOUTHS WEARING CLOTHING. In the latest style of the art, with neatness and dispatch, and at low rates. Persons needing work in my line respectfully invited to give me a call. D. J. EVANS, Ebensburg, Aug. 13, 1f.

NEW CHEAP CASH STORE! The subscriber would inform the citizens of Ebensburg and vicinity that he keeps constantly on hand everything in the GROCERY AND CONFECTIONERY line, such as Flour, Tea, Coffee, Sugar, kinds of Crackers, Cheese, Smoking Chewing Tobacco, Cigars, &c. CANNED PEACHES AND TOMATOES. Also, Buckskin and Woolen Gloves, Men's Socks, Neck ties, &c., all of which will be sold as cheap if not cheaper than elsewhere. A full assortment of Candies! Ice Cream every evening. aug13] R. K. THOMAS

AZURENE—(Concentrated Indigo) FOR THE LAUNDRY. It is warranted not to streak, or in any way injure the finest fabrics. For family use sold in five cents and twenty cents boxes. Each twenty cents box, besides having times as much blue as the five cents box, contains a pocket pin cushion and every day up in \$2.00 boxes. See that each box has proper Trade Mark. For Sale in Ebensburg by V. S. HANCOCK, Jan. 25, 1869.

JOB WORK of all kinds done at THE ALLEGHENIAN OFFICE, Hex St., EBENSBURG, Pa. Bring on your orders.