

The Local Primary.

Next Saturday is the day for the local primaries, the interest in which in Butler has been partially clouded or obscured by the furious contest for the dazzling diamonds offered as prizes by one of our dailies.

However, good men are offering themselves in town for Burgess and Tax Collector; and in the wards for Council and School Director.

Eq. Keck has no opposition for Justice of the Peace, and T. James Dadds is the only Republican willing to serve as Bureau Auditor.

Be careful who you vote for for Council—everybody has an axe to grind of some kind, our streets have not been kept clean, and though Franchises, there are not a few left, but a—n that Diamond Contest.

POLITICAL.

J. David McJunkin will again be a candidate for Congress, this year.

County Commissioners are required to distribute the ballots with the names of voters arranged in alphabetical order, with a square opposite the name of each, and a space at the end of each group of candidates in which the names of candidates not upon the ballot may be written. The voter shall designate his choice by the use of a cross or by stickers.

Before the ballot is given to a voter he shall declare the party for which he desires to vote, and if challenged shall prove his right. The ballots shall be kept separate, and every ballot shall be numbered as received. A list of voters shall be kept, on which the name of each voter and of the party for which he voted, shall be entered in the order as cast.

It is made unlawful for any person to promise money or other valuable consideration for the purpose of influencing a citizen's vote or to pay the expenses of any elector for his time in attending such election; to pay the taxes of any elector to qualify him to vote at such election; to threaten or intimidate any voter in order to influence or obstruct an elector, or to interfere with or influence any primary election officer; to disseminate or discharge any person from a position because of his vote or his failure to vote; to tamper with the official ballot; to pay directly or indirectly any expenses incurred by a candidate; to personate an election officer; to disclose how any person votes, to knowingly receive the vote of anyone known to be not legally qualified; to knowingly receive to receive the vote of a qualified elector; to make a false or fraudulent return; to knowingly vote or offer to vote more than once at the same election, or to deposit more than one vote for the same office.

The penalty for any of these offenses, which are classified as misdemeanors, is fixed at a fine of \$1,000 or imprisonment of two years and six months, or both, at the discretion of the court.

The Philadelphia "ripper-repealer" and the state civil service bill passed the Senate on first reading, Thursday morning.

In the House the bills fixing the salaries of the Secretary of the Commonwealth at \$11,000 and of the Insurance Commissioner at \$8,000, and abolishing the enormous fees enjoyed by those officers under prevailing conditions, were given similar impetus ere the Speaker's gavel fell that morning.

An interesting feature of Thursday's session of the Senate was the presentation by Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth Butler of a detailed statement of the fees of that department last year, showing receipts of \$117,000, of which the Secretary retained \$28,000 for his own personal use.

At Monday night's session of the House a movement for a convention to revise the State Constitution was started; and the Governor was requested to enlarge his call for the present extra session so as to permit of the consideration of the following additional subjects:

Return to the counties of all the money collected on personal property tax and licenses.

Permit trolley lines to carry freight loads to the end of the line, and that railway and other corporations shall pay the same rate of taxes on their property as is paid by the farmers and mechanics.

Revision and reform of the general election law.

The Senate concurred with the House in respect to this new schedule of business and a joint committee was appointed to wait on Governor Penneybacker to ascertain his views as to extending the call. The committee was instructed to report to the Legislature within three days.

The proposition for a constitutional convention to reconstruct the fundamental law of the Commonwealth is the direct outgrowth of the manifest impossibility of a reapportionment of the Senatorial districts in accordance with the present Constitution. This is the basis of the pretext for subjecting the entire Constitution to revision by a convention elected by the people.

Tuesday, the Senate passed a ripper bill which rips out the old Philadelphia ripper; and listened to a brief by D. T. Watson on Greater Pittsburgh.

The old Glenn homestead on S. McKean St. occupied by Mrs. Rider and her family was partially burned last Thursday evening. The loss to Mrs. Yonkine, the owner, was \$100, and to Mrs. Rider about \$300.

Rider is the widow of Samuel Rider, who was found dead in bed at a boarding house in Petersburg some months ago.

The home of Ed. Kingsley near De Sale, Venango twp. was destroyed by fire a few days ago.

The pile-up of split-wood baskets around City Hall, Pittsburgh, last Friday evening, caused its destruction. Towards midnight some passer-by lit his cigar and threw the burning match into a pile of baskets. Shortly after a vigorous fire was noticed spreading to the north corner of the building and across the narrow street to the green goods store there. The firemen came and directed their attention to the burning baskets and fruit stands, while the fire worked its way through the cornice of the building and between the roof and the ceiling. There was an explosion of dust, the whole roof was in flames, the cornice fell upon the street, and the building was destroyed. Several buildings to the north or toward Fifth St. were also injured. The Hall was built in 1851, and was one of the landmarks of the old town, and will, probably, be replaced by something high and grand.

HARRISBURG NOTES.

The Legislature got a good start, last week. Bills covering all the points of the Governor's proclamations were prepared and started on their journey through the two houses, and they adjourned over from Thursday evening to Monday.

Without passes in their pockets it is not likely those members will be able to get a hundred miles from the state Capital will put in an appearance at their homes as regularly Fridays as they were wont to.

The most important bill calendared, last week, was that of "Tom" Cooper of Delaware county regarding primary elections. It is sweeping in its provisions, retaining the whole amount of the reform program. It provides for two primary elections, one of which is to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January for city, ward, borough and township offices, and the other for county officers at a time named by the County Commissioners of the party polling the largest vote at the preceding general election.

These primaries shall be held at the usual polling places and shall be conducted by the regular election officers, and shall take place between the hours of 2 in the afternoon and 8 in the evening. Public notice of primaries must be made by the commissioners of the majority party, and candidates are empowered to obtain the appointment of watchers.

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ACCIDENTS.

At the Hooker station, last Friday evening, a horse backed a buggy into a moving train, and the occupants, Mrs. C. A. Brown of North Washington and a boy named Jack, had to jump for their lives.

Two tinnies, Fred Smith and Tom Heberling, had a drop of twenty feet, last Friday, by the breaking of their scaffold below them a house at Steble place. Heberling was taken to the home of his uncle, Paul Lambert, on Race St. and his condition is yet precarious as his back seems to be injured.

After many a narrow escape, James O'Hare, an old "shooter," who has handled many a ton of glycerine, was blown to atoms at Chelsea, Kansas, last week.

Ross Jack of Washington twp. had a hand crushed by a belt in the Wally mill, a few days ago.

W. I. Scott of Lancaster twp. was seriously injured about the head, in Harmony, some days ago. He was taken to his home and is recovering.

A freight wreck on the B. & O. between Callery and Evans City, Tuesday morning, delayed traffic for some time.

While three Crispin brothers residing in the Marks house on the Plank Road were out for a walk in town Friday evening, the animal shied off a news-paper laying on the road a short distance below Young's grocery store, and sprang against a plank set at the side of the road for protection, breaking it, and going over the side of the bank. The animal struck a snag and had an ugly wound torn in its side and leg. Crispin had three fingers badly cut.

DEATHS.

TACK—January 18, 1906, infant daughter of Philip Tack, of Butler.

MARTIN—At her home in Butler, Jan. 19, 1906, Mrs. John Martin, nee Bath Scott, aged 72 years.

DAVIS—At his home in Adams twp., January 12, 1906, George Davis, aged 35 years.

CAMPBELL—At Emlenton, January 17, 1906, Carlisle C. Campbell, aged 69 years.

Mr. Campbell was stricken with paralysis, while talking to a friend on the street, and died shortly after at the home of his son-in-law, H. Shirey. He was a native of Venango twp.

MYERS—At her home in Karnas City, Jan. 14, 1906, Mrs. Michael Myers, nee Dyer, aged 70 years.

Her maiden name was Margaret Kaner, and she is survived by her husband, three sons and seven daughters.

KENNEDY—At his home near Portersville, January 19, 1906, Pierce Kennedy, aged 65 years.

PROSPO—At his home in Red Row, January 21, 1906, John Prospo, aged 2 years.

RUMMEL—January 21, 1906, infant daughter of George Rummel, of Windfield twp.

PARKER—At his home in East End, Pittsburgh, Jan. 20, 1906, William J. Parker, aged 50 years.

Mr. Parker was a sudden one, and was caused by apoplexy. He was born at Parker's Landing, and was a son of Fullerton Parker. His grandfather, John Parker, was the first associate judge of Butler county. William J. Parker became associated in business with his father, and was a director in the Exchange bank, and with his father he helped to construct the Parker & Karnas City and the Karnas City and Butler narrow gauge railroads in 1873. The father was president of the roads, which were acquired by the Pittsburgh & Western in 1881, and the son a director. In 1888, William Parker died, and the son, William, succeeded his father in his many enterprises. The town of Parker's Landing was named for Fullerton Parker.

William Parker engaged extensively in oil producing in both the Butler and Armstrong county fields and was successful. About five years ago he left Parker's Landing to accept the position of superintendent of the Standard Oil Company's wells at Petersville, which position he held until about six months ago, when he removed to Pittsburgh.

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THE OCTOPUS.

Be Terrific, American Snuckers and its Powerful Jaws.

Both the octopus and the cuttlefish have arms that are clothed with a formidable array of suckers which are wonderful pieces of mechanism. When the sucker comes into contact with an object the central piston, having previously been raised so as to completely fill the cavity of the sucker, is at once withdrawn and a perfect vacuum produced, explaining the great tenacity with which the suckers cling. They number upward of 100 pairs to each arm of the octopus, and once they obtain a grip on the victim, unless the arm is actually torn away from the body of the octopus, it is practically impossible for its prey to disentangle itself.

In addition to these suckers the octopus has a powerful pair of jaws, shaped like the beak of a parrot, behind which is a formidable armor plated tongue used as a rasping organ. The octopus will attack and kill crabs and lobsters of considerable size, ripping open the body by means of its powerful jaws and devouring the contents. In spite of its creature's head and its inspiring looks the octopus has several enemies in various species of whales, sharks and conger eels. In fact, the latter are particularly fond of devouring the smaller octopuses.

Conger eels hunt for the octopus and, when found, proceed to browse on its limbs. The octopus tries to hug the slippery eel, but for this he is in vain, and, finding its limbs growing less, discharges its ink in the face of the foe and under cover of the turbid water beats a hasty retreat. It is to escape the attention of its enemies that the octopus possesses the power of changing its color to correspond with that of its surroundings.

WHEN WE STAND UPRIGHT.

A Special Complex Mechanism Enables Us to Do It.

We are so accustomed to standing upright as a natural attitude that few of us think what a special complex mechanism is required for this purpose. A moment's consideration will show that the ordinary explanation of the erect position of the center of gravity to be directly above the feet is insufficient. When a man is suddenly struck, whether from the front or behind, he drops on either side, not with a jerk, but there is much more weight in the front of the spinal column than standing.

The fact is that when we are standing a large number of powerful muscles (both front and back) are simultaneously at work, the effects of their action being to neutralize each other. Thus the legs would fall forward were it not that they are kept vertical on the feet by the strong tendon (the "Achilles") at the back of the heel. At the same time the muscles of the thigh are contracted so as to prevent us from taking a sitting position, and the muscles of the back are pulled taut so that the trunk does not stoop forward. The head is prevented from dropping on the chest by the ligaments in the nape of the neck.

That the upright is not its normal position is easily shown by the fact that a man nods as he is falling asleep, for as soon as the controlling nervous force is deadened the head drops forward by its own weight, only to be pulled back into position again with a jerk when the brain becomes suddenly aware of an unusual attitude.

British Contrasts.

Their wealth, their luxury, their cultivation of arts and letters and their sense of duty and their contempt for their civilization, their strange class distinctions, but above all the great wealth and the great poverty of their people, stir our wondering faculties more than any other contrast we can see. When we behold their wealth we are as poor children brought suddenly into a rich child's nursery. We are astonished at the number and profusion of toys strange to us. When we see their poverty we are as Pharaohs who think God that we are not as these others. But in either case we are lost with a great amazement. From "An Outlander in England."

His Excuse.

A Scottish parish minister met the laird's gamekeeper one day and said to him, "My son, David, why is it I never see you in church?" "Well, sir," replied Davidson, "I don't want to hurt the attendance." "Hurt the attendance! What do you mean?" asked the minister in surprise. "Well, sir," replied Davidson, "there are about a dozen men in the parish that go to church when I'm not there, and they would go poisoning if I went to church."

An Explanation.

"Why is it," said the young man with long hair, "that the average woman looks rather merry money than brains?" "She takes less chance," answered Miss Cayenne. "The average woman is a better judge of money than she is of brains."—Washington Star.

His Luck.

Friend of the Family—You are very lucky, my boy, to be so successful. It will bring you everlasting fortune. Son No. 7—it hasn't so far. All it's brought yet is the old clothes of my six brothers.—Illustrated Bits.

Nothing but Praise.

"I have nothing but praise for our new minister." "So I noticed when the plate came to us."—Chicago Journal.

The Reproof.

During the French revolution a priest rode in a lumbered to the quill with two persons—one a marquis, the other a common thief. As the cart jolted through the crowded streets the citizens shouted maledictions on its occupants. "Down with you, beasts of the aristocracy!" "The marquis smiled proudly, but the criminal was vexed. "My good friends," he cried, "I am no aristocrat. I am a thief."

Caesar's Appearance.

Julius Caesar was a thin man, tall and with a very wrinkled, scrawny countenance. His forehead was broad and full of wrinkles. His eyes were not large, but described as exceedingly bright and quick. His nose was of more than usual size and his chin full and prominent. He walked with a slight, scholarly stride, and he carried his ears stood out well from his head, and his hair was always cut close. Early in life he became bald.

Quite the Contrary.

Tess—I certainly was surprised to hear that Maud was married. Jess—Yes, it was rather unexpected. Tess—Her family's quite inclined. They say her husband is a man of absolutely no family. Jess—That's all wrong. He was a widower with four children.—Philadelphia Press.

A Mother's Creed.

"He is always bragging that he doesn't owe anybody a dollar." "Well, my son, unless you borrow, 'thank heaven' your credit is not that bad."—Exchange.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Letters of administration on the estate of Sarah C. Trimble, deceased, late of Euclid, Butler county, Pennsylvania, having been granted to the undersigned, all persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate are hereby requested to make prompt payment and those having claims against the estate to present the same duly authenticated for settlement to

CATHERINE A. TRIMBLE, Administrator, Euclid, Pa.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.

Letters testamentary on the estate of Elizabeth Scott, dec'd, late of Middlesex Co., Butler Co., Pa., having been granted to the undersigned, all persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment, and any having claims against said estate will present them duly authenticated for settlement to

JOSEPH W. MEADE, Adm'r., R. F. D. 23, Valencia, Pa.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Letters of administration on the estate of Smiley R. Williams, dec'd, late of Franklin Co., Pa., having been granted to the