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JOHNSTOWN, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PA., FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 1890

NO. 9.

THE CITY COUNCILS.

Proceedings of the Meeting of Both Branches Last Evening.

Both branches of the City Councils met in regular monthly session last evening in their respective rooms. A quorum of the Select Council not being present, a policeman was sent out to hunt up the absentees.

IN THE SELECT COUNCIL.

A quorum was present at 8 o'clock, the following men being present: Messrs Barry, Kennedy, O'Shea, Brixner, Moses, Slick, Kist, Huebner and Hogan. Those absent were Messrs. Haws, Yeagley, Buser, McLaughlin, Smith and Hochstein.

In the absence of Chairman Yeagley, Mr. Kennedy presided.

A petition from John B. Gerhardt asking for permission to lay, at his own expense, a row of stepping stones across Horner street in front of his place of business in the Seventh ward was granted.

A petition from citizens of Moxham, Seventh ward asking for the extension of Wheat street in that place to Coleman avenue, was referred to the Committee on Highways.

The following message from the Mayor was read:

MAYOR'S OFFICE,
CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, JUNE 17, 1890.

To the Select and Common Councils of the City of Johnstown:

In response to resolution of your bodies requesting the Mayor and Solicitor to present to Council the proper measure to prepare the way for raising the money necessary to protect the city from flood waters by the issue of River Improvement Bonds or other form. I have to say that the only mode of incurring indebtedness by the municipality is by:

First. Ascertaining the amount of outstanding liability then ascertaining the amount of revenue within one year which the municipality will derive from all sources, of course should include the probable expenditures within the year to which the revenue would have necessarily to be applied, this amount being ascertained, the Councils by resolution or ordinance may incur an indebtedness equal to two per cent upon the valuation of all the taxable property within the limits of the city as ascertained by the last preceding assessment. Should the amount of the outstanding liability be equal to two per cent, then the Councils have no authority to contract a loan or incur an indebtedness without having the sanction of the electors of the city as follows:

Second. The municipality may contract a loan or incur an indebtedness not to exceed a sum of seven per cent upon the valuation of the taxable property within the limits of the city by fixing a time and giving notice of a special election upon which the question of incurring an indebtedness shall be submitted to the voters. Should a majority of the votes cast be in favor of incurring an indebtedness, then the municipal authorities may contract or incur an indebtedness for any lawful purpose not to exceed the seven per cent, above mentioned.

In either event the proper officers of the municipality must file a statement, under oath, with the clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions, showing the amount of the last annual assessment, the amount of the revenues within the next year applicable to the payment of the indebtedness, the amount of the indebtedness, the form and character of the obligation issued, and when payable.

At the time of issuing any obligation under the Act of Assembly relating to the municipal indebtedness, the Councils must authorize the levying of a tax applicable to the liquidation of the debt, and the period for which bonds may be issued shall not exceed thirty years.

Pursuant to your resolution, a contract with the Cambria Iron Company for the building of a temporary bridge across the Little Conemaugh river, and the filling of the river bank for the protection of the Eleventh ward has been entered into, and I recommend the appropriation of a sum sufficient to cover the amount of said contract, to wit: the sum of \$1,000 for the cost of the bridge, and the sum of \$300 to cover the actual expense for labor in laying the railroad track.

Pursuant to ordinance and resolution, I have accepted the bid of Hoover, Hughes & Co., they being the only persons who filed a bid for the erection of the temporary Mayor's office and lock-up or station house, to be used as a city prison, in accordance with the plan and specification approved by the respective committees on public property of each branch of Council; the price and sum of said building is \$1,100, and is already covered by a proper appropriation.

In accordance with the resolution of the Councils, a contract for the filling of Main street to Walnut, from Walnut to the bridge crossing the Little Conemaugh and Iron street and the intersecting streets and alleys with Brown Bros. at the rate per cubic yard fixed by resolution, has been entered into, the work to be done under the direction of the City Engineer and the same is now being rapidly pushed to completion.

A proper appropriation should be made for the payment of the sum of said contract.

I have been informed by the contractor having in charge the building of the proposed house at the foot of Elm street that they will be required to excavate and remove from six to ten thousand yards of ground in order to make the foundations for that structure, and they will be required to expend the ground somewhat higher than in the river. Doubtless a contract could be made with them to fill the lower portion of Main, Washington, and Union streets and intersecting alleys at a very low figure, and I recommend the propriety of referring the matter to the City Engineer and Street Commissioner, giving to them authority to confer with and secure from the contractors the ground to be expended, conferring at the same time the right to make a contract if the terms are satisfactory to a proper committee of the Councils and the Mayor.

I have drafted an ordinance defining the width and location for part of the course of the Little Conemaugh river and recommend to your bodies its prompt adoption as the same is drawn in conformity with the survey and recommendation of the City Engineer. It will be at least a commencement and should there be litigation it might as well commence at the point of vital interest, to the inhabitants of the city, to the matter of obtaining an outlet for the flow of the water. It changes the mouth of the Little Conemaugh the width of itself down the stream so as to make its flow parallel with its course.

ent, the Stonycreek, and will relieve us of the dangerous bar heretofore thrown up at every rainfall. It will be seen by a reference to the map or plan prepared by the Engineer that the proposed change will affect but slightly property holders except at the lower end, where the Cambria Iron Company will be mostly affected and with them I hope but little, if any, controversy will be had, as the practical effect is but to give a better outlet to the stream and relieve us of the trouble of the bar deposit above referred to. A change may be required in the location of Conemaugh street in the Thirteenth ward, which will be all the street affected by the change recommended by the Engineer.

It is to me apparent that there is more required at the hands of the City Engineer than he can possibly accomplish. The Councils have ordered, and I commend them for it, that the City Engineer throw aside all other work and proceed with the survey of the water courses in order that ordinances may be passed establishing their width preparatory to cleaning the same, clearing the rubbish, debris, and deposits and opening the channels to relieve us from the danger of future floods. The grading of streets is now going on, which must be done under the direction of the City Engineer, who must be constantly on hand to establish the line and ascertain the number of cubic yards of filling done. He is beset on all sides by persons desiring grades, lines, and levels; an average of ten to twelve persons daily complain to the Mayor in order that the City Engineer to give these grades, lines and levels. If all this work is to be done, the City Engineer must have assistance, and I call the attention of the Councils to the fact, in order that they may take such steps to secure to citizens the opportunity to obtain lines and levels as the Councils may deem proper.

The committee to whom was referred the matter of investigating and reporting upon the propriety of making a change in the Fire Limit ordinance so as to relieve persons who had in good faith entered into contracts and prepared material for the outer walls of their buildings prior to the adoption of the ordinance met and investigated the matter and concluded to recommend the adoption of an ordinance repealing the last proviso of Section 4, of said ordinance a draft of which will be duly presented to Councils.

The new temporary office for the Mayor will soon be completed and ready for occupancy. There is now no proper desk, bookcase or pigeonholes for filing the papers, keeping the blanks and securing the dockets, books and registry pertaining to the office. The information, warrants, subpoenas, commitments and such similar papers are public records and must be preserved, I therefore recommend to Councils the propriety and necessity of providing for the Mayor's office a suitable desk with drawers and case for the purpose of depositing the dockets and storing the blanks as also proper pigeonholes for filing the office papers and the procuring of the necessary chairs and furniture in order to enable him to discharge the duties of his office.

I feel it my duty to call the attention of the Councils to the delay in passing the ordinance relating to sidewalk. There is now no municipal regulation which will enable the executive officers of the City to prohibit obstruction of the sidewalk except to prosecute in the Courts for a public nuisance those who store their goods, barrels and boxes on the same. Nor is there any regulation to compel persons to repair their sidewalks as all ordinances on that subject passed by the several boroughs now forming the City have been repealed. The delay, as I learn, is caused by those who desire to couple with the passage of reasonable regulations in reference to the sidewalks a proviso which proposes to give to merchants a right to obstruct the sidewalk for their own personal convenience and pecuniary advantage. The citizens of the whole community are made to suffer in order to enhance the profits and give an improper advantage to a particular class. The views of the Executive upon the subject of this privilege has heretofore been made the subject of a special message relating to the ordinance by reason of the obnoxious clause referred to. Should those who desire to attach to a general regulation designed for the good of the whole people reflect for a moment, it seems to me they would see the propriety of adopting the ordinance without the clause referred to, and then introducing it as a separate measure. If the measure is a meritorious one, it could and would stand alone and be adopted by a proper majority of the Councils, but when attached to a measure of relief and municipal regulation, which ought not to be delayed, it only places the advocates of the special privilege in the position of obstructing much needed legislation.

I have called the attention of the Councils to the matter, and leave with you the responsibility for our broken sidewalks and encumbered foot-ways.

The change of the grade at the corner of Walnut and Main, as also at the corner of Walnut and Washington streets, necessitates a change in the fire-plugs. Of course the change in grade and elevation will have to be borne by the city, and I am informed by the Superintendent of the Water Company that plugs will have to be renewed, the one at the corner of Main and Walnut being of the old McCrellan pattern and the one at the corner of Washington and Walnut can only be replaced by attaching a new stand pipe. The work will require to be done at once and I recommend that the Street Commissioner or City Engineer be instructed at once to inform the Water Company to make the necessary change. Also within a short time when the grading is done at the intersection of Union and Main a new plug will have to be put in and I suggest the propriety of having instructions given to the Water Company to change it to the proper grade.

The grade of Morris street has been changed near the lower end. The Street Railway track conforms to the new grade. The sidewalk must be elevated to correspond. The grade is made to suit the proposed elevation of the bridge at one foot over the present height of the existing abutments. The condition now is that the street is impassable for teams. Something must be done. If the Franklin street bridge is to be constructed upon the existing abutments only to be changed by an elevation of the same the street should be filled up to meet the case so that wagons can use the highway. If the stream is to be widened and the abutment set back the lines should be given at once, and the work of construction begun. If the stream is to be widened, where the embankment is to be taken off, on which side, to what extent, and who is to be affected should be ascertained without delay, to the end that if we are to be delayed by refusal of those claiming the property to permit it to be removed, their houses torn down or set back, and litigation is to ensue or precede the work of constructing the bridge upon the new lines, the fact should be known and the Courts appealed to in whatever form may be deemed proper at once. The

Street Railway people claim that they are not responsible for the condition of the street as they only followed in elevating the track the lines given by the proper officials and they are in no wise responsible for the condition that renders the street impassable and of which I here complain. The Street Railway Company aver that they are anxious to go on and complete the road and set in motion their cars but can not do so until at least three of the bridges, the Franklin Street, the Walnut Street and the bridge across the Conemaugh connecting the Fifteenth ward are built. The bridges should be built. The location of the lower bridge referred to should be ascertained at once.

The Finance Committee claim they are ready to assist with funds in building bridges when their location and length are duly established. At a recent interview at least one member of the Committee announced that he was not willing to contribute any money towards building the bridges until the Council widened the streams to the lines given by Mr. Schenk, in his survey. Everybody wants the bridges built, whether or not a change shall be made in the width of the Stonycreek at the Franklin Street Bridge, or whether the bridge shall be erected upon the abutments is a matter exclusively for the determination of the Councils. So is it with the location of the bridge to be erected on the lower Conemaugh. I believe there will be no controversy in regard to the width or length of the bridge at the end of Walnut street and at the upper end of Railroad street as the Cambria Iron Company, owning both sides of the stream at the upper bridge and all the land on the upper side of the Walnut Street Bridge, have voluntarily opened the stream or agreed that it shall be opened to a width of 125 feet. But still Councils must act and I recommend the appointment of a joint committee of the Councils to take up the whole question and give it the careful consideration of the expense, delay, and possible litigation to follow the widening of the streams, the danger of overflow if the same are not widened, and having carefully considered all these matters report to Councils what should be done in order that action may be taken. It will not do to trifle with this matter. Action is necessary, delay is improper. I will repeat what I have heretofore said; I will urge, if the same can be done, any scheme Councils may devise within the bounds of law for our relief.

W. HORACE ROSE.

Moved by Mr. Barry that the message be received and taken up seriatim.

The matter of raising money to improve the rivers was referred to the Finance Committee.

On motion, the City Solicitor was instructed to draft an ordinance covering the recommendation of the Mayor in regard to the bridge to the Eleventh ward. The same action was taken in reference to the matter of the contract with Hoover, Hughes & Co., for building the temporary Mayor's headquarters.

The part of the message relating to the matter of the ground to be excavated in constructing the incline plane was referred to the City Engineer and the Street Commissioner, with power to act.

The matter in reference to the furnishing of the Mayor's Office was referred to the Committee on City Property.

The matter of the change of water plugs necessitated by the change of grade in the First and Second wards was referred to the Mayor and the Solicitor to ascertain at whose expense the change should be made, with instructions to report at next meeting.

A resolution instructing the Mayor and the Solicitor to draft an ordinance declaring the width of the Stonycreek river in the city limits be 300 feet passed.

The vote by which the sidewalk ordinance failed of passage at the last meeting was reconsidered. The ordinance was then passed unanimously on third reading.

An ordinance declaring the width of the Little Conemaugh at 125 feet and fixing the lines of that river from the Cambria Iron Company's railroad bridge to its junction with the Stonycreek passed two readings.

A resolution from Common Council directing Brown Bros., to take from the river the filling they are using to raise the streets in the First and Second wards. Passed.

An ordinance authorizing the City Engineer to employ an assistant passed two readings.

An ordinance relating to the movement of street railway cars within the city limits passed two readings.

An ordinance relating to the depositing of garbage or other obstructing materials in the rivers passed two readings.

An ordinance regulating the movement of vehicles on the public highways of the City of Johnstown passed one reading.

An ordinance making appropriation for the payment of the interest on the outstanding indebtedness of the several boroughs now comprising the City of Johnstown passed two readings.

A communication from the City Solicitor was read, asking that the City Engineer be directed to furnish him the necessary lines for Gantier and Quarry streets, in the Tenth ward, to enable him to comply with the request of Council to draft an ordinance declaring them public streets.

On motion, Council adjourned to meet on Friday evening.

IN THE COMMON COUNCIL.

The members present in the Common Council were Messrs. Arthur, Donaldson, Neary, Pearl, J. M. Davis, Foster, Matthews, McConnell, Greene, Flanagan, Coleman, Zimmerman, and Miltenberger. The absentees were Messrs. R. Davis, Beaujohn, and Slater.

The minutes of the last regular meeting and the subsequent special meetings were read and approved.

The message from the Mayor was read. It was considered seriatim.

An ordinance making appropriation for the City Engineer's department, passed finally.

An ordinance making appropriation for the payment of the laborers in the Street Commissioner's department, passed finally.

Mr. Matthews then moved that the City Controller be requested to give an estimate of the probable receipts and expenditures for the current year, and also the assessed valuation of the property in the city. Agreed to.

Mr. Pearl offered a resolution directing Brown Bros. to take from the river the filling they are now using.

It was moved that the Solicitor be instructed to draft an ordinance in accordance with the Mayor's message in reference to the filling in the Eleventh ward.

Bills to the amount of \$2,768.10 passed two readings.

Mr. Foster moved that the Committee on Highways, the Solicitor and the Mayor be instructed to confer with Sparks & Evans, in the matter of the ground excavated at the incline plane, to see what terms could be obtained to have them put it on the streets in the lower parts of the city, and if satisfactory to draw up a proper ordinance in reference to the matter.

The clause in the Mayor's message relating to the furnishing of his office was, on motion of Mr. Pearl, referred to the Committee on City Property.

Messrs. Matthews, Foster, Green, Pearl and Arthur were appointed a special committee to meet a like committee from Select Council to consider the sidewalk ordinance.

The ordinance on nuisances was also referred to that same committee.

The matter in regard to the water plugs on Walnut street it was resolved that the water company be directed to place new plugs or make necessary improvements in water plugs at the intersection of Main and Walnut, Washington and Walnut, and Main and Union streets. Passed two readings.

Mr. Greene offered a resolution directing that the new bridge between the Fourteenth and Fifteenth wards be located at Broad street. Agreed to.

Petition from the citizens of Iron street asking that a sewer be placed along that street for the drainage of the properties on the north side of said street, was referred to the Committee on Highways.

Petition from the Seventh Ward Fire Company asking for an appropriation, was referred to the Committee on Fire and Fire Engines.

Mr. Foster presented the petition of the Johnstown Turnverein, asking for permission to lay a private sewer at their own expense and under the direction of the Street Commissioner, from the rear of their lot at the corner of Railroad and Jackson streets to Locust street. The petition was granted.

The City Engineer was instructed to give the grade and line to the citizens along Connelly avenue so that they can put down their curbstones.

On motion adjourned to meet Friday evening.

New Convent Building.

Prior to the flood the Benedictine Sisters, belonging to St. Joseph's congregation, occupied a rather small frame building on Railroad street, above the parsonage. It shared the common fate of buildings in the track of the flood. A fine new two-story brick building is now nearing completion on the old site, and will, when finished, make a very comfortable residence for the sisters. Considering the amount of property it lost in the flood St. Joseph's congregation has made very rapid progress since the disaster. Their work of rebuilding will be done when the convent is completed.

GREENSBURG HAPPENINGS.

GREENSBURG, PA., June 15.—Mr. Peter Housholder, of Bunker Hill, was fatally injured yesterday morning by a fall of coal in the Greensburg mines, south of town. His skull was fractured in two places, both cars were torn off, and he was badly injured internally. He is single and about twenty-five years old.

Morris Hasson, of Ludwick, made information against S. B. S. Miller, conductor of the first section of the Western Express, charging him with throwing him from the train near Penn, on May 23d, while running at the rate of forty miles an hour. The conductor was arrested and entered bail for a hearing on Tuesday next.

Friday evening a girl named Mary Loge, in the employ of the family of Dick Prehete, was fatally scalded by upsetting a kettle of boiling water over her person. The flesh on her body from the breast down was literally cooked.

Bones of Two Children.

On Friday the bones of a child were found at New Florence and shipped to the morgue authorities here. Spring-heel shoes and black stockings were the only articles of clothing found with the body.

On Saturday the bones of another child were found at the Point and taken to the morgue. No description could be given, as there was nothing but bones.

Partners with a Fakir.

One day, after the editor of the *Weekly Banner and Home Journal* had returned to the office from a trip around the village, he announced to me that the paper would suspend with that issue. I was an apprentice at \$2 per week and "found," and he was in debt to me and everybody else, and could raise no more subscriptions or advertising. We were discussing the gloomy outlook when a young man with a hawk eye and a thin nose came bustling in. That he was down on his luck could easily be told at a glance, but that he was discouraged was not so clear.

"I want two or three days' credit for a little printing," he promptly announced. "You can't have it," growled the editor.

The young man was turning away, seeming not at all discouraged, when the editor asked:

"Who are you?"

"A fakir."

"What's that?"

"A man who travels and lives by his wits."

"Well you've hit the wrong town. You couldn't raise a quarter here in a week's talking. I've worked like a jackass for a year to establish this paper, and she busts this week."

"My friend," said the stranger as he sat down, "let's go pards."

"How?"

"You print me some labels and dodgers and I'll do the selling and we'll whack up."

"What have you got?"

"A liver tonic."

"No good."

"Best thing in the world. How many people you got here?"

"Twelve hundred."

"Then I'll sell twelve hundred bottles of my South American Liver Invigorator at a dollar a bottle."

After some further talk the editor agreed to the partnership. I went to the drug stores and found one hundred bottles of a certain size. One thousand more were telegraphed for at Pittsburgh to come C. O. D. We got up a label, got out five hundred dodgers, and the "Invigorator" was made at the editor's house. It was a mixture of water, molasses, ginger, and whiskey, and cost about four cents a bottle. When all was ready the fakir went out on the street, I circulated the dodgers and the editor gave him a page advertisement in what we thought would be the last issue. Can you guess what that chap did in seventeen days? He made, bottled and sold 2,900 bottles of that "Invigorator," working two other villages besides our own. In the making and bottling he had three or four to help, but he did all the selling alone. Children cried for it, and old chaps who had forgotten that they ever had a liver bought two bottles and then came back for a third one. I saw \$1,450 counted down on the imposing stone for our editor, and he very kindly handed me my back salary and a present of \$50. It was a godsend to him, for he squared up, the paper went on, and today it is one of the liveliest small dailies in the State of Ohio.

A TRAIN PLUNGES DOWN A HILL.

Three Killed and Several Wounded on a North Carolina Train.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., June 19.—A terrible railroad accident occurred at Melrose station, on the Asheville and Spartanburg division of the Western North Carolina road last night. The dead are: Engineer J. J. Smyra of Chester, S. C.; Engineer Lewis Tunstall of Yorktown, Va.; Fireman W. G. Taylor of Morris-town, Tenn., son of W. P. Taylor, for twenty years a conductor.

The injured are: C. Bowcock, flagman, thigh broken; George Ricketts, conductor, injuries not serious, escaped by jumping; William Hoe fireman, slight injuries, escaped by jumping; two colored brakemen named Foster and Greenlee, painful, but not dangerous, wounds.

From the apex of Saluba Mountain to Melrose, a distance of more than three miles, there is a fall of 600 feet. The track was very wet last night when a coal train started down, and soon after beginning the descent it became evident that the twelve loaded cars were too much for both engines to hold with all brakes down, and the speed gradually quickened under the heavy pressure until a rate of seventy-five miles an hour was reached, when the tracks spread and the train plunged down the mountain with a terrible crash, burying beneath the broken cars, cross ties, and earth the brave fellows who had stood to their posts.

The loss to the company in engines and cars will reach \$75,000.

A Surprise Birthday Party.

Yesterday being the sixty-third birthday of Squire Wm. C. Bland, of the Thirteenth ward, a crowd of his friends called on him in the evening by way of a "surprise" and presented him a fine rocking chair. The gentlemen in the party were Thomas P. Keedy, Esq., ex-Burgess of Millville borough, Select Councilman Chas. Brixner and Ed. T. McNeelis, Esq. Quite a number of ladies were present. The Squire in his well known hospitable manner entertained the party till among the long hours.

The Gallitzin Water-Works.

The work of building the Gallitzin Water Works is progressing rapidly. The reservoir is completed and the pipes have reached the limits of Tunnelhill borough. The contract for the building of the reservoir and the laying of the pipes is in the hands of Mr. David Wylie, of Altoona, who is losing no time in pushing the work to completion. The water is obtained by pumping from three artesian wells one-half mile north of the town near the top of the mountain. If nothing unexpected retards the progress of the work the water will be ready for private use by August 1st.

GREENSBURG EXCITED

Over the Shooting of Dr. W. J. Hammer by His Wife.

GREENSBURG, June 19.—Last night about 10 o'clock our quiet little city was startled by the news of the shooting of Dr. Will J. Hammer, one of our prominent young dentists, by his wife, to whom he has only been married about fifteen months. The cause of the shooting was family troubles, which had been brewing for some time, and which culminated in a quarrel yesterday, when Mrs. Hammer went to her father's, Eli Sell, at Paradise, our southern suburb, and complained to him about the manner in which they have been living.

Mr. Sell told her that he would go back home with her and try to have an amicable settlement of the matter between them. This he did, and last night about 9:30, when the doctor got home from his office, he found the old gentleman and his wife there. In a short time they got into a fight, which culminated in the doctor striking the old gentleman with a cane, knocking him down and seriously injuring him. Mrs. Hammer thinking he was going to kill her father, went to a cupboard and got a revolver and fired twice at her husband missing both times.

She then ran out into the street calling for help, which brought Mr. Dally, a neighbor, out, who ran over and finding the door locked broke it open and rushed in, followed by Mrs. Hammer, who as soon as she got in fired again, this time the ball taking effect in the back of her husband, and passing through the right lung, came out at the breast. She then ran out and into a neighbor's house and a physician was sent for. The wound is a very serious one and may prove fatal, although the doctor thinks he may possibly pull through. Mrs. Hammer is at her father's, and at this hour has not been arrested. The excitement is great, owing to the prominence of the parties, who are all wealthy.

The Nicely Boys.

INDIANA, Pa., June 19.—The Nicely boys, convicted of the robbery and murder of Farmer Umberger, have brightened up since the receipt of a letter from a sister, in which she states that a confession has been made by one John Beach, of Somerset county, to having murdered Umberger, and implicating a man named Miller from the same county, as an accomplice. The story as given by the Nicely girl, is that a certain justice of the peace presented himself at Somerset recently, made affidavit that John Beach had appeared before him and confessed that he and a man named Miller had killed Umberger, and that the Nicely boys had nothing whatever to do with the murder. The sister's story lacks confirmation, and in some respects looks improbable. Some of the court house officials believe it was cooked up to influence the Board of Pardons, before which their case will be brought again. A special from Greensburg gives a different version of the alleged confession. It says: A rumor is in circulation here to the effect that a man named Pat Cavanaugh, a convict in Somerset jail, has confessed to the murder of old man Umberger. The confession is alleged to have been procured through the efforts of the father of the Nicely boys. It is said he has the papers in his pocket and will arrive here to-day and make affidavit to the papers. Cavanaugh is an eccentric individual and lived in the neighborhood of the Nicelys.

Remarkably Rapid Growth of a Tezazz Child.

DOUGLASVILLE, Texas, June 13.—Pine Level, a hamlet lying six or seven miles east of this place, and just across the line dividing this State from Louisiana, boasts of a phenomenon in the shape of a girl not yet quite ten years old who has already attained the height of five feet ten inches. She is the daughter of Mr. James Rutherford, engineer at the lumber mill of Carter, Robinson & Co., who is himself a giant in size, while his wife is six feet and a quarter in height. The girl, who was the parents say, an unusually small, sickly baby, began to grow when she was about six years old, and in four years has gained two feet and a half, an almost unprecedented growth. She is stout and developed in proportion and has the strength of a man, but her mind is feeble, or else has been so outstripped by her body as to give it no chance to develop. The young giantess presents a most remarkable spectacle with her childish face and dress, seated playing in the sand or amusing herself with a doll.