

ELK ADVOCATE

Here shall the Free people's rights maintain
Unsworn by party and untried by aim;
Pledged but to Truth, Liberty and Law;
No favor swings us and no fear shall aim.

Published Every Saturday
BY F. W. BARRETT.
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S. M. PETTENGILL & CO,
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THE OIL EXCITEMENT.—The oil excitement in this vicinity is still raging with remarkable virulence. We are glad to learn that two of our friends, Messrs George Messenger and Jeremiah Elliott, both of Spring Creek township, on the Clarion, have recently made a handsome speculation in the sale of their territory. The farm of Mr. Messenger, containing 300 acres, brought the very handsome sum of \$50,000, and that of Mr. Elliott, containing 500 acres sold nearly as well, bringing, we are told, \$53,000. The purchaser was a gentleman by the name of Scott, and it is his intention we believe, to at once commence operations. The sale of these lands has given quite an impetus to oil speculations, and we would not be surprised if some of the lucky property holders in the vicinity of Ridgway would realize handsome fortunes from the sale of their land.

We also understand that the Armstrong property, on the Clarion, and in the immediate vicinity of the Messenger property, has been purchased by a company of speculators for the sum of \$100,000.

Judge Dickinson, one of our most enterprising and indefatigable citizens, has again commenced boring at his well in this place. It is now down to the depth of 240 feet, and the indications are pronounced by experienced judges as excellent indeed. We sincerely trust the Judge's undertaking will be rewarded with a good flow of the greasy compound.

The Ridgway Pioneer and Prospecting oil company's well, which was abandoned some time ago, has been leased by a company of New York capitalists, who will resume operations as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made.

CAPT. R. FENT WARD.

It is no less a pleasure than a duty to us to give a place in our columns, in honor of the man whose name heads this article. Most of our patrons will remember that Capt. R. Fent Ward was at the opening of the war, connected with this office. When fierce rebellion reared its crest and threatened to strike down all that was dear to the hearts of American patriots, he was one of the many thousands of our gallant youth who rallied to the standard of their country. How he has conducted himself upon the tented field is sufficiently told, when we say that he has been wounded five times, the last time so severely as to be rendered unfit for service. He went into the ranks a private, and rose through the various grades until he became Captain, since then he was offered the Colonelcy of a regiment, but with that modesty that always accompanies true worth, he declined. He now holds a commission as Major, but the severity of his wounds will not doubt compel him to be mustered out, notwithstanding his anxiety to remain in active service. In him is found the type of the true soldier. In saying, thus much of him, we feel that we are but doing honor, to whom honor is due.

THE sagacious editor of the Erie Dispatch has made some remarkable discoveries concerning Ridgway, as the Head Quarters of the Provost Marshal of this District. The office has been located at Waterford, Erie Co., with the exception of a few weeks, since its creation, and has thereby accommodated the public of that portion of the district and discommoded the balance. It seems but just, that the claims of the lower counties should be now remembered, and they in their turn similarly favored.

The statement made that "the men connected with the office are getting disgusted," is the first intelligence the men have received that such a state of "disgrace" exists. The "men" have been very well accommodated, and we cannot see that they show much sign of dissatisfaction. If, however, the authorities see fit to again move the office, we trust that they will have the good sense not to locate it at the extreme edge of the District, or in a large town or city. It is much better for the interests of the service to have it in some quiet country place. The associations of a city of the size of Erie, render it an undesirable point for an office of this kind, if it can be avoided; and its situation, geographically considered, should place it entirely out of consideration in locating the Headquarters of the 19th District.

The following is a list of persons drafted on the 11th inst., in Fox township, Elk Co. Pa., and Brady township, Clearfield county Pa.

FOX TOWNSHIP, ELK CO., PA.

Wm. Gibson, Daniel Oyster, J. S. Chamberlin, John Lamb, Jos. Entzinger, Jos. Bontzer, Amber Strait, Thomas Patterson, John Koch, Robt. Hillcock, John Moser, Alonzo Mohan, W. W. Rogers, Barney Braniff, James Hays, A. O. Chase, Ralph Bell, Geo. Conner, Elias Meyer, John Mann, Jas. Iddings, O. P. Keltz, James Hancock, Wm. Hewlett, Mathew Hays, John Sullivan, J. E. Horning, George Keller, John Emmett, Isaac Hays, Lewis Iddings, John Sellinger, A. Kyler, John Pender, Philip Meyers, George Dillaw.

BRADY TOWNSHIP, CLEARFIELD CO., PA.

Martin Eshentelzer, David Ellinger, David Walburn, John Munsholand, David Reams, Nicholas Sallady, Nicholas Faust, Samuel Fay, Joel Genter, J. B. Kirk, Samuel Shaffer, Benj. Carson, Wm. Wingart, George Pentz, Henry Everson, Isaac Zortman.

We have in a brief space, noticed the return from the army of Capt. R. Fent Ward, and it would be doing great injustice to a good and faithful soldier of Company, K, 11th Regiment, not to give him likewise, a passing notice. We have reference to Wm. Wood, who is now in town, having been mustered out of service a short time ago. He went as a volunteer under Capt. J. A. Boyle, and as all good and faithful soldiers should do, served his time, and was honorably discharged. We extend to him, as well as all others, a hearty welcome home.

CANADA ARMING—THE QUALITY OF ITS FORCES—A DRAFT.

The year of 1865 finds Canada arming. It is about to put forth its strength on paper. Its force consists of one hundred and twelve battalions of militia, termed "Service Militia," and these are to be filled by a draft at once, and as follows:

- In Canada West, 61 battalions.
In Canada East, 51 battalions.

Total, 112 battalions.
The battalion will muster 795 men; and 112 battalions will therefore, give 89,040, or, with the officers, 100,000 men in round numbers.

This force is now being filled by a draft from able-bodied males between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, who are from the "Eighteenth Class Service" men. It is to receive six days' drill at any time that the Governor General may order it.

PEACE MOVEMENTS AGAIN.—It is known that the two Blairs, some weeks since started for Richmond, on a peace mission, and that they returned some days since, not having been able to obtain passes through the rebel lines. But the dispatch which we print below indicates that a new trial has been undertaken by the Blairs.

WASHINGTON, JAN. 8.

The two Blairs left here yesterday for General Grant's headquarters, where, it is said, passes are waiting for them, signed by the rebel Secretary of War, permitting them to go to Richmond. This fact gives the late peace-mission renewed vitality here.

LATER.—A Washington dispatch of the 9th says it is a question whether Mr. Blair will go to Richmond. He was still in Washington.

Ayer's American Almanac has now arrived and is ready for delivery at J. Powell's, Ridgway, Pa., to all who call for it.

This number contains a treatise on Scrofula and its kindred complaints, which is well worth perusal. It also gives much general medical information, which is useful and should be kept against a time of need in every family. Its compilation of jokes and anecdotes is about the best that reaches us, and these facts together have given it a circulation which is said to be the largest of any one book in the world.

Brown's Bronchial Trochies.—A depot is opened in London for the sale of these Lozenges, which have been so long in use in America for relieving Asthma, Bronchitis, Coughs, Throat Disorders and Affections of the Lungs.

Liverpool Post.

STATEMENT of the Assessments, made by the assessors, for the several districts in Elk county, for the year 1865, viz:

Table with columns: DISTRICT, Real Estate, Personal Estate, Occupation, Gold Watches, Silver Watches, Carriages & value.

The Assessments of Benninger and Ridgway townships, have not yet been received. The Commissioners of Elk County, will meet at their office in Ridgway, on Tuesday the 17th day of January inst., for the purpose of determining whether any of the above assessments have been made below a just rate and to raise, equalize and adjust the same according to law.

Attest: JOHN C. McALLISTER, Clerk. Commissioners Office, Ridgway, Elk County Pa., Jan. 6th 1865.

A CALL FOR 300,000 MEN. A Proclamation.

Whereas, By the act approved July 4th, 1864, entitled, "An act further to regulate and provide for the enrolling and calling out of the National forces, and for other purposes," it is provided that the President of the United States may at his discretion, at any time hereafter, call for any number of men as volunteers for the respective terms of one, two, and three years, for military service, and that in case the quota, or any part thereof, of any town, township, ward of a city, precinct or election district, or of a county not subdivided, shall not be filled within the space of fifty days after such call, then the President shall immediately order a draft for one year, to fill such quota or any part thereof which may be unfilled; and Whereas, by the credits allowed in accordance with the act of Congress on the call for five hundred thousand men to be obtained under that call was reduced to two hundred and eighty thousand; and Whereas, as the operations of the enemy in certain States have rendered it impracticable to procure from them their full quota of troops under said call; and Whereas, from the foregoing causes but two hundred and fifty thousand men have been put into the army, navy and marine corps under the said call of July 18, 1864, leaving a deficiency on that call of two hundred and fifty thousand; now therefore, I Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States of America, in order to supply the aforesaid deficiency and to provide for casualties in the military and naval service of the United States do issue this my call, for three hundred thousand volunteers to serve for one, two, or three years.

The quotas of the States, Districts, and Sub-districts under this call, will be assigned by the War Department through the bureau of the Provost Marshal-General of the United States, and in case the quota or any part thereof of any town, township, ward, or a city precinct or election district, or of a county not so subdivided, shall not be filled before the 15th day of February, 1865, then a draft shall be made to fill up such quota, or any part thereof, under this call which may be unfilled on the fifteenth day of February, 1865.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. [L. S.] Done at the city of Washington this 19th day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and of the independence of the United States of America the eighty-ninth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN. By the President, WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State. From the Banner of Liberty. CALCULATING GREENBACK CURRENCY.

A Dutchman, who keeps a country store in the neighborhood of Boston, had ten pieces of calico on his shelves when the prices began to advance. He sold out at the old rates, and said he: "When I went to the city to buy more, de money dat I got for my 'ten pieces of calico' bought only eight. I took my eight pieces home, and marked a high profit on 'em, and sold dem fast enough, and when dey was all gone, I took my money and went to de city, and by dander, it bought only six pieces. Well, thinks I, dis is making money backwards. But I look my six pieces home, and put an awful big profit on dem, and now, thinks I, I must make money like smoke. But when I got dem six pieces sold, I took de money I got for dem to de city again, and thought I would get about twelve pieces, but the calicoes had gone up again, and I got only four pieces. Well, I took dem home, put on a much bigger profit as I did before, and thought now I makes a heap of money. But when I got dem sold, and went after more, de calicoes had gone up again, and I hope I may never see if I got more as two pieces for my money. So here I was. I had ten pieces of calico when I started off to sell dem, and here I am now mit only two pieces and no money. Why, I should have been better off if I had shut up de store, keep my calicoes, and not sold dem at all."

Most retail merchants have met with similar experience during the past year or two, without the Dutchman's sagacity to detect the deception of a nominal profit in the number of "dollars," while sustaining actual loss of goods and value.—Ed.

Harrisburg legislators are in trouble Board at hotels is four dollars per day, their pay is but three.—Exchange. Never fear. They won't lose a cent.

England and France cognize the South Fourth of March

The papers came last night with exciting rumors of interest to the part of England and France. There is in the report, time granted; but there is at least one such action. The circuit Lord Lyons leaving Washington's leave of absence, to the known military movements in the South, and that the correspondent who writes for the World, states that there is a apprehension that English leaders of Southern they would naturally have case the Southern Confederacy be made to succumb to the Government. The South, as it is declared, and as Mr. Prentiss, Louisville Journal, who has been in Richmond for the last five weeks would sooner be reduced to under English protection, with the abolished, than to come back under Federal yoke. England is said to care to have the Union remain our own Government, and to peace or put Union, that now, when the rebellion successful, and the rebellion weakly than at any time the rebellion began, we find a formidable foe to contend with—colon and Mr. Seward have shown selves entirely inadequate to requirements of the people whom present, in allowing this civil drag its slow length along; wise statesmanship they could made peace and restored the Union have been better able to beat back armies of England and France. A sign showing more forcibly that the others that trouble is soon to be from those two powers is, that Seward is said to be preparing to the Secretaryship of State, and going to the Senate, for the purpose of conducting peace measures. It would, that he is frightened at the aspect foreign affairs, and wishes to throw responsibility on to other should case trouble come.

The letter referred to above follows: WASHINGTON, January 6. If stories which are obtaining in France here are to be believed, the least danger to be apprehended is intervention in our affairs by England and France. It is known here, and has been known in the State Department for several days, that England is quietly organizing a large force to be held in readiness for some time. An order, moreover, is believed to have been issued, permitting the absence of the officers of some of the regiments of the English army, and the consent of the authorities in raising men, even at the expense of an enforced draft, under the text of an apprehended invasion of Fenians, is thought to point clearly to the fact that they had been instructed to the first opportunity of organizing all able forces for any emergency.

The recent notice of the abrogation of the reciprocity treaty and the determination of the government to work with all possible haste upon gunboats intended for service in northern lakes is also noticed by who are now watching the signs of times with intense interest.

Additional excitement has been awakened by the important leading editorial in the Richmond Examiner and the Sentinel of the 2nd instant. These are believed to have been prompted by Louis Napoleon, and to have been put forward to prepare the minds of the southern people for the last bold move of the leaders.

That the South is now harder pushed than at any previous time (during the war) cannot be denied, and the union of England and France, and the Union restored is well understood will never permit the South to succeed. It is believed a programme will be in effect. Notice will be given, after March, that England and France will recognize Mr. Lincoln as President, such status as are represented in an electoral college, which is to a recognition of confederate independence. The course hinted Richmond papers is believed to have been adopted some time since by confederate states have all themselves as colonies of France, or at least asks that assume protectorate over the

Hans Enlists for

"Brick Pomroy," of the (Wisconsin) Democrat, is a joker, and lately witnessed Milwaukee that was transacting business. The reader might picture a bell-bellied, short-haired, receding, with a blue cap, broad, still piece, a short sword, blue uniform too small, and a raw customer "Paderland," with wooden-shod long-tailed grey coat. The

LIST of letters, Post Office, 1st 1865. John W. Sexton, D. M.