

NOTHING BUT OIL

Is Talked of Along the Ohio Valley Below Wheeling.

THE LEASING OF VACANT TERRITORY

Continues in All the Counties—Activity at Sistersville, Friendly, St. Mary's, Belmont and Other Points. Attention Being Paid to the Old Fields and Production Encouraged to the Utmost Everywhere—The Recent Kanawha Sale and the Profit of the Standard in That Deal.

Special from a Staff Correspondent.

SISTERSVILLE, April 24.—Mr. R. G. Caldwell, of Parkersburg, who has been very successful in this field, was a passenger on the Ohio River road this afternoon, getting off at Sistersville. He had been down to St. Mary's where he is now putting down a well below town. He talked interestingly of the situation in oildom, and gave it as his opinion that the Pleasants county field is going to amount to something. "Otherwise," said he, "I would not be putting money into a well in that territory."

From Belmont up, on both sides of the river, he says, everything is leased, and the work of development will be carried on with all energy possible this summer. As he put it, with oil at \$2, a fifteen barrel well is now as good as a sixty barrel well when oil was at the fifty-two cent mark. This will induce operators to go ahead and pump territory that is capable of nothing but comparatively small production. It will pay to do this with a scant supply of oil in sight, which is at present not nearly enough to balance the consumption figures.

Among the "boys" who have made big money out of the boom in oil there is one in this county who is not directly interested in the oil business. Reference is made to Mr. David Hickman, of Middlebourne, county clerk of Tyler county. The recording of oil leases at the county seat has become a big business and as the "fee system" is still on in West Virginia the clerk has profited greatly thereby; in fact he has made a fortune out of it. Since the almost unprecedented boom in leasing began Clerk Hickman has been a very busy man and is now said to be two months behind in his work although he employs a small army of assistants, and is said by all the oil people to be a most accommodating and efficient official. Needless to say, he is a Republican—in Tyler all of them are of that political faith. A prominent Sistersville man who is also a Democrat, told the INTELLIGENCER correspondent that Mr. Hickman is sure of re-election. Even should such a seemingly impossible thing as his turning down by his own party occur, he would receive the Democratic support. That's surely a testimonial of appreciation for public service.

Every Sistersvillian points with pride to the town's leading hotel—the Wells. A description of the place, however, short, would be incomplete without mention of the Wells, which by the way, is under the management of an old Wheeling man, Mr. C. F. Hosford, formerly of the Fort Henry club. Another Wheelingite, Mr. E. K. Freeland, is behind the desk, where he presides with as much glory and eclat as the head of a 2x4 German principality. The Wells stands alone, almost the only brick structure in a town made up of frame buildings, excepting, of course, the churches. It was built by Mr. Ephraim Wells, the oil magnate, who presented it to his daughter. It is a gem in its line, as much ahead of the town as Chicago's pride, the Palmer house, would be ahead of anything in Wheeling. Colonel Hosford is blessed with a patronage that is eminently satisfactory.

Before oil took unto itself the idea to get out of the slough and up in the world to the "two dollar" pinnacle the big Kanawha Oil Company, which was outside the Standard fold, was sold to the Ohio (Standard) company for \$2,000,000. The deal created a sensation in oil circles and the price was considered pretty fair, being on the basis of about \$400 per barrel production. The Kanawha sale had hardly been entirely consummated when oil started up the ladder from cents to dollars, until now a fair price per barrel production would be \$1,000. Needless to say, the people who disposed of the big interest to the Standard on the \$400 basis are about as sick a lot of people as are to be found from pole to pole. Hundreds of thousands of dollars represents the advance in the value of the Kanawha property since a month ago. And the cute Standard is the gainer, which is not at all surprising.

Probably the most notable "strike" made in the field on a very small investment was that of Cole and Bailey, who were employes of the Oil Well Supply Company here. They invested \$50 each and secured leases on property across the river that looked very promising. But after they got the land they were unable to raise enough money to drill for oil and the outlook was utterly discouraging. Finally, however, they came to terms with a man named Sutton, who agreed, for a three-fourths interest in the transaction to "put down the wells." The territory the pair had leased turned out up to expectations and beyond it; to-day the two are drawing, each, \$40 or \$50 a day for their fourth, and their annual income will be fully \$10,000 each. Pretty good for a \$50 start.

AROUND ST. MARY'S

Operations Are Very Brisk—All of Pleasants County is Leased.

St. Mary's, W. Va., April 24.—St. Mary's, long the county seat of Pleasants, to-day presents just such an appearance from a surface point of view as Sistersville at the inception of the oil boom three years ago. As yet the magic of oil has not changed the place from its typical country town appearance to the rushing, pushing and enterprise that characterizes the metropolis of oil, Sistersville. St. Mary's interests are yet in the agricultural line, although the "wild catter" is here, as usual, in advance of the possible boom, and even the producer well in a small way is to be seen. As elsewhere in the vicinity of the rich Sistersville field the business of leasing is going on vigorously and the man who is after an oil lease, generally speaking, meets with little or no difficulty; the farmers are glad to lease their lands if they are assured of one thing—that the work of development will be at once started. Whenever that guarantee is given the land can be had and on good terms for the lessee at that. In this vicinity leases have recently been made in which the farmer insists on nothing but his one-night in the event of a strike being made. It can almost be said that the whole of

Pleasants county is now under lease; occasionally a farm will be found where the oil man has been unable to come to terms, but those are few and far between, and represent only little spots in the county as a whole. A number of wells are already down with a fair showing of oil and in the next thirty days dozens of test wells will be drilled in various portions of Pleasants county, when it will be known whether another rich field has been found.

The operations in this vicinity can be given in more detail than at Sistersville because they are not so extensive as to territory covered nor is the territory being developed so closely as at Sistersville. The particular development that is exciting the most general interest here is the well being put down by Barnsdall, of Bradford, Pa., on Middle Island creek above town, one mile back from the river. The drill has penetrated the Keener sand and is now at the top of the Big Indian. The men at the head of the enterprise are now about ready to drill into the sand, having secured, it is said, leases on some land in the neighborhood, which, all along, they have wanted. The people here, and oil men, too, are watching the result of further drilling at this well, and should a fair showing be made, everybody will feel greatly encouraged.

On the Ohio side of the river opposite St. Mary's a well is being put down on the Atkins farm, where operations are also closely observed by interested persons. Near this well, on the same farm, two or three wells have been put down to the Cow Run sand and the pump is bringing up five or six barrels of the grease daily.

In addition, Operator Ballard, of Olean, N. Y., is putting down an experimental well on Broad run, one mile east of St. Mary's; R. G. Caldwell, the successful Parkersburg operator, is putting up a rig on the West Virginia side of the river just below St. Mary's, on the Robert Cooper farm; Ackery and Samuels are putting down a well above town, on the C. W. Billis farm.

In the portion of Pleasants county back from the river, near the Ritchie county line, experimental work is quite active. Two wells have been located, one by Wm. Reed, near Whisky run. The Mountain State Gas Company drilled for gas there about a year ago, and found a good showing of oil; for this reason that part of the county is considered good experimental property. The Barnsdall people have two rigs up on Whisky run near the Ritchie county line on the Strickler farm. In the upper end of this county a well has been recently located on the property of Hon. Oliver Gorrell, on Big run, where the surface indications are considered very good.

What is thought to be a very encouraging sign is the fact that no well put down in Pleasants, has failed to make at least a showing of oil. Aside from the new developments in this section, there are many oil wells, particularly below here at Belmont and Eureka, capable of producing five and ten barrels a day, which, with petroleum selling at fifty-two cents, were not worked. These are all being pumped at present and "shooting," to increase production is an every-day occurrence. This activity in the older and almost worn-out fields, will continue while oil is in the neighborhood of \$2 per barrel.

Most of the wells on the West Virginia side of the river are in the lower sands, the depth being about 1,400 or 1,500 feet. On the Ohio side, in the neighborhood of Newport, many "surface" wells—wells where oil is struck no great distance from the surface—have been put down, but the production has never been great. At Vancluse, opposite Newport, three of these shallow wells are down, oil being struck at about 500 feet, with a production of only three and five barrels per day, however. In the Belmont and Eureka region no new wells are being drilled, but the production of old wells is being encouraged in every possible way.

The St. Mary's and Pleasants county people are united in the belief that in a short time the county will show up with a rich strike that will attract widespread interest and attention to this section.

FROM FRIENDLY'S FIELD

Wheeling People Interested in the Two Producing There.

FRIENDLY, W. Va., April 24.—At Friendly the two producing wells, the only ones there, are the property of the Talisman Oil Company, in which the McClures and other Wheeling people are interested. One is now producing four barrels daily and the other yields thirty-two barrels every twenty-four hours. The same company is now putting down a well on the Robert Williamson farm and another on the Parker farm is being drilled by the Parker Oil Company. Fisher & Kamey are drilling two wells on the Davenport property, one and one-half miles above this place. They have just finished a well several hundred feet south-west of their gas well that will make fifteen to twenty barrels a day; the well is in the Big Indian sand.

A well put down four years ago by Johnston & Storey on Mill Creek island, opposite Hay's station, is now flowing and will make a fair producer. In a line northeast and southwest from the thirty-two-barrel Tatesman well there are two four-barrel wells in the Keener sand, and it is in this line that development around Friendly will be pushed. There have been no late developments at Matamoros opposite Hay's Station, but there as elsewhere all available territory is under lease, and if oil is there in paying quantities it will be found very soon.

Frightened Young Men.

New York, April 24.—The steamer Yucatan, which arrived to-day from Havana, brings news that the city is in a very excited state, owing to the expected arrival of the new governor general, Martinez Campos, and in anticipation of that event a large number of the young men of Havana were leaving by steamer for Tampa and New York, all being fearful of arrest at the hands of the new captain general.

Wheeling People in Washington.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 24.—C. C. Porter and wife, Miss Porter, Miss Mabel Porter, S. J. Brooks, Miss Brooks, C. H. Wheeler and wife, all of Wheeling, are in the city.

DE WITT'S WITCH HAZEL SALVE cures scalds, burns, indolent sores and never fails to cure piles. Logan Drug Co., Wheeling, W. Va., B. F. Peabody, Banwood, and Bowie & Co., Bridgeport, O.

It May Do as Much for You.

Mr. Fred Miller, of Irving, Ill., writes that he had a severe kidney trouble for many years, with severe pains in his back and also that his bladder was affected. He tried many so-called kidney cures but without any good result. About a year ago he began the use of Electric Bitters and found relief at once. Electric Bitters is especially adapted to cure of all kidney and liver troubles, and often gives almost instant relief. One trial will prove our statement. Price only 50c for large bottle. A Logan Drug Co.'s Drug Store.

RAPIDLY BREAKING DOWN.

Mrs. S. Bates Tells the Story of Her Sufferings.

How She Was Cured by Munyon's Little Pellets After Physicians Had Failed.

Mrs. S. Bates, of Cecil, N. J., adds her testimony to that of the thousands, who have been saved from a life of suffering, by Munyon's Remedies. She said: "I had suffered greatly with indigestion and stomach trouble. Everything I ate distressed me. I was nervous and fretful and rapidly breaking down. Physicians had failed to help me, nor did any of the many remedies I took relieve me until I began using Munyon's Dyspepsia Cure. The result was astonishing. After taking but three doses, I felt greatly improved, and after taking one 25 cent bottle I was entirely cured."

Munyon's Stomach and Dyspepsia Cure cures all forms of indigestion and stomach troubles, such as constipation, rising of food, distress after eating, bloating of the stomach, palpitation of the heart, shortness of breath, and all affections of the heart caused by indigestion. It soothes, heals and invigorates stomachs that have been weakened by over-eating, or where the lining has been impaired by physic and injurious medicines. Price 25 cents.

Munyon's Homoeopathic Home Remedy Company, of Philadelphia, put up specifics for nearly every disease, which are sold by all druggists, mostly for 25 cents a bottle.

Those who are in doubt as to the nature of their disease, should address Professor Munyon, 1505 Arch street, Philadelphia, giving full symptoms of their disease. Professor Munyon, will carefully diagnose the case and give you the benefit of his advice absolutely free of all charge. The Remedies will be sent to any address on receipt of retail price.

Money to Loan on Real Estate—Stock Can be Taken at Any Time.

Apply to the West Virginia Savings and Building Association, Room 14 Masonic Temple. Office hours: 6:15 to 8:15 p. m. every Monday. MWAF

J. A. RICHARDSON, of Jefferson City, Mo., chief enrolling force thirty-eighth general assembly of Missouri, writes: "I wish to testify to the merits of One Minute Cough Cure. When other so-called cures failed, I obtained almost instant relief and a speedy cure by the use of One Minute Cough Cure. Logan Drug Co., Wheeling, W. Va., B. F. Peabody, Benwood, and Bowie & Co., Bridgeport, O.

Nervous Prostration

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures Nervous Strength and Good Health.

"Hood's Sarsaparilla has helped me wonderfully. For three years I have been doctoring but could not get cured. Soon after beginning to take Hood's Sarsaparilla there was a change for the better. In a short time I was feeling splendidly. For several months previous I could not lie down to sleep on account of my heart trouble and nervous prostration. I now rest well and am able to do work of whatever kind. If I had not tried Hood's

Hood's Sarsaparilla I do not know what would have become of me."

Mrs. S. BRADDOCK, 404 Erie Avenue, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

Hood's Pills act harmoniously with Hood's Sarsaparilla. 25c.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Wednesday Matinee, April 23 and 24 and 25. Return of CHAS. F. BLANNEY'S Big Fanc Comedy Success.

"A BAGGAGE CHECK."

Night Prices—15, 25, 35 and 50 cents. Matinee Prices—10, 25 and 35 cents.

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Atlantic Tea Co.

We Lead, Let Those Who Can Follow.

STOCKHOLDERS' MEETINGS.

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS. WHEELING, W. Va., April 11, 1895. Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of the WHEELING NATURAL GAS COMPANY will be held at the office of the company in the city of Wheeling, W. Va., on Monday, the 6th day of May, A. D. 1895, at 12 o'clock m., and that at said meeting a resolution will be offered providing for a reduction of the capital stock of the company, or a reduction of the par value of the shares of the capital stock of said company. By order of the Board of Directors, WM. J. DIEHL, Secretary.

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SPECIAL FOR A FEW DAYS! \$3.20 For 40 Yard Roll of Good China Matting!

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Famous for wear, superior in weave, Oriental in effect. All sizes carried in stock. The goods we sell are made upon honor.

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USE ELECTRIC CLEANSER For Cleaning Carpets and Furniture.

WHEELING, MAY 23!

Direct From Madison Square Garden, New York, And Coming in all It's Metropolitan Magnificence, With Every Feature That Has Contributed to the Unprecedented New York Success, Including the Water Carnival, the Lake of Waters, and the ASTOUNDING HIGH DIVE. THE WORLD'S LARGEST, GRANDEST, BEST AMUSEMENT INSTITUTION.

THE BARNUM AND BAILEY Greatest Show on Earth. P. T. BARNUM and J. A. BAILEY. CAPITAL INVESTED \$3,500,000. DAILY EXPENSES \$7,300. Only Show Endorsed by the Clergy. No False Pretense. No Exaggeration. EVERYTHING JUST AS ADVERTISED. New Performances, New People, New Attractions.

JOHANNA, ONLY GORILLA NOW IN CAPTIVITY MOST HUMAN-LIKE ANIMAL KNOWN, attracting 20,000 people daily to Central Park, N. Y., when loaned by these shows to that Zoological Garden. Grand New Ethnological Congress of Strange and Savage People. Curious Human Beings with queer religions and ceremonies. Pagans, Idolaters, Heathens, Mohammedans, Cannibals, Vishnuis, Buddhists, Confucians, Hindus and Christians, whole families of savage people with their butts, weapons, implements, musical instruments, rites, ceremonies, dances and games.

GREAT EQUESTRIAN TOURNAMENT. Leaping, Tumbling and Acrobatic Displays. 12-OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST CIRCUS CHAMPIONS-12. AERIALISTS IN THE WORLD. All the Great Athletes, Gymnasts and Acrobats. SENSATIONAL ANIMAL EXHIBITION. Lions, Tigers, Sheep, Dogs, Panthers, Elephants and Horses, performing at one time in harmony together in A COLOSSAL STEEL-BARRIED ARENA.

3 Circus Companies in 3 Rings, 2 Elevated Stages, Racing Track and Animal Arena. SIGHTS NEVER SEEN BEFORE THIS SEASON and only to be witnessed in these shows, 24 Elephants, 2 Droves of Camels, Giant and Pigmy Animals, 2 Menageries of Trained and Wild Beasts, 20 Old-time, Modern and Fantomistic Clowns. MIGHTY NEW FREE STREET PARADE with the sovereigns of the world represented, together with the military uniforms and music of all nations, at 9 A. M. on day of show. LOWEST EXCURSION RATES ON ALL RAILROADS. Two Performances Daily at 2 and 8 P. M. Doors Open an Hour Earlier. Admission to Everything, 50c. Children Under 9 Years, Half Price. Reserved seats at regular price and admission tickets at usual advance at F. W. BAUMER'S MUSIC STORE, 120 MARKET STREET. Will Exhibit at Steubenville, May 22. Zanesville, May 24.

Weak, Nervous Men! YOU who have been humbugged by the "Electric Pills," "Yellow Sufferer," "Boles," "Crayon," "Tonics," "Nervine," "Green Cross" Quacks, and who have found yourself growing older and worse, YOU who have given up in despair, saying "I am done, there is no hope for me!" as you lay, who are sinking into an early grave, or drifting upon a shoreless sea of sickness and suffering, STOP! STOP! STOP! YOURSELVES! THERE IS HOPE! THERE IS LIFE! THERE IS CURE!

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