

BUTLER CITIZEN

JOHN H. & W. C. NEGLEY, PROPRIETORS. Entered at the Postoffice at Butler as second-class matter.

MR. JAMES FINDLEY, of Clay township, sold his farm recently in said township, a hundred and some acres, for \$4500.

A BILL is before the Legislature to prevent political organizations or persons from paying other peoples taxes in order to vote.

MRS. DEAN, widow of the late Richard Dean of this place, has removed her tobacco and cigar store from Jefferson to Main street, in the Etzel building, opposite the Vogley house.

At night can now be seen the reflection from the gas burning at the new Bald Ridge oil well, five miles south west of Butler. All that kind of light heretofore was seen in the east and north east from this place. It would now look as if "Westward the star of empire (oil) takes its way."

LORD DEACONFIELD, Ex-Premier of Great Britain, died in London on yesterday morning at five o'clock. The Pittsburgh daily papers of yesterday morning contained the news of his death, giving the same as occurring at five o'clock in London, but which would be at about one o'clock in the morning at Pittsburgh, according to our time in this country.

COURT met on Monday morning of this week according to adjournment. The case of Andrew Blakely vs. Robert and Mary McCandless, et al., not being concluded last week and a verdict rendered. The proceedings of last week will be found in another place. The Court is now engaged in the trial of the civil cases put down for this week.

MR. GREER offered a resolution, which was adopted—yeas 20, nays 14—that when the Senate adjourned this afternoon it be until Tuesday morning next at 10 o'clock. A motion to hold a session this evening was defeated—yeas 18, nays 20.

The above is taken from the Senate Legislative proceedings of last Thursday, and will explain to the people of this county how the frequent adjournments are effected. To adjourn from a Thursday to a Tuesday is just losing about half of a week. And this is done at a time when important public bills are pending and pressing for passage, and the passage of which should be had at this session. But it is rumored that the meaning of the above and similar proceedings is to pave the way for an extra session of the Legislature this summer or next winter. It will be observed that Mr. Greer, the Senator representing this district, makes the above motion; and this after the late frequent complaints as to his absence from his public duties.

MR. McNEILL opposed the proposed increase of the number of Senators and referred to the inefficiency of the 18th commission of 1879. A small commission would be of more service than a large one, and Mr. Lawrence agreed with the Senator.

Messrs. Jones, Greer and Cooper supported the amendment. Mr. Cooper said there would probably be a special session of the Legislature next winter to consider an apportionment bill, and because the Governor thinks that a proper revenue law cannot be passed by a regular session in view of the large amount of other legislation demanding the attention of the members.

MR. McNEILLY, Schenck and Reynolds favored the amendment, and Mr. Hall opposed the joint resolution, because he did not think the commission would be of any benefit to the State.

MR. COOPER proposed an amendment that the number of members be increased from five to seven.

MR. EVERHART moved that the amount appropriated be reduced from \$5,000 to \$3,000, and that the provision made for traveling expenses be stricken out.

The amendment was defeated, as was one by Mr. Kaufman requiring the commission to revise the expenditures of the State, including appropriations.

The bill was passed third reading and laid over for final passage.

"ROVING COMMISSIONS." At most every Legislature for years past such "Commissions" are gotten up. The main thought in the originators is to give themselves employment during the summer recess at the expense of the State. They generally have a good time of it, visiting watering places, summer retreats, principal hotels, and living well, their traveling expenses all being paid by the State.

But what benefit they have ever been told nobody has yet found out. Last year there was just such a "commission" appointed to revise the revenue system of the State. Senator Greer of this county was on it. And as he supported the motion for an increase of the committee now proposed, as will be seen above, we presume he is desirous to be on the present one.

The one of last year had frequent meetings in different parts of the State during the summer. But if any report was ever made to the Legislature of its work it has not been made public.

The truth is, these "commissions to revise the revenue laws" are a farce if not an outrage upon the tax payers of the State. No such large body, taken from the Legislature and thus constituted, can be expected to carefully collect the necessary material and information, and prepare and report a better system of taxation. Any reform in our system of taxation will have to come in a different way.

A recollect that a similar "commission" fifteen years ago that made some sort of a report, which was never after heard of or thought of—so it was, and the attention of the people is being directed to this useless expenditure of their money. If members of the Legislature want recreation during the summer and during the warm summer

months, they will have to contrive some new device. The one of "revising the revenue system" has so far, only had the effect of "revising" a good deal of "revenue" out of the State Treasury. These "commissions" may afford "frolic and fun" for the members composing them, but so far have been no benefit to the State. It is hoped the House will refuse to concur in this last attempt of the Senate to saddle the people with the expense of another "roving commission."

MINUTES OF THE REPUBLICAN COUNTY COMMITTEE.

The Republican County Committee was called to order by A. L. Craig, Chairman.

On motion Reuben Shanor, Hon. A. L. Campbell and John Hesselger were appointed to draft rules to govern the primary election.

On motion of F. S. Peters, Saturday June 4th, was fixed as the time for holding the primary election.

On motion, Gen. John N. Purviance and A. G. Williams, Esq., were elected delegates to the State Convention, with P. P. Brown and F. S. Peters as alternates.

Hon. J. L. Campbell was appointed Senatorial delegate, subject to the decision of the district conference.

On motion the delegates to the State Convention were instructed to present the name of Hon. A. L. Campbell as a candidate for State Treasurer.

On motion, Monday, June 6th, at one o'clock, P. M., was fixed as the time for the meeting of the return judges. The Chairman was authorized to fix the hours that the polls shall open and close.

The following resolutions were offered by F. C. Flaughin, Esq., and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it was with profound sorrow we learned of the sudden death of Henry Filow, a member of this committee from the second ward of the borough of Butler. He was a gallant soldier, a honest legislator, an excellent magistrate, a respected citizen, a kind and affectionate husband and father and a useful and active member of this committee.

Resolved, That the friends of the deceased have our heartfelt sympathy in their sudden and great bereavement.

The following rules were reported by the committee and adopted as the rules to govern the primary election:

1. The primary election shall be held at the regular voting place in each election district.

2. The election board shall consist of one judge and two clerks, to be appointed by the County Committee, bringing with them the list of voters from their respective districts, together with the tally sheet and a certificate of the election board of the number of votes cast for each candidate. The tally sheet shall be in the possession of the judge and he shall be called for by the convention, and the vote of the tally sheet shall be counted in the presence of the election board.

3. In case of a tie vote between the candidates for any office, the parties between whom a tie vote has been cast, shall appear at a convention, and the successful party shall be declared the nominee.

A. B. WHITE, Sec'y.

Missing Charley Ross—The Letters Concerning Him Sent to J. W. Forney.

The following is one of the letters, as published in the Philadelphia News: 36 GREENWOOD ROAD, DALTON, LONDON, N. E., 31 March, 1881.

Col. J. W. Forney, Philadelphia, Pa.

SIR: Upon looking over an San Antonio (Texas) paper on the 17th February last I noticed a paragraph intimating that Charles Ross had not yet been found. I was under the impression that he had been given up to his parents, and to make my communication intelligible I will revert to a year or so ago.

Up to the 25th of this month I have lived at Loughton Essex, twelve miles northeast of London. My two younger children attended a school there, to which place also a Charles Ross came. He was a pretty child, a d. though a woman with whom he lived there, often told him of his mother—girl separated—and said his name was not George, but Charles Ross, and that the woman was not his mother; that he was brought from America in a "ship" and my girl has frequently spoken to her mother of how hard it must be for him to be stolen from his home. He has frequently told my children that his mother was a lady. I have often seen him with this questionable person, and of late heard that of her, though I have been told where she is now to be found. The boy left our village some time ago, as I understood, to be sent home, and from what I have since heard I think the boy is the one who was stolen away from home, and answers to the description given of Charles Ross. I named this matter to Mr. Kingsbury when at my house at Loughton some time ago, and it was then and then only that I supposed that for the want of knowing particulars I was unable to give any information. Mr. K. has known me, my wife and family for some time, and it is at his suggestion and help giving me your slight information. If I can give you a more detailed account I shall be only too glad—calling to mind what my feelings would be if one of my own was taken away.

I am about going to Texas and am in London for a short time so as to settle up my affairs before starting, so if you think well to reply to this to the care of Mr. Kingsbury, whom I see almost daily, the letter will be certain to reach me.

I write this somewhat hurriedly to save the post which leaves this day, and remain, sir, yours truly,

ROBERT BENJAMIN HUGMAN.

P. S.—I will talk this matter over with my children so as to have, if possible, a more specific account in case of its being of use. I should suppose the boy, when I saw him, was about 8 or 9 years old. About four months ago a friend showed me a work published about Charles Ross, and though the likeness given therein was of a child, I at once thought I saw a likeness to the boy of whom I write. Of course within the limits of a letter, and that a busy written one, I can hardly tell what I know without long pondering.

R. B. H.

The second letter is from W. G. Kingsbury, and vouches for the statements made in the first. The clue is now being investigated.

The constructing company for building the narrow-gauge road between this place and Ernsburg are in town, and the road is to be completed in four months.

The Mississippi Torpedo.

MEMPHIS, April 14.—A dispatch from Hernando, Miss., gives details of the mischief done by the recent torpedo in that vicinity. The explosion did serious damage, commencing a mile north of Hernando, and struck Mr. Riley's steam gin, completely demolishing it and carrying away a wagon, team and driver included, landing them in a ditch half a mile distant. His blacksmith shop was carried some distance. Frank Howard's house was struck near fifty yards, but not injured. L. Robertson's house was blown down. Jim Hunter's cabin was next struck, killing Lizzie Evans and stunning two children who have not spoken since. The house was torn to pieces and covered by fallen trees. Dan Glover's cabin, on Banks' place, was blown to pieces, severely injuring him and his wife and killing one child. Glover is not expected to live. Mrs. Humphrey's house was swept away. Two persons were wounded by falling timbers. Bob Lockland's house was also demolished. The torpedo next blew down Johnson & Co's and A. D. Lauderdale's stores, totally demolishing them, and storing the goods for miles. Dr. Lauderdale's remains were blown to the ground, dangerously wounding the doctor and his wife. Three hundred yards further on a negro cabin was swept away. Dr. Lauderdale's gin house was blown down, and beyond that a cabin John Chamberlain's stable and outhouses were demolished. L. Glenn's dwelling was levelled, and all the cabins on Wm. Johnston's camp creek swept away. Crockett's gin house and Benjamin Harwell's house, instantly killing him. His wife and child escaped unhurt. The track of the torpedo was about 100 yards wide. Deputy Sheriff Sykes Johnson who was caught and blown off his horse, which was carried in the air, had both legs broken. Mr. R. Kildner? And when these organs are in good condition do you find their possessor enjoying good health? Parker's Ginger Tonic always regulates these important organs, and never fails to make the blood rich and pure, and to strengthen every part of the system. It has cured hundreds of despairing invalids. Ask your neighbor about it. See other columns.

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A Monument to the Discoverer of Oil.

TITUSVILLE, April 14.—At the inauguration of the new Oil Exchange here measures were taken to erect in this city a monument to Colonel Drake, the discoverer of oil. The sum fixed for this purpose by the Committee was \$15,000. L. H. Smith, chairman of the Committee, telegraphs to the Titusville Exchange that the Standard Oil Company has subscribed \$5,000 toward that sum, provided the whole amount is raised. Senator Roberts of this city is a member of the committee appointed to raise the necessary amount.

A Will-Deacon.

Deacon Wilder, I want you to tell me how you kept yourself and family well last season when all the rest of us have been sick so much, and have had the doctors visiting us so often. Bro. Taylor, the answer is very easy. I used Bro. Taylor's Tonic; kept my family well and saved the doctor bills. Three dollars' worth of it kept us well and able to work all the time. I'll warrant it has cost you and the neighbors one to two hundred dollar apiece to keep sick the same time. Deacon I'll use your medicine hereafter.

States of Business at Harrisburg.

HARRISBURG, April 14.—The Chief Clerk of the House has made a report of the state of business. Seven hundred and ninety-one bills have been introduced, including Senate bills reported. There have been reported from committees 541 House bills and 49 Senate bills; total, 610. There are in the hands of committees 161 House bills and 20 Senate bills, total 181. On the first reading of the calendar there were seven, second reading 254, third reading and final passage 32; total 393. Bills passed finally, 52; defeated in the House, negatively by committee and declared unconstitutional, 165. The whole number of bills acted upon by the House and finally disposed of to date, is 217.

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Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, with others, intend to apply to His Excellency, Henry M. Hoyt, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, on the 16th day of May A. D. 1881, for a charter of Incorporation under the name and title of the "Butler Ice and Transportation Company" for the purpose of buying, drilling, mining, &c. for oil and gas in the counties of Butler, Beaver and Allegheny, in the State of Pennsylvania, with the principal office in the borough of Butler.

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