

Republican Convention.

WHEREAS, The State Central Committee of the Republican party, of Indiana, has recommended the holding of Conventions in the several counties of the State, on the 5th day of February, 1876; and

WHEREAS, The counties generally have called Conventions accordingly,

A call is hereby made to the Republicans of Jasper county, to assemble in Mass Convention at the Court House in Rensselaer, Indiana, on Saturday the 5th day of February, 1876, at 1 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of

First, The selection of ten Delegates to the State Convention.

Second, The appointment of a County Central Committee for the ensuing Campaign.

Third, The fixing of a time for holding County Nominating Conventions.

Fourth, The transaction of any other business that may properly come before said Convention.

Rensselaer, Indiana, January 6, 1876.

By order of the Jasper County Republican Central Committee.

JAMES A. BURNHAM,

Chairman.

Jasper County Reminiscences.

COMPILED AND WRITTEN BY C. W. CLIFTON.

(CONTINUED.)

We have said that the counties of Jasper and Newton were organized in 1838, but they did not have separate organizations.

Newton county being attached to Jasper for civil purposes. Mr. Henkle, now dead, a member of the Legislature that named the counties, said he was present when the christening took place, and that the county was named in honor of Sergeant Jasper, of Revolutionary fame.

It will be recollected by readers of our history as a nation, that Sergeant Jasper, when in the heat of the fight the American flag was shot from its fastening, he climed the staff and 'mid a perfect shower of bullets nailed the flag to its place. He was afterwards presented with a banner which for many years he bore through all the perils of our Revolutionary contest; and 'tis said, was buried in its folds.

It is supposed, also, that in honor of this flag the first paper established in the county was named "The Jasper Banner." Mr. McCrory, its founder, I believe is still living in Newton county. The paper was neutral in politics at the time of its advent in 1849, but eventually became Democratic in politics. The subscription price of this first newspaper was \$1.50 per annum. The Rensselaer Gazette and other papers followed in its footsteps.

CAPITOL.

But to return. After the organization of the county, it was necessary, as a matter of course, that the new territory have a capital and a government. The house of Mr. Robert Alexander, in Parish Grove, in what is now Benton county, was the first court house. The first court was held there in 1838, the same year of the county organization. This new capitol being somewhat to one side of the counties, it was ordered that the county-seat be removed to the residence of Mr. George Spitzer, near what is now the village of Brook in Newton county, and that the terms of circuit, probate and commissioners' court for 1839 be held at Mr. Spitzer's house. There was a proviso, however, which was, "Provided the citizens of Pine township are willing." Pine township was a small settlement on Big Pine, in the then limits of Jasper county, and numbered at that time twenty-four or twenty-five male inhabitants over the age of twenty-one.

Mr. Amos White, one of the earliest commissioners, was selected to canvass this settlement and obtain an expression of their opinion on this momentous question.—

Mr. White with a petition made the tour of the township, obtaining the signature of every voter either for or against the projected removal. With a self-forgetful magnanimity peculiar to all early pioneers, two-thirds of the settlers favored removal—sixteen voting "aye" and eight voting "no." Accordingly the capitol was removed. No great task at that early day; for, though the capitol of a territory occupying thirteen hundred square miles, nearly as large as the sovereign State of Rhode Island, its archives were not covered by volumes of records. The new court house was of logs. Dimensions—sixteen by sixteen feet, one story. It was built by Mr. G. W. Spitzer himself and cornered with his dwelling house. It stood about one mile, a little west of south, of the present town of Brook in Newton county, near the banks of the Iroquois river.

The first session of the circuit court in what is now Jasper county, was held in an old log cabin standing on what is known as the Pat. Barton property, where now lives Mr. George W. Conwell.

The first letters of administration granted was in 1839, to Elias Clifton, on the estate of John Wolf, deceased.

The first dower set off was to Mrs. Julia Lewis, relict of Mr. Benjamin Lewis.

The first marriage license issued was to Mr. James Lucy and Miss Matilda Blue.—The ceremony was performed by Mr. John Lyons, Justice of the peace.

I had overlooked the first criminal case in the county. It was for assault and battery, against Jonathan Hunt. Who Mr. Hunt assaulted and battered, I do not know.

The first political speech made in the county was by Mr. Charles W. Cathcart, a Democratic Candidate for State Senator. He held forth to an enthusiastic audience in the clerk's office, a small log structure about which it was said: "A clerk's office by day and a sleep's pen by night." Mrs. Spitzer, widow of the clerk, adds by way of parenthesis that there was more truth than poetry in the report.

"An hundred years to come."

COUNTY OFFICERS.

The first Judge appointed to the new counties was Judge Isaac Naylor. The first case heard in the county was a civil action of Hesey Montgomery, administrator, against Edward Boone, administrator. The first State case was against I. T. Timmons. A wrongful prosecution; it is presumed, as the prosecuting attorney promptly entered a "not pro," as the lawyers call it. The first petition for divorce in the county was by Mrs. Louisa Barr against Mr. Andrew

Barr. I cannot find out whether her petition was granted or no, but presume it was, for it could be bought but a serious matter that would put husband or wife praying for a separation when neighbors were few and far between, and every man's family was almost an independent community of itself; and government, if it existed, was of a primitive or Patriarchal type. The prosecuting attorney for the first court was Mr. Joseph Wright, who has since held several offices of trust under the people of the State, and twice, I believe, filled the gubernatorial chair.

The first county commissioners were Mr. Amos White, Mr. Frederic Kenoyer, and Mr. Joseph Smith, not he of Mormon notoriety, but the very estimable early resident of Jasper county. They were all gentlemen of ability and left a good name and many descendants to perpetuate their memory. If not mistaken, the direct descendants of Mr. Amos White, now reside in, or near, Fowler in Benton county, and one near Templeton. If I am wrong I hope the gentlemen there by that name will at once make the correction. Mr. Smith's family I am unable to trace, but Mr. Frederic Kenoyer's lineal descendants still live in Newton county, or did a few years since. Two of them, Moses, and young Mr. Frederic Kenoyer having served during the late war in the same company and regiment (51st Ind.) with the writer.

The names of the first grand juries serving in the first court were Messrs. Hanna, W. Dombo, Hewett, Wesley Spitzer, Robert Mallatt, Lewis Elijah, William Gilliam, Wm. Doran, Joseph Wooley, George Culp, Thomas Timmons, James Reed, Jas. Brown, Andrew Ritchey, Joseph Yeoman and Samuel Benjamin. Some few of this first panel are still living.

The first county auditor, clerk and recorder was George W. Spitzer, he holding and filling the duties of all three, and filling them satisfactorily, for it is a common saying at this late day that our county affairs were never better managed than when one man was auditor, clerk and recorder.— Of Mr. Spitzer's duties as auditor and clerk I know but little, but suppose they were not burdensome; surely not remunerative if we may take his record as recorder as a criterion from which to judge. I have taken some pains to examine deed record No. 1, which is full of interest and information.— The first deed the new recorder was called upon to transcribe was made on the 22d day of May, 1838, from Benjamin Lewis to Hesey Montgomery, for the northwest quarter of section 54, town 28, north, range 9, west—160 acres—\$1.87 per acre.—

The acknowledgement was taken before Hugh Newell, clerk of circuit court, Irons county, Ill. The record bears date June 6, 1838. Four months and four days later, October 16, 1838, the second deed was recorded. Nearly one month later, November 7, 1838, the third, and December 4, 1838, the fourth deed was recorded. On the 14th of the same month Mr. Spitzer had a quiet run of luck, six deeds recorded on that day. In all, the first year of the organization, he recorded only ten deeds and mortgages. Mr. Spitzer served as a public officer during almost the entire period of his life in the county. He was a man of talent, a veritable genius, a friend and helper to all who were worthy, and the county certainly owes as much to his memory as to any other man who ever dwelt within her borders.— He was killed by lightning while lying in bed, on the night of August 17, 1863.— His widow still lives, and is a resident of Rensselaer, a genial and worthy old lady, whose memory is replete with incidents of the past. His son, Mr. M. L. Spitzer, the present county clerk of Jasper county.

The first treasurer was a gentleman named Albert Pursell. As yet I have been unable to learn anything beyond the mere fact that he was the first county treasurer.

The first sheriff of the county was a Mr. Samuel M. Dunn.

The claim for first surveyor lays between Mr. Wesley Spitzer and Mr. Andrew Ritchey. Mr. Ritchey was a very early surveyor and is remembered as wearing moccasins while on his surveying expeditions.

In January, 1839, the county commissioners divided Newton county into two townships. All lying north and west of the Iroquois river was named Newton township, and the remainder called Pink-a-mink township, an Indian name for one of the tributaries of the Iroquois and a name that the white settlers have confirmed.

The first election held in the county was held on the first Monday in April, 1839.— The polls for Newton township were at the house of Mr. Joseph Yeoman, and for Pink-a-mink township at the house of Mr. William Donahoe.

In 1840 Marion township was struck off from the east side of Newton township.

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Concert.

Mrs. M. E. W. Adams and a part of her class will give a vocal and instrumental concert at the Court House in Rensselaer, on Friday evening, Jan. 28, 1876. An attractive programme will be presented, consisting of Choruses, Quartettes, Arias, Duets, and Solos. Admission 25 cents.

Legal Advertisements.

The undersigned hereby notifies all concerned that he will apply to the auditor of Jasper County, Indiana, for a new certificate of purchase of the northwest quarter of the south west quarter of section sixteen (16) township thirty (30) north, range six (6) west; the original of which now lost or mislaid, was given to Ezra Parker, February 2nd, 1855, and belonged to me by assignment. 1852 NEWMAN H. PRATER.

Sheriff's Sale.

By virtue of an execution and copy of decree to me directed from the Clerk of the Jasper Circuit Court, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder on Saturday, the 5th day of February, 1876, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 4 o'clock P. M. of said day, at the door of the Court House of Jasper County, the rents and profits for a term of not exceeding seven years of the following described real estate:

The southeast quarter of section twenty-six (26) in township thirty-two (32), north, of range seven (7), west, in Jasper County, Indiana; and on failure to realize the full amount of judgment, interest and costs, I will at the same time and place expose at public sale the fee simple of said real estate.

Taken as the property of Millard J. Sheridan and Lois A. Sheridan at the suit of Simon P. Thompson.

Said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.

JANUARY 5, 1876.

LEWIS L. DAUGHERTY,

Sheriff of Jasper County, Ind.

Thompson & Bro. Atty's for P. M. 1876.

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The west half of the southwest quarter of section twenty-five (25), in township (32), north, of range seven (7), west, in Jasper County, Indiana; and on failure to realize the full amount of judgment, interest and costs, I will at the same time and place expose at public sale the fee simple of said real estate.

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Notice to Hunters and Sports men.

State of Indiana, Jasper County, ss:

All persons are hereby notified that hunting and shooting upon any of the lands belonging to either of the undersigned is strictly forbidden. Any person found trapping, hunting or shooting any animal or bird, or any other animal not will be promptly prosecuted for trespass. Dated and signed by us this 1st day of August, 1876.

I. J. Porter, James Welch, Thos. R. Daugherty, A. Shepard, Wm. H. Daugherty, J. P. Pillars, B. P. Shields, H. C. Bruce, L. L. Daugherty, W. C. Comer, Joseph Williams, C. J. Brown, W. M. Wason, A. F. Griswold, D. J. Huston, S. O'neara, James D. Babcock, Frank W. Babcock, W. O. Pierce, Joseph H. Willey, John B. Meinbrook, F. W. Bedford, Abel Mentzer, Jackon Phlegley, W. H. McDonald, 497.

37y C. W. CLIFTON, Agent.

FRUIT TREES!!!

The undersigned has now on hand as good a lot of

APPLE TREES

as there is in the State, which for

FALL DELIVERY

will be sold at the following rates:

Twenty (20) Cents for one Tree; Two Dollars (\$2.00) per Dozen, or Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) per Hundred.

—ALSO—

TAKE

SIMMONS' LIVER REGULATOR

For all diseases of the Liver, Stomach and Spleen. Malaria, Fevers, Bowel Complaints, Dyspepsia, Mental Depression, Restlessness, Jaundice, Nausea, Sick Headache, Colic, Constipation and Biliousness.

It is eminently a Family Medicine, and by being kept ready for immediate resort, will save many a home from the doctor and master of dollars, time, and doctors' bills.

After Forty Years trials it is still receiving the most unqualified testimony of its virtues, from persons of the highest character and responsibility. Eminent physicians commend it as the most efficacious

EFFECTUAL SPECIFIC

for Constipation, Headache, Pain in the Stomach, dizziness, Nausea, Sick Headache, Colic, Constipation and Biliousness.

Call and see our Trees before buying.

Asthis will be a good fall for transplanting Trees, we would recommend setting off part of your orchard in the fall.

NURSERY AT

The Liver, the largest organ in the Body is generally the seat of the disease, and if not Regulated in time, great suffering, wretchedness, and DEATH will ensue.

If you feel Dull, Drowsy, Debilitated, have frequent Headache, Mouth tastes badly poor appetite and tongue Coated; you are suffering from Torpid Liver or Biliousness, and nothing will cure so speedily and perfectly.

I have never seen or tried such a simple, effectual, satisfactory and pleasant remedy in my life."—H. H. Hainer, St. Louis, Mo.

Hon. Alex. H. Stephens.

Governor of Alabama.

Your Regulator has been in use in my family for some time, and I am persuaded it is a valuable addition to the medical science.

Gov. J. G. Shorter, Ala.

I have used the Regulator in my family for the past seventeen years. I can safely recommend it to the world as the best medicine I have ever used for that class of diseases it purports to cure."—H. F. Thigpen.

President