





BRIDGETON:

Saturday Morning, June 10

CIRCULATION 1300

Only \$1.00 per Year!

FRANKLIN FERGUSON, Editor.

Notice to Agents and Advertisers.

WE ARE PREPARED TO SHOW THAT

The West Jersey Pioneer

Has a Circulation of at least 300 more than any other paper printed in Cumberland County.

Its Circulation, (in the County), is nearly double that of any other paper.

This notice is called for in self-defence. The "Barrenness Criterion" falsely conveying the impression, that its Circulation is larger than that of the Pioneer.

Bridgeton as it was.

We hear and read so much of the wonderful and rapid growth of the villages, towns and cities, in the newly settled portions of our country, that we are apt to look upon the comparatively slow change of our own homes with indifference, and almost with contempt.

This we believe to be wrong, and calculated to make us restless and dissatisfied with our homes, and at the same time tends to impede or prevent that progress which we ought to make as well blind us to the improvements and comparison of its present state with its past history, would satisfy us as going on around us.

The increase of wealth, in population, in facilities for business, and in the comfort and conveniences of life, as well as the increased intelligence of the masses of the people, that is taking place even in the oldest and least enterprising portions of our country, would be sufficient to satisfy the candid observer that there was an onward progress to power and influence in our vast country which the world before never witnessed.

We may very well adopt the language of the Psalmist, who when contemplating the dealings of Divine Providence with the Israelites, exclaims, "Thou hast not dealt so with any nation." Our business is not however at this time with the country at large, but only with Bridgeton, and we will endeavor to confine ourselves to its history.

We are able to go back in our recollection of facts, and circumstances about this town, the number character and locality of its houses, the business of the place, its schools and public buildings and various other matters, with a good deal of confidence for forty-five or even fifty years; and our attempt will be to place before you our town as it was at about that time, we may not be absolutely correct as to dates, for we write only from our recollection.

Let, Of the Houses, including all buildings whether dwellings, stores, shops or barns on the streets, commencing on the East side of the creek in Commerce Street, South side, and returning on the North side. First was a red store house nearly where Mr. Noff now resides, which at one time since our recollection, was occupied as a printing office, and where the first newspaper of the lower part of Jersey was published. The next was a one story shoemaker shop owned and occupied by Cap. James Burch and afterwards by Jacob Perhamus; near this was the house now occupied as a dwelling by J. B. Potter, built by Cap. Burch; next in order was the Store house occupied by Col. Wm. Potter which stood where Mr. A. Stratton's Store now stands, and part of which forms the back part of the present store. On the opposite corner where Daniel Fithian & Son now is, was a store house which had been occupied by Mr. Eden Merseilles, this building has been so frequently and materially changed in its appearance and the purposes for which it has been used, that we can hardly tell whether it can be claimed as the old building of that day or not. About where the Clerk's office is there was a barn belonging to Mr. Merseilles, which we will remember in consequence of our associating with it the fine horses he kept and which we used so much to admire. East of this and at the corner of Pearl street stood an old one story stone house with a two story frame attached, occupied by Mark Riley; the next building was the cooper's shop of Mr. Riley, still standing and owned and occupied by his son James Riley; from that point all was farm lots. On the North side some distance back from the present street and near the Pond stood an old dwelling and grist mill; coming towards the bridge, the first building was the Farm house which constitutes a part of the house nearly opposite the Methodist Church, owned by N. Bright, and next his residence. The next in order was the house where Judge Elmer resides; in the next square there was then no buildings, a blacksmith shop stood where Mr. Barnes store now is, and a cabinet maker shop between there and Mr. Seeley's; a part of the house where Mrs. Seeley lives was next in order; the main part of Mr. Charles Elmer's house now occupied by Dr. Wilson, then by Mr. Merseilles, came next. What is now Mr. Davis' Hotel, was then the private mansion of John Moore White Esq., that part of it which now constitutes the bar room, together with a great part of the back buildings, have been added to since that time. We lately met with the old judge, who still, though blind, bears about with him the marks of his former station, when his erect and manly figure, with his haughty and imposing appearance used to strike us young urchins with a sort of awe and wonder, which would have

secured his fruit from our depredations with-out the high board fence and brilliant capping of long bay sails which surrounded the square, then occupied as his garden. Below Cohensy street where the brick row now stands, formerly stood the old tavern, occupied for many years by Mr. Beniah Parvin; this was a curious assemblage of structures of different dates and different architecture, brought together in an odd sort of way, and would now be a curiosity; we will recollect the old Buttonwoods around it; it was the stage house of the county, and we remember when we have made some effort to be there in time in the morning to see his sons, who were the drivers and real John's come out with their fine horses and with a crack of the whip on full gallop, show how handsomely they could turn their teams and bring their lumbering stage wagons in front of the house; fast teams in those days, could make two trips to Philadelphia and back in the week by starting early and coming in late. The next building was the dwelling of Mr. Enosh Boon jr., which was removed a few years since to make room for Mr. Dare's brick building. Mr. Johnson's Hatter shop was adjoining this; the house occupied by Mr. Kirkbride together with a part of the buildings occupied as a store and shops constituted the dwelling and store house of Mr. Abijah Harris, who for many years kept the Post Office. This comprised the whole of the buildings of Commerce street. On Cohensy street there was but two houses, the old red house and a small house between that and the livery stable, the livery stable constituted the stabling for the old tavern. The dwelling of Mr. Buck at the foot of Laurel street was then occupied by Dr. Champneys, this beautiful property has been much improved. Coming up Laurel on the west side, we have an indistinct recollection of an old house called the Boyd house, the former residence of the maternal grandfather of J. B. Potter. Next above was the old stone house, lately removed to make way for Mr. Stratton's new buildings; then the old frame where Mr. Ogdens' house now stands, then a part of the house belonging to Mr. S. L. Fithian. The next house on that side of Laurel was a one story house near McBrides Carriage Factory; the next, the old Hood House and a blacksmith shop, where the present Mr. Hood's father made wrought nails, by hand, all above that was vacant until it reached Laurel hill, where Mr. Charles Woodruff's cooper shop stood, adjoining which was his dwelling, the two story frame next Mr. Barracliff; then came the stone house then owned and occupied by Ebenezer Seeley Esq., now by R. Barracliff. Beyond a road which then led to a wharf at that time much used for cord wood, was a store house, since altered into dwellings; next above, an old tavern house burnt down many years ago, where a large frame house now stands; then the house Ovid Vanneman now lives in, and next to it the old two story frame now occupied by D. W. Carns; some distance beyond, there was two small frame houses, one was burnt down a few years since, and the other is now occupied by Mrs. Dalton; the collection of houses, at what was then called Goose hill, built by A. Sayers Esq., was pretty much what they are at present, though there was then a store there, and a road to a landing place where vessels at that time loaded with cord wood. Returning on the East side of Laurel, the first house was owned by Mr. Reeves, the father of Johnson Reeves, now occupied by Mr. Davis; adjoining this was a blacksmith shop. Below the next small street was the two story frame still standing, and a one story frame; next in order was a small house near where Hosea Moore now lives, a shoemaker's shop and then Mr. Moore's house; then the old two story frame now unoccupied; at the corner where the blacksmith shop now stands, was the store house of E. Seeley Esq.; below that was an orchard enclosed by a worm fence and the only house between that and Washington street was Abel Corson's, the boat builder of the day, now occupied by Miss E. Sheppard.

Between Washington and Commerce streets there were three old frames, which have been removed or so altered as to prevent our recognizing them, and a shop where a sort of musical instrument was then manufactured, at that time more common than the piano, melodeon or seraphine, but which the ladies of the present day would know nothing about, called a spinning wheel.

Below Commerce street, came first the old part of Fishers, Pedricks and Mrs. Lake's houses, then came Landels, and between that and the foot of the street four or five old houses, some of which have been so altered that we hardly know how to describe them.

On the west side of Pearl street, the first house was an old log house, and a small house both of which have been removed, then the old house near the Livery Stable, next a small frame where James Riley's house now stands, and there Mr. Merseilles' house; above Commerce street on that side of the street, there was only two houses, the one near Washington, at that time occupied by Johnson Harris, and the other nearly opposite the Baptist Church, on the east side there was a Barn near the Hickory tree, but no dwellings until we come to that where Mr. S. W. Seeley now lives, then the residence of Reuben Pierson; below commerce, there was first the red house now owned by C. Cook, a house and Wheelwright shop owned by E. Keen, struck by lightning and burnt down, many years since; the row of old one story houses, the house at the next corner, and no more until we come to the house where Wm. Dare then lived, now owned by Mr. Bodine, below this was one small frame, over the dam one old house, and two small ones over the bridge.

On the Street running from Laurel Hill to Indian Fields, there was E. Seeley's barn still standing, W. Wetherby's house, and the house built by Col. Joseph Buck, now occupied by Mr. Webster.

On Washington street there were three houses, one now the residence of Mr. Fithian, part of the one at the corner of Washington and Pearl, and a small frame opposite.

On Jefferson street there was we believe

two, one occupied by Capt. H. Malford, and the other by Abraham Woodruff, who with his wife have lived there ever since. These with the old Academy on Bank Street, comprise all the buildings standing on the East side of the creek, forty-five or at any rate fifty years ago.

We presume this detailed statement is to most of our readers, particularly those out of town, dry and tedious; we shall therefore leave the West side until next week; as there was fewer houses on that side, the detail will not be so tedious, and we trust that when we come to speak of the church, school houses, public buildings, business &c. of the place, we shall make our subject more interesting. To our readers in the County, we would only say, that as we intend before leaving this subject to notice all the villages then in the county, we hope they also will become interested. Will some one from each village or town in the county send to Doct. Buck, a statement of the number of houses, churches, school houses, stores &c., of that time as well as at present as soon as convenient?

THE SALEM STANDARD.

We did not reflect how green the Editors of the Standard were in their business, or we might have thought it necessary to be more particular in our allusions to a former Editor of this town—they might however have learned, that our town had supported one paper and most of the time two, more than forty years, they might also have known, that if we referred to an Editor of so late a date as Mr. Newell, we should have said late, not former Editor. There are now so blind as those who won't see. The Standard we presume, supposed that by exciting the feelings of Mr. Newell's friends they might raise a new issue and get cleverly out of a difficulty. Mr. Standard just let us alone, you have trouble enough on your hands to keep you in fever and we have no disposition to add to your sources of irritation.

NEW GRASS.

Mr. Wm. Wheaton of Hopewell has left with us a bunch of grass which he calls Andes Grass from South America, the seed of which was obtained by Providence Wheaton a few years since. This specimen of the Grass measures 5 feet 11 inches, it grew near the fence in a rich place and is somewhat taller and more luxuriant than usual, he represents it as of very early and rapid growth affording excellent and early pasture, and making good hay. It is difficult saving the seed and he has not succeeded in producing a thick growth on the ground, if these difficulties can be overcome it will probably be an important addition to our agricultural products—we recommend our farmers to procure seed and try it, every new product added to the means of support of animal life is a blessing to the community, and those engaged in introducing them deserve the commendations of the people.

ROBBERY.

In our peaceful and orderly community we are seldom called upon to record instances of robbery, it will be seen however by reference to our advertisements that the house of Mr. Blackman at the mouth of Maurice River has been entered and robbed of a considerable amount of money, as there are many strangers who frequent the place, we trust for the credit of our country it will be found that the robbers are not natives of this State—it is to be hoped that they will be detected and may have an opportunity of experiencing a specimen of N. Jersey justice.

GLEASON'S PICTORIAL.

Table with columns for various items and their prices, including flour, sugar, and other goods.

Table listing various items and their prices, including different types of flour and other commodities.

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Cuban Affairs.—The Washington Union of yesterday has a very extraordinary and significant article, relative to Cuba, which will excite the attention and curiosity of the people of this State. The article is a translation of the Cuban papers, which it is the duty as well as the interest of the United States, to peruse. The article is a translation of the Cuban papers, which it is the duty as well as the interest of the United States, to peruse.

A vessel arrived at Charleston from Havana brings advice two days later than was received from the Isabel. Great anxiety prevailed among all classes in regard to the relations with the United States. 700 or 800 Cubans had arrived in Cuba; also a considerable number of laborers from Spain.

During the month of May there arrived at New York from foreign ports, 16 steamships, 137 ships, 118 boats and 96 schooners, 96000 tons, and 100000 passengers. The total tonnage of the vessels, 192 of which were foreign. This exceeds by thirty-four the number of arrivals for any previous month, and is another evidence of the rapid advance of the metropolis of the Western world.

Washington, June 5.

The Star this afternoon says that a special bearer of dispatches from Spain to the Spanish Minister, has arrived. The difficulties with Cuba are in a fair way of settlement. Negotiations are on foot for the purchasing of the island of Cuba. Spain is willing to sell on fair terms.

Philadelphia Markets.

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Sheriff's Sale.

ALEXANDER STRATTON.

RECEIVED and for sale a large lot of the genuine Newton Darling's Scotch, manufactured in Rhode Island, (those manufactured in Troy N. Y., are not the genuine article.) We have also Grass Hooks, Sicks, Rides, Scythe Stones, Hay Forks, &c.

WHEAT, RYE AND OATS.

RECEIVED and for sale Cultivators and Corn Ploughs at H. J. MULFORD & BRO'S.

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A. B. MAUL & Co. Commercial Boot and Shoe Store.

Take pleasure in announcing to the public and their customers, that they are again situated upon the old spot, in their new building, and would respectfully tender their warmest thanks to their numerous patrons and friends for their liberal favors so generously extended to their establishment heretofore, and would invite particular attention to the entirely new arrangements which they have made in order to facilitate the execution of the various departments of their business.

JUST RECEIVED.

PHOTOLOGICAL PUBLISHERS.

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