

THE FIRST "OIL MEN"

GEORGE H. BISSELL

FRANCIS BEATTIE BREWER

EDWIN L. DRAKE

BENJAMIN SILLIMAN, JR.

JAMES M. TOWNSEND

The Beginnings of the Petroleum Industry

Sources and Bibliography

BY

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FOREWORD

THERE IS probably no story of greater interest in the economic history of Pennsylvania than the birth and development of the petroleum industry. It is not only full of interest and romance but it is also a chapter of utmost importance in the history of national enterprise. One has but to look about and observe the contemporary uses to which internal combustion engines, powered and lubricated by the products of the petroleum industry, are put to appreciate the revolutionary changes in enterprise resulting from the drilling of the first oil well by Colonel Drake at Titusville in 1859.

The economic consequences were hardly more important than the impact upon social life and customs. Progress in transportation always has had a profound influence in promoting social change. The living habits and the entire viewpoint of people, with accompanying modifications in thought and mores, are affected by revolutionary changes in transportation and communication. The successful application of the gasoline motor to the automobile and the airplane constituted in the twentieth century perhaps the greatest impetus toward social change in recent times.

In view of these portentous consequences following upon the drilling of Colonel Drake's well in northwestern Pennsylvania on the eve of the Civil War, it is proper that the Commission devote a volume in its publication series to the sources dealing with the organization of the first petroleum company. It was the organization and activity of this concern which paved the way for the Drake drilling operations. The letters exchanged between these business pioneers are of interest not only in terms of petroleum's history but also in the light which they shed upon business practices and organization in the mid-nineteenth century. To these sources are added an invaluable bibliography on the beginnings of the Pennsylvania petroleum industry compiled by Doctor Giddens as the result of several years research.

The Commission is authorized by law to publish materials of interest to students of Pennsylvania history. Its first venture in the economic history field was made in 1938 with the publication of Dr. A. C. Bining's *Pennsylvania Iron Manufacture in the Eighteenth Century*. This volume was well received and recognized as an important contribution to the historical literature of the state. The present Commission is glad to continue this fine precedent by presenting Dr. Paul H. Giddens's contribution to our knowledge of the petroleum industry. The manuscript was prepared for publication under the general direction of Donald M. Cresswell, Department Editor, and Sylvester K. Stevens, Senior Historian. Donald H. Kent, Assistant Historian, read the entire manuscript with care, and supervised details connected with the completion of the printed volume.

ROSS PIER WRIGHT, *Chairman*
Pennsylvania Historical Commission

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
PREFACE	vii
PART ONE: SOURCES	ix
I. Introduction	1
II. List of Letters Belonging to Dr. Francis Beattie Brewer ..	10
III. Letters Belonging to Dr. Francis Beattie Brewer	12
IV. List of Letters Belonging to George H. Bissell	60
V. Letters Belonging to George H. Bissell	61
PART TWO: BIBLIOGRAPHY ON THE BEGINNINGS OF THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY TO 1871	87
I. Addresses	87
II. Atlases of the Pennsylvania Oil Region	87
III. Books	87
IV. Bibliographies	95
V. Biographical Accounts	96
VI. Business Directories	97
VII. Government Documents	97
VIII. Materials in the Drake Museum	103
IX. Newspaper Articles with Titles (Chronologically Ar- ranged)	104
X. Newspaper Articles without Titles (Chronologically Ar- ranged)	165
XI. Newspapers—Special Editions Devoted to the History of the Petroleum Industry	166
XII. Pamphlets	166
XIII. Periodical Literature	167
APPENDIX	173
I. List of Newspapers Cited	175
II. List of Periodicals Cited	177
INDEX	179

ILLUSTRATIONS

Opposite page

The First "Oil Men"

George H. Bissell Francis Beattie Brewer

Edwin L. Drake

Benjamin Silliman, Jr. James M. Townsend Frontispiece

Oil Creek in 1810

J. Francis Waldo's sketch of Mr. Roy storing oil on a raft, preparatory to taking it to Pittsburgh for sale 44

Pioneer, Oil Creek, 1865-7 88

Niagara and Pierson Farms, Cherry Tree Run, Pennsylvania, 1868 . . . 132

PREFACE

DURING THE summer of 1934 the writer began gathering data on a history of the beginnings of the petroleum industry in western Pennsylvania to 1871; the result was the publication of *The Birth of the Oil Industry* (The Macmillan Company, New York, 1938). In preparing this work, the writer accumulated a great amount of source and bibliographical material, a very small portion of which was included in the book. In the belief that it may be of assistance to teachers, students, research workers, and oilmen who are interested in delving into the early history of the oil industry in western Pennsylvania, two parts of this material are herewith presented.

I. Fifty-three letters written during 1854 and 1855, most of them to Dr. Francis Beattie Brewer, constituting the most extensive source of information about the organization of the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company of New York, the first petroleum company in the world. After the manuscript of this publication had been sent to the printer, the writer located nineteen letters written to George H. Bissell by different persons involved in the organization of the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company. These have been added as a separate section.

II. A bibliography of the early history of the oil industry, including newspaper and periodical articles, government documents, biographical accounts, books, addresses, atlases, and other items. Although the bibliography is not exhaustive and is incomplete with reference to some items, it will, nevertheless, be of service to those interested in the field.

I am grateful to the late Mrs. F. B. Brewer of Westfield, New York, and her son, George E. Brewer of Erie, Pennsylvania, for their kindness in granting permission to use the Brewer letters; to Judge Pelham St. George Bissell of New York City, for his kindness in allowing me to use the Bissell letters; and to the Pennsylvania Historical Commission for undertaking the publication of this book.

PAUL H. GIDDENS

Meadville, Pennsylvania
November 1, 1941

PART I
SOURCES

I

INTRODUCTION¹

IN 1851, Dr. Francis Beattie Brewer, a graduate of Dartmouth College and a practicing physician, moved from Massachusetts to the small village of Titusville, in western Pennsylvania, where he became a member of Brewer, Watson and Company, a lumber firm with extensive landholdings in that community.

Immediately he became interested in an oil spring located near Upper Mill on the company's property, about two miles below Titusville and within a few rods of Oil Creek. It was about eight feet deep and curbed with unhewn logs. Oil would rise to the surface of the water, coming up in globules as if forced from the ground below by gas, and it would accumulate to the depth of one-half inch a day. To collect oil a woolen blanket was spread upon the surface of the spring, then it was raised and the oil was wrung out, and the operation repeated until all oil was removed from the water. It was gathered from time to time by anyone desiring oil. The only use ever made of it was as a domestic remedy for almost every disease known in that part of the country.

About 1850, Brewer, Watson and Company began using the oil for illuminating purposes in their sawmills. A tin dish holding nearly a quart of oil, with a close cover and a tube in the center in which was placed a wick three-fourths of an inch in diameter and running an inch above the tube, served as a lamp. When lighted, it gave off a large but not brilliant flame, with sufficient light, however, for all practical purposes and in the open condition of the mill, the smoke was not objectionable. Lard oil was used as a lubricator on the sawmill machinery, but on several occasions, when the supply ran out, the workmen used "Seneca Oil," or "creek oil" or "rock oil," as it was commonly called. Because of its superior lubricating quality, it was not long before they were using it exclusively.

A thorough examination of other surface conditions along the entire length of Oil Creek led Dr. Brewer to believe that the oil had great possibilities and this belief deepened into a settled conviction. He per-

¹ A portion of this introduction has been taken from Paul H. Giddens, *The Birth of the Oil Industry*, Chapter III. By permission of The Macmillan Company, publishers.

suaded the other members of his firm that they should utilize the oil and make it profitable. As a result, the first lease in the United States in connection with the development of the petroleum business was made between Brewer, Watson and Company and J. D. Angier of Titusville, on the 4th of July, 1853. Angier agreed to repair and keep in order the old oil spring, construct new springs, and when the expenses were deducted from the proceeds of the oil, the balance, if any, should be equally divided. Rude trenches were dug to convey the oil and water to a central basin, and by the use of some crude and simple machinery, erected at a cost of about \$200, the oil was separated from the water, and thus the supply of petroleum for lighting the mills and lubricating the machinery was increased. Three or four gallons a day, even as many as six, were collected; the yield was abundant and believed to be inexhaustible.

In the fall of 1853, Dr. Brewer carried a bottle of petroleum with him on a trip to Hanover, New Hampshire, to visit with relatives and friends. While he was there, Dr. Dixie Crosby, of the Medical School and Professor O. P. Hubbard, of the Chemistry Department of Dartmouth College, examined the sample. The later at once pronounced it valuable, but owing to the fact that the oil could not be obtained in large quantities, it could hardly become an article of commerce. A few weeks later, George H. Bissell, another graduate of Dartmouth and a young practicing lawyer in New York, saw this bottle of petroleum at the office of Dr. Crosby, who was highly enthusiastic about its wonderful properties. Bissell at once became greatly interested in the product and was impressed by its possibilities. Coal oil was just then being introduced in the eastern states for illuminating and lubrication purposes and, in view of the similarity of coal oil and petroleum, Bissell and Crosby discussed the question as to why petroleum could not be used for the same purpose, provided a sufficient supply could be found. Excited by the possibilities of a large speculative enterprise, a permanent business, and a certain fortune, Albert H. Crosby, son of Dr. Crosby, induced Bissell in the summer of 1854 to pay his expenses to Titusville to inspect the oil springs. If Crosby returned with a favorable report, Bissell and his business partner, Jonathan G. Eveleth, agreed to organize a company, buy the land, work the springs, and introduce this new product into the world's commerce.

About thirty days later, Crosby visited Titusville and, in company with Dr. Brewer, examined the oil springs. They traveled as far down Oil Creek as Hamilton McClintock's farm where the most famous of all the oil springs was located in the middle of Oil Creek. "As we stood on the

circle of rough logs surrounding the spring," wrote Dr. Brewer, "and saw the oil bubbling up, and spreading its bright and golden colors over the surface, Crosby at once proposed to purchase the whole farm, which we could have done for \$7000, but not enough money. When I told Crosby that we [Brewer, Watson and Company] did not want to take money from the lumber business to put into oil, Crosby said, 'Damn lumber, I would rather have McClintock's farm than all the timber in Western Pennsylvania'." Crosby obtained from McClintock a refusal of the land on the east side of Oil Creek for \$1,000 and on the west side for \$5,000 and the spring for \$2,000, or all for \$7,000. This was probably the first option for the purchase or sale of oil property ever made, but which, a few years later, became so common.

On their return to Titusville, Crosby and Brewer agreed that if Crosby could get parties in New York to organize a company and furnish the capital to develop the territory, Brewer, Watson and Company would sell the Hibbard farm of about one hundred acres, on which the original spring was being worked and on which the Drake well was later bored, for \$5,000. This also included oil rights in the surrounding lands of Brewer, Watson and Company, consisting of several hundred acres. The joint stock company should have a capital of \$250,000, one-fifth of which should go to Brewer, Watson and Company, one-fifth to be Treasury stock, and three-fifths to be divided as thought best by the original purchasers.

With several samples of petroleum, Crosby, enthusiastically and hopefully, left Titusville for New York where he met Bissell, made an exceedingly favorable report, and explained Dr. Brewer's proposal. Owing to haste and carelessness, Crosby erroneously informed Bissell that the purchase money was to be taken from Brewer's share instead of taking it from the Treasury stock. He also neglected to state that Brewer insisted upon good security being given for the payment of the \$5,000. Within a few days, Crosby sent a letter to Brewer informing him of Eveleth and Bissell's acceptance of his proposal. In closing the letter, he asked Dr. Brewer to send some oil to New York for exhibition purposes.

Angier immediately gathered and shipped three barrels of oil to Eveleth and Bissell, whose office was located at the corner of Broadway and Franklin Street in the magnificent new building of D. Appleton and Company, the leading publishers and booksellers of the city. In the absence of Eveleth and Bissell the barrels were left by a drayman in front of the publishing house salesroom. The store was a model of elegance and taste, filled with rare books and literary treasures, and

ornamented with costly works of art from every land. Surprised and annoyed were the fastidious proprietors to find the passage to their store blocked by three disgusting-looking and vile-smelling barrels. Standing in the hot sun, oil oozed from every pore of the barrels, sending off small streams of their contents along the stone pavement. It was a most unattractive and disagreeable sight. Appleton's had the barrels loaded into a passing dray and hauled to an unknown destination. So tenacious were the paving stones of their hold on this fluid and so offensive to the aesthetic taste of the proprietors of the building that some of the stones were ordered removed. When Eveleth and Bissell returned and learned what had happened, they made a diligent search for the oil. After several weeks of search, they located the barrels and took a portion of the oil to their office. An unsightly spot soon appeared on the white ceiling of the store below, and it smelt to high heaven. But over this spot, in that office, in that building, arrangements were soon made to organize the first petroleum company in the world.

Late in September, everything was in readiness to put the stock on the market, except for the signing of the contract. Dr. Brewer, empowered as attorney for Brewer, Watson and Company, departed for New York City to complete the transaction.

In the first interview with Eveleth and Bissell, according to Dr. Brewer, "they candidly confessed that they could not believe the statements made by Crosby relative to the existence and abundance of the oil." After learning what had been said by Crosby, Brewer gave them the facts in greater detail—a description of the country, the indications of oil, the manner of gathering it—and estimated that the one-hundred-acre farm, properly managed, with an expenditure of \$500 to \$600, would produce 1,000 barrels a year. Oil worth fifty cents a gallon, or \$20 a barrel, would net a very nice profit after paying \$5,000 for the land. The expense of development would be \$5,000, leaving \$10,000 to divide among the stockholders.

Despite Dr. Brewer's convincing statements, the whole thing looked too visionary; Eveleth and Bissell did not consider it worth while to go ahead with the plans even though they had incurred obligations to the extent of several hundred dollars for seals, stock certificates, stock books, and other items. Under the circumstances, Dr. Brewer left the office thinking that the matter had been settled and decided to write to some Pittsburgh people who had been interested in putting the oil on the market. Before leaving the city, however, Eveleth and Bissell sent a note to Brewer's hotel asking him to call prior to his departure. As a result of this subse-

quent meeting, Dr. Brewer made them an offer; his proposition would stand open and no money would be paid till one of the firm had been sent to Titusville and made a personal examination of the property. If they found Brewer's statements true, the bargain would be consummated and if not, Brewer, Watson and Company would pay all expenses of the trip. To this Eveleth and Bissell readily assented.

Before leaving for Titusville, Eveleth and Bissell went to New Haven, Connecticut, at the request of the Rev. Mr. Anson Sheldon, a retired minister there, to interest certain capitalists in buying the oil tract in Titusville. Stopping at the Tontine Hotel, the local gathering place for all who sought the latest news, they met James M. Townsend, president of the City Savings Bank, and other prominent citizens. Ambitious, energetic, and eager to try something new and exciting, Townsend listened with unusual interest to Bissell's stories about the oil springs at Titusville and the possibilities of petroleum supplanting coal oil, provided capital could be found to develop the land. While discussing the matter with Townsend and others, the proprietor of the Tontine learned that Eveleth and Bissell could not pay their bill and almost turned them out, but Townsend begged him not to do so as they seemed to be gentlemen, though poor, and he arranged to pay the bill if they did not meet the obligation.

In the end, Bissell fired the enthusiasm of Townsend and others in New Haven who saw the possibilities of making money out of petroleum. Prior to making any investment, however, the New Haven men thought they should do two things: send a committee to Titusville to see the land, and have a scientific analysis of the oil made in order to determine its economic value. Eveleth and Bissell, therefore, arranged to have two eminent chemists, Luther Atwood, of Boston, and Professor Benjamin Silliman, Jr., of Yale College, analyze the oil. Although the cost might be very heavy, the analysis, if favorable, would stimulate the sale of stock. Atwood reported within a short time on the excellent quality of the oil and indicated the uses to which it might be applied. Since Professor Silliman gave it a longer and more thorough analysis, his report was delayed.

To determine whether or not the quantity of petroleum seemed sufficient for commercial exploitation, Eveleth left for Titusville in November, 1854. Driven by R. D. Fletcher, a clerk with Brewer, Watson and Company, to the site of the oil spring, he critically examined all territory included within the contract, also other localities. At Upper Mill, Fletcher dug up considerable dirt and threw it into the water at the tailrace so that

Eveleth could see the oil float off upon the surface. Very much pleased with his visit and entirely satisfied with his investigation, Eveleth at once predicted a large and flourishing business; in fact, he was as fully enthusiastic as Crosby had been.

Eveleth returned to New York and on November 10, 1854, Dr. Brewer deeded the Hibbard farm to Eveleth and Bissell for \$5,000. Since the purchase price seemed to be such an insignificant fraction of the contemplated capital stock of the company that it might handicap the sale of stock, the land was put in at \$25,000. At this time two leases were signed: one gave Eveleth and Bissell permission to go upon any other lands of Brewer, Watson and Company to raise, gather, and collect oil, provided the operations did not interfere with their lumbering and farming activities; the other gave Brewer, Watson and Company permission to use the mill-race, together with any other privileges necessary to carry on their lumbering and mechanical business on the Hibbard farm. Formal execution of the deed was delayed until January, 1855, because Eveleth and Bissell were endeavoring to sell stock to some New Haven gentlemen to whom Professor Silliman had talked. If they came in, they wanted to have representation on the Board of Directors and have the property conveyed directly to the company. Failing in this, Eveleth and Bissell gave their joint and several notes for the land; no cash changed hands. Since Crosby could not meet his share of the expense, he dropped out of the affair.

Following Eveleth and Bissell's purchase of the land, they immediately proceeded to organize the first petroleum company in the United States, the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company of New York. A certificate of incorporation, filed at Albany on December 30, 1854, showed a capital stock of \$250,000, divided into 10,000 shares, at \$25 a share. The management was placed in the hands of seven trustees, composed of Jonathan G. Eveleth, George H. Bissell, Franklin Reed, James H. Salisbury, and Dexter A. Hawkins of New York, Dr. Francis B. Brewer of Titusville, and Anson Sheldon of New Haven. All except Dr. Brewer were mere figures, occupying positions it was necessary for appearance's sake that someone should fill. Not more than one of them at most represented stock for which he had paid. Eveleth and Bissell now conveyed the Titusville property to the trustees on January 16, 1855, but the deed was not recorded and the land continued in their possession until fall.

The new owners at once employed J. D. Angier to continue the development of the land by trenching and raising the surface oil and water into

vats, from which the oil could be skimmed. The supply was very limited, amounting to a few barrels in the course of a season, which they sold for \$1.50 per gallon to parties who retailed it for medicinal purposes.

While Angier patiently labored in Titusville, Eveleth and Bissell made every effort to sell stock at almost any price. Crosby, now a New York newspaper reporter, got a few shares for his former services and a few more for using his influence through the press. Two hundred shares were transferred to him to sell, but he spent most of the time trying to sell his own stock. Because of a stringency in the money market and the unusual speculative character of the enterprise, Crosby offered his own stock as low as fifty cents a share to a gentleman in Connecticut, the same gentleman to whom Eveleth and Bissell were offering stock for \$2.50 a share. Needless to say, the sale was spoiled. Provoked by such action, Eveleth and Bissell bought all of Crosby's stock and eliminated him from the venture. Since these young lawyers were unable to give their exclusive attention to the sale of stock, they now engaged the services of Anson Sheldon of New Haven, to fan the little flame of interest in that community. Sheldon was enthusiastic, even fanatical, about the future success of the company. He bought several hundred shares, for which he gave his note, and two thousand shares were transferred to him to sell.

Despite the herculean efforts of the next three months, hardly any stock was sold. Owing to the hard times, it was difficult to get men to invest. To make the sale of stock more difficult, there was an almost universal distrust of the enterprise. In Titusville, the petroleum company was dubbed "The Fancy Stock Company" and few people were willing to invest a dollar, though many were abundantly able. Paying \$5,000 for a piece of land that was hardly worth the taxes upon it was considered preposterous by local citizens. Elsewhere investors were deterred from investing because they either knew little or nothing about the new product, or were not sure of its economic value, or were uncertain about the quantity in which it could be found. Equally important, if not more so, was the total lack of confidence on the part of many men in the financial responsibility of those managing the company.

Confronted by these difficulties, the promoters anxiously awaited Professor Silliman's report and hoped it would spur the sale of stock. They bought him a new still, then a retort, and expected that his analysis would be ready by late February. Owing to an explosion, however, the company was obliged to buy all new apparatus and this delayed the completion of the analysis until April 16, 1853.

Silliman's report referred to the occurrences of oily fluids coming from the earth's surface in Baku, Persia, the Duchy of Parma, of its hardening into bitumin, asphalt, and mineral pitch, its production in large quantities in India, and its appearances at many points on the Ohio River in the United States. But the Titusville oil, unlike that from any other place, did not become hard and resinous from continued exposure to air. With the meticulous precision of a Professor of General and Applied Chemistry, he then gave the details of his experiments and found that for illuminating purposes it gave a most perfect flame with the Argand burner. In concluding the report, Silliman significantly said, "It appears to me that there is much ground for encouragement in the belief that your company have in their possession a raw material from which, by simple and not expensive process, they may manufacture very valuable products. It is worthy of note that my experiments prove that nearly the whole of the raw product may be manufactured without waste, and this solely by a well directed process which is in practice one of the most simple of all chemical processes." The report was sent to a New Haven printer and within a few days it was ready for distribution among men of means and influence.

The report proved to be a turning-point in the establishment of the petroleum business, for it dispelled many doubts about its value and stimulated the interest of the New Haven capitalists. The sale of stock, however, was not as great as anticipated owing to the prejudice against joint stock companies formed under the laws of New York. In New Haven and elsewhere the history of the New York and New Haven Railroad Company, also the Western Empire Company, was remembered with sorrow; many had experienced losses; and it was not strange, therefore, that monied men were extremely cautious. The New Haven capitalists expressed a desire to buy oil stock provided the company should be organized under the laws of Connecticut. In that state, the property of a stockholder was not liable for the debts of the company as in New York. Eveleth, Bissell, and Sheldon were assured by some of the most reliable men of New Haven that if the company was reorganized under the Connecticut laws all the stock could at once be disposed of in that city. Besides, the business of the company could be conducted with more economy if they located the general office in New Haven.

Under the circumstances, the promoters of the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company of New York decided to abandon their company and join with Asahel Pierpont, William A. Ives, James M. Townsend, Professor Benjamin Silliman, Jr., and others of New Haven in the organization of a new

Company in Connecticut. By late June, 1855, more than two-thirds of the stock in the newly-proposed company had been subscribed and there seemed to be little doubt but what the balance would be taken. Sheldon had two offers for the balance but did not entertain one of the propositions as the party was objectionable. Early in July, Sheldon and Pierpont of New Haven started for Titusville to inspect the oil springs, and if the quantity proved to be abundant, the new company would be immediately incorporated. Both men were very well pleased with the inspection trip. With this favorable report, all subscribers to stock in New Haven were exceedingly desirous of organizing the company as soon as possible, and on September 18, 1855, the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company of Connecticut was incorporated with a capital stock of \$300,000, divided into 12,000 shares. Eveleth and Bissell retained a controlling share of the stock, but the new company was predominantly a New Haven affair: Professor Silliman was president; New Haven was the seat of operations; and the by-laws provided that a majority of the Board of Directors should be chosen from among the New Haven stockholders.

As plans for launching the new company progressed, the stockholders of the old Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company of New York held a meeting on August 28, 1855, in New York City, to make whatever plans might be necessary for closing up the business. Since Eveleth and Bissell had never deeded the land to the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company of New York, it was decided to call in all of the stock, most of which was held by Eveleth and Bissell, or their agents, and thus extinguish the company. Eveleth and Bissell could then deed the land directly to the new company. To be brief, this plan was executed, and on October 5, 1855, Eveleth and Bissell deeded the Hibbard farm to representatives of the New Haven company, and within a very short time all other arrangements for closing up the business had been completed. After more than a year of perplexities, it was a joyful occasion for more than one reason: Bissell got married, Reed had an heir, Eveleth was expecting a similar gift, and most important of all for the development of the petroleum business, was the fact that the whole enterprise for introducing petroleum into the market had been saved by the efforts of the New Haven capitalists, who were ultimately responsible for drilling the Drake well and for ushering in the petroleum industry.²

² Even though the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company of New York was abandoned, it continued a legal existence until April 2, 1924, when it was dissolved by a proclamation of the Governor of New York. The subsequent story of the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company of Connecticut, of the Seneca Oil Company, and of the drilling of the Drake well is told by the writer in *The Birth of the Oil Industry*.

II

LIST OF LETTERS

BELONGING TO DR. FRANCIS BEATTIE BREWER

1. To Eveleth and Bissell, unsigned and undated
2. From Albert H. Crosby, Hanover, September 11, 1854
3. From Albert H. Crosby, Hanover, September 21, 1854
4. From Albert H. Crosby and his Mother, September 29, 1854
5. From Albert H. Crosby, Hanover, October 2, 1854
6. From Albert H. Crosby, Hanover, October 10, 1854
7. From Albert H. Crosby, Hanover, October 25, 1854
8. From Eveleth and Bissell, New York, November 4, 1854
9. From Eveleth and Bissell, November 6, 1854
10. From George H. Bissell, New York, November 16, 1854
11. From Eveleth and Bissell, New York, undated
12. From Dr. Frank B. Brewer to his Father, Titusville, December, 1854
13. Copy of an Extract from Professor Silliman's Letter, December 21, 1854
14. From J. G. Eveleth, February 1, 1855
15. From J. G. Eveleth, February 8, 1855
16. From J. G. Eveleth, February 17, 1855
17. From J. G. Eveleth, undated
18. From Jasper E. Corning, New York, February 24, 1855
19. From Ebenezer Brewer, Allegheny City, March 23, 1855
20. From C. and A. Richmond, New York, April 9, 1855
21. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, April 10, 1855
22. From J. G. Eveleth, April 16, 1855
23. From Charles Richmond, Jr., New York, April 20, 1855
24. From J. G. Eveleth, April 21, 1855
25. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, April 23, 1855
26. From Charles Richmond, Jr., New York, May 3, 1855
27. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, May 11, 1855
28. From J. G. Eveleth, May 22, 1855
29. From Charles Richmond to Ebenezer Brewer, New York, May 22, 1855
30. From J. G. Eveleth, New Haven, May 28, 1855

31. From J. G. Eveleth, New Haven, May 29, 1855
32. From Ebenezer Brewer, Allegheny City, June 4, 1855
33. From J. G. Eveleth, New York, June 17, 1855
34. From Anson Sheldon, New York, June 23, 1855
35. From J. G. Eveleth, New York, June 25, 1855
36. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, July 3, 1855
37. From Samuel Brackett, New York, July 23, 1855
38. From J. G. Eveleth, New York, July 23, 1855
39. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, August 7, 1855
40. From J. G. Eveleth, New York, August 10, 1855
41. From Charles Richmond, Jr., New York, August 17, 1855
42. From J. G. Eveleth, New York, August 20, 1855
43. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, September 4, 1855
44. From J. G. Eveleth, Bath, September 23, 1855
45. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, September 25, 1855
46. From J. G. Eveleth, New York, September 30, 1855
47. From J. G. Eveleth, Seymour, October 19, 1855
48. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, October 19, 1855
49. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, November 5, 1855
51. From A. Pierpont, New Haven, November 21, 1855
52. From George H. Bissell, New York, December 12, 1855
53. From E. L. Drake, Bethlehem, June 28, 1872

III

LETTERS BELONGING TO DR. FRANCIS BEATTIE BREWER

1. TO EVELETH AND BISSELL

Although unsigned, this letter is in the handwriting of Dr. Brewer. It is undoubtedly a rough draft of a letter sent to Eveleth and Bissell in reply to their original proposal to organize a joint stock company and market petroleum. The letter is undated, but it must have been composed during the summer of 1854.

Gentlemen—

We have received through Mr. A. H. Crosby your proposals to put in Market in a joint Stock Co certain Springs yielding a peculiar oil surpassing in value any other oil now in use For Burning, for Lubricating Machinery & as a medicinal agent. The lands yielding this oil are Situated on Oil Creek in Venango Co near the corners of Warren and Crawford Co & cover a large surface of Territory. The yield is abundant & is believed to be inexhaustable. We have some simple machinery constructed at an expense of say \$200 that yields on an average to each spring worked 3 gall per day requiring perhaps one day in each week the attention of one man, which when estimated with regard to the percentage will show as follows

Capital invested \$200, interest on same @ 10%	20.00
Two months labor of Man @ \$20 per month	40.00
	<hr/>
Whole amt. of expense	60.00

To raising 1095 gall of oil worth here $6\frac{1}{2}$ per gall making \$821.25, deducting expense \$60.00 leaving \$761.25. Now this is only one spring & worked very imperfectly but actually paying an interest on \$10,000 I make these figures as they are & have been whenever the spring has been worked & this is no fancy thing for a stock but an exceedingly large paying stock & one that with proper machinery would afford a much larger percentage.

Now your proposition as far as it goes is satisfactory but it does not go far enough to guarantee to us a certain quid pro quo for what we have paying us now & in asking us who will represent only $\frac{1}{5}$ of the Co to

furnish the actual capital for gratuitously to the other 4/5 for what we expect to realise on one fifth is not perhaps asking too much but it would in our opinion be granting too much, as there are other parties in Pittsburgh who were very solicitous to put the thing in Market a year ago by purchasing our interest but we prefer the plan you suggest if you will warrant to us a certain amount for our premises.

And we will propose as follows Pay to Brewer Watson & Co \$5000, to be reimbursed to the Stock Co from the first sale of stocks or as you may deem proper in any way & we will assign or deed to the Co the right to go on & erect such machinery as by the Co thought proper to procure oil on a certain 100 acres of land known here as the Hibbard farm & embracing most of the oil territory as yet discovered & further other oil springs on our other lands adjoining not interfering with our lumbering & farming interests.

This will give us an equivalent or partially so for what we furnish the Co & we wish the Co to pay from the sale of Stock its current expenses whatever they may be & stock to defray expenses & for a dividend if thought best should have the precedence of all other save the reimbursement of the purchase money & then other stock sold as you propose.

These gentlemen are our views & very hastily thrown together if the general outlines meet your ideas the minutia can be arranged with you in the city. We can furnish a rough draft of the Territory & have one made from it by a competent person in the city that will give you a more perfect comprehension of the foundation work & many things be made plain which pen and ink would only mistify.

2. FROM ALBERT H. CROSBY

On behalf of Eveleth and Bissell, Crosby inspected the oil spring on the property of Brewer, Watson and Company at Titusville during the summer of 1854. Upon returning to his home in Hanover, he wrote Dr. Brewer about plans for launching the petroleum company.

Hanover Sept. 11th [1854]

My dear Doctor

I intended to have written you again before leaving the City, but as I was very busy and as the main question was decided in my telegraph of the Monday previous, I concluded to wait until my return home. I cannot now tell you exactly when we shall be ready to meet you in New York, but I will write next Thursday, after seeing Eveleth again, and shall then be able to tell you when you had better start. The oil I suppose you can take

with you to Erie and ship it so that it will be in New York nearly as you are, and that will be in sufficient season to offer it for exhibition, as we shall then have Circulars, Stock Books and everything else ready to issue to a gullable public. After seeing one or two Brokers in New York of my acquaintance, my confidence in the ultimate success of the Company was much increased. I do not believe there will be any necessity of rushing the thing through at 40 horse power, and making it pay all that it can in three months, as it must increase in value as it is better known and by securing the influence of the Press in giving details of its history and the manifold uses it can be put to we shall be able to bring the stock actually above par in one years time. There will be sufficient time to make all the necessary investigations of the premises late in this month or the first of next and I hope that Eveleth himself will conclude to go home with you and assist the Geologist in his duty. The terms of the purchase money will be entirely satisfactory to you, and when you receive the telegraph, you need not hesitate to start, as you may be certain that I have consulted your interest as much as my own. Not having any of the money to pay myself, I could promote your advantage more *disinterestedly* than if I had been under the load. Tell Sue that I took the carriage yesterday and went over to Quechy where I found her Mother and Jennie entertaining the Udells & Pearsons. By a *gentle hint* on my part that I came over to carry them to Hanover the aforesaid Udells incontinently departed and they came to H where they now are—both well and happy. I hav given them all a brilliant account of the happiness of your family and the beauty and goodness of your children, and assured them of the truth of both statements. Give much love to Sue, and believe me

truly yours

ALBERT

3. FROM ALBERT H. CROSBY

Hanover Sept. 21st 1854

Plans for launching the company are explained.

My Dear Frank—

After a long talk with my partners in the oil business, we have concluded to put the matter through by daylight, and the books are before this time prepared and the stock certificates all printed. The oil on hand we should like to have started at once, so that it can be in New York within a fortnight at the expiration of which time it is proposed to have you meet us in New York, though I will write you again in a couple of days telling you

the exact time we shall be ready to meet you there. It would be a good plan to have Mr. Palmer in N. Y. at the same time and have him cooperate with us in starting the affair and put him into the Board of Directors. I write in some haste, but will drop another line on Friday. All well and send love. Give love to wife and babies and believe me yours truly

AL. H. CROSBY

I hear you have not heard from me but I have telegraphed and written both accepting the proposition and I presume you have got them before this.

4. FROM ALBERT H. CROSBY AND HIS MOTHER

Eveleth's sickness delays the organization of the company. Since the promoters do not feel that the purchase price of the land was too high, Crosby regrets that Brewer, Watson and Company did not ask more. Emphasis is placed upon the oil as a lubricant.

Hanover Sept. 29th [1854]

My Dear Frank—

Although we have made every exertion in our power, we have not as yet been able to close our matters on account of Mr. Eveleth's sickness. Everything however is ready to throw the stock into the market as soon as our contracts are signed. Books, Certificates and all are prepared [two sentences have been scratched out] we have at length concluded to do, and then have you come down to New York with us. It has been thought best that the Company should all go out and upon the spot—knowing of course everything about the oil—form a plan for future progress. They are giving more time to it and have become convinced that it is a matter of much importance and therefore that the principal parties in the transaction should have a personal knowledge of the territory. I rec'd a letter yesterday from New York—requesting me to write and bid you be of good courage and not grow impatient as they are unavoidably detained. They do not think your terms hard at all, and on your account I have been a little sorry that we did not split the differences between your Father's proposition and the one submitted. But this is between you and I, and perhaps they might not have paid so much. I find that the Co attach the greatest value to it as a lubricator and think that the trumpet to blow the loudest as there is a great desideratum of such an article. I am busy as can be in the switch business and Miss McNeils affairs, and am away most of

the time but shall go on to your place with the Co. when they start. I shall send your address to them tomorrow, so that they can telegraph you when we shall be there: When you know certainly, will you speak to Robinson for two or three good rooms for the party. Mother proposes to write a line to your wife, so I'll stop—Give much love to Sue and believe me

truly yours

AL. H. C.

Dear Sue, We are all pretty well & all send love to you—Your Aunt Rebecca had a *family gathering* on the 30th anniversary of her marriage—I understand there were about 30 of the family present—We could none of us go—nor could your Father, nor Mother, but Jenny went—Grand Mother has gone to spend a little time with your Mother—If Al becomes an *oil merchant*, we shall probably see you *often*, as we shall be likely to get chances to go out there—I hope he will get encouragement as he has had many discouragements from his health, but he seems much better the more he drives around the better. He says your babies are just as pretty as they can be & that Eb is the best behaved boy he ever saw—and that he had a splendid time at your house—Nothing new here—Theodiasia L—starts tomorrow for Chicago to spend her vacation. She has just lost a favourite brother, & is deeply afflicted. Louisa Bryant was married in a very queer manner—she being confined to her *bed*, & *not knowing what was done*—Of course it has been a *fine subject* for Haverill gossip. You dont know how much better your Mother seems for her journey, & they feel very happy & hopeful about Henry—I am sure I hope & trust he will have some bright spots. Gratia is doing well in her studies & is very happy—We send kindest love to you & the Dr—

In haste as ever your affectionate Aunt

[M. J.] CROSBY

P. S. Albert wishes me to add that in looking at his letter again he finds it is the 20th that they propose starting for Pen—instead of reaching there at that time as he first read it. Mr. Eveleth's wife has been very sick which has delayed them—This is the fourth A has written but he has not heard a word from you. How sad it is that the letters are delayed so.

5. FROM ALBERT H. CROSBY

Crosby is annoyed by the delay in the arrival of his letters in Titusville. Eveleth is optimistic about the prospects of the Company.

Hanover Oct 2d [1854]

Dear Frank,

Mother was at Quechy yesterday, and just before leaving a letter was brought in from Titusville saying that up to the 25th ult but one letter had been recd from me. I am exceedingly astonished, as I supposed the telegraph sent to Meadville from New York *must* have been forwarded and that you knew long since your offer had been accepted. I am annoyed by the delay, as I am afraid you must have thought me exceedingly dilatory in keeping my promises, but my conscience is clear and void of all offence in the premises, as I have sent you one telegraph and *Four Letters* since my return. If you come on before the 20th you must telegraph from Erie or elsewhere, telling me when you will be in Boston, so that we may see you there. Should you come through Erie, will you be kind enough to pay the Landlord of the Brown Hotel a bill for the team I had, and which I expected would be paid on my return, but going another route it escaped my mind. It is not over ten dollars, and I will hand it to you when we meet, or you may tell him that I shall be there soon and will settle it myself. I wrote you yesterday, saying that we should start next week, but we shall wait now, until we hear from you, when you are coming on, as we might pass each other on the road. I had a letter from Eveleth last night in which he speaks in encouraging terms of the prospects of the Oil Co. but says it will require time and no small amount of money to get the thing well started, and that had the purchase money been over \$5,000 he could not have run the risk. If I knew where your sister Mrs. Palmer was to be, I would go by the way of Boston and accompany her home, and if that will save you a journey I shall be happy to do so. Give love to Sue and say that her "pups" are all well. Jenny at Lowell to attend a second marriage of the Judge & lady—a family meeting having been attempted, but failed from the absence of *our* entire family. Hoping to hear from you very soon (here) I am

truly yours,

AL H CROSBY

6. FROM ALBERT H. CROSBY

Through Crosby's carelessness, Eveleth and Bissell misunderstand Brewer's original proposal.

Hanover Oct. 10th [1854]

Dear Frank,

I recd your note yesterday and am glad to know that you have come East, as we can fix matters much better here than by correspondence. I have written you six letters and one telegraph since leaving your place, and having recd no answer, I supposed you might be thinking of coming on. I am sorry that Bissell should not have understood your proposition, but it will be understood when Mr. Eveleth arrives as he has the written documents which I forwarded to him. I told Bissell *I think* that you wished security for \$5,000 and some preference, &c. I will start from here early next week, so as to meet you at the time you mention, and if [you] will send me word where your sister is, I will go round by Boston and escort her on to New York. You might telegraph it, and then I could have more time. All the family send love & believe me

truly yours

A. H. CROSBY

7. FROM ALBERT H. CROSBY

Crosby admits that the misunderstanding between the promoters and Brewer is his fault.

Hanover, Oct. 25th 1854.

Dear Frank,

I was and still am very sorry to know that any mistake of mine should have occasioned difficulty in the arrangements of the oil business. Were I not conscious that, in the whole matter—from beginning to end—as far as I was concerned, I did as I supposed *everything* for the best, I should feel still worse than I do. My sole fault was—as you observe—"carelessness"—I made a very decided blunder in writing to Eveleth that the purchase money was to be taken from *your share*, for I certainly had no intention of writing to that effect. The written proposition I forwarded to Eveleth in Maine as I can prove by members of the family, and by the records of the Post Office but Mr. E. says that he "never recd it." Where the trouble is, I know not, but I *do know* that we have a great deal of trouble in our P. Office, and in more instances than one, letters and valuable ones

too, have been lost in this Office. I certainly understood that the money was to be deducted from the Treasury Stock, and that a good security was to be given you for the payment of the \$5,000. Why I should have written Mr. E. that the money was to be taken from your 5th I cannot understand. I did not intend so to do, but in my haste perhaps I made the blunder. I shall of course expect to pay my proportionate part of the expenses if I go into the matter, and shall probably find the means forthcoming when the proper time comes. I have no doubt that eventually the trade will be made and when I meet you I am confident that I can explain everything to your entire satisfaction. At all events, I *know* that I did no intentional wrong, and that renders me certain that I can rectify the result of a mere mistake. I have recd a letter from Mr. Eveleth giving me the facts as they stand and speaks of going out to Pa. After seeing & hearing from him again I shall write you more fully. It is probable that I shall go to N. Y. next week, although I may not. Give Kind Regards to all yours—both at home and at the store. Mother sends much love to you all. Hoping to hear from you soon I am

truly yours

ALBERT H. CROSBY

8. FROM EVELETH AND BISSELL

Dr. Atwood of Boston and Professor Silliman of Yale College are employed to analyze the oil in order to determine its economic value. Crosby asks Brewer for information to convince the public that there is a large quantity of oil on the land. This letter is in Eveleth's handwriting.

Office Safety Railroad Switch Company
346 Broadway, New York
Nov 4th, 1854.

F. B. Brewer, Esq.

Dear Sir,

Yours of Oct. 30th is this moment rec'd, and we were truly pleased to hear from you.

Our stock book is to be ready next week. The certificate looks very fine. Our papers are all made out, but you have not given us the third man you wish for Director.

Dr. Atwood of Boston is analyzing the oil; and it is in the hands of Prof. Silliman, of Yale College. We shall have it analyzed by several of the best chemists in the country, and shall make use of their reports.

Also we shall get some of your best western men to examine and testify as to facts *there*. In fine we shall put everything in perfect shape, so as to bring it out in the papers, in the manner they did the Breckenridge Coal. Much depends upon these first movements. It will be impossible for us to be there by the 10th but we hope to leave on the 12th. We shall leave at the earliest moment possible, but we have much to do before we can possibly leave.

Treasure up all the valuable facts respecting the springs and get a paper from that most important individual, the oldest inhabitant.

If we can convince the public that there is a large *quantity* of oil, then we can make the stock sell well. We shall prepare a series of questions to be answered by you and others there, all of which have been or will be asked us.

We have had several letters from Crosby, and he gives a *certain* explanation to the matter; but it matters little to us.

We will send you the papers on Monday, which you and Mr. Palmer will acknowledge before some Commissioner of Deeds for New York and return them to us, as early as possible, as the Co. cannot be organized till we (the Trustees) can acknowledge them and file them in the office of the Secretary of State, and that of the County Clerk.

Write us at once.

Most truly yours,

EVELETH & BISSELL

9. FROM EVELETH AND BISSELL

The promoters encounter many obstacles, yet the preliminary reports of Atwood and Silliman encourage them. This letter is written by Bissell, and on it appears the seal of the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company of New York.

Nov. 6th 54.

F. B. Brewer, Esq.

Dear Sir,

We have had to encounter many obstacles in the way of organizing our Joint Stock Company, and shall be unable to get out our papers at the time originally proposed. Mr. Eveleth will go on at the earliest possible period, & will then be prepared to arrange every thing to our mutual satisfaction. I do not think it will be possible for Mr. Eveleth to arrive at Titusville before the 18th or 20th inst.

We have obtained our stock books, certificates of stock, signs, &c &c, and have done every thing to insure success when we fairly get under way.

We have forwarded several gallons of the oil to Mr. Atwood of Boston, an eminent chemist, & his report of the qualities of the oil and the uses to which it may be applied are very favorable.

Prof. Silliman of Yale College is giving it a thorough analysis, and he informs us that so far as he has yet tested it, he is of opinion that it contains a large proportion of benzole and naphthalin and that it will prove more valuable for purposes of application to the arts, than as a medicinal, burning, or lubricating fluid.

Our expenses of a thorough analysis will be very heavy, but we think the money will be well spent. We send you a proof sheet of our certificate of stock. The book will be printed, of course, on bond note paper. Let us hear from you at your earliest convenience, and believe us

Yours, very truly,

EVELETH & BISSELL

10. FROM GEORGE H. BISSELL

Eveleth plans to leave for Titusville.

Nov. 16th, '54.

Dr. Brewer—

Dear Sir,

Mr. Eveleth will leave the city next monday morning for Titusville.

We regret that we have been unable to organize our company at an earlier period, but the delay has been quite unavoidable.

Yours, very truly,

GEO. H. BISSELL

11. FROM EVELETH AND BISSELL

Writing in behalf of the promoters, Bissell informs Brewer that some parties (possibly the New Haven men) interested in the organization of the company are expecting to leave for Titusville. Brewer is cautioned about revealing the purchase price of the land. The letter is undated, but it was probably written in November, 1854.

Office Safety Railway Switch Company
346 Broadway, New York

Dr. Brewer,

Dear Sir,

It is quite likely that agents for parties with whom we are negotiating will go out to Titusville to make inquiries in regard to the oil and to the organization of the company.

It will be necessary for us to fix the price of the land at \$25,000. that is, that E. & B. pay your Co. \$15,000 for $\frac{3}{5}$; $\frac{1}{5}$ being reserved by you & $\frac{1}{5}$ as a Treasury fund. If the amount proposed be given, we shall find it impossible to get the stock taken at any price—the capital stock being so much larger than the amount paid for the land. You will be careful in giving the amount \$25,000 as above.

Of course, the deed of the land will be put, for & in consideration of the sum of \$25,000.

We are working with a will and hope to bring every thing out on the best possible style.

One of us will leave for Titusville next Monday.

Money was never in more demand and business men more sorely pressed—but we hope to weather it.

Hoping to see you at an early period

We remain

Yours, very truly,

EVELETH & BISSELL

12. FROM DR. FRANCIS B. BREWER TO HIS FATHER

Signatures of the wives of the grantors of the deed to the Hibbard farm are required.

Titusville Decr. 1854

Dear Father

I just returned this afternoon from N. Y. & though I accomplished a good deal I could not do all I wanted because my power [of] attorney was not sufficient to convey the right of dower as the deed would not be valid without the signature of the wives of the grantors of the deed. I gave a bond to procure a deed by the 10th of Jany & recd note for \$5000.00 which

were carried to our Cr at C & A Richmonds & they are to get them discounted & meet our other bills by the time I get back which will be the first part of Jany. The Oil Co are to pay my expenses—

I will write more fully when I get rested. All well

Your aff. son

F. B. BREWER

13. COPY OF AN EXTRACT FROM PROFESSOR SILLIMAN'S LETTER,
DECEMBER 21, 1854.

Silliman discusses the progress of his research on oil. To whom the original letter was addressed is not known and there is no indication as to what person made this copy or added the note at the end, except that the handwriting resembles Anson Sheldon's.

"I am very much interested in this research, & think I can promise you that the result will meet your expectations of the value of this material for many most useful purposes. The oils which I have so far obtained are perfectly fluid when exposed in this coldest weather, are not acid, & do not seem to evaporate or suffer change by exposure to air. I am having them tried on Watches & fine machinery. As yet the quantities I have obtained have all been distilled in Glass from an original weighed quantity, & the weights of the several products have been carefully noted. That operation has consumed 2 to 3 weeks, & is still in process. The grades of temperature are 25° , the distillation being continued at a nicely regulated temperature as long as any product appears, & then we advance the heat 25° & go on as before. The first product came over at 250° , is colorless, very thin & light, while the last at about 450° , is of a light amber yellow, & at 0° has the constitance of Olive Oil, is heavier & a little more viscid."

Since the above letter was written from which the extract has been taken, the analysis has been extended, & six different oils produced, making in all that has thus far been obtained 50 percent; & from the appearance of what remains, the Professor is of the opinion that the yield will be at least 75 or 80 per cent of pure oil.

New York Jan'y 9th 1855.

14. FROM J. G. EVELETH

Eveleth sends the leases to Titusville for correction.

Feb. 1st, 1855

Dr. F. B. Brewer,

Dear Sir,

The lease you gave us was not signed precisely as it should, and as we all wish to have our business done correctly, we send you another lease, which you will please sign in the following manner, to wit.

Ebenezer Brewer (Seal)

By his Attorney

Francis B. Brewer

James Rynd (Seal)

(and so on for all the names)

Please send these two leases to Franklin to be corrected.

Your deed to us has been sent. Our deed to the Co is already and will be sent [the following page has been torn in such a way as to make it impossible to decipher the next four sentences.]

Please settle the recorders bill for all the papers, and send us your bill, as we do not know what it will be.

We are progressing as well as could be expected, owing to the hard times.

Bissell was run over a few days ago, and had his hand stove in, so we shall not have his efforts for some time.

We are making efforts to get the Treasury stock taken.

What plans have you to offer on the subject?

Hope to have Silliman's report soon.

Give my love to Mrs. Brewer & my regards to all my friends. I hope to be there in April.

Write at once

Most truly yours,

J. G. EVELETH

15. FROM J. G. EVELETH

Eveleth and Bissell need more oil for distribution among prospective buyers of stock. Crosby is eliminated from the enterprise.

Feb. 8th 1855.

F. B. Brewer, Esq.

Dear Sir,

We are getting up a steam on the oil, but we want several barrels at once, as ours is all gone. We must send it in this direction and in that, so as to get the stock taken, so as to raise \$10,000 for the Treasury, so as to put in our machinery in April.

Silliman is getting along well with his analysis, and his report is looked for with much interest. We shall have it printed the moment it is ready. We had to get a new still, and then a retort. We hope he will have it ready next week. We have bought out Crosby and paid him the money which is perfectly satisfactory all around.

We have one barrel there I think you said? Cant we borrow some six barrels and return them next spring, by paying proper interest? I think you promised the Co. nine barrels to be paid for when we got some money in the Treasury. At any rate we want some at once. Do the best you can for us.

I think we shall make a splendid thing of the Co. Don't sell stock low.

Send on some on receipt of this letter, if possible.

Crosby has returned to Hanover. There is a bundle here, marked Rev. [M. Rood], and some say you left it. I knew nothing about it. What shall be done with it?

I am the only well one out in the Co.

Write at once.

Most truly,

Yours,

J. G. EVELETH

16. FROM J. G. EVELETH

Eveleth emphasizes the need for producing oil in order to increase the value of the stock. He proposes a plan for raising an operating fund.

Feb. 17th 1855.

F. B. Brewer, Esq.

Dear Sir,

I have written you several letters which remain unanswered.

Silliman is progressing with the analysis; we have been obliged to get all new apperatus for him, as they had an explosion; but we hope to have the report soon.

It is impossible to get the Treasury Stock taken till the thing is developed, and we are getting out oil; but we must adopt some plan to raise the money to put everything in perfect working order, or our stock will never be worth one dollar. It will not do to sacrifice the stock. When it is in working order the stock will sell at \$20 to \$25 per share.

Now all who have had stock of us are perfectly willing to take their proportion of the Treasury Stock, and advance the money. The Trustees have concluded, though they have not in Board yet voted on it, to raise \$20,000 and to issue the whole Treasury stock for that amount as *preferred stock*: that is to issue for \$1000, \$25,000 of the stock, which is at the rate of \$10 per share; and then to give to the parties who take this preferred stock, a paper from the Co. to be paid to said parties one fourth of the profits, till they have recd an amount equal to the par value of said preferred stock. Said parties will own said stock, and they can sell it or keep it.

This will give us the requisite amount of funds to put our oil into the market; at the moment our stock is in the market, our stock will bring par. That is much better than it is to dabble along slowly, and never make it worth anything.

I retain of the stock \$25000, and I am willing to put into the Treasury \$2,500; and the others will do the same

Dr. Salisbury will put in	\$2500
Mr. Bissell	2500
Mr. Reed	2500
“ Sheldon	2500
J. G. Eveleth	2500

Now what will your firm do to carry out this plan? and those who had stock of you. You could allow us to put into the Treasury the amount of our last note which is now in the hands of Mr. Richmond.

We believe this is a good plan, the best for the Co; and this is the effect for those who take the preferred Stock and pay the money:— if the oil is there in the quantity we think it is, then it will pay said parties a very handsome bonus indeed for the risk; but if the oil cannot be got, then of course the Co. cannot make money, and the parties lose their money so invested.

This is, of course, not obligatory on any party to take this stock, but we hope all will take some of it, though they do not take so much as we do.

We wrote Mr. Palmer some weeks ago, but have recd no answer. This is the plan he first proposed, and it has gradually grown into favor with the Trustees. Of course we cannot write Mr. Palmer again on the subject, since he has not answered our former communication.

I wish you would answer this letter, and the proposition I place before, at once, and give *your square answer* just what you are willing to do.

I hope to see this Co. one of the best in the whole country.

Most truly

Yours,

J. G. EVELETH

17. FROM J. G. EVELETH

Two New York merchants, Edward Corning and his son, Jasper, agree to buy stock. The letter is undated; it was probably written early in 1855.

Friday 4½ P. M.

Friend Brewer,

Mr. Corning came in this morning to see about taking stock. I explained it to him. He will take stock, I think. I told him you had just come, and would call in to see him today. I forgot to tell you.

Please see him to-morrow.

Yours truly,

J. G. EVELETH

18. FROM JASPER E. CORNING

The Cornings purchase stock.

81 John St
New York Feb. 24 1855

Mr. F. B. Brewer
Titusville, Pa.

Dear Sir,

Yours of 17th is at hand and contents noted and it would have had an answer before this but my father has been waiting my return home to consult with me about it as I had the conversation with you in reference to the stock. We have it now on hand; since I saw you I have scarce made an effort to dispose of it.

The amt of stock is as follows

Edward Corning	300.00
Jasper E. Corning	650.00
	<hr/>
	950.00

If the N. Y. is good as you say we will exchange but would like to know what is is. What Co. & etc?

Please reply and you shall then have an immediate answer. Are you not going to buy goods of us again?

Yours truly,

JASPER E. CORNING

19. FROM EBENEZER BREWER

Eveleth and Bissell are unable to meet the notes given for the land. The father of Dr. Francis B. Brewer expresses his lack of confidence in the oil enterprise.

Allegheny City March 23d 1855

My dear Son

Mr. Rynd handed me a letter this morning, from Mr. Williams, saying that Mr. Richmond had given notice of the non payment of the notes or note that you took for the Hibbard farm, that you had never explained to him the situation in which the Company stood in regard to those notes, whether or not you had used the companies name in negotiating the notes. Mr. Rynd says he does not know, and he thinks you have never informed

the Company how you did arrange it, and says that you have charged the Oil Co. with about two hundred and fifty dollars on the Co. Books—and Mr. Williams further intimates, that you do not seem disposed to consult, explaine and advise with him as he thinks partners in business should do &c &c and further that you have drawn drafts on N. York, on time, and sold them at a discount, whether in your own or the Companies name they do not know. Now Mr. Watson retained his interest in the Hibbard farm, anticipating this sale, and it would not be doing Mr. Williams justice to use the Companies funds and name in any opperation in which he is not interested especially in as doubtful a transaction as this is, and as it was understood when you left for New York they were to give you good Bankable paper. You would I think be hardly Justified in doing so, and it is questionable whether you had any right to use the name of Company thus—and if you have taken notes in your own name, and endorsed them individually, you have become endorser for the signers of the notes and are yourself responsible to our company for the full payment of the Notes—Now with your inexperience in business and offhand way of doing things unadvisedly, occasions me great anxiety much more than it would to be in the business myself. I always told you that I had no confidence in the men, from the very nature of the transaction, and all that you would ever get would be what you received in the sale—they tell me you are a director and will have to go to N York in April. Now mark well what I tell you, it is for your interest alone that I now say it—You are associated with a set of Sharpers, and if they have not already ruined you, they will do so if you are foolish enough to let them do it—There is much that I want to inquire of you about, and very much that I want to say to you, that is not convenient for me to write, and I wish you to devote a day or two to matters of business with me on your way to N York if you go there, or earlier if convenient. I requested George when he was here and also Mr. Watson when he was here a few days since—, to look up the Administrators deed of the land I proposed to sell to Doctor Sugart and send it to me it may be at the office of the record[er] of Deeds at Meadville it was sent I think with the Deed to Watson and myself of the Interest in the [Corn] estate plan to send or bring it to me that I may assign it to Sugart. My grand son Eby is well he came in with the Doctor a few days since and went out with his Grandmother yesterday he is well, is a very good Boy and is learning to read and spell

and gets two readings and two spelling lessons every day, sundays excepted. Julia is quite well for her and we are all well as usual
Much love to your wife, the twins & George

Your affectionate father,

EBEN BREWER

Please write me when you will probably be here and how those protested notes were given and negotiated—

20. FROM C. AND A. RICHMOND

C. and A. Richmond were New York merchants to whom Dr. Brewer gave the notes of Eveleth and Bissell for collection.

New York April 9, 1855

Mr. F. B. Brewer

Dear Sir

Yours enclosing draft for One Thousand Dolls is at hand and to credit of Brewer, Watson & Co. for which we are much obliged. If the note of 1625.03 due the 18th is not paid, shall we protest it or will you waive the protest endorsed by Brewer, Watson & Co.

We are truly Yours,

C & A RICHMOND

21. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Sheldon describes the progress of Silliman in analyzing the oil and the effect upon prospective stock buyers.

New Haven, April 10th 1855

To Dr. Brewer,

My Dear Sir,

Prof. Silliman has not yet completed his Photometrical examination of the Rock oil, in comparison with other burning fluids, but will probably wind up his analysis in all this week. The experiments last evening were favorable & are to be renewed again this evening & continued until the work is done. The oil will not work well in the Corsot Mechanical Lamp,

but burns finely in the Camphene Lamps, & will be tested in those now in general use. The value of the oil depends mostly on its properties as a burning fluid. In this respect the analysis, in its results, has been highly satisfactory. Several gentlemen here have signified a desire to take some of the oil stock and pay for the same in House Lots, but I have not as yet been able to satisfy my own mind as to their value, & hence have not closed any negotiation. Mr. Mulock spent 3 days with Prof. Silliman & did not return to New York until Friday evening. He immediately called upon Mr. C. Richmond, after which I had an interview with him at the Irving House. So far as I can judge the results of his inquiries are favorable. Mr. Mulock has proposed to make you a visit, & make a personal survey of the oil ground, form some opinion of the quantity of oil that might annually be gathered & estimate as far as may be the probable expense of putting up machinery &c &c. If the quantity of oil appears sufficient, in his estimation, to justify the outlay in the commencement of the operation, he & his friends will be prepared to take hold of the enterprise in earnest. The terms on which they can have the stock to be previously fixed, & the results of the negotiation made to depend on the impression received by personal examination. The time Mr. M. has devoted to the investigation of the quality of the oil, evidently shows that he & his friends are much interested. Prof. S. seemed to take pleasure in answering their many inquiries & also remarked that the gentlemen at the close of the inquiries, appeared to regard the enterprise being more important than they at first supposed. Things seem to be working slowly & favorably. I did not leave New York until Saturday night. I believe that Eveleth & Bissell have disposed of their switch, at least the parties were together, & the negotiation was to be completed on Saturday. I was not advised of their paying any money to Mr. R. to be applied to the payment of their note. None passed through my hands. As soon as I get my matters in a right train & I have money enough to defray my expenses, you may expect to see me out among the oil diggings. Please inform me on what days of the week the stage leaves Erie for your place. I shall expect to hear from you soon.

Yours truly,

ANSON SHELDON

22. FROM J. G. EVELETH

Eveleth and Bissell find it difficult to pay office rent. On account of some unknown trouble, Eveleth suggests the election of a new board of trustees.

April 16th 1855

Dr. F. B. Brewer,

My Dear Sir,

Yours came last Friday, and I have been waiting to hear from Sheldon, & I send you a copy. It speaks well.

We shall push the report through as fast as possible. I trust it will be printed by next Saturday.

Mulock left a week ago Saturday & had not returned last Saturday. I think he has gone to Titusville. I have seen Richmond three times, & shall see him before I mail this letter, so if there is anything new, I will add the same.

The Appletons have been cross and tyrannical since we proposed leaving the office, & threatened to sue me on the lease, which was to run two years. I have settled with them, however, & paid them all up, out of *my own pocket*, \$266.87. This was put away for you, but it had to be paid, and the Co. now owe me the rent; and I am glad we are free & clear. We shall endeavor to reduce the rent to \$200 per year.

I have written to my brother & to an other party, respecting the boots & shoes. Just as soon as I hear, I will write you.

Things are beginning to change & a few weeks I hope will set all things right in the Oil Co. & our stock will be worth par.

Bissell left last Thursday, & I presume will return this week. I could not leave now, for the Oil Co. need me here.

I showed your letter to Hawkins, & he thinks it is just so. Some things have come to light since you left, about Dr. Salisbury, that sinks him still lower, if such a thing is possible. I think we had better have a meeting of the stockholders, in person or by proxy, & have a new election of Trustees, so as to get entirely rid of such a fellow. Rysford is a name never to be forgotten.

If Mulock does not come in, I think [Bingham] will come in.

We ought to have one or two barrels distilled to send around as samples. When enough runs into the spring to make a barrel with what there is now, you better send it on; and I will write you more particularly about it when Sheldon returns.

Look out for visitors to the Springs, keep on good terms with the *hotels*.

I will write again in a few days, as soon as anything new transpires.

Called on Richmond, but he is out of town.

Most truly

Yours

J. G. EVELETH

23. FROM CHARLES RICHMOND, JR.

Sheldon tries to secure money from Richmond to pay Silliman. Richmond has little confidence in the promoters.

New York April 20th 1855

Doctor F. B. Brewer

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the 16th inst is just recd but not in season to stop a protest. Mr. Sheldon has just called on me & is wishing to get Two hundred and twenty six 08/100 Dollars towards paying Prof. Silliman for his report. I told him that as I had no interest in the Penna. Rock Oil Co I did not like to advance, but I intended to take an interest in the new Co if we could arrange it to suit me. He spoke of some stock he had a power of att. to dispose of & would pledge a certain number of shares as security to any one who would raise the money. I mentioned to him about the E&B note just past due & he said they had no money to pay on it. I have just returned from a visit to my Father, who is sick & have not had time to see Mr. Mullock further about it, but we have an appointment tomorrow. I am in hopes to be able to alter or form a new Company that will be right, as I still have no confidence in the old Co. and should not be willing to accept of any interest under that arrangement. I shall do all I can to bring about a change.

Respectfully yours,

CHAS RICHMOND JR

24. FROM J. G. EVELETH

Silliman refuses to give the promoters the completed report until his bill is paid; Eveleth borrows the money to meet it.

April 21/55

Friend Brewer,

Have rec'd Prof. Sillimans Report. Bill \$526.08. We had paid out for other things for him, over 100\$. Could not have the report till paid for. I paid the money for the Co. on my own security to meet it. It is now in the hands of the Printer. Will be ready the middle of next week. Will send you 50 copies and more if you want. It is a good report.

Mulock has done nothing yet, though talking about it.

Sheldon went to New Haven today.

Bissell has not yet returned.

We change our office next week.

The report will make a stir. Stock will then sell. Things look well.

I think I am called on to do more than my part. But it must go through
Write us.

My love to your family & regards to Messrs Brewer, Watson & Co.

Most truly yours

J. G. EVELETH

25. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Sheldon attempts to raise money to pay Silliman's bill. He is well pleased with the character of the report.

New Haven, April 23d 1855.

To Dr. Brewer,

My Dear Sir,

Yours of the 15th ultimo has been duly received. Silliman's Report is now in my hands, & is favorable to our enterprise, but as Bissell & Eveleth had failed to meet the Professor's wishes in placing \$100 to his credit in the Bank of New York, before leaving for his Southern Tour, he placed the Report in the hands of a friend in N. Y. with instructions not to deliver it up until satisfactory arrangements were made for the payment of his Bill, which amounts, (including the expense of a part of the apparatus employed in the analysis) to the round sum of \$526.08, about \$75 had

been previously paid in N. Y. for the Retort, Lamps, fixtures, oils &c. making the whole expense of analysis to exceed \$600. This sum may at first appear exorbitant, but when we taken into the account the time consumed, the nature of the experiments, & the value of the Report, I think, those concerned will be satisfied. The Report has been submitted to a careful examination by several intelligent gentlemen by whom it has been pronounced highly favorable to the interests of the Rock Oil Co. As soon as Silliman had advised me of the position of things, I left here immediately for New York for the purpose of raising money to obtain the document. By the aid of Eveleth & Reed (Bissell being absent) a satisfactory arrangement was made by which the long looked for Report was secured on Friday. Mr. Mulock seems to be much pleased with it, & says that as soon as it is printed he shall start for Titusville. Richmond is for having matters so fixed previous to his going, that we can know what Mulock and his friends are willing to do. The question now at issue is the quantity of the raw material. If the Springs should furnish an abundant supply, under proper management, the business promises well. We shall need a small quantity [of] oil for samples, before it can be manufactured on the ground. It would, I think be well to have as soon as maybe 2 or 3 bbls of the crude oil sent forward to N. Y. as it can be prepared at Brooklyn. It has been thought best to have the Report printed in this city, as it can be done here equally as well as in N. Y. & at less expense & the proof sheets more conveniently submitted to the assistant professors for examination. The Report goes into the hands of the Printer this morning, & will probably, in the course of 2 or 3 days be in readiness to be sent off. I have not as yet completed any sale of stock, but the way is being prepared for doing so. Several gentlemen here of known ability, have assured me that they should take some stock, if Silliman's Report should be favorable to the Oil. That point is settled. The Report is more favorable, even, than I had dared to hope. As soon as it is ready, I will transmit copies to you forthwith.

In great haste,

Yours truly,

ANSON SHELDON

P. S. I shall expect to hear from you soon.

A. S.

26. FROM CHARLES RICHMOND, JR.

Charles Mullock of New York and his father-in-law, a Mr. Hotchkiss of New Haven, plan to inspect the oil land at Titusville before buying any stock.

New York May 3d 1855

Doct F B Brewer

Dear Sir

Chas Mullock Esq. has just called on me & states that he & his Father in-law (Mr Hotchkiss) will leave for your place on Friday or Monday next. I hope you will be at home & find time to show them the Oil tract. It might be well to talk over the matter & if you should think best introduce them to your Father or other good prominent men of your place & Pittsburg that would take an interest in the Co. Mr Hotchkiss is a man of wealth & influence in New Haven & if you can get him enlisted and the Co started on the right principles I have no doubt money can be made out of it. Messrs Eveleth & Bissell have not paid any money or delivered any Boots & shoes on your act. I think you had better understand the matter pretty well with Mullock & Hotchkiss or appoint a time when you will meet them & others here to form the Co. Please send your man along to buy his spring goods. Do not fail to make your purchases in the city this spring, for you may depend we can make it an object as goods are *very cheap*.

Respectfully yours

C. RICHMOND JR

27. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Sheldon not only describes the favorable impression created by Silliman's report but the obstacles to the sale of stock.

New Haven, May 11th 1855

To Dr. Brewer,

My Dear Sir,

Silliman's Report is now generally in the hands of the monied men in this city, & the impression it has made is decidedly favorable to the interest of the P. R. O. Company, but with the present state of feeling existing here in reference to joint stock companies formed under the laws of the state of New York, & doing their business in the city of N. Y. I do not believe that any amount of stock could be taken by capitalists in this city.

The History of the New York & New Haven Rail Road company & also The [Stone] Empire Company is remembered with sorrow. Many have been ruined by the frauds committed by those companies, while others have experienced losses. Under these circumstances it is not at all strange that monied men should be cautious. Some of the prominent men here, as to means and reputation have signified a desire to take stock in the company, provided it should be organized under the Laws of this state & New Haven become the place for its business operations. In this state the property of the stock holder is not liable for the debts of the Company beyond the amount of stock he possesses, but in New York the individual property of the stock holder is liable for the payment of the debts of the company. There are men now in this city who are smarting under this latter law, their private property has been attached for the payment of debts occasioned by the fraudulent transactions of the officers of the above named companies. I have been assured by some of the most reliable men in this city, that if the R. Oil Company would reorganize under the Laws of this state, that all the stock could at once be disposed of in this city. They are of the opinion that the business of the company could be conducted with more economy to have the general office of the company here. Joint stock companies located in New York are in bad odour, some of the business men in N. Y. are of the opinion that it would add to the reputation of the company to have its location here. I believe that Mr. Richmond is in favor of this move, & I think that Eveleth & Bissell would favor it. There has been almost everything to occasion delay & perplexity in this matter; & unless some course is adopted very soon by [which] the wheels shall be set in motion to some good effect, I shall be compelled to look out for my bread & butter in some other quarter.

Under the unfavorable circumstances, under which I have been laboring, I have not been able to accomplish so much in this as I hoped to have done, but things now seem to look more promising provided we can place things in a right shape & then in the course of a few days the stock would be taken.

I hope to hear from you in reference to your views of having the company reorganized, & its office transferred to this city.

Yours truly,

ANSON SHELDON

Prof. Silliman proposes to take some stock.

28. FROM J. G. EVELETH

Eveleth insists that Brewer execute the leases and send the deed for the land. It is difficult to sell stock.

May 22d, 1855

Dr. F. B. Brewer,

Dear Sir,

We were at New Haven last week, & I think we can dispose of the whole thing there, if we put it low enough, say one dollar per share. They wish to see our title. Why do you not send on the Deed, it can do no one good to keep it there, & we can not sell a thing till we show what our title is. Besides you never have fully executed the lease, according to agreement. That must be done at once. We can go no further till you put the papers in proper legal shape. We shall soon be ready to meet all your demands, probably as soon as you get all the papers executed.

You cannot tell how hard it is to get men to take stock these times. If we get out of it and not lose our time we shall do well.

We are to go to New Haven Thursday, & one of the Judges will be present to see our title. What have we to show? Our deed is in Franklin, & our lease is half executed. We gave you our notes before the papers were made out, & certainly you cannot expect us to pay them till the papers are executed. Don't delay a moment for we are now reaching a point, when we must have no cause of delay.

A barrel of oil is wanted here at once, for a rich man who will take 2000 shares if it answers his purposes, as we know it will. Send a barrel on at once.

This report of Sillimans is doing the right thing, but it has cost a good deal of money.

Silliman mentioned several places where this oil is found in great abundance. They have found it in any quantity in California.

I could not get the boots and shoes of my brother, for he did not have them on hand. He cured a cancer with this oil.

When we went to New Haven last week, Mr. Sheldon was completely discouraged, & wanted us to give up his note as he *could not* pay it. We put the whole thing right down on a new basis, & now I think it will go, but our former fine prospects are demolished. It is no use to cry, if we cannot make one dollar, then let us make a dime.

Let me hear from you at once *here*.

Don't be discouraged.

What is the lowest you will put your stock, cash down for yours, & what we owe you?

Most truly yours,

J. G. EVELETH

29. FROM CHARLES RICHMOND, JR., TO EBENEZER BREWER

Richmond again expresses his lack of confidence in the promoters, Eveleth and Bissell.

New York May 22 1855

Mr. Ebenezer Brewer

Dear Sir

Your favor of this month is recd and contents noted. As it regards the responsability of Mess Eveleth & Bissell (the parties who purchased the Real Estate referred to) I would say that they are strangers to me & I know nothing of their means except what I learn by the Doctr. From what little I have seen of them & their transactions I have no confidence in them as business men & would not trust them without security. When your son was here the first time on that business I made some inquiries & could learn nothing satisfactory & I declined to take stock under their management untill I made further inquiries & after examining further I wrote the Doctr I had no confidence in them & would not give one dollar for the stock as it was then, but a change must be made before I would take an interest in it. I am satisfied it was not started right & expressed those fears to your son at the time, but he thought they had property east & would meet their paper. I supposed by what he said he had got it secured & Mess Eveleth & Bissell had consented to a change. Since then I have been trying to get parties interested that have means & are men of influence. I think if a company could be formed on the right principles by men of Cap & influence money could be made out of it. Mr. Hotchkiss of New Haven I expect has gone to Titusville to learn what he can as it regards the prospects of the quantity of Oil could be collected & on his return we shall be able to tell better what to do. Mr. Hotchkiss is a man of large means and of unexceptionable character & standing in New Haven. I should be glad to give you further information as it regards

E & B on securing the Notes, but I do not exactly know how the Doctor left it & therefore could not advise. If I can be of any service to you please write & I will attend to it with pleasure.

Respectfully yours,

CHAS RICHMOND JR

31 Courtland St.

30. FROM J. G. EVELETH

Eveleth believes that a new company will have to be formed in Connecticut in order to sell stock. Although Mulock and Hotchkiss might purchase all of the stock, Eveleth goes to New Haven to see about the possibilities of organizing a new company.

New Haven, Conn. May 28/55

Dr. Brewer,

Dear Sir,

I came here Saturday, & shall remain here till the thing sinks or swims. We shall have to form a new Co. & that will take some time & much hard labor. We have a meeting tomorrow and a number of the first men here will be present, & Mr. Bracket of New York & a gentleman from Boston. If these parties will bind themselves to take the whole thing & pay for it as soon as we can get all the papers arranged & the old Co. legally wound up, then we shall progress at once. We shall not move till good parties bind themselves to take it & pay cash. I expect to see that accomplished in a week. But we must put it *low, very low*, for these are the hardest times I ever heard of. I had to sell iron pavement stock (per 50\$ per share) for one dollar per, to keep the Oil Co. along.

I think you should be satisfied if you get in cash with interest, for your land, \$5000. At any rate we must put it to one dollar per share. That would give you \$7000, a nice little sum. There is no time to dicker, we must put it right down in order to get cash down, or it must be a failure, which will involve the Directors in many difficulties. \$5000 is better now than 10,000\$ in a year from now.

If we do not make this go, I shall be discouraged.

Send on the deed & your lease fully executed. These things will be called for tomorrow, & their absence is going to injure us.

We had a note from Richmond last week, in which he says that Mulock & Hotchkiss of New Haven have gone out to see the lands.

Let me hear from you at once. If this don't go, Sheldon will give up. But it must go, if all the stockholders are willing to sacrifice as I am.

Truly Yours,

J. G. EVELETH

31. FROM J. G. EVELETH

New Haven, May 29/55.

Dr. F. B. Brewer.

Dear Sir,

We met Mr. Mulock yesterday. He has not been to Titusville as Mr. Richmond expected, but will leave New York tomorrow morning, expecting to return in five days. If he is satisfied then he with Messrs. Hotchkiss, Richmond & others will take the whole thing & pay cash. Do the best you can with him you can.

Yours truly

J. G. EVELETH

32. FROM EBENEZER BREWER

The father of Dr. Brewer considers the oil enterprise a complete failure.

Allegheny City June 4th 1855

My dear Son,

Yours of 27th May has been recd, and I was happy [to] learn that you were in a prosperous way at Oil Creek. I mentioned to Mr. Rynd the payments to become due in N. York, as you requested he said he had a memorandum of the N. York liabilities and that it would be impossible to meet them at the time they became due, and that we must write our creditors there for an extention, he had understood from you, that the terms of the purchase was, if we wished it, one year with interest from date, and as many of our business notes that we got discounted had been protested and he had to pay them, the sales of lumber had been unusually

small, and we were now as far in the Banks as we could go at present. Lumber is dull sale at the river and cannot be disposed of for us on any reasonable terms, thus it appears the concern is nearly at a failing point, this ought not to be so, and every effort must now be made to collect your outstanding claims, pay off the present liabilities and avoid as much as possible further responsibilities, I have deferred writing you for the reason that Mr. Rynd said that before I wrote you he wanted to have a conversation with me, but he has been so much engaged, with the lumber, collecting, and raising funds, that he has had no time to talk of anything else. I recd your letter enclosing a copy of one from Mr. Sheldon and also the report.

Your N. York transactions, as I now view them appear very unsatisfactory, and I consider the whole transaction a perfect failure, and I fear that you have deeply involved yourself, or done injustice to the Company. I feel very anxious to see you and have your explanation. We all want to have you, Susan and Mr. & Mrs. Rood come down and make us a visit, and if you can get Tip along with my saddle and bridle, if it has not been disposed of, I shall want him as I propose to spend a week or two with you at Oil Creek in July or first of August. I herewith enclose a letter that I recd from my friend Richmond in reply to one I wrote him I want to see and advise with you all about this unfortunate business—where are the notes you got for the land by whom were they signed and by whom endorsed etc. I do not consider the stock worth a straw. Mr. Rynd sold his to Mr. Watson if he had any for \$100 it is all a [Peter Fink] concern. Your mother and Julie will both have a note to enclose. My kind regards to Mr. & Mrs. Rood and much love to Susan & the children.

Your affectionate father,

EBEN BREWER

Can you not write to the N. York creditors and get an extension of 60 or 90 days.

N. B. I have said to you in this letter what I do not say to *others* and hope I have wrong impressions.

33. FROM J. G. EVELETH

Eveleth continues his efforts to sell stock and, at the same time, promote the organization of a new company.

New York, June 17/55

Dr. F. B. Brewer,

Dear Sir,

I have just this morning come from New Haven, & find your letter. We are determined to neither sleep nor slumber till this whole matter is arranged. Your proposition is fair & honorable, & we will act on it. The Co. will be formed on the basis that the lands are all paid for, all debts paid & \$6000 cash in the Treasury to open the Springs with the stock will sell for \$20 cash, or 25\$ good property, per share.

I have to pay Silliman \$300 more this week. I shall see Mulock at once. If they wont make an offer, we shall get all taken in New Haven. We put it right down. I will tell Sheldon to talk it up. He is cautious. We are getting first rate men interested.

As soon as I see Mulock I will write you. What we are doing will make them the more anxious.

It will all come out right finally.

I am sorry that things should thus go, but—what can I say.

Mr. Bissell is sick in Hanover, but as it [is] caused mostly by the death of his mother, I think he will be here the last of this week.

My wife is in Portland, so I can have all my time for business. Give my regards to Mrs. Brewer & all my friends there, provided they have not turned enemies.

Most truly

Yours,

J. G. EVELETH

34. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Sheldon is skeptical about Mulock taking all of the stock. He believes that the New Haven men will take it all, provided there is an abundance of oil.

New York, June 23 1855

To Dr Brewer,

My Dear Sir,

I have only time, before leaving for New Haven, to say that Mr. Mulock has not yet reported himself, and therefore, we know not his

impressions as to the quantity of oil that may be obtained from the Springs, or his opinion as to the best mode of operation. I think it quite doubtful about his making an offer that will be acceptable. Mr. Eveleth has advised you of the plan that has been proposed, which from most appearances, seems to work well. Another party, composed of some of the best men in New Haven, are becoming interested, more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the stock has been taken, & there is now no doubt that the ballance will all be taken. You may expect that a committee will visit the springs the latter part of next week for the purpose of inspecting the springs, & should they find that the quantity of oil is abundant, the thing will be fixed at once. It is desirable that you should be on the spot. I now expect to be one of the party.

On my return to New Haven, I shall write you at Titusville.

Yours truly,

A. SHELDON

35. FROM J. G. EVELETH

A committee, representing New Haven capitalists, plans to examine the oil land at Titusville. If it makes a favorable report, a new company will be organized at once.

New York, June 25/55

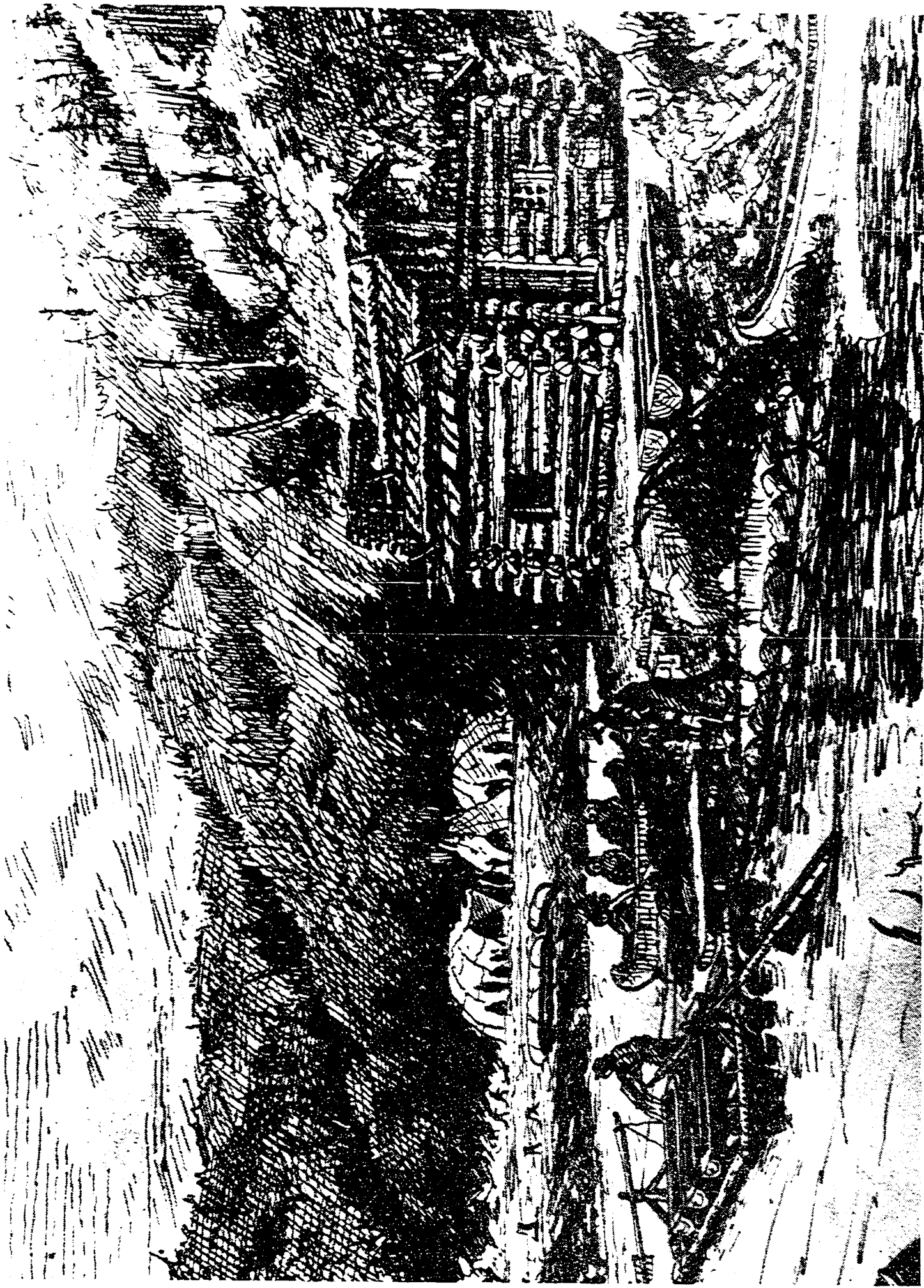
Friend Brewer,

Mr. Mulock has not yet returned, so we don't know what his proposition is. Hope to get it soon.

Mr. Sheldon went from here yesterday. He & three others will leave for Titusville some time this week, & if they are pleased, the arrangements for the New Co. will be closed at once, we shall be able to pay over all demands as early in July as possible. The Stock for the New Co. is nearly all taken, & *all*—yes, *all*,—*all* I say, depends on the impressions this Com. receive there. If they make a favorable report, you can get for your 1200 shares, which will be $\frac{1}{10}$, five dollars per share (giving \$6000) before the first day of August. Do all in your power to make them appreciate the true value of the springs. Work that *one*, if possible, wont you?

We will have our congratulation meeting before the first day of August. *All must, shall & will* be closed up before that, for I must go out to St. Louis then.

Do the very best you can, wont you.



Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania Collection

OIL CREEK IN 1810

J. Francis Waldo's sketch of Mr. Roy storing oil on a raft, preparatory to taking it to Pittsburgh for sale.

I must draw up the notice to close the old Co. for it has to be advertised three weeks.

I paid Silliman \$300 more last Friday. I am here alone, for Bissell has not got back, and it is pretty hard to have all the bills to settle.

Write me here while the Committee are there.

Yours truly,

J. G. EVELETH

36. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Sheldon reviews the difficulties of selling stock, but now believes that with the reorganization, all of it will be subscribed. The "right kind of men" are buying stock.

New Haven, July 3d 1855.

To Dr. Brewer,

My Dear Sir,

You must not attribute my seeming negligence to forgetfulness, or a want of fidelity; but the truth is, things have assumed so many different phases since I saw you in New York I have hardly known what to write. I must say that the position of the Penn. R. Oil Company has been much at variance with my feelings, & occasioned no small degree of perplexity. At the time I consented to embark in the enterprise, I supposed that you had received, at least, one half of your pay for your springs & that means were at hand to pay for the ballance, that remained unpaid. I ascribe blame to no one, but the error lies, in thinking to start & carry forward an enterprise of such magnitude without capital. The times have been anything but favorable. The prejudices against Joint Stock companies are almost unbounded, & men of means have stood aloof from any new enterprise. Under all these adverse circumstances I have several times been on the eve of giving up the whole thing & make a strike at something else. A few week's experience convinced me, that to succeed, there must be a change in the organization, & that ultimately the way would be prepared for it, or the enterprise would prove a failure. Under all the discouraging circumstances I have held on to the wreck, with the belief that by perseverance we should get her off the shoals, & by & by be afloat & in sailing order. What the end will be, I cannot say, but so far it has been anything but a profitable enterprise. In addition to my time, it has drawn from my purse & exhausted my means. But now I believe that the only plan

that promises success has been adopted, one by which men of means & enterprise will be enlisted. I am very much gratified to learn that the plan meets with your approval. Most of the stock has been taken & there does not now remain a doubt but that the whole will be taken up. I have within the last week had two offers for the ballance, that is not subscribed for, but I did entertain the propositions. There was no objection to the price or pay in the one case, but the party was objectionable; the other party was right, but the pay objectionable. There is not so much difficulty in selling the stock, as there is in securing the right kind of men—we need men of means—of good business habits & that will work harmoniously together; & this is the class of men that are coming in. One important man, an oil dealer in New York has taken hold of the stock. An oil manufacturer has engaged to take some of the stock provided the committee report favorably as to the quantity. These two oil Houses stand among the first in New York. There is a prospect that a similar arrangement will be made with an oil House in Boston. I have reserved a margin of the stock with the expectation that some other important men may be disposed to come in.

It is now arranged for Messrs. Ives & Pierpont of this city, Mr. Brackett of New York, & myself to start for Titusville next Tuesday. You may expect that there will be a demand for Pork & Beans.

Mulock has returned. Richmond has informed me that he is quite favorably impressed with regard to the quantity of oil & that he contemplates making a proposition after conferring with Prof. Silliman. Silliman has engaged to take some of the stock.

In haste

Yours truly,

A. SHELDON

37. FROM SAMUEL BRACKETT

New York July 23d 1855

Doctor Brewer

Dear Sir

I this day, per order of Mr. Pierpont, have sent you 3 Coils of Wire No. 4, 1134 feet marked as below from American Express Co.

Doctor F. B. Brewer

Titusville, Penna

To be left at Erie Express office till called for—

Hoping you will have good success with the oil Lands I remain

Yours Respectfully

SAMUEL BRACKETT

65 Broad St.

38. FROM J. G. EVELETH

Eveleth learns that the committee from New Haven was highly satisfied with the oil land at Titusville.

New York, July 23d 55.

Friend Brewer,

I returned yesterday morn[ing]. I have just rec'd your letter. I am glad Pierpont & Sheldon were well pleased. That fixes the thing certainly. We well not let it rest one moment. I wrote Sheldon that I should be here this morning & for him to write me here at once. Just as soon as I *know* what their report will be, I shall put the proper advertisement in the paper for closing up the old Co. I have partially engaged an engine, a first rate one, at a low figure. I shall urge the Co. forward, so there will be no danger of delay.

I have made an arrangement with a Boston Boot & Shoe House for 1000\$ [or more] of such as you wanted. I could not buy them here low enough. They are first rate work. They have the Hungarian Boys boot, a first rate article. I think would sell better than others.

Please write me just what you want, & the most you can give. I can get them at once.

Please save me that barrel of cider, I shall want it very much.

Please get all your papers to us made out in proper shape, & we will ours to you, & when we organize the new Co. we can exchange. I wish you would get that deed & pay for recording, & when you come, I will see you paid.

I trust it will all come out right.

Most truly

Yours,

J. G. EVELETH

39. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Sheldon, one of the New Haven committee to visit Titusville, reports that all the subscribers to stock are now eager to have the new company organized.

To Dr. Brewer,
My Dear Sir,

New Haven, Ct., Aug. 7th 1855.

The Monday after I left Titusville I reached home in safety, & did intend writing you ere this, but various circumstances have prevented. I have since my return been called to visit with my aged mother. A few day[s] ago her remains were committed to the ground. My wife's health is not at all good. The rest of our family are in our usual health.

As to the oil matters things have been so unsettled & vacillating I have hardly known what to write. I refer now to the gentlemen who have had it in contemplation to visit the springs. Mr. Ives has made up his mind 2 or 3 times to go, but has backed out, Mr. Bracket says he will go if Mr. Ives will accompany him. Mr. I. goes to New York to day, & will call on Mr. Brackett in reference to the matter,—before the close of the week they may be on their way to your place. Mr. Pierpont has not returned but is expected in the course of next week. Before we separated at Erie, he requested me, on my return, if any inquiry was made to say to his friends that "*The Oil is there & he was satisfied*" & so far as I can learn from his son to whom he has written on the subject he is satisfied as to the quantity of oil, & was very much pleased with his journey & especially with the attention he received while at your place. All the subscribers to the stock in this city have expressed their satisfaction, & are desirous to have things go ahead as early as possible. Mr. Ives says that the principal object he should have in view in visiting the springs, would be to learn the lay of the land & thereby become better qualified to aid in giving directions how the thing should be managed on the spot, & to form an acquaintance with all the parties concerned. I have said & done all I could to get him started. Prof. Silliman said the other day that we could not have secured two better men in the state of Conn. than Ives & Pierpont, & they would be sure to go ahead. Every thing they have taken hold of seems to have prospered. All the subscribers in this city are first rate men. They are men of means & rank among the first for business talents.

When the time comes for the closing up of the old company your presence will be needed, of which you may expect to be apprised in due season. I hope to hear from you. My kind regards to your family Mr. Watson &c.

Yours truly

ANSON SHELDON

40. FROM J. G. EVELETH

Eveleth prepares to close up the business of the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company of New York.

New York, Aug. 10th 55

Dr. F. B. Brewer,

Dear Sir,

Here I am pushing the matter alone. I have called the meeting, & the proper number of Directors have signed the call. I did not send it to you, because it was not possible for you to return it in season. I sent it to Bissell, Reed, & Sheldon, but Bissell has not signed nor written, although he could have got his here as soon as Reed.

It is time it should be brought to a close. There is no use in waiting longer. I hope there will be no difficulty in closing up: there will be none if all are disposed to right, & I think they are.

You will remember that there is no deed or lease to the Co. on record; it was made, but waiting for your lease, it has been neglected. Our deed to the Co. was made out, but it is not now with the other papers; probably Bissell has it. As it stands, the Co. have no property & every one of the Directors are liable to pay par value for all stock sold. You will not make out your lease to us but to the New Co. The deed stands in my name & Bissell, and I am ready to make it over to the Co. You have not yet got your pay, but must have it. You will understand how the thing stands, & will manage to do justice to yourself, me & the Co. & to all.

I have got a good man to purchase Salisbury's & David's stock, so as to have no trouble there.

I have advanced \$1000 cash for the Co. in the shape of Silliman's report, Rent, Stationery bills & other things, since any other one has paid one cent. It is not using me just right. (I do not complain of you, for you have reason to complain of us.)

I do hope we shall close it up well, so that none shall lose & to the satisfaction of all, though there is danger of breakers.

I hope you will be here, & be prepared to stay one week, but everything must be closed up *now*.

Mr. Sheldon has worked hard & I hope will do well.

Of those two barrels of oil, one is lead—pitchy

I wrote you about boots & shoes but that matter can remain till you come on.

Please write me at once about this matter & what you think.

Most truly

Yours,

J. G. EVELETH

Attached to this letter is a newspaper clipping worded as follows:

The stockholders of the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company are notified to meet on the 28th of this month, at ten o'clock, a. m. at the office of the company, 346 Broadway, for the purpose of acting on propositions for the purchase of the oil lands of said company, or any other business which may come before them. J. G. Eveleth, Anson Sheldon, Franklin Reed, Dexter A. Hawkins, Trustees.

41. FROM CHARLES RICHMOND, JR.

Richmond believes that the New Haven capitalists will succeed in the oil enterprise.

New York August 17th 1855

Doctor F. B. Brewer

Titusville

Dear Sir

Yours of the 13th inst is just recd and I give you this early reply because all is arranged satisfactorily & I do not wish you should give yourself any further trouble. It was at first quite unpleasant as we had always had a good understanding and desired to retain it. We have felt that when you should see them at Allegheny City & explain to them, they would not blame us. Mr. Mullock has gone to the White Mountains. I have had some conversation with the New Haven parties and encouraged the enterprise. I think well of the parties & if they they take hold of it I think it must go along. I hope you will visit the City soon and think you had better in order to arrange a new Company. Please bring your memorandum for goods as I think we can make it an object for you to make some purchases.

Respectfully yours

C. RICHMOND JR

42. FROM J. G. EVELETH

The plans for transferring the oil land from the old to the new company are described by Eveleth.

New York, Aug. 20/55.

Dear Sir,

I have just rec'd yours of 15th.

There will be no trouble in selling the lands to the new Co. by taking the proper legal steps; but unless we can get every share of stock, all the papers must be made out to the old Co. first & then by them to the new Co. If we can get in all the old stock, then all three can make the papers direct to the N. Co.

The plan for the New Co. is this, to pay the Old Co. 24,000\$ & put 6000\$ into the Treasury, and as there are to be just 12,000 shares, it will bring the New Stock at 2.50 a share, to make the 30,000\$.

In order to get the thing through in New Haven, we had to make a private trade with Ives & Pierpont to pay their part into the Old Co. which is 2.00 per share, in stock in some of their N. Haven Co. I don't consider it so good as 50 cents per share cost, but still we *had* to do it. That will reduce what is to go to the Old Co. to 20,000\$. Then if Silliman takes stock (and we must have him) he is to pay in the same way. That will reduce it to \$19,000. Then if you take 1200 shares (full paid) as you wrote me you would do, we shall have to pay into the New Co. 50 per share on it, which will make 600\$ cash & the stock will make 2400, in all three thousand. This reduces it to 16,000\$. Then you are to be paid 45,00 [45.00 or 4,500] & interest, & all the debts of the Co. are to be paid, we have to credit Bowditch full pay to the Old Co. for 500 shares per the 1000\$ he has already paid. Then Salisbury, David & Hawkins must come in for their share of sale, so it reduces us to less than 800 shares apiece, & we must paid in our proportion of the 6000\$.

It will be a first rate Co. but this arrangement, the best we could do, sacrifices our own dreadfully. But as I have before stated, we mean to have a good Co. none shall lose by it, and what little there is left, in right belongs to us. Small pay for a hard years work.

The object of the meeting of stockholders is to empower the Trustees to make the best sale of the lands they can. Then as soon as all the stock is taken in the New Co. we can sell to them when they are prepared for that purpose.

It will not be necessary for you to come on till we are prepared to close up everything.

Yours respectfully,

J. G. EVELETH

43. FROM ANSON SHELDON

New Haven capitalists take an increasing interest in the new oil company.

New Haven 4 Sept. 1855.

Dr. Brewer.

My dear Sir,

I am disappointed in Mr. Pierpont's not returning. A letter was received from him last evening from which it appears that he will not be here before Thursday night. From the present aspect of things nothing more can be done before he arrives than merely to keep the matter in a state of agitation. There now seems to be a growing conviction here that the oil will pay a good dividend on the amount invested, & some individuals are proposing to take stock, provided Mr. Pierpont is right, that I did not suppose could become interested. There has been since my return from New York a number of applications for Reports, & also for sample specimens of the oil, & the impression made seems to be favorable. We have only to go ahead, & every thing will come out right. I shall drive on matters as fast as possible. I am & you must be desirous of having the business closed up with as little delay as possible.

In haste

Yours truly,

A. SHELDON

44. FROM J. G. EVELETH

Bath, Sept. 23/55.

Dr. F. B. Brewer,

Dear Sir,

The deed is acknowledged by my wife & mailed for you. She went yesterday, on 20 minutes notice, *alone*, to Portland, found a commissioner, & had it all finished.

I wish you would send that barrel of oil to my brother, (42 gallons) before you return, for he thinks he has been cheated by us; and I want to get in his stock as soon as possible. I sent for it, but he did not send it. Just send the oil & when you come we can close the whole matter up. I shall be glad when we get everything adjusted.

As soon as you receive the deed, write me to New York, then I can judge about what time you will be on. Hurry the matters along as fast as possible, so that they cannot have time to grow cold at New Haven.

I hope you will come to New York to live.

Give my regards to Mrs. Brewer.

Yours most truly,

J. G. EVELETH

Direct the oil as on the other side.

James H. Eveleth

Freeport, Maine

From New York by Sterrington [or Stenington] Line—From Boston to Portland by Steamer.

45. FROM ANSON SHELDON

The publication of the Articles of Association of the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company of Connecticut creates a favorable impression on New Haven.

New Haven, Sept. 25th 1855

To Dr. Brewer,

Dear Sir,

Two or three days after you left, Miss Lock's letter came to hand, from which it appeared that she was making her arrangements to return with you, provided it should be agreeable & convenient for you to take her in charge. I replied to her note, stating that you had left for Titusville, unexpectedly, on business matters, & that you would, Providence permitting, return to this city by the middle of next week, & also that you would not probably remain here more than 2 or 3 days. Her reply was received by the last mail, from which you will learn her plans & wishes, which I herewith inclose, As to the Penn. Rock Oil matters things seem to be moving on favorably, and some negotiations are in progress for the sale of stock. Mr. Pierpont is wide awake in the work, & many are

making inquiries of him relative to the quantity of oil &c, & he seems to be of the opinion that the ballance of the stock will be taken. He has authorized me to refer those gentlemen to him, who desire to be made acquainted with the state of things. Mr. Ives still keeps up his interest, & is frequently seen with Mr. P. in consultation in laying plans for future operations. The impression made by the publication of our Articles of Association is favorable, & the wise men of this city begin to think that there is something valuable on Oil Creek, & many now say that they should like to make an investment, if they had the wherewith, who a few weeks ago pronounced the whole thing a *humbug*. Reed & Eveleth are I suppose at Bath, Me. The [Col.] remains, I believe, in New York, I shall do all I can to bring matters to a close. I hope to see you here [in all] of next week. My kind remembrance to your family

Yours truly,

A. SHELDON.

46. FROM J. G. EVELETH

New York, Sept. 30/55

Dr. F. B. Brewer,

Dear Sir,

I saw your letter to Mr. Bissell Saturday. The deed left Bath one week ago. There was no delay on the part of my wife. I hope it will reach you at once, without the usual delay in your letters.

I am glad your Co. are willing to give the new lease & satisfy the judgment note. There seems to be a good feeling on the part of all & a desire to build up the Co. I trust we shall have a good Co. that shall do credit to your place & justice to all stockholders. The delay last winter will finally work to the good of all.

Notify me when you get the deed. Shall be glad to have you return.

Yours truly,

J. G. EVELETH

47. FROM J. G. EVELETH

Seymour, Conn. Oct. 19/55.

Dr. F. B. Brewer,

Dear Sir,

I came from New Haven yesterday, but did not get there till lease was forwarded to you, so did not see it. Presume it is all right. All there wide awake. Mr. Pierpont told me they should put in an engine this fall. There will be no trouble about the stock. Mr. Townsend has got some taken. Think Mr. Pierpont will enlarge his subscription & pay *cash*. Other parties stand ready. You must not let any others get Parkers lands, though they are not worth much. Let us build up our Co. so that it shall be an honor to all & a fortune to the stockholders.

The note you endorsed for us is paid—*good*, dont you say? Get everything on record as soon as possible, so as to return, to have *everything* closed up & the Co. full underway.

The deed I sent you, like to have been a bad thing for me. The exertion of my wife made her sick. It was a bad month for her. Write me, your [move], to New York.

My regards to your family.

Yours truly

J. G. EVELETH

48. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Sheldon is most optimistic about the prospects of the new company.

New Haven, Oct. 19th 1855.

Dr. F. B. Brewer,

My Dear Sir,

It is probable before this reaches you, the two leases will be in your hands, & that your company will be prepared to put their signatures to one of them. The conditions of the copy you sent on were satisfactory but Messrs. Ives & Pierpont thought they should have been more clearly defined, & therefore, it was that they had a new lease drawn up, which, I think, is more favorable to your company than the one you sent on. It is to be hoped that the thing will be so fixed that every thing will move on smoothly. There is a disposition here to have every thing in the

right shape, & have the rights of your company defined & protected as well as that of the oil enterprise, & thus avoid difficulty hereafter. There does not seem to be any lack of interest in the enterprise. Messrs. P. & I are quite active, & as a whole, things never looked so well as they do at this moment. The delay in getting matters arranged has taxed our patience but I firmly believe that the thing will in the end come out right. And as soon as the papers are signed, & you are on the ground, we shall immediately be in a working condition. The *note has been provided* for, & everything is right in that quarter. Bissell & Eveleth left here last night for New York. An important event has occurred. Bissell has taken him a Wife of the Daughters of Gotham. They were married last Saturday, Their bridal tour was to this city. B. is as happy as a King. His wife appears well. Reed has an heir. He is one week old. Eveleth is expecting a similar gift in a few days. We certainly live in an eventful period.

I hope that the oil matter will be satisfactorily arranged & that you will be here with as little delay as possible.

Yours truly,

ANSON SHELDON

49. FROM ANSON SHELDON

New Haven, Nov. 5th 1855

To Dr. Brewer

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 1st inst. with the enclosed certificate of the Lease being duly left at the Recorder's office, has been received, & is satisfactory to Messrs. Ives & Pierpont. The Deed has also come to hand. The stockholders are to meet tomorrow, & I hope that matters will be brought to a close. I regret that you cannot be here, but we must do as well as we can. I am sorry to learn that sister is so ill. I write you at Pittsburg thinking that it may be more convenient for you to come on by the way of Philadelphia.

In haste for the mail,

Yours truly

ANSON SHELDON

Mr. Pierpont wrote to Brewer, Watson & Co. Titusville.

A. S.

50. FROM EVELETH AND BISSELL

Formal notice of a stockholders' meeting to close up affairs is sent to Brewer.

Office of the American & Foreign Iron
Pavement Co.

New York, Nov. 15th 1855.

Dr. F. B. Brewer

Dear Sir,

There will be a meeting of the stockholders of the Pa. Rock Oil Cos. at the New Haven Hotel, New Haven Ct. on Friday, Nov. 23d at 7 o'clock P. M. for the final adjustment and settlement of the affairs of the Co. up to that date.

You are particularly expected to be present with the lease fully executed, whether recorded or not.

Yrs very truly

J. G. EVELETH

GEO. H. BISSELL

[The following note was enclosed with the formal notice.]

Friend Brewer

Upon my return from the north, Mr. Eveleth informed me that he had forwarded to me a letter from you to Bristol, Vermont instead of Bristol, N. H. Therefore I have not received it. Mr. Eveleth leaves this afternoon for Maine, but will be back in season for the meeting. I hope you will not fail of arriving by the time specified. I have been at New Haven twice already for the purpose of seeing you and of closing up the affairs of the Co. and it is exceedingly desirable that there shall be no further delay.

If you come to N. Y. call upon me before you go over to New Haven.

Yours truly,

GEO. H. BISSELL

51. FROM A. PIERPONT

New Haven 21 Nov. 1855

To Doct F. B. Brewer
Sir,

I would introduce to you the Bearer Mr Wm C. Nettleton of Killingworth Ct he wishes to make some inquiry respecting the timber of your part of the country any information you may give him will be gratefully recd and acknowledged by him and also By Your Friend

A. PIERPONT

52. FROM GEORGE H. BISSELL

110 East 14th St. N. Y.
Dec. 12th, 55.

Dr. Brewer,
Dear Sir,

I have delayed writing to you till the present time in order to give you more definite information in regard to the position of affairs than I was able to do at an earlier period.

Brackett had forwarded to Mr. Ives a draft payable at *4 months* from date and Mr. I. says it cannot now be negotiated. Of course this unexpected and astonishing failure of B. to fulfill his obligation scauses us no little trouble. Eveleth has been sick since his return, & is unable to render me any assistance at present. We shall do our utmost and, if possible, close up this vexatious matter with the least possible delay.

I called upon Veghte [or Vegste] Bergh & Burtis, & also upon Halsted & gave them our address telling them that we had accounts of yours in our hands for collection & requesting a delay of a few days. The first named firm did not seem at all anxious, but Halsted stated that he had heard that you had been in the place & that you did not call on him, & that he should expect his pay by the first of January. He will wait till that time.

Now, I wish to hear if we are to pay those firms, and will a receipted bill from them be taken by Richmond as proof of payment, & the am't endorsed on our note; or, do you wish us to pay Richmond directly & have him attend to the settlement of those accounts. Please answer immediately.

If I understood you aright, the note is now in the hands of Richmond—I will advise you from time to time how matters progress.

Yours in haste

GEO. H. BISSELL

53. FROM E. L. DRAKE

E. L. Drake buys stock on the advice of J. M. Townsend of New Haven in the Seneca Oil Company, which leased the Titusville oil property in 1858; he regrets his purchase of stock. Drake did not organize the Seneca Oil Company, but claims to have invented the driving pipe.

Bethlehem June 28th/72

J. M. McCarthy Esq.

Dr Sir

Yours of the 24th is recd and in reply will state that in the winter of /56 or spring of 57 I don't know which I bot of Jas. M. Townsend some stock of Pen R O Co. I paid either \$100 or \$200 I don't know which, my impression is \$200. But how much I cannot tell. I never had a Certificate don't know as there was any. I bot by Townsend's advice without investigating, and a few months afterwards when I did try to investigate I made up my mind my friend had pulled me in, in trying to get out himself and thought no more of it. If Bissell says I bot one 48th of the Cos stock I am glad to know how much I had am sorry to learn that I made such a fool of myself. All the members of the Seneca Oil Co were also members of the P R O Co and the members that were not in the Seneca Co wanted to get into the Oil business so they proposed to give up their royalty and we surrender our leases, run a line through the centre of the 105 acres divide the property each giving a deed to the other and quit. My Stock was with the Seneca and went where the woodbine twineth with that Co. But I don't know what that has to do with Bissell. I never claimed to have got up the P R O Co, but I do claim that that Co did not bore a well or do anything else to devellope the Oil interests of this country and I claim that I did invent the driving Pipe & drive it and without that they could not bore on bottom lands when the earth is full of water. And I claim to have bored the first well that ever was bored for Protrelum in America and can show the well, and if I had not done it, it would not have been to this day.

Yours &c

E. L. DRAKE

IV

LIST OF LETTERS

BELONGING TO GEORGE H. BISSELL

1. Description of Oil Creek Lands, unsigned and undated
2. From Benjamin Silliman, Jr., New Haven, March 1, 1855
3. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, July 25, 1855
4. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, July 30, 1855
5. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, July 30, 1855
6. From Anson Sheldon, August 4, 1855
7. From Anson Sheldon, August 17, 1855
8. From F. B. Brewer, Titusville, September 24, 1855
9. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, October 29, 1855
10. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, October 30, 1855
11. From Anson Sheldon, November 16, 1855
12. From Anson Sheldon, New Haven, April 19, 1856
13. From George H. Bissell, New Haven, November 25, 1856
14. From A. Pierpont, New Haven, January, 1858
15. From A. Pierpont, New Haven, January 8, 1858
16. From E. L. Drake, Titusville, August 16, 1858
17. From George H. Bissell, Titusville, November 4, 1859
18. From George H. Bissell, Titusville, November 7, 1859
19. From George H. Bissell, Titusville, November 27, 1859

V

LETTERS BELONGING TO GEORGE H. BISSELL

1. DESCRIPTION OF OIL CREEK LANDS

Although there is no date nor name attached to this document, the circumstances and content indicate that it might have been written by someone in Titusville to interest the New Yorkers, Eveleth and Bissell, in buying the land. It was found among the Bissell papers.

A creek known as "Oil Creek" runs through a portion of Venango Co. Pa. having recd its name from the fact that in certain places an oleaginous liquid rises to the surface of the water, especially when the bed is stirred up with a pole or otherwise. The portion of the Creek containing the oil runs through a low bottom land, and upon this land west of the Creek are various springs yielding the same oil in abundance. It is susceptible of proof that Seneca Indians who formerly owned the territory were in the habit of procuring this oil and selling it to the French who then had a settlement at Franklin situated at the outlet of the Creek upon the Alleghany River. It was called by them "Seneca Oil" which name it has always retained in that vicinity, although it has also recd the name of "Petroleum." or Rock Oil. There still exist abundant traces of the Indian excavations and one spring has been worked almost uninterruptedly since 1756 and the yield continues undiminished. The territory covering the springs comprise nearly an hundred acres, all of which is cleared, and easy of access, which, with the abundant water power, affords every facility for working the springs at a very low rate. Only one is now in operation, and that by means of a very simple contrivance attached to the wheel of an adjacent saw mill. The result of that yield is as follows:

The machine cost	\$150
Cost of attendance per year	40
	<hr/>
	\$190
The spring yields on an average of three gallons of oil per diem—which sells readily in Pittsburgh for \$1.25.	
The amt then is 1008 galls worth in Pittsburgh	\$1,260
Deducting expenses	190
	<hr/>
We have as result	\$1,070

A very fine percentage upon an investment of less than Two Hundred Dollars.

A few years since, while boring for salt near Pittsburgh an oil similar to this was discovered after boring 40 feet, and a Mr. Keyer of that city made a contract for all the oil that should be processed and after distilling and purifying it offered it for sale as a substitute for whale oil. It was found that it was superior in every way. It did not crush the wick, burned clearly & brilliantly, and would go much further. He very soon found a market for all and more than he could supply at a very high price, and has already made a fortune out of it, but his goose has done laying. The spring has run out and no more can be found. He is therefore very anxious to purchase these, but has not been able to do so. The oil in Venango Co has other properties of much more consequence than as lamp fuel; it is in the estimation of the inhabitants of that region an universal panacea for every ill, internal and external. There is hardly a family within forty miles which has not a bottle of it to administer externally in Rheumatism—continuous eruptions of all kinds—burns—scalds—cuts—bruises—and superficial inflammation and internally for more diseases than I can enumerate. It is a well known fact that the Indians always resorted to it for that purpose and its effect was in many cases is on a great degree beneficial. A man who obtained the right of working one spring, a few years since, put up a great quantity of it in bottles and made a very handsome operation by the sale of it as a medicine. I also state with full confidence in what I say that it is the best lubricator for machinery ever known. It does not congeal in any weather and is not filthy like other oils in use requiring the machine to be cleaned often. I saw a piece of machinery which had used it constantly for three years and it had never been cleaned in any way. Everything I have stated can be proved and even more, and any quantity of certificates can be produced to sustain me. I ought to state that Mr. Keyer has offered \$10,000 for the property.

2. FROM BENJAMIN SILLIMAN, JR.

Professor Silliman contemplates further experiments to test the power of rock oil in various lamps and to compare it with other oils. Eveleth and Bissell are asked to furnish the necessary materials and equipment.

Gentlemen,

New Haven, March 1, 1855

Having met unexpected success in the use of the distilled product of *Rock Oil* as an illuminator, I am solicitous to test its power in this respect in various lamps and also in comparison with *various oils*.

I have recd a long and very valuable communication on this subject from the Secy of the U.S. Light House Board at Washn in reply to queries addressed by me to him. He refers me to Edwd Matt. Robinson of New Bedford for the best strained winter Sperm Oil to be fluid at 32° Fahr and to Mr. Dardonville Lampist &c Broadway NY for the best fresh Colza oil (this is the oil in present use for Light Houses in the Carcel's Lamp) and also for Carcel's Lamp.

If therefore you wish an accurate comparison by photometric valuation of the Rock Oil, with Sperm, Colza & Sperm Candles you will see that I am supplied with the following means and apparatus Viz—

1st A few gallons say 2 or 3 each of Colza & Sperm Oils *from the above references giving them notice that the samples are wanted for comparison.*

2d *Two Carcel's Mechanical Lamps* as referred above in every way alike & preferably of the standard size of 1 inch circular wicks. These may be *hired* to be returned, & should be accompanied by a supply of wicks and duplicate chimneys

3d Two of the best approved form of Camphene Circular wick double draft Lamps as nearly alike as possible, in size of wick &c &c with supply of wicks and chimneys.

4th A few pounds of *Judds patent* Sizes such as they furnish to the Gas Companies for comparison of lights.

I should remark that I have not a very sanguine hope of finding R Oil suited to the Carcel's Lamp (wh. is the Lamp of the 1st Class Light Houses) but do not despair of it as it burns in a double draft Camphene Lamp entirely without smoke with a light not only very agreeable, & strong, but with a color more *like day* than any artificial light I ever saw. It avoids entirely the ghastliness of gas.

I spoke to Mr. Sheldon of rendering a preliminary Report of our Results so far obtained but on reflection I consider it inexpedient to do so—until these light comparisons are made. The results obtained do not show very well for the time required. My assistant has devoted *six weeks* unbroken time to it. Be so good as to deposit to my credit in Merchants Bank N.Y. \$100 on a/c of having paid \$90 to my assistant for services.

Yours respectfully

B. SILLIMAN, JR.

3. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Sheldon reports that he and Pierpont are highly satisfied over their inspection of the oil springs at Titusville. Pierpont makes preparations to work the oil springs.

New Haven, July 25th 1855.

Friend Eveleth,

Yours of the 23d instant has come to hand. After an absence of 2 weeks I have returned to this city. Mr. Pierpont was the only man that accompanied me to the oil springs. Mr. Ives and Mr. Brackett could not leave at the time, but gave us some encouragement that they would meet us on the ground. Dr. Brewer & the others stated to me that of all the men who had visited the springs, none had made such thorough investigations as Mr. Pierpont & myself have done & the result has been quite satisfactory. Mr. Pierpont is of the opinion that there is an abundance of oil. He did not return, but went on to Milwaukee, & will probably be absent 2 weeks. Mr. Pierpont requested me before we separated to say to our friends on my return to New Haven "*that the oil was there & that he was satisfied.*" He gave me an order on Mr. Brackett to purchase on his account 1200 feet of wire to set the springs in motion immediately. The wire has been procured & sent forward. Mr. P. is in every sense of the word a practical man & in laying plans for gathering the oil his opinion will be of greatest service. While we were on the ground & after we left his mind seemed to be constantly at work. We had a very pleasant time. The Dr. & his men afforded us all the assistance in their power. Mr. Ives is about. I have not seen him since my return, but he assured me before we left that in case he should not be able to go, he would be satisfied with Mr. Pierpont's opinion. From the present aspect of things the subscribers to the stock in this city will consider their subscriptions valid & will not so far as they are concerned, on their part, consider any further investigation necessary.

I regret that Mr. Brackett did not go out to the springs. He will not probably be satisfied without a personal investigation. Mr. B. & some other gentlemen in the oil business should go out there forthwith. If some one will accompany him he will be, I think, in readiness to go almost any day for the next 10 days. Will you call & see him & start him & some others off with as little delay as possible.

As to money, every thing is tight & likely to remain so till the new company is organized.

As to sending Day's note, I should have no objections, provided that the Dr. approved of the thing. The notes with the stock were placed in my hands with instructions not to give them up until the payments were made, or instructions otherwise should be given. Under present circumstances if I had the money, I should rather loan the money to you than give up the note, without Brewer's permission. In the present aspect of things it would be likely to embarrass you & me. I hope that you will be able to obtain the money in some other way. I shall expect to hear from you by the earliest opportunity.

Yours truly

A. SHELDON

4. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Sheldon reports on what he and Pierpont did in Titusville. Pierpont is satisfied that there is sufficient oil there. Sheldon suggests organizing the company in Connecticut.

New Haven, July 30th 1855.

Friend Bissell,

Yours of the 28th instant came to hand this morning, & agreeable to your request I avail myself of the earliest opportunity to reply to it. I regret to learn that your health is still impaired, but hope that it will continue to improve. I returned last week from Venango Co. Penn. being absent two weeks nearly one of which was spent at Titusville & vicinity in surveying the Oil Lands. It was expected that Mr. Ives of this city and Mr. Brackett of New York would have been of the party, but sickness & business prevented. It so happened that Mr. Pierpont was the only man that accompanied me. We had a very pleasant time & found things fully as favorable as I expected. The Doctor & his men were at hand, affording us every facility for carrying forward our investigations, which occupied about five days. It was truly interesting to see how Mr. Pierpont engaged in the work. We took a general survey of the land, after which we selected that portion which is cleared & made some 25 or 30 excavations at different points scattered over some 15 or 20 acres of land, even in the most unfavorable positions when there was not the least appearance of oil on the surface of the ground. Not more than 2 or 3 excavations were sunk more than 4 feet. In every instance we found undoubted marks of oil. In some more & in others less. After digging down into the hard pan, the oil mixed with water seemed to rise up as

though there was a pressure beneath. The deeper the excavation, the more abundant the oil appeared. So far as we could judge, the excavations would each daily yield from 2 qts up to 4 gallons & they might be increased to almost any number. From our investigations, it is evident that the oil can be found any where you are disposed to dig over a large tract of land in Oil Creek Valley. Some 20 acres or more of this land bears the marks of having been excavated 200 years ago. The oldest settlers in the vicinity say that the French, while that portion of the country was in their possession, were accustomed annually to gather large quantities of oil, a part of which they exported to the old country. There cannot be any doubt in the mind of those who have been on the spot and taken time to examine the ground, but that there will be a yield of oil sufficient to justify our company in going to work with all the force we may be capable of bringing into the field. Our efforts at first, will of course be experimental and on a limited scale, until we can fix on the most economical plan. Mr. Pierpont has ordered 1200 feet of wire at his own expense in order to set the pumps in motion as soon as possible. He says "*the oil is there & that he is satisfied.*" He has fixed on a plan for gathering the oil—which will not require any very great outlay. We are soon to have a map of the oil region. All the subscribers to the stock in this city will hold on & are anxious to have things go ahead. It is not probable that Brackett of New York will stand by unless he visits the springs. I have been hoping that you would be able to accompany him. It is difficult for those men that we want to leave their business for a length of time sufficient to investigate the matter. Mr. Pierpont left me at Erie for Milwaukee & will return in the course of a week or ten Days. I know not beyond my own operations what has been done towards taking up the stock—2,500 shares in addition to those on my list would make the amount—12000. As soon as Mr. P. returns the ballance will no doubt be taken here if not elsewhere. By what Eveleth wrote just as he was on the eve of leaving N. York for Boston, he stated that he should prepare & send me a notice for publication for me to sign & that was four weeks ago. We can organize under the Conn. Laws without giving notice in the Public Prints. Some of the companies now in operation in this city were organized in that way. I see no other way but to go ahead. In my next I will go into some other matters which are of some importance. You may expect to hear from me—soon.

Yours truly

A. SHELDON

5. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Internal dissension develops between Eveleth and the other promoters. Eveleth demands payment of the money he has advanced in getting the company organized. Sheldon regrets his own connection with the new venture.

Confidential

New Haven, July 30th 1855

Friend Bissell,

One week ago today Eveleth returned to New York, & what he has been driving at during his absence is more than I can tell. I suppose he was in the city at the time I passed through there on my way home, but I could find no trace of him; no one had seen or heard where he was. On the 23d inst. I received a note from him, informing me that he had returned to N.Y. & also requesting me to communicate the result of the examination of the oil springs, & at the same time requesting me to send him one of the Day's notes for \$500, which becomes due in a few days, which Dr. Brewer, with some other notes & stock placed in my hands for safe keeping as security for the payment for the oil Lands, (a circumstance which you will remember) & he would send me another of equal amount, the payment of which would be more distant. I declined of course to accede to his proposal so far as sending the note is concerned, but gave a favorable response to his inquiries as to the oil &c. To my note, I received the following reply: I received your letter yesterday (July 25, 1855) and answer it as follows:

1. Brackett agreed to go out with you, & now I shall consult him no more.
2. It was agreed that we four should equally meet the expenses of the company & divide the profits & it seems that my private property is held to pay what belongs to Bissell & Reed to pay.

Is that right or business like? It seems that you are very particular for Brewer to hold my property to pay the debts of others! When I took the last note you agreed to pay your part the next week. This was not done. But I approved in the place of the note, one of the same amount signed by the same party. *Now mark this—if ever you pay one Dollar of Day's note to Brewer, or if you collect one dollar of it, I will the next hour sue the company for the money I have advanced & sue you, Bissell & Reed on your notes. That you may be sure of!!!* If the Committee are ready to report, I am here expressly to act on it; if they are not, then let them give it up. About the 15th of August I shall leave to be absent a long time; if any thing is done, it must be done before that time. I shall not wait for

any more committees to go out. The company cannot go to New Haven unless 6000 shares are taken. How many are taken? Mr. Pierpont and you ought to have made up your report before you separated. I enclose a statement of what I have advanced above you, Bissell & Reed. This amount must be paid by the 4th of August or I will sell stock enough to meet it. I consider that *you three have* treated me shamefully in this matter. I wish you to write me whether the committee are ready to report or not.

Yours truly

J.G.EVELETH

You understand how this matter is, & therefore no comment will be necessary. I have for a long time seen how things are working, & have more than once wished that the Rock Oil had never come before my notice. My connection with it since last April has grown out of peculiar circumstances in the case. I saw no other way, but that I must loose what little time I had spent or must hold on to it & drive it through in some shape, & perhaps in the end I might save enough to pay me for my time, if no more. I have taken things easily as possible hoping thereby to work the matter through without any thing like a flare up, though the appearance of the elements has, at times, been threatening. No money would tempt me to go through another campaign of like character. I am sure that it would use me up. Our friend Eveleth's course has been singular. His mode of doing things is peculiar to himself. I have heard of his management. If he had kept entirely still & not said one word, he would have accomplished more, but now he has retarded our operations by making statements which no one would believe, & thus men who at first were favorably impressed & were calculating to take some stock, have been driven off. They do not seem to have confidence in him. I expect that E. is making arrangements with the expectation of visiting Europe. I see no other way but that we must let patience and forbearance continue to work & by keeping cool, & perservering we may get our matters settled up in a right shape. The Doctor has exercised more forebearance than most men would in his position & men outside him even waiting for a blow up & then come in & take the springs for a song. I think if you are able, you had better arrange to be in New York certainly by the first of next week. In great haste.

Yours truly

A. SHELDON

(Write immediately & destroy my scribbling)

6. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Sheldon is trying to get Brackett to go to Titusville to investigate the oil springs. Personal financial problems embarrass Sheldon. Eveleth's methods are disliked.

New Haven, Aug. 4th 1855

Friend Bissell,

Yours of the 2nd inst. has come to hand. I received a letter on the 2d inst. from Eveleth of a more mild temper. Brackett proposes to visit the springs next week if Ives will accompany him. I am laboring hard to get Ives off & he has practically promised to go though he appears to be satisfied with Mr. Pierpont's testimony, but it is important that he should go as it will give him an opportunity to form a correct idea of the lay of the land, & assist him in forming an opinion as to the best mode of operating; but he is so full of business, I fear he will not be able to go. We cannot drive men in this matter. There is now no other way but to wait patiently & at the same time keep the Ball rolling. We shall, I think, come out right in the end, though tried as in a furnace. I have never in my life suffered so much for the want of money as during the last few months. If I had no family on my hands my case would be different, but as it is I have been exceedingly perplexed & embarrassed & I am expecting every day that my credit will be used up. As to E. he flares up and blazes away & wants to drive things right through but end first or any how. It matters not how. I have no expectation that he will sue us. We must keep cool ourselves & aim to keep him so. Nor will he sell any of our stock. I still hold in my hands notes & stock as security for the payment for the land, subject only to Brewer's order, & is not to be given up until the payment is made. E. would, I think, end himself if he should attempt anything of that sort, in rather close quarters, so far as I am concerned. I could make my time & the expenses that I have been at an offset to his charge & play his own game upon himself.

I think you had better be in New York next week if you are able. E. has notified me to be there on Monday, but it is doubtful about my being there at that time. I shall be glad to see you in New Haven, if you should find it convenient to stop on your way & we could confer together on matters. The only way now is for us to be on our guard & avoid saying or doing anything which may be calculated to irritate. As for a loan I do not think it possible to obtain one.

Write the first opportunity.

Yours truly

A. SHELDON

7. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Pierpont's return to New Haven from Titusville is awaited with interest. Pierpont, Ives, Munson, and Reed are influential men whose support of the oil venture would greatly enhance the value of the company's stock.

New Haven, Aug. 17th 1855

Friend Bissell,

Yours of the 16th instant informing me of your return to New York has this moment been placed in my hands. Yours, also, dated at Bristol, N.H. came to hand, but not in season to be answered as you desired. You may be assured that I am gratified to learn that you are once more on your feet & that there is now a prospect that we shall bring our matters to a satisfactory result. I hope that your health, which has been for some time impaired, is now completely restored. I have had quite an ill turn, from the effects of which I have not entirely recovered. I am, therefore, obliged for the present to keep myself as quiet as possible. I shall probably be out again tomorrow. I addressed a note to you at New York, yesterday, which will, probably, reach you today. Young Pierpont has informed me that his Father has turned his face eastward & will probably reach home next week. He has been absent much longer than he anticipated when we separated at Erie. As things now stand, it is important that he should be at hand. There is hardly a man in this community in whom business men have more confidence than they have in Asahel Pierpont. He is regarded as being eminently a practical man. Though slow in his mental operations, he seldom fails in arriving at a safe conclusion. As a mechanic & a successful manufacturer he stands at the head of his profession. By his skill & industry he has accumulated a handsome fortune; above all, he is a man of great moral worth. Judge Ives is a man of quick perception, & more stirring energy. In the various enterprises in which he has been engaged, he has been uniformly successful. As a business man there is not probably his superior in this city. Townsend & Bowditch are men of the right complexion, able & reliable. Munson is a man of considerable means—cautious, intelligent, agreeable, and enterprising. He and Judge Ives are on terms of intimacy, & whatever opinion the Judge advances, it is regarded by Mr. M. as being about right. The Judge is now absent with his Lady on an excursion for her health, which has been rather precarious for some months. On his return, which will probably be tomorrow or the early part of next week, Mr. Munson will decide the question as to his taking stock. We shall have Silliman's in-

fluence in the matter. I have been for some time watching for an opportunity to gain access to Ezra C. Reed Esqr. President of the City Bank, a man of large means & liberal views, but in consequence of his absence I have been unable to do so until the present week. He has seen the sample of oils & carefully examined Silliman's Report. The enterprise seems to strike his mind favorably. He also regards with favor the New Haven men who propose to embark on this enterprise. He has probably ere this conferred with Prof. S. on the subject, & will after the return of Messrs Ives & Pierpont seek an early interview with those gentlemen, & after learning their views, will form his own opinion, & then act accordingly. The character of Mr. Reed, his ability, & the position which he occupies in the business community all conspire to render it desirable that he should embark in our enterprise. With such men enlisted, it would at once give character to our company & greatly enhance the value of our stock. Let us hold up our heads. We may yet be compensated for the long protracted & wearisome delay in the organization of our company. The citizens here look significant thoughts. "With such men associated together in such an enterprise," say they, "you are bound to succeed. You are on the right platform & are destined to know the most intelligent, enterprising & energetic company ever formed in old Connecticut. Hura! Hura!!!"

In driving a nail a heavy hammer often does the work, but in clinching it with precision & effect, a lighter one with more gentle stroke is some times requisite. The clinching time is at hand, and we must mind our Ps and Qs. After all our labor, self-sacrifice, soul-grinding we have experienced, a failure would be awful at this junction. It must not, it will not be. Unless there should be a very special call for my presence in New York, I think I had better remain here for some days; at least till the question is decided one way or the other as to Munson and Reed & in the meantime I may be able to scare up some other party. If M. & Reed conclude to take some of the stock, they will probably sweep the ballance that remains. As Brewer & Watson wish to retain their stock, that is, one tenth of the whole amount, Richmond must be provided for from the general stock. If anything important should occur, I shall expect to be advised of it in due season. My health is improving; but I find it somewhat difficult to sit at my table long enough to write a sentence.

Yours truly

A. SHELDON

8. FROM F. B. BREWER

Watson, Williams & Company agree to the new lease. A Mr. Smith has been in Titusville to inspect the springs; Brewer is afraid that he did not receive the best impression.

Titusville, Sept. 24th/55

Dear Sir,

I arrived last evening and today have conferred with the members of the firm of Watson Williams & Co. and find them willing to accede to the terms of the new Lease and they will also satisfy the Judgment Note.

Mr. Smith has been here and no one knew him or what he was after. He found Mr. Parker with whom he went to see our springs & then went with him to his own. Probably the impressions were not the most favorable & if he had introduced himself to the Co he could have seen the whole thing. The spring was not ready for operations on account of Mr. Angier's sickness. He has a Fever. Was taken the day I left & while at work on the spring. He is now just able to sit up. The letters I wrote home 2 weeks ago came here on Saturday & perhaps the Deed may be delayed. I hope not. I shall be ready.

Respectfully

Yours &c

F.B.BREWER

9. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Two leases are presented to Brewer for consideration; one or the other will be accepted. Brewer is to start for New Haven.

New Haven, Oct. 29th 1855.

Friend Bissell,

A Letter from Doctor Brewer of the 26th instant came to hand by the last mail, from which I learn that yours with the Enclosed Lease had been received. The Lease is satisfactory to their company, but they were waiting for the Lease prepared by the C. Treas. which must have reached them last Saturday. On examination they should give the latter the preference they would accept it, if not the other would be accepted & recorded. Brewer is to start for this city on Wednesday of the present week. Messrs. Ives & Pierpont think we had better have our meeting on

Tuesday. I have notified Reed & Eveleth & Brackett to that effect. You had better see Brackett & Eveleth if you can. In haste.

Yours truly

A. SHELDON

My kind remembrance to your better half.

A.S.

10. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Brewer starts for New Haven to attend a stockholders meeting. Clockmakers and watchmakers pronounce rock oil a superior lubricating product. It needs a significant name.

New Haven, Oct. 30th 1855

Friend Bissell,

Yours of the 27th instant has come to hand. A letter from Dr. Brewer acknowledging the receipt of yours, with the enclosed lease, was received yesterday. Their company do not object to that lease but are now waiting for the arrival of the lease proposed by Mr. Ives, which probably reached them last Saturday. They will take one or the other & have it executed and duly recorded. Brewer writes in first rate special & says he will start tomorrow for New Haven, & intends being here in the early part of next week. Next Tuesday, that is one week from today, the stockholders are to have their meeting in this city, & I hope at that time every thing will be made straight. Per order of our Secy. I sent off letters last night to Bissell, Eveleth, & Brackett at New York & one to Reed, Bath, Me., apprising the above mentioned gentlemen of our meeting next week. Things are working well. I am satisfied, by some developments that I have made within the last 2 days, that we can put up an article that will supersede the long celebrated British Oil. Our oil has all the important properties which that contains. The clock makers are testing the oil & the machinists pronounce it superior to the best sperm on their machinery. It must be cleansed from every impurity before it can be used properly. Our watch makers are saying that the very best watch oil can be made from it. Some one must take hold of it & take the supervision of preparing it for the various uses. We must make an outside movement and prepare it for medicinal purposes. It will pay well. Look over your Latin Dictionary, & Greek Lexicon & procure a significant name. We are bound to do something that will astonish the natives.

Ives & Pierpont are fully as much interested as ever, but these other matters engross all their time.

I shall expect to see you next Monday night. I am in haste for the mail.

Yours truly

A. SHELDON

11. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Final preparations are made for the stockholder's meeting. Brewer has not arrived. Sheldon arranges to go into another business.

New Haven, Nov. 16th 1855.

Friend Bissell,

Yours of the 13th instant has been received, & in reply I would say that all hands are now waiting, waiting, waiting for the appearance of Dr. Brewer, & in readiness to bring this whole matter to a close. This delay, I can say from painful experience, is gauling in the extreme. Ives and Pierpont are disappointed. Their position is quite different from ours; and, therefore, it does not affect them so seriously. They are getting the Books, so far as they can, in readiness. They wish you to bring with you, when you come on here, the engraver's plait on which the stock certificates of the old company were struck off, so that they can be attested, in one or two particulars, & thus become adapted to the wants of the new company. They wish also that you would bring on everything else that properly belongs to the new company. They are for having everything in ship-shape. I have not heard from Brewer since you were here, but am expecting to see, or hear from him by every mail. Ives & Pierpont now regret that they did not return with Brewer at the time he left here & then the thing would have been all settled ere this. Though their patience has been somewhat tried, they seem still to keep up good courage & are waiting for the issue. As for myself I have been a runner for you & Eveleth, & Reed about long enough, & I have made arrangements to go into other business, & if matters go on as they have gone, I shall so far as I am concerned let the whole thing ride. I have already sacrificed time, money, to say nothing of my feelings sufficient to purchase a small estate. If I had Ripped out of the enterprise before I secured Mr. Bowditch's subscription, I should have been a happier man, and not have been in debt at this time. But with all the embarrassment, that seems to cluster around

this enterprise, I still hope for the best, & that things may come out right though I thus speak. Let me hear from you. My kind remembrance to your better half.

Yours truly

A. SHELDON

12. FROM ANSON SHELDON

Sheldon is still trying to sell stock. Rock oil is being used on the New Haven Railroad.

New Haven, April 19, 1856

Friend Eveleth,

Yours of the 18th instant has come to hand. [Marchal & Stratton] sent forward their goods yesterday & will probably reach you today. I had a consultation with Wm. [Tumper] yesterday in reference to taking some oil stock. He is desirous of going into it, provided he can make some arrangement to turn some real estate in part towards paying for it. He would take 1000 shares in that way & pay \$5000 cash. He is looking at the matter with some considerable interest. He had \$3000 in the Connecticut Steam Heating Company. I shall probably see him again today. Mr. Pierpont is quite sick & was unable yesterday to see company. He has not been out for more than a week. I have not been able to see him since my return. I have not seen Ives. I did not reach home till night before last. The oil is now being tested on the N.H. Road, & so far works favorably. On farther trial it should not gum up. Drake thinks that it will last twice as long as the oils which they have been using on that Road. Every thing looks well but our goaheadness. I may be in N. York next week.

Yours truly

A. SHELDON

13. FROM GEORGE H. BISSELL

Eveleth and Bissell are in New Haven trying to get the stockholders of the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company to lease the oil land at Titusville to Havens & Lyman of New York City.

New Haven Hotel

New Haven, Nov. 25th 1856

My dearest wife—

We have met with every kind of draw-back since our arrival here in getting the New Haven people to agree to the terms of the 10 years lease

of our lands to Havens & Lyman. The prospect now is somewhat clearer, and I have little doubt that our negotiations will be ultimately successful. If we are very fortunate, we may conclude matters tomorrow, but it is possible that we shall be detained here a day or so longer. You need not fear I shall want for funds.

[The remainder of the letter pertains to matters not related to the oil business.]

Your own

GEORGE

14. FROM A. PIERPONT¹

The Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company of Connecticut leases the oil property to Bowditch and Drake. E. L. Drake, the moving spirit, prepares to move his family to Titusville to begin operations.

Messrs. Eveleth & Bissell

Gents :

We have had since our meeting several interviews with Bowditch & Drake with reference to the price per gallon to be paid for the oil & have at last succeeded in arranging the matter with them, they paying the Co. the same that you said Mr. Havens had offered as his ultimatum i. e. a uniform price of 12 cents per gal. for all the oil produced which will of course be perfectly satisfactory to you judging from your repeated assertions made in the meeting of the 6th inst. We shall proceed immediately to secure the trade by a legal bond from the parties which will be acted upon by the board of directors at their regular monthly meeting on the 4th day of Feb. next.

Mr. Drake is making arrangements to go out there as early in the spring as possible to begin operations, also he is arranging his affairs here to take his family out there as soon as provision can be made for them. He is the right kind of man for the undertaking—perfectly upright & honorable in his dealings, which is no less the fact with regard to Mr. Bowditch but Mr. Drake is to be the moving spirit or operator in the enterprise.

I congratulate myself as well as all the members of the company in securing so worthy & competent a man to entrust with a lease of our property. Our meeting was a little cloudy & stormy but it has resulted in good by my taking advantage of it & pressing the claims for the company. We

¹ Copy of the original letter.

hope & trust that this arrangement will give satisfaction to all the stockholders & feel sure that as the starting of the enterprise is now beyond a doubt we shall make a handsome thing out of Rock Oil.

A. PIERPONT

New Haven Ct. Jan. 1858

15. FROM A. PIERPONT¹

Pierpont explains the situation which developed when the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Company of Connecticut undertook to lease the oil property to Bowditch and Drake.

New Haven, Jan. 8. 1858

Messrs. Brewer, Watson & Co.

Gents:

I received the power of attorney for the lease you gave to Mr. Ives & myself, by the hand of Mr. Drake & have sent to Franklin for recording. The delay in getting the title perfected has perhaps been unfortunate & perhaps not.

The lease made to Lyman & Havens might have been a good one & all right still we all of us have had our suspicions in the matter. Not of Mr. Havens, for from what we learned of the man we could not believe that he would be a party to any intrigue or to advance the interests of our part of the stockholders to the injury of the others. But the proposition of E & B was that if the New Haven people would purchase of them an amount of their stock equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the stock they (the N.H. people) then held then E & B would get parties to take a lease of the Lands &c &c. The N.H. people did purchase stock of them and arrange with them satisfactorily & the lease was made to L & H but it has failed to be carried into execution. Now I do not say there was design in the matter but such are the facts & we have a right to look at them. Mr. Havens has refused repeatedly to work the lands under that lease (as to the price to be paid for the oil. He has offered to go on & work the springs giving the Co. ten per cent of the oil procured & that was the best he could do). E & B wrote us the same; also proposing to get up a Co. in N.Y. or Phila. & issuing bonds; or issuing bonds of our Co &c all of which we considered preposterous, except the first named i. e. Havens to give one tenth of the

¹Copy of the original letter.

oil. Bonds could not be sold for anything worth naming at present nor for a long time to come. It would involve the Co. in a larger amount of indebtedness on which the interest would have to be paid & at last the principal. E. & B. wrote us that either of the above propositions would be satisfactory to them & urging upon us to accept one or the other or do something ourselves as good or better & saying "the matter now rests with the N.H. people."

We had for a long time been making efforts to start the enterprise—had talked with Mr. Bowditch & also with Drake & others. We finally arranged with Bowditch & Drake to take a lease of the property & work it if the title could be perfected & if after examining the property & the place Mr. Drake should think favorable of going out there to conduct the business. He returned with a favorable impression & said he would take the lease & go there and work the springs on the terms proposed viz. give the Co. $\frac{1}{8}$ of all the oil procured with the privilege of buying the said $\frac{1}{8}$ at 45 cents per gal at the works. He or they to decide as to the buying before the first payment was made. Other parts of the lease is similar to & copied from the one given to Lyman & Havens.

The price of the oil in the contract with Lyman & Havens was always called 60 cents per gal. on the lands after it was raised. That was the basis of all the calculations at that time. Oils have depreciated at least 25 pr ct consequently we are compelled to sell the oil lower than formerly. After considerable contention between 50 and 40 we divided calling it 45 which was 25 pr ct less than formerly. There was a clause in the lease to L & H providing that if they could sell more than 1000 per day for the year the Co. should have the privilege of buying the excess over 1000 gals. at 50 cents per gal. at the works. In this lease is the same clause but puts the price at 33 making in that a greater reduction than in the former & that in favor of the co.

These are the principal items in the lease. I have given you the outline of the history of proceedings here. Our annual meeting of stockholders was held on the 6th inst & a stormy time we had from Gotham. Our friends E & B on learning that we had leased the property broke out in the most immoderate rage without knowing a word of the lease & when we undertook to explain or justify the course we had taken our attempts were broken off by the storm before $\frac{1}{4}$ was read.

An attempt was made to break up or adjourn the meeting but without success when their rage increased so that they withdrew from the meeting

& no more was seen of them. We then proceeded to the election of Directors which resulted in the election of A.P.—H.L.P.—W.A.I.—J.M.T.—George H. Bissell. If you should think it important to have one of the directors in Titusville & will name one some one of the directors here will resign & we will appoint one from your place or appoint one additional one.

Mr. D. is making preparations to commence operations as early as in the season as the season will permit. In the mean time we wish you to remain entirely neutral until you shall hear more definitely the whole matter. You will probably hear from the other side some horrible report. Hear it and lay it aside and reserve your judgment for a future opportunity.

A. PIERPONT

16. FROM E. L. DRAKE

Drake and Bowditch transfer their lease to the Seneca Oil Company, which was composed of New Haven men, and Drake goes to Titusville as its Superintendent. Drake begins to dig a well, abandons the idea, decides to drill, buys an engine, and makes other preparations. Drake needs \$1000 by September 10th. Money is scarce.

Titusville, Aug. 16th 1858

Dear Sir,

I rec'd on Saturday Aug. 14th at Erie a Pkg. said to contain \$472.67 from the Treas. of the Seneca Oil Co. & gave my receipt to the Express Co. for it. I shipped two barrels of oil to Mr. Pierpont at New Haven as he said he had made a market for it. In sinking our well last week we struck a large vein of oil but the same thrust of the spade opened a vein of water that drove the men out of the well and I shall not try to dig by hand any more as I am satisfied that boring is the cheapest. I should have had my borer here but I wrote him on the first I was not ready as I did not know that you could raise the money. But money we must have if we make anything. I have abandoned the idea of boring & pumping by water as I could not have the exclusive use of the power, but must be subject to the sawyer the turner & the blacksmith; so after consulting the best business men—that is salt & oil men—at Tarentum I have contracted for an engine to be ready for boring by the first of Sept. The engine will cost five hundred dollars in Erie which is about one hundred dollars less than the same or one like it would cost at the East.

When I get that I shall be independent of the lumber co. I have had my pump stopped ten days this month and at the rate they repair it will take all the month of September to repair the flumes and wheels and then I am liable to be stopped at any time which will not answer. I have got out the timber for my pump house & am having it framed today. We shall get that up this week and then I want to get out timber for a building 60 ft. long and 30 feet wide for oil vats & salt pans which I intend to put up in Sept. and to do this will require some money. Now I think you had better make a loan of \$1000 and place it in bank there where I can get it as I need it & I assure you there is no risk whatever for I have got as far with five hundred dollars as any other company have with five thousand and further than some have with ten thousand dollars. I shall send in a statement of my stewardship the first of Sept. and in the mean time if the Seneca Oil Co. should feel as if they were too poor to furnish \$1000 more by the 10th of Sept. please let me know at once. Money is very scarce here. The lumbermen could not sell their lumber for cash this summer and the people all depend upon the lumber trade, so money is as tight here as it was in New York last fall. The old lumber company begin to think they did not retain the best of the property when they sold out the oil springs. Old Mr. Brewer is here now and says he is sorry they sold that piece of land or gave that lease; but let them whine there is more money in that little island than there is in all the 1200 acres of the lumber co's land. The health of myself & family is good although it is quite sickly about here at present.

Write immediately & oblige.

Yours &c

W.A.Ives Esqr
New Haven Conn.

E.L.DRAKE

17. FROM GEORGE H. BISSELL

Bissell arrived in Titusville shortly after the completion of the Drake well on August 27, 1859; he describes the excitement and speculation in the region in a letter to his wife.

Friday night 11 o'clock
Titusville, Penn. Nov. 4th '59

My dear Ophie,

We arrived here this evening about 9 o'clock, having been jolted over the most horribly rough roads you ever knew. It had snowed here

recently, and the soil being a rich loam you can readily imagine what a jaunt of 50 miles would be likely to prove.

Now the mail leaves here but twice a week, & starts tomorrow morning at daylight, so that if I fail to write you tonight you may not here from me for some time.

We find here an excitement unparalleled. The whole population are crazy almost. Farms that could have been bought for a trifle 4 months ago, now readily command \$200 & \$300 an acre, and that too when not a drop of oil has ever been discovered on them. So much for the bare hope of their being by any possibility a sub-stratum of oil. Judge of the value assigned by the people to *our lands* where from one well only they are now raising 1200 gallons of pure oil a day. Brewer has just left us & says that Pittsburgh men consider our property worth millions. Last week Ives, Townsend and all of the New Haven men were here. Did I tell you that about 10 days ago, one of the workmen went into the store house with a lighted candle & the oil took fire & during the night burnt over \$12000 worth of oil. That loss however is a trifle—they can make it up in a week.

I think Brewer will come into our plans. It may require weeks to bring it about. We shall secure if possible all the oil springs about here. So much for business.

.....
I am well enough barring fatigue & want of sleep. Probably the trip will be of service to my health. Mr. Eveleth seems to endure the journey quite well.

.....
Affectionately yours,

GEORGE

18. FROM GEORGE H. BISSELL

Bissell uses rock oil to cure a cold. The sale of land and the excitement around Titusville continues unabated. Eveleth and Bissell are negotiating for an important oil tract.

Titusville, Penn. Nov. 7th 1859

My dear Ophie,

The semi-weekly mail has just come in, & no letter from you. This is the third I have written since I left. The mails arrive here every Monday and Friday night, & go out every Tuesday and Saturday morning, so that

I shall have to wait several days longer for intelligence from home. I trust all are well. I feel quite nervous about little Pelham; he was so ill when I left.

I caught a very severe cold Saturday in wading through the low lands of this region—could hardly speak above a whisper for two days but am now nearly recovered. I found on the inside of a sleeve of my flannel shirt a strip of red flannel which you forgot to cut off—well, I bound this, well saturated with Rock Oil, about my neck and took repeated doses of the oil. I really think it would have resulted badly for me without this remedy. It is positively a specific for throat ailments of such a nature.

Sunday evening Mr. Eveleth was taken very ill—one of his worst attacks. I gave him a thorough sweat, and vomiting, and about 12 o'clock he became better. He has been able to go around with me today.

They are now raising from 1000 to 1200 gallons of pure oil a day from *one* spring on our lands. It costs about 1 cent a gallon to raise it and sells readily from 80 cents to \$1.00 a gallon. Drake has been offered \$150,000 for his lease & has refused it. Double that sum will be made this year from our lands—probably much more. No California Placer was ever one tenth part so valuable. When the other springs are opened the profit will be millions. I never saw such excitement. The whole western country are thronging here & fabulous prices are offered for lands in the vicinity where there is a prospect of getting oil. We are negotiating with every prospect of success for a tract on Oil Creek several miles below here where there are strong traces of the presence of oil. If we secure them, Eveleth and I are secure of an enormous fortune.

Brewer, Watson & Co., who own 1360 shares of Oil Stock will write with us in endeavoring to break the lease.

It is very doubtful when I shall return. We shall make arrangements before we leave for the establishment of a large refinery on the ground. It is greatly needed.

Had Eveleth and I held on to our lands in 5 years we should have been the richest men in New York. As it is, we shall do well, very well—under any possible contingency.

.....

Tomorrow is my birthday. Last year I passed it in closing the contract with Mr. Fay. In 1855 I passed it in selling my house in Hanover. Tomorrow I hope to close a bargain of more importance than either.

.....

GEORGE

19. FROM GEORGE H. BISSELL

Eveleth and Bissell purchase an oil tract and look forward to immense riches. Bissell expects to remain in Pennsylvania much of the time. Franklin is to be his principal place of business and the location of his refinery.

Titusville, Penn. Nov. 27th 1859
(Sunday)

My dear Ophie,

We arrived here last evening from Franklin (whence I wrote you). I found a letter from you dated the 18th, (8 days on the passage).

.....

While we were in Franklin, we bought two splendid Oil farms. One of them directly opposite a spring whence they raise 30 barrels a day. We ought to make an immense fortune.

I suppose we shall return to this region about the 15th of January. Of course it will be necessary for me to remain in Pennsylvania most of the time. We shall probably form a law partnership in New York with John M. [Ewerden or Emerson], who will conduct our law business in our absence.

Very likely we may be obliged to go to New Orleans this winter. It would be the best thing for our Oil interest and I could also, without expense, introduce the tags. I am afraid my little wife will see very little of me during the coming year. I know she will consent when she sees that it will prove for our ultimate and real interest. I do want to place you, darling, and our little ones beyond any contingency so far as I am able to provide for it. My life and health may not always be spared to me.

.....

Mr. Day writes that he has ordered us a splendid steam-engine and pump, so that we shall be able to get under way as soon as we return in January. Franklin will be doubtless our principal place of business and where we shall build our refinery. It is a place which you would like, Ophie, except that it is rather quiet and retired. With a good horse and carriage, however, we could manage to live there six months of the year.

You need not speak of our plans to any one except your mother.

I shall not mail this letter till Tuesday morning, when we leave here finally.

Affectionately yours,
GEORGE

Tuesday morning, Nov. 29th. I am quite well, but very much worn down. We have had a hard time of it, very. Our prospects however are most brilliant that's certain.

PART II

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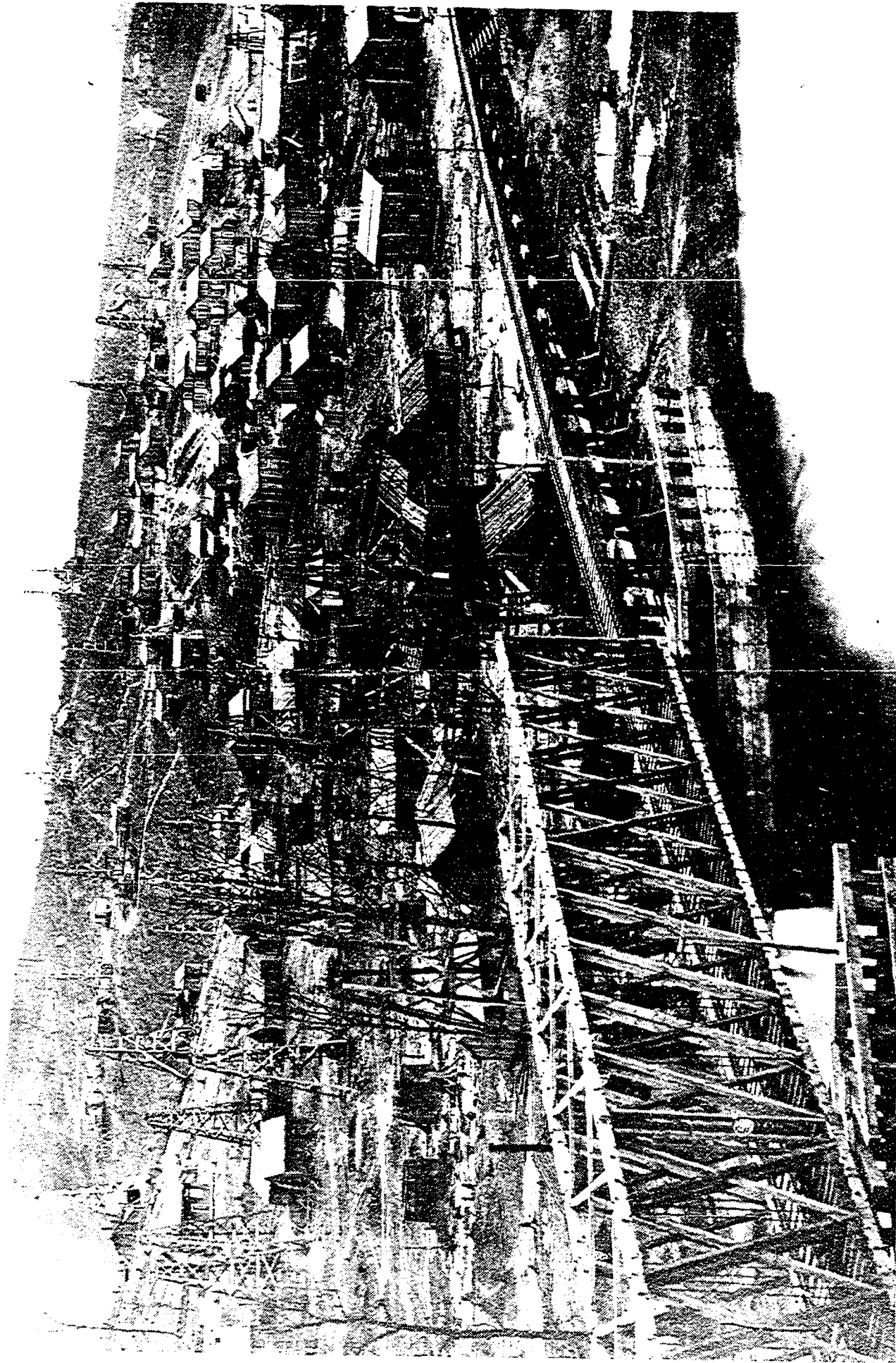
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Mather Photograph

PIONEER, OIL CREEK, 1865-7

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VII. GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

A. United States

1. Consular reports on the export trade in petroleum

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VIII. MATERIALS IN THE DRAKE MUSEUM¹

The Drake Museum at Titusville, Pennsylvania, is a storehouse full of all sorts of historical records and relics pertaining to the early history of the petroleum industry. Edwin C. Bell's famous collection forms the nucleus to which a variety of research materials has been added since 1934. All of the materials have recently been catalogued, and a card index is now maintained in the library; but no printed list of records or relics is available. While a complete description of everything in the Drake Museum is not possible here, some of the more important items or collections will be indicated.

The largest and most important single collection of manuscripts is the Townsend collection of papers, letters, and records relating to the organization of the Seneca Oil Company and the drilling of the Drake well. The papers had been kept by James M. Townsend of New Haven, leading spirit in the Seneca Oil Company, and were given to the Drake Museum in 1934 by his nephew, H. H. Townshend of New Haven. The Minute Book, covering the period from March 19, 1858, to March 7, 1864, and the Ledger of the Seneca Oil Company, original leases and contracts, Drake's reports, letters of Drake, maps, Mr. James M. Townsend's account of the Seneca Oil Company and its activities at Titusville are among the more important papers in the collection.

Other valuable manuscripts in the Drake Museum are: Colonel Drake's story of the Drake well, written about 1870; the early records of the Oil City Oil Exchange and the Titusville Oil Exchange; a leaf from the Ledger of R. D. Fletcher, Titusville merchant, showing Drake's account; the contract between S. M. Kier of Pittsburgh and E. L. Drake, dated November 14, 1859; a prospectus of the United States Petroleum Company; and the hotel registers of the old Moore House and American Hotel at Titusville and the Bonta House at Pithole. The Museum also has stock certificates of old oil companies, oil company reports, early oil leases, account books, photographs of early oilmen, and a collection of maps showing the early presence of petroleum in the United States.

About 1860 John A. Mather established a picture gallery in Titusville and took photographs everywhere throughout the oil region. Through the efforts of Edwin C. Bell, the Drake Memorial Association secured the

¹ From Paul H. Giddens, *The Birth of the Oil Industry*. By permission of The Macmillan Company, publishers.

Mather negatives, numbering about eighteen hundred. Many of them have since deteriorated, but several hundred are still in good condition and are now at the Drake Museum, constituting the most interesting and the finest collection of contemporary views of the oil region to be found in the country.

Bound files of the *Morning Herald*, *Weekly Herald*, *Daily Courier*, *Weekly Courier*, *Evening Courier*, all published in Titusville, and the *Venango Spectator* of Franklin, an unbound file of the *Oil City Register*, a number of copies of the *Petroleum Centre Daily Record*, *Pithole Daily Record*, and a miscellaneous collection of old Titusville newspapers may be found in the Museum.

Among the books are reports of the United States and several state geological surveys, many histories of petroleum, now out of print and scarce, city directories of oil towns, and personal accounts of early days in the oil fields.

Important in showing the development of lamps is the collection assembled by the late P. C. Boyle of Oil City. It includes a few very old grease-burning lamps, many types of candlesticks, candle-burning lanterns, lamps for burning camphene and other burning fluids, and many types of kerosene lamps.

On display in the Museum are all sorts of old oil-well tools, a few of which came from the Drake well. Especially interesting are several miniature models of methods used to drill and pump early oil wells.

IX. NEWSPAPER ARTICLES WITH TITLES

(Chronologically Arranged)

Davis, Wm. H., "Crawford County and Its History," *The Crawford Democrat*, April 1, 1848.

A lecture given before the Meadville Literary Union on February 18, 1848. One of the oldest printed references to the oil pits below Titusville. This was reprinted in *The Crawford Democrat*, May 1, 1869.

"Seneca Oil—or Petroleum," *The Venango Spectator*, May 30, 1855.

Reprinted from the *Meadville Sentinel*. A short account of the appearance of oil on Oil Creek and vicinity, how it is collected, the organization of a company to develop the lands, Silliman's report, and the ancient oil pits below Titusville.

"Natural Oil Springs," *The Crawford Democrat*, March 2, 1858.

Reprint of an article from the *Scientific American* on the oil springs at Tarentum, Pennsylvania, and in West Virginia.

- "Discovery of a Subterranean Fountain of Oil," *Erie Weekly Gazette*, September 29, 1859.
- "Petroleum," *The Daily Pittsburgh Gazette*, September 30, 1859.
The first appearance of news about the Drake well in this newspaper. This contains a letter from Titusville signed by "A.A." and is dated September 26, 1859. It gives an account of the Drake well.
- "The 'Oil' Discoveries," *Erie Weekly Gazette*, October 6, 1859.
Letter from Franklin about Drake's well, etc. Probably written by Rev. Eaton as it is signed S. M. E. Letter dated September 27, 1859.
- "Destructive Fire," *The Daily Pittsburgh Gazette*, October 15, 1859.
A note about the fire at the Drake well.
- "Seneca Oil," *The Warren Mail*, October 22, 1859.
This is one of the first printed accounts by an eye-witness describing the Drake well.
- "The Oil Well," *The Venango Spectator*, November 16, 1859.
A short account of the Drake well, its production, the method of securing oil, and the price.
- "Petroleum Again," *The Daily Pittsburgh Gazette*, November 23, 1859.
Letter signed by "A" telling of the Barnsdall, Mead & Company well and other items of interest.
- "Oleaginous," *The Venango Spectator*, November 30, 1859.
Gives an account of the activity below Franklin, around Oil City, and up the Allegheny River.
- "The Oil Business of Western Pennsylvania," *The Pittsburgh Post*, December 6, 1859.
An editorial on the excitement over oil on Oil Creek. Discusses the wells drilled and those going down.
- "Letter From the Oil Region," *Erie Weekly Gazette*, March 22, 1860.
Letter from Franklin dated March 15, 1860, and signed by S. M. E.
- "Oil! Oil!" *Erie Weekly Gazette*, March 29, 1860.
- "Letter from the Oil Region," *Erie Weekly Gazette*, April 12, 1860.
Letter from Franklin, dated April 3, 1860, and signed by S. M. E.
- "Titusville," *Crawford Journal*, April 17, 1860.
Observations on the improvements being made in Titusville.
- "Oil Regions," *Crawford Journal*, May 1, 1860.
The Editor visits the oil region and gives his impressions.
- "Oil Operations," *The Venango Spectator*, May 9, 1860.
Gives a list of wells and describes the activity from Titusville to the mouth of Oil Creek.

"From the Oil Regions," *Erie Weekly Gazette*, May 10, 1860.

Letter from Franklin and signed S. M. E.

"The Oil Region of Pennsylvania," *Crawford Journal*, May 15, 1860.

Reprint of an article from the *New York Daily Tribune* on the oil developments around Titusville.

"The Oil Wells," *Crawford Journal*, May 15, 1860.

The Editor and James Gillespie of Freeport visit the wells along Oil Creek and give the location and estimated production of each.

"From the Oil Regions," *Erie Weekly Gazette*, May 31, 1860.

Letter from Franklin dated May 24, 1860, and signed S. M. E.

"From Union Mills," *Erie Weekly Gazette*, May 31, 1860.

Letter from Union Mills dated May 22, 1860, in regard to the growth of the town on account of oil business.

"From the Oil Regions," *Erie Weekly Gazette*, July 5, 1860.

Letter from Franklin dated June 28, 1860, and signed by S. M. E.

"A Trip Among the Venango Oil Wells," *The Venango Spectator*, July 11, 1860.

A report of the Editor's trip through the oil region on June 28, 1860. Gives an interesting account of the developments along Oil Creek.

"An Awful Tornado," *Erie Weekly Gazette*, July 12, 1860.

About a tornado at Titusville.

Richmond, H. L., "The Fourth at Titusville—The Tornado," *Crawford Journal*, July 17, 1860.

Richmond tells of his visit to the Barnsdall, Williams, and Drake wells. Equally interesting is his account of the terrific tornado which struck Titusville on July 4, 1860.

"A Trip Among the Venango Oil Wells," *The Venango Spectator*, July 18, 1860.

An account of a trip on June 28, 1860, among the oil wells on French Creek, the Allegheny River, and at Franklin. Lists wells in progress and those completed.

"A Visit to the Oil Well of D. M. Williams of Warren," *The Warren Mail*, July 28, 1860.

A reporter of the *Titusville Gazette and Oil Creek Reporter* pays a visit to the Williams Well and gives his observations which are reprinted in *The Warren Mail*.

"A Yankee Editor Visits ye Oil Region, Taketh ye Fever and Writeth a Letter," *The Venango Spectator*, August 1, 1860.

The letter of a correspondent of the *Auburn (N. Y.) Advertiser*, dated July 18, 1860, from Franklin. He writes about the appearance of Franklin, the wells being drilled about the town, the oil excitement, the method of drilling, and the price.

"Domestic Correspondence. From the Oil Regions of Pennsylvania," *The World* (New York), August 1, 1860.

Evans, S. H., "Oil at Tidioute," *Crawford Journal*, August 14, 1860.
The writer gives an account of the developments around Tidioute.

"Oil Oil—Tidioute Ahead of the World!" *The Warren Mail*, August 18, 1860.

The Editor, E. Cowan, visits Tidioute and describes the activity there.

Evans, S. H., "Extraordinary Oil Well at Tidioute," *Crawford Journal*, August 21, 1860.

An account of the Hequembourg well.

"The Greatest Oil Well at Tidioute," *Erie Weekly Gazette*, August 23, 1860.

Story about the Hequembourg well.

"From the Oil Region," *Erie Weekly Gazette*, August 30, 1860.

Letter from Franklin dated August 24, and signed S. M. E.

"The Williams Oil Well in Titusville," *Crawford Journal*, September 4, 1860.

Reprint of an article from the *Titusville Gazette and Oil Creek Reporter* on the Williams well.

"Tidioute and the Oil Again," *The Warren Mail*, September 15, 1860.

The Editor, E. Cowan, visits Tidioute and reports his observations on the Ludlow, Hequembourg, and other wells.

"Coal Oil and the Manufactures Connected with It," *The World* (New York), September 15, 1860.

Evans, S. H., "More Oil at Tidioute," *Crawford Journal*, September 18, 1860.

A report on the Hequembourg well and one on Tidioute Island owned by the Tidioute Oil Company.

"Oil Excitement at Tidioute," *The Warren Ledger*, October 31, 1860.

A brief account of the development around Tidioute Island.

"Petroleum Statistics," *The Venango Spectator*, November 21, 1860.

Gives a list of wells and the production along Oil Creek, the Allegheny River, French Creek, and at Franklin.

"Tidioute," *The Warren Ledger*, December 5, 1860.

A letter from Tidioute to the Editor describes the oil excitement at that center. Signed by "Verdant." Especially interesting are his remarks about Tidioute Island.

"Oil Trade in Western New York," *The Times* (London), December 24, 1860.

"Oil Items," *The Pittsburgh Post*, January 7, 1861.

Relates to the Economite well at Tidioute and other items.

"Rock Oil," *The Times* (London), January 21, 1861.

"Another Project for an Oil Railroad," *The Pittsburgh Post*, January 22, 1861.

Relates to a contemplated railroad from Garland to the oil region.

"Petroleum Market," *The Times* (London), February 1, 1861.

"Facts about the Oil Business," *The Venango Spectator*, February 6, 1861.

Condensation of an article appearing in the *Pittsburgh Chronicle* in regard to the amount of business done in that city by manufacturers of boilers, engines, and tubing for 1860 and the extent of the refining business.

"The Allegheny Valley Railroad," *The Pittsburgh Post*, February 20, 1861.

Extracts from the Eighth Annual Report, which is important for the light thrown on the transportation of oil.

"Reform at Titusville," *Crawford Journal*, February 26, 1861.

A short account concerning the public mass meeting over the unlicensed sale of liquor in the borough.

"Boring for Oil," *New York Daily Tribune*, March 1, 1861.

"The Great Well of Mead and Steele," *Crawford Journal*, March 12, 1861.

A short article on the explosion and fire at the Mead and Steele well near Titusville.

"Oil for the Hair," *The Pittsburgh Post*, March 13, 1861.

A chemist reports that petroleum is good for the hair.

"The Editor in the Oil Diggings," *Crawford Journal*, March 26, 1861.

The Editor visits the region around Franklin and records his observations.

"Fire on Oil Creek," *The Venango Spectator*, April 24, 1861.

An account of the fire at the Little and Merrick Well on the Buchanan farm—the Rouse fire.

"The Venango Oil Regions," *The Venango Spectator*, May 1, 1861.

Gives a list of wells and the production for the entire oil region. Prepared by C. C. Duffield, special reporter.

"Hon H. R. Rouse," *The Warren Mail*, May 4, 1861.

Short sketch of his life and the fire which caused his death.

"Fire in Tidioute," *The Warren Mail*, July 6, 1861.

A short account of the destructive fire at Tidioute due to an oil explosion.

"Inflammability of Paraffin Oil," *The Times* (London), August 20, 1861.

"Oil Springs of Canada and the United States," *The Times* (London), August 27, 1861.

"Meeting to Regulate the Price of Oil," *The Pittsburgh Post*, November 14, 1861; November 28, 1861.

"The Oil Business," *The Daily Pittsburgh Post*, December 18, 1861.

The oil trade in Pittsburgh.

"Petroleum in England," *The Venango Spectator*, January 8, 1862.

Reprint of a letter from the *London Times* of December 18, 1861, in regard to the important strides being made in introducing petroleum into England.

"Rock Oil," *The Venango Spectator*, January 8, 1862.

Reprint of an article from the *Scientific American*. Tells of oil in the early salt wells, the slowness with which the value of oil has appreciated, the efforts of Eveleth and Bissell, and the bright future ahead for oil.

"The Pennsylvania Oil Product—a Market in Europe," *The Daily Pittsburgh Gazette and Commercial Journal*, January 28, 1862.

"A New Use for Rock Oil," *The Pittsburgh Gazette and Commercial Journal*, January 28, 1862.

"Allegheny Valley Railroad—Annual Meeting of Stockholders," *The Pittsburgh Gazette and Commercial Journal*, February 5, 1862.

"Paraffin or Coal Oils," *The Times* (London), February 13, 1862.

"Oil Springs of Canada," *The Times* (London), February 26, 1862; February 28, 1862; March 4, 1862.

"Oil Springs of the United States," *The Times* (London), February 26, 1862.

"Deputation from the Fire Insurance Companies to the Lord Mayor on the Danger from Petroleum," *The Times* (London), March 24, 1862.

"The Oil Wells on Oil Creek," *The Warren Mail*, May 10, 1862.

Gives a list of flowing wells on Oil Creek at this time and the original as well as the present yield. Informant is W. Waters, of Warren, Pennsylvania.

"Oil City and Pond Freshets," *The Venango Spectator*, May 21, 1862.

"New Bill on the Storage of Petroleum," *The Times* (London), July 3, 1862.

"New Uses for Rock Oil," *The Pittsburgh Gazette and Commercial Journal*, July 29, 1862.

"The Oil Trade of Pittsburgh," *The Pittsburgh Gazette and Commercial Journal*, July 29, 1862.

"Effluvium Arising from Petroleum and Rock Oil," *The Times* (London), August 7, 1862.

"Combustibleness of Petroleum and Rock Oil," *The Times* (London), August 13, 1862.

"Rise in the Price of Petroleum and Rock Oil," *The Times* (London), September 25, 1862; September 29, 1862.

"The Oil Trade," *The Venango Spectator*, November 5, 1862.

Discusses the depression in oil prices in 1862. While it was ruinous to small operators, the low prices enabled the market to be extended in Europe and at home.

"Oil Wells Company," *The Times* (London), November 18, 1862.

"Petroleum Oil from America," *The Times* (London), January 12, 1863.

"What a Pond Freshet Is," *The Warren Mail*, January 24, 1863.

An excellent description of a pond freshet as told by A. S. Dobbs, Superintendent of the pond freshet on Oil Creek, reprinted from the *Oil City Register*.

"Oil Springs," *The Times* (London), February 7, 1863; March 17, 1863.

"Petroleum Trading Company, Prospectus," *The Times* (London), February 11, 1863.

"The Oil Trade of Pittsburgh," *The Daily Pittsburgh Post*, February 18, 1863.

"Petroleum Trade," *The Times* (London), March 10, 1863.

"An Afternoon Among Oil Refiners," *The Daily Pittsburgh Post*, March 14, 1863.

"Oil Springs," *The Times* (London), March 21, 1863.

"Fire among the Fleet," *The Venango Spectator*, May 13, 1863.

An account of the burning of the oil fleet anchored at Oil City.

"The Downer Oil Works, at Corry, Pa.," *The Warren Mail*, June 13, 1863.

"Oil Wells Company of Canada," *The Times* (London), June 16, 1863.

"Petroleum of America," *The Times* (London), June 20, 1863.

"The Oil Business," *Petroleum Reporter*, June 26, 1863.

A letter addressed to Autens and Bourne, Editors and Proprietors of the *New York Shipping List* by someone who visited the oil field. The letter is reprinted from the *Shipping List*.

"Pennsylvania Vein of Petroleum, Farrell Farm," *The Times*, (London), July 9, 1863.

"An Oil Ship," *The Daily Pittsburgh Post*, July 20, 1863.

"Petroleum Trade," *The Times* (London), August 7, 1863.

"Meeting of Petroleum Trading Company," *The Times* (London), August 8, 1863.

"The Oil Region," *New York Daily Tribune*, August 11, 1863.

"Latest Use of Petroleum for Medicine," *The Times* (London), August 24, 1863.

"Storage of Petroleum at Hamburg," *The Times* (London), August 26, 1863.

"Petroleum Wells," *The Times* (London), October 3, 1863.

"Rock Oil in Gaspe," *The Times* (London), October 21, 1863.

"Explosion of Petroleum," *The Times* (London), November 3, 1863.

"Trade in Petroleum," *The Times* (London), November 24, 1863.

"Oil Wells Company of Canada," *The Times* (London), December 30, 1863.

"Petroleum Import Returns," *The Times* (London), January 6, 1864.

"How a Railroad Is Built—The Atlantic and Great Western," *New York Daily Tribune*, January 19, 1864.

"Oil Wells Company of Canada," *The Times* (London), January 20, 1864; February 3, 1864.

"Notes on Paraffin Oil and Petroleum," *The Times* (London), February 8, 1864.

"Ingall's Hydraulic Tank for Petroleum," *The Times* (London), March 12, 1864.

"Purchase of Oil Territory—A Heavy Transaction," *The Venango Spectator*, April 27, 1864.

This article discusses the sale of the Blood farm and its productiveness.

"Petrolea," *Crawford Journal*, June 21, 1864.

A poem about the wonders of petroleum published in the "Daily Fair" at the Philadelphia Sanitary Fair.

"Petroleum Oil Fields," *London Illustrated News*, July 23, 1864.

"Cherry Run Oil District," *Oil City Register*, August 4, 1864.

"The American and Ormsby Oil Company," *Oil City Register*, August 4, 1864.

"Petroleum Import Returns," *The Times* (London), August 5, 1864; September 10, 1864.

"The Development of the Pennsylvania Oil Region," *Oil City Register*, August 18, 1864.

Especially interesting are the remarks in regard to the development of Cherry Run and the pioneering of C. Curtis.

"The Excitement in Oil Stocks," *Oil City Register*, August 25, 1864.

"The Oil Fever," *Oil City Register*, September 1, 1864.

A reprint from the *Pittsburgh Chronicle*; an article about the excitement in oil stocks.

"Petroleum Patent Office Report," *Oil City Register*, September 8, 1864.

"The Pennsylvania Oil Region," *The New York Herald*, October 7, 1864.

"Oil Stocks," *Oil City Register*, October 13, 1864.

A reprint from the *Pittsburgh Commercial*; an article signed by J. K. M. in regard to speculation along Oil Creek in 1860-1862; it gives advice to investors as to what they should do.

Evans, E. W., "On the Action of Oil Wells," *Oil City Register*, October 13, 1864.

"The Germania Oil Company," *Oil City Register*, October 13, 1864.

"Oil Basin Oil Company," *Oil City Register*, October 13, 1864.

"The Baltimore Petroleum Company," *Oil City Register*, October 13, 1864.

"The Cornplanter Oil Company," *Oil City Register*, October 20, 1864.

"The Ohio Petroleum Company," *Oil City Register*, October 20, 1864.

"Oil Matters," *The Venango Spectator*, November 9, 1864.

A brief account of the increase in activity among operators and the effect upon Franklin and the oil region in general.

"The Rise and Progress of Oil City from 1860 to 1864," *Oil City Register*, November 17, 1864.

An excellent short sketch of the rise and development of Oil City.

"Wells of Pennsylvania," *The Venango Spectator*, November 23, 1864.

"The Rise and Progress of Oil City from 1860-1864," *Oil City Register*, November 24, 1864.

A continuation of the previous sketch.

"Cherry Run Petroleum Co.," *Oil City Register*, November 24, 1864.

A short account of the rise in value of the stock of this company from \$7 per share to \$32.

"The Graff, Hasson Farm," *Oil City Register*, November 24, 1864.

"Oil Land on the Tionesta," *Oil City Register*, November 24, 1864.

"The Legal Tender Oil Company," *Oil City Register*, November 24, 1864.

"Thurston's Stock Exchange—the Rage for Speculation," *The Pittsburgh Evening Chronicle*, November 26, 1864.

"New York and Philadelphia Petroleum Co.," *New York Daily Tribune*, December 7, 1864.

An advertisement of the company.

"Petroleum as Steam Fuel," *The Times* (London), December 13, 1864; December 14, 1864.

"Concerning the Leasing of Oil Lands," *Oil City Register*, December 15, 1864.

Discusses the practices in leasing and operating prior to 1864 and the changes made after this year.

"Oil Property for Sale," *New York Daily Tribune*, December 22, 1864.

An advertisement.

"Petroleum Stocks in New York," *Oil City Register*, December 29, 1864.

Reprint of an article from the *Cincinnati Petroleum Gazette*; relates to the rise in value of certain oil stocks and the organization of new companies in Cincinnati.

"The Heydrick Oil Company of New York," *Oil City Register*, December 29, 1864.

"Uses of Petroleum," *The Times* (London), January 3, 1865.

"Uses of Petroleum," *The Times* (London), January 4, 1865.

"Petroleum Import Returns," *The Times* (London), January 5, 1865.

"Petroleum in California," *The Times* (London), January 12, 1865.

"The New Well on Pit-Hole Creek," *Oil City Register*, January 12, 1865.
Report of the new well, the United States Well, on Pithole Creek.

"New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore Consolidated Petroleum and Mining Company," *Oil City Register*, January 12, 1865.

"The Inexhaustible Petroleum Company," *Oil City Register*, January 12, 1865.

"A Letter from Oildorado," *The Pittsburgh Evening Chronicle*, January 20, 1865.

A long account of the excitement around Pithole over the new well opened there. Interesting description.

"Letter No. 2 from Oildorado," *The Pittsburgh Evening Chronicle*, January 21, 1865.

A second letter about Pithole.

"The Oil Business," *Oil City Register*, January 26, 1865.

A brief story about the immense amount of teaming being done in the oil region.

"Successful Oil Speculations," *Oil City Register*, January 26, 1865.

Reprint from the *Philadelphia Commercial List*; gives stories of people who have become wealthy through oil speculation.

"Medicinal Properties of Petroleum," *The Venango Spectator*, February 1, 1865.

Discusses the early use of rock oil by Indians and settlers, the oil pits, and gives extracts from Loskiel's *History of the Mission of the United Brethren among the Indians in North America*.

"No Liabilities to Stockholders. The First National Petroleum Company," *New York Daily Tribune*, February 3, 1865.

An advertisement.

"Sketches in Oil," *The Venango Spectator*, February 8, 1865.

Reprint from the *Cleveland Herald*; a short account of the activity on Sugar Creek and the importance of Cooperstown as a stopping place in hauling oil from Oil Creek to Meadville.

"A Badger in the Oil Region," *Oil City Register*, February 9, 1865.

A brief account of the developments in the oil region. Correspondence of the *State Journal*, dated December 31, 1864, from Oil City and signed by D. K. T.

"A Brief Sketch of Some of Our Principal Oil Companies," *Oil City Register*, February 16, 1865.

Gives a short account of the Central Petroleum Company, Tarr Farm Petroleum Company, Blood Farm Petroleum Company, Home Petroleum Company, United Petroleum Farms Association, Hoffman Petroleum Company, and Pennsylvania Petroleum Company. A few remarks are included about F. Prentice, Geo. H. Bissell, S. M. Seeley and W. W. Clarke.

- "Existing Oil Companies and Their Capital," *The Venango Spectator*, February 22, 1865.
Gives a list of cities, the number of oil companies organized in each, and the capitalization.
- "Trade in Petroleum," *The Times* (London), February 22, 1865.
- "The Heydrick Oil Company of New York," *Oil City Register*, February 23, 1865.
- "A Visit to Pithole Well," *Oil City Register*, March 2, 1865.
Article reprinted from the *Pittsburgh Chronicle*; tells of a visit to the United States well at Pithole. One of the earliest contemporary accounts of the well.
- "Interesting Account of the Venango Oil Region," *The Venango Spectator*, March 8, 1865.
Gives an account of a tour through the oil region by a correspondent but there are no indications as to his name or whom he represented. The writer spent three weeks in the oil region and makes observations upon operations along Oil Creek, the organization of stock companies, the speculative craze, and a view of all the producing regions outside of Oil Creek.
- "The Hyde and Egbert Farm," *The Venango Spectator*, March 8, 1865.
Gives a list of flowing wells struck on this farm, the date of strike, and production; data collected by a correspondent of the *Pittsburgh Commercial*.
- "The Oil Wealth of America—Is the World a Huge Whale," *The Venango Spectator*, March 15, 1865.
An account of the oil regions by a correspondent of the *London Post*, who writes from Oil City.
- "Third Annual Report of the Columbia Oil Co. of Pittsburgh," *Oil City Register*, March 16, 1865.
- "Undeveloped Source of Petroleum," *The Times* (London), March 20, 1865; March 22, 1865.
- "The Great Flood," *The Venango Spectator*, March 22, 1865.
An account of the great flood on the Allegheny River and Oil Creek, which caused an enormous amount of damage.
- "Tremendous Freshet in the Allegheny," *Oil City Register*, March 23, 1865.
- "The First Oil Well and Refinery," *The Warren Mail*, April 1, 1865.
This account is reprinted from the *Pittsburgh Oil News* and it tells of Kier's discovery of oil in the Tarentum salt wells and the subsequent disposal of it.
- "Oil in Pittsburgh in 1828," *Oil City Register*, April 6, 1865.
A reprint of a letter to the *Pittsburgh Gazette*, published in the *Journal of the Franklin Institute* for 1828. It is signed by "Mucious" and was written at a time when the lighting of Pittsburgh was being discussed.

"A Petrolean Exhibit," *The Pittsburgh Evening Chronicle*, April 7, 1865.
About the uses of petroleum.

"Petroleum Import Returns," *The Times* (London), April 13, 1865.

"Petroleum Prospectus," *The Times* (London), May 9, 1865.

"Petroleum Company of West Virginia," *The Times* (London), May 10, 1865.

"Plumer," *Oil City Register*, May 11, 1865.

A brief sketch of the growth and development of Plumer.

"Petroleum Correspondence," *Oil City Register*, June 1, 1865.

Letter from Plumer, dated May 30, 1865, and signed by "Harl." Tells of the rapid development and changes in Plumer.

"Petroleum Development on Pithole Creek," *Oil City Register*, June 1, 1865.

The Editor visits Pithole Creek and reports upon the activities and developments. An interesting account of the early days at Pithole City.

"Important Proceedings of Oil Producers and Landowners," *Oil City Register*, June 8, 1865.

An account of the meetings at Tarr and Blood farms in regard to tubing and seedbagging the wells.

"Plumer Correspondence," *Oil City Register*, June 8, 1865.

A letter from Plumer, dated June 6, 1865, and signed by "Harl," tells of the new developments at Pithole and in the vicinity of Plumer.

"Plumer Correspondence," *Oil City Register*, June 22, 1865.

A letter from Plumer, dated June 19, 1865, and signed by "Harl," tells of the fire at Pithole and the growth of the city.

"The Oil Business," *New York Daily Tribune*, June 27, 1865.

"Webster Petroleum Company of Boston," *Oil City Register*, June 29, 1865.

"Oil City Petroleum and Refining Company," *Oil City Register*, June 29, 1865.

"A Petroleum Bubble," *The Crawford Democrat*, July 4, 1865.

Reprinted from the *Pittsburgh Post*. A story on the United Service Company of New York and the swindle.

"Oil Wells," *The Times* (London), July 8, 1865.

"Prince Petroleum," *New York Tribune*, July 12, 1865.

Tuel, J. E., "The Oil Region," *New York Tribune*, July 19, 1865.

"Pithole Correspondence," *Oil City Register*, July 20, 1865.

A letter from Pithole City and signed by "Harl" gives the latest developments at Pithole.

"Sketches of Oil Creek," *Oil City Register*, August 3, 1865.

Brief report of the Editor's visit to Petroleum Center and the farms in that vicinity.

"The Pithole Region," *Oil City Register*, August 3, 1865.

Observations upon the rapid rise and growth of Pithole City.

"The Business of Oil City," *Oil City Register*, August 10, 1865.

A short story about the amount of business transacted in Oil City during the summer of 1865.

"Notes about Petroleum," *The Times* (London), August 15, 1865.

"The Pithole Region," *Oil City Register*, August 17, 1865.

An account of what the Editor saw on a visit to Pithole City.

"The Pithole Oil Region," *The Warren Mail*, August 19, 1865.

This account of the activity at Pithole is taken from the *Oil City Register*. Gives interesting information about Prather City and Rooker farm.

Northrup, M. H., "The Producing Wells on Pithole," *The Venango Spectator*, August 23, 1865.

Gives an account of the ten producing wells at Pithole.

"Letter from Pit Hole," *The Venango Spectator*, August 23, 1865.

Signed by "New Canaan," and dated August 18, 1865.

"From Pithole," *Oil City Register*, August 24, 1865.

A letter from Pithole City, dated August 21, 1865, and signed by "Harl," tells of events at Pithole City.

"Petroleum Export Returns," *The Times* (London), August 25, 1865.

"Production of Petroleum in Pennsylvania," *The Times* (London), August 25, 1865.

"Pithole Oil Region," *Oil City Register*, September 7, 1865.

A brief account of the developments at Pithole City.

"Use of the Divining Rod in the Location of Oil Wells," *Oil City Register*, September 7, 1865.

"Plumer," *The Venango Spectator*, September 13, 1865.

A short account of the growth of Plumer.

"Petroleum Import Returns," *The Times* (London), September 14, 1865.

"England and America," *The Crawford Democrat*, September 16, 1865.

An account of the visit of James McHenry, Sir S. Morton Peto, T. W. Kennard, Senor Leon Lilo, E. F. Satterthwaite, and other distinguished Englishmen and Europeans to the oil regions.

"A Trip to the Oil Regions," *Doylestown Democrat* (Pennsylvania), September 26, 1865.

Signed by J. D. M. Especially interesting observations are made upon the operations around Franklin and Oil City, and Oil City as a business center in 1865.

"A Trip to the Oil Regions," *Doylestown Democrat*, October 3, 1865.

This account deals with the writer's trip from Rouseville to Pithole and what he saw at Pithole. Signed by J. D. M.

"Fountains of Wealth," *New York Daily Tribune*, October 6, 1865.

"From the Oil Regions," *New York Daily Tribune*, October 10, 1865.

"Brief Account of Events in Pithole," *Pithole Daily Record*, October 13, 1865.

Story of how the United States Petroleum Company and the Pithole Creek Petroleum Company came to be organized.

"Petrolia, the Oil Land," *The Times* (London), October 18, 1865.

"Oil Regions of Pennsylvania," *The Times* (London), October 18, 1865; October 21, 1865; October 24, 1865; October 31, 1865; November 10, 1865.

"Fire at Tidioute," *The Warren Mail*, October 21, 1865.

An account of the first fire at Tidioute; reprinted from the *Erie Dispatch* of October 15, 1865.

"The Petroleum Fields," *New York Tribune*, October 24, 1865.

"Oleaginous Mineral in New South Wales," *The Times* (London), October 24, 1865.

"Pennsylvania Lubricating Oil Land Company," *The Times* (London), October 30, 1865.

"The True Representative Men of the Venango Oil Region," *Oil City Register*, November 9, 1865.

A brief sketch of some of the most prominent men by whose labors the Venango oil field has been developed. It includes S. M. Kier, Peter Graff, Wm. Hasson, Jacob Painter, Ruben Bughman, Robert Sproull, Geo. H. Bissell, and Jonathan Eveleth.

"The True Representative Men of the Venango Oil Region," *Oil City Register*, November 16, 1865.

Continues the previous article on prominent men in developing the Venango oil region—Dr. Len Halderman, Brewer, Watson & Co., and those who operated on the Clapp, H. McClintock, and Rynd Farms.

"Up the Allegheny," *Oil City Register*, November 16, 1865.

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 23, 1865.

"Petroleum Mining," *The Times* (London), November 27, 1865.

"Petroleum Discovered in Yorkshire," *The Times* (London), November 30, 1865.

"The True Representative Men of the Venango Oil Region," *Oil City Register*, November 30, 1865.

Continues the sketches of prominent oil men—the Egberts, Charles Hyde, and those interested in the G. W. McClintock farm.

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 4, 1865.

"Geology of Oil Creek—The Strata," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 4, 1865.

Taylor, B. F., "Petrolia, Pennsylvania," *The Warren Mail*, December 9, 1865.

Correspondence of B. F. Taylor. Copied from the *Chicago Journal*. A breezily and attractively written letter about Oil City and a ride on an Oil Creek packet.

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 9, 1865.

"Geology of Oil Creek—Statistics Wanted," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 11, 1865.

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 12, 1865.

"Geology of Oil Creek—Origin of Petroleum, No. 1," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 18, 1865.

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 21, 1865.

"The True Representative Men of the Venango Oil Region," *Oil City Register*, December 21, 1865.

Continues the previous sketch about those developing the McElhenny and Farrell farms, also some remarks about Cherry Run.

"Great Fire at Shaffer," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 27, 1865.

Buckbee, A., "The Fire at Shaffer—Details of Losses and Insurance," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 28, 1865.

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 30, 1865.

"Geology of Oil Creek—Origin of Petroleum, No. 2," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 30, 1865.

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 10, 1865.

"The True Representative Men of the Venango Oil Region," *Oil City Register*, January 11, 1866.

Continues the sketch of those men active at Cherry Run, in the Humboldt Refinery, Osceola Oil Company, also some remarks about J. J. Wadsworth, Geo. C. Prather and other operators in the Pithole region.

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 16, 1866.

Scott, A., "Flying Trip to West Hickory," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 20, 1866.

Visits farms along West Hickory Creek and tells of the activities and prospects.

"Pennsylvania Tubing Transportation Co.," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 23, 1866.

Reprinted from the *Rochester (N. Y.) Union*; tells of the incorporation, organization, and construction of the pipeline from Pithole to Oleopolis.

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 27, 1866.

"Oil Creek, Pithole and West Hickory," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 27, 1866.

Reprinted from the *Pittsburgh Commercial*; tells of the developments on Oil Creek, Pithole, and the excitement on West Hickory Creek.

"The Fire on Bennehoff Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 2, 1866.

An account of the fire on Bennehoff Run.

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 6, 1866.

"Pithole and Vicinity—The Rooker Farm," *Oil City Register*, February 8, 1866.

The story of Jesse Rooker's arrival in Pennsylvania, his purchase of a farm and its sale at the beginning of the Pithole oil excitement.

"Oil Fields of Canada," *The Pittsburgh Evening Chronicle*, February 9, 1866.

An account of a visit to the Canadian oil fields.

"The New 'Strike' at Pithole," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 10, 1866.

Tells of finding oil in wells which were pumped to put out a fire.

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 13, 1866.

"Stevenson Farm," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 15, 1866.

A good account of the beginning of developments in September, 1865, and the wells drilled.

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 21, 1866.

"West Hickory," *Petroleum Reporter* (Titusville), March 3, 1866.

Signed by "N," a regular correspondent of the *Petroleum Reporter*.

"The History of Tubing for Transporting Oil," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 6, 1866.

A good account of the early development of pipe lines to 1866.

"Letter from Pleasantville—The Companies, Farms, and Wells on West Pithole," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 7, 1866.

An excellent account of the developments on West Pithole Creek. Signed by "Scribbs, Jr."

"Prospects for the Petroleum Development of 1866," *The Venango Spectator*, March 9, 1866.

Reprint of an article from the *Oil City Register* on the various influences which should tend to make 1866 a great year in the oil field.

"Burning Oil Well in Western Pennsylvania," *The Times* (London), March 9, 1866.

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 22, 1866.

Interesting information on the dull times around Petroleum Centre.

Harris, C. H., "The Greatest Fire in the Oil Region," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 23, 1866.

Describes the fire on the Stevenson farm, March 22, 1866.

Harris, C. H., "Great Fire on Stevenson Farm," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 24, 1866.

"Letter from West Pithole," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 27, 1866.

Letter of "Squibbs, Jr.," a regular correspondent.

"Heavy Bank Failure," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 28, 1866.

Discusses the failure of Culver, Penn & Co.

"The Great Bank Failure," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 29, 1866.
The Culver-Penn failure.

"The Light of Other Days," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 31, 1866.
An account of the old Pendleton House in Titusville during the palmy days of 1865. Tells of business, profits, and customers.

"Another Terrific Blaze," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 2, 1866.
Story of a fire at the Hyde and Egbert Farm. Reported by C. H. Harris.

"Our Reporter Rusticates—Letter from J. P.," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 13, 1866.

A reporter for the *Titusville Morning Herald* writes of a trip from Titusville to Petroleum Centre and gives a survey of operations on Cow Run, Bull Run, Pioneer Run, and the McElhenny farms, written from Boyd farm, April 10, 1866 and signed by "J. P."

"Our Reporter on His Travels—Letter from Oil City," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 14, 1866.

Titusville Morning Herald reporter completes his trip to Oil City from Petroleum Centre and describes the various farms and the production along the way. Written from Oil City, April 12, 1866, and signed by "J. P."

"Oil City—The Pithole Railroad—Reporter's Observations," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 17, 1866.

Written from Titusville, April 13, 1866 and signed by "J. P." An account of a trip from Oil City to Oleopolis *via* the railroad and up to Pithole.

"The Oil Field," *The Reno Times*, April 19, 1866.

A review of the oil regions for the week ending April 18th. Contains a wealth of material relating to Reno, Pithole, Tarr Farm, Foster Farm, Miller Farm, Cherry Run, Petroleum Centre, and Funkville.

"The Petroleum Interest in Congress," *The Reno Times*, April 19, 1866.

Relates to the efforts made by an oil region committee to secure the repeal of the tax on crude petroleum.

"Injustice to Petroleum," *The Reno Times*, April 19, 1866.

Relates to the unjust restrictions placed upon petroleum by various states and cities because of its inflammability.

"The Development of Petroleum as a Science," *The Reno Times*, April 19, 1866.

A lengthy article pertaining to the improved methods of development around Reno, Pennsylvania.

"The First Prize Fight in the Oil Regions," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 20, 1866.

An account of the fight at Pithole between Ben Hogan and Jack Holliday on April 18, 1866.

- "Incendiary Mob at Shaffer," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 21, 1866.
An account of the fire of H. Harley & Co. at Shaffer on April 20, 1866. Second fire within a few days. Teamsters set place afire.
- "A Ramble on Church Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 28, 1866.
Observations upon the activities and developments on Church Run.
- "Oil Fields of Venango County," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 3, 1866.
Especially valuable for a brief account of the oil pits along Oil Creek.
- "Paraffin Lamps," *The Times* (London), May 10, 1866.
- "Who Owns the Holmden Farm," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 11, 1866.
Discusses the title to the Holmden farm from the beginning of the excitement in 1864 to 1866.
- "New York Petroleum Exchange," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 19, 1866.
Description of the location, rooms, activities, firms, etc. Probably written by George M. Mowbray.
- "Fire on Pioneer Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 21, 1866.
Account of the fire on Pioneer Run, May 19, 1866.
- "Down the Creek," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 23, 1866.
Principally about the ceaseless activity in and around Petroleum Centre; two-thirds of the oil comes from there at this date.
- Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 30, 1866.
An account of activity at Petroleum Centre.
- Harris, C. H., "Letter from Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 5, 1866.
An account of activities at this point—hotels, theatre, and developments.
- "The Fire Fiend on Bennehoff Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 9, 1866.
An account of a fire on July 7, 1866.
- "The Great Oil Fires of 1865-'66," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 13, 1866.
An account of the fires during this period—loss nearly \$1,000,000.
- Morris, Wm. S., "Culver Literary Association," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 17, 1866.
An account of the organization and its activities. John Archbold was an active member of this association.
- Harris, C. H. ("Off T. Goof"), "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 17, 1866.

"The Wells on Bull Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 18, 1866.

Written from Petroleum Centre, July 17, 1866. Tells of a visit to various wells and the activities along the Run. Signed by "S. D. E."

"Tidioute," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 19, 1866.

Description of the features of the town—railroad, banking facilities, newspaper, and stores.

"Tidioute Oil Field," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 19, 1866.

Reprinted from the *Tidioute Chronicle*; lists tracts, leases, wells producing, wells going down, especially on Dennis Run.

Drake, E. L., "How Oil Was Discovered," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 27, 1866.

An interview with Drake about the Drake Well on his return to Titusville.

"Matters on Oil Creek," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 30, 1866.

Letter of "Occasional," who traveled down Oil Creek and made observations about the farms and activities.

"Fearful Riot at Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 1, 1866.

An account of a mob pillaging two bawdy houses in Petroleum Centre.

"New Method of Boring Oil Wells," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 6, 1866.

"Boyd 'City'," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 6, 1866.

Tells about the growth of a city on the Boyd Farm.

"Pithole," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 7, 1866.

"R. L. D." visited Pithole about a year ago and again in August, 1866. Gives an account of what it was and what it is now.

Harris, C. H. ("Off T. Goof"), "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 11, 1866.

"Large Well on Cherry Tree Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 17, 1866.

Gives an account of the activity on Cherry Run prior to Pithole, then a description of the large well on the Burns & Fairchild tract.

"Petroleum Centre and the Prolific Oil Farms," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 20, 1866.

Reprinted from the correspondence of the *Buffalo Courier*.

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 22, 1866.

"Petroleum as Steam Fuel," *The Times* (London), August 30, 1866.

"Oil as a Substitute for Coal," *The Times* (London), August 31, 1866.

Seely, Charles A., "A Week on Oil Creek," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 1, 1866.

Reprinted from the *Scientific American* of September 1, 1866. Professor Seely spent a week on Oil Creek with Titusville as a base and made daily excursions over the oil fields. He said that he picked up enough material out of which to make several books. Discusses tank cars, torpedoes, and the pipe lines of Harley.

"Note about Petroleum," *The Times* (London), September 3, 1866.

"Great Fire at Dennis Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 3, 1866.

Letter written from Tidioute, September 1, 1866, by "Dennis."

Harris, C. H. ("Off T. Goof"), "Letter from Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 11, 1866.

Harris, C. H. ("Off T. Goof"), "Letter from Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 19, 1866.

Harris, C. H. ("Off T. Goof"), "Letter from Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 27, 1866.

"Paraffin Lamps," *The Times* (London), October 1, 1866; October 2, 1866; October 4, 1866.

"Pithole As It was," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 3, 1866.

From the "Notes of an English Traveler."

Leonard, C. C. ("Crocus"), "'Crocus' Letter from Pithole," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 3, 1866.

Dated October 1, 1866, at Pithole.

"The Farmers' Railroad," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 5, 1866.

Tells of the organization, construction, and completion of the railroad from Oil City to Petroleum Centre.

Harris, C. H. ("Off T. Goof"), "Letter from Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 9, 1866.

Leonard, C. C. ("Crocus"), "'Crocus' Letter from Pithole," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 10, 1866.

"Pithole," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 16, 1866.

The Editor tells of his recent visit to Pithole.

Harris, C. H. ("Off T. Goof"), "Letter from Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 22, 1866.

Harris, C. H. ("Off T. Goof"), "Our Oil Letter—Valuable Facts and Figures—The Yield of Numerous Famous Wells," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 23, 1866.

Dated October 16, 1866 from Petroleum Centre and it is about affairs there.

"Pithole Oil Matters," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 26, 1866.

Indicates the important farms at Pithole; lists wells and productions. Reprinted from the *Pithole Daily Record*.

Harris, C. H. ("Off T. Goof"), "Our Oil Letter—Pioneer City, etc.," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 27, 1866.

Gives an account of the activities about Pioneer City; observations made on the growth and developments of the place.

"The Foster Farm," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 31, 1866.

A reporter visits the Foster farm and tells about the beginning of operations there and the work of the Shoe & Leather Petroleum Co. Lists wells on its tract.

"The Oil Regions," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 3, 1866.

Letter to the *New York World* from Pioneer dated October 20, 1866. Gives an account of operations around Pioneer City and on Pioneer Run. A reliable and very comprehensive view of the developments here. The torpedo question is intelligently discussed.

Harris, C. H., "Bull Run—Skinner Farm—New Developments," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 7, 1866.

Especially detailed account about the Skinner farm and operations there.

"Matters on Bennehoff Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 20, 1866.

Letter by "S. D. E."

Harris, C. H., "Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 21, 1866.

Letter dated from Petroleum Centre November 19, 1866.

Harris, C. H., "Letter from Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 29, 1866.

Letter dated November 26, 1866 from Petroleum Centre.

"Notes About Petroleum," *The Times* (London), November 30, 1866.

Harris, C. H., "Sketches of the Oil Regions," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 1, 1866.

From C. H. Harris' *History of the Venango Oil Region*. The parts here relate to Petroleum Centre, Boyd Farm, and the Oil Creek Railroad.

Harris, C. H., "Sketches of the Oil Regions," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 3, 1866.

From C. H. Harris, *History of the Venango Oil Region*. The parts here relate to Titusville, Pithole, Pleasantville, Tidioute, Shaffer, Miller Farm, Pioneer, and the Roberts Torpedo.

"The Steele Farm and Its Farmer Owner," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 21, 1866.

Reprinted from the Meadville (Pennsylvania) *Crawford Journal*; relates to John W. Steele.

"From Oildom Etc.," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 5, 1867.

Letter of "Cornplanter" to the *Rochester Union* and dated from Titusville on December 31, 1866. He records his observations about the sale of the Steele farm, John Bennehoff, the new county agitation, and Hickory. The Editor of the *Morning Herald* says that the account is accurate and reliable.

"Interesting Review of the Oil Regions Etc.," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 9, 1867.

Correspondence of the *Rochester Union*, dated from Titusville on March 2, 1867 and signed by "Cornplanter." Discusses the general dullness of business in the oil region, the disappearance of teamsters, the declining property value, pipelines, and tank cars.

"Pipes and Tanks at Titusville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 9, 1867.

Discusses Titusville's failure to construct pipe lines; urges the construction of tankage.

"Coal and Oil as Fuel," *The Times* (London), April 23, 1867.

"Oil Creek Dictionary," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 24, 1867.

A list of words used on Oil Creek and vicinity. Rather than give actual definitions, the writer is facetious.

"Great Fire at Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 25, 1867.

"Storage of Petroleum," *The Times* (London), May 10, 1867.

"Notes about Petroleum," *The Times* (London), June 1, 1867; June 3, 1867.

"Fire at Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 3, 1867.

"The Oil Country—Past and Present Condition, Moral and Social—Railroads," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 10, 1867.

Correspondence of the *Pittsburgh Commercial*; signed by J. M. Especially good on moral and social conditions, past and present, also on the railroad in the oil region.

"Petroleum," *The Crawford Democrat*, June 22, 1867.

Reprinted from the *New York Journal of Commerce*. A story of the use of oil as fuel on the United States gunboat Palos.

"Business in the Pennsylvania Oil Region," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 28, 1867.

Correspondence of the *Pittsburgh Commercial* dated from Oil City, June 20, 1867, and signed by "Observer." Discusses the depression, the causes, the new uses of petroleum, and the prospects ahead.

"Petroleum Fuel for Steamships," *The Venango Spectator*, June 28, 1867.

Story of experiments in using oil as a fuel on the gunboat Palos at Boston.

"Petroleum for Coal," *The Times* (London), July 4, 1867.

"Cornplanter's Letter—Petroleum for Fuel—Local Affairs," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 9, 1867.

Correspondence of the *Rochester Union* dated July 2, 1867 from Titusville and signed by "Cornplanter." The increase of tanks, the uses of petroleum, the advance in freight rates, and speculation in oil are subjects upon which observations are made.

"Petroleum As Fuel for Ocean Steamers," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 10, 1867.

Reprinted from the *New York Times*. Report of the trial of petroleum as fuel by the United States steamer Palos.

"Trial of Petroleum for Generating Steam," *The Times* (London), July 22, 1867.

"The Crisis in Oil—Better Times—Rochester Men in Luck—Oil Burning Locomotive—Tankage," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 30, 1867.

Correspondence of the *Rochester Union*, dated Titusville, July 23, 1867, and signed by "Cornplanter."

"Tidioute—Its Situation—Population—Dennis Run—Oil Production of Region—The Economites and Their Lands and Wells," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 14, 1867.

Correspondence of the *Pittsburgh Commercial*, dated from Tidioute, August 9, 1867, and signed by J. J. M.

"State of Trade in Petroleum," *The Times* (London), August 19, 1867; August 20, 1867.

"Disastrous Fire at Boyd Farm," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 4, 1867.

"Petroleum as Fuel," *The Venango Spectator*, October 11, 1867.

Interesting experiments with locomotives.

"Up and Down the Creek—A 'Cornplanter's' Letter," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 25, 1867.

Regular Titusville correspondence of the *Rochester Union*, dated October 18, 1867, and signed by "Cornplanter." Discusses the revival of business due to higher prices, developments at Petroleum Centre, Pioneer City, Shamburg, pipelines and iron tankage.

"Petroleum as Fuel," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 30, 1867.

John Ponton's Petroleum Burner.

"Pithole," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 6, 1867.

The Editor visits Pithole and describes how the city has declined.

"The Oil Business," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 8, 1867.

This is the first of the *Morning Herald's* regular monthly petroleum reports.

"Oil Creek Sketches," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 15, 1867.

A description of the use and development of the Miller Farm, or Meredith.

"The Bean Farm and Vicinity," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 16, 1867.

The Editor visits the Bean Farm and writes of operations there.

"Pittsburgh Oil Trade," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 16, 1867.

Reprint of an article from the *Pittsburgh Commercial* of November 13, 1867.

"Oil Creek—Its 'Oil Princes,'—Operators, etc.," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 19, 1867.

A description of the appearances of oil princes, wealth, habits, speech and character. All of this is general without any names being mentioned.

"Shamburg," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 20, 1867.

Discusses the rise and growth of Shamburg.

"The Great Walking Match at Pithole Yesterday," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 22, 1867.

An account of the walking match from Chase House, Pithole, to the Farmers' Hotel on the Titusville and Pithole Plank Road.

"Church Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 26, 1867.

Gives account of activities on Church Run at this date.

"Pioneer City," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 27, 1867.

An account of the rise and growth of Pioneer City.

"The Oil Business," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 9, 1867.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"The Oil Business," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 8, 1868.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Formal Opening of the Allegheny River Railroad," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 11, 1868.

This railroad connects Oil City and Pittsburgh.

"Robbery of John Benninghoff—\$200,000 Stolen," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 17, 1868.

Gives a brief account of the robbery.

"The Benninghoff Robbery—\$210,000 Carried Off—Three Men Arrested on Suspicion," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 18, 1868.

Gives a detailed account of the robbery.

"The Benninghoff Robbery—Further Particulars—Comments of the Press," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 24, 1868.

"The Benninghoff Robbery Again." *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 25, 1868.

An account of the arrest of D. H. Cady of Titusville for the Benninghoff robbery.

"Our City—Retrospective and Prospective," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 27, 1868.

Discusses the boom period, 1864-65, the reaction, and the present condition of Titusville.

"Titusville, Present and Future—No. 2," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 28, 1868.

A continuation of the previous article.

Holmes, S. N., "A Fifty-Barrel 'Spiritual' Well at Pleasantville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 3, 1868.

A letter from Pleasantville, dated February 1, 1868. Tells of striking this well, how it was located, and its production.

"The Oil Business," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 8, 1868.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"An Oil Prince in Bankruptcy," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 15, 1868.

Quotes the *Pittsburgh Commercial* on John W. Steele; an account of the filing of a bankruptcy petition and the claims of the creditors are given.

"Pithole Almost Destroyed by Fire," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 26, 1868.

An account of the fire.

"The Oil Business," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 9, 1868.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Pleasantville Oil Region," *Forest Press*, (Tionesta, Pennsylvania), March 14, 1868.

Letter from a citizen of Pleasantville about the oil developments there.

- "Pleasantville Oil Regions," *The Bee* (Tionesta), April 1, 1868.
Letter written by "Occasional" from Pleasantville, March 27, 1868.
- "The Oil Business," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 9, 1868.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "Imports of Petroleum," *The Times* (London), April 15, 1868; May 20, 1868.
- "Oil Lands," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 4, 1868.
An account of the movement from Upper Cherry Run to Pleasantville.
- "The Petroleum Business," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 5, 1868.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "Shamburg, Pleasantville, Tidioute," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 16, 1868.
Correspondence of the *Pittsburgh Commercial* from Tidioute, dated May 11, 1868; contains observations upon all of these places.
- "Petroleum Lamps and their Danger," *The Times* (London), May 25, 1868.
- "Allen V. A. H. Field on Petroleum," *The Times* (London), May 26, 1868.
- "The Petroleum Business," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 3, 1868.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "The Petroleum Business," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 2, 1868.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "Petroleum a Valuable Insecticide," *The Times* (London), July 13, 1868.
- "Pleasantville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 22, 1868.
Excellent account of the first wells, present production, business activity, moral and social conditions, etc. Letter signed by W. W.
- "Tidioute," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 23, 1868.
Discusses migration of operators to greener pastures, the daily production, and the building of the Universalist Church. Letter signed by "Eursansee."
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 27, 1868.
Excellent review of the current developments in and about Pleasantville.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 29, 1868.
- "The Benninghoff Robbery," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 29, 1868.
Gives an account of the robbery based upon the testimony of Weldy, Shoppart, and the detectives on the case.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 30, 1868.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 31, 1868.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 1, 1868.

"The Story Farm," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 1, 1868.

Correspondent of the *Pittsburgh Commercial* on Oil Creek writes an interesting sketch of the Story Farm from the beginning of operations there until the present date.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 3, 1868.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 4, 1868.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 5, 1868.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 6, 1868.

"The Benninghoff Robbery," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 6, 1868.

From the *Pittsburgh Commercial*.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 7, 1868.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 8, 1868.

"The Benninghoff Robbery—How the Prisoners Looked—Their Examination," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 8, 1868.

An account of Joseph Benninghoff's efforts to apprehend the robbers, the character of men held at Franklin, the hearing before the judge, and the filing of bail.

Hazzard, J. R. G., "The Oil County," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 8, 1868.

A special correspondent of the *New York Daily Tribune* gives an excellent account of a trip through the oil region from Franklin, Oil City, Oil Creek, and Titusville. This article is dated at Petroleum Centre, August 1, 1868.

"Business in Titusville—The Good Time Coming," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 8, 1868.

Discusses the effects of the Pleasantville boom upon Titusville as a center of trade.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 10, 1868.

"Pleasantville News," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 11, 1868.

Hazzard, J. R. G., "The Oil Region," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 11, 1868.

A special correspondent of the *New York Daily Tribune* gives an excellent account of the effect of the Pleasantville excitement upon Titusville and Shamburg. The letter is dated August 3, 1868, at Titusville.



Mather Photograph

NIAGARA AND PIERSON FARMS, CHERRY TREE RUN, 1868.

- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 12, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 13, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 14, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 15, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 17, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 19, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 20, 1868.
- "The Widow McClintock (Steele), Rynd, Blood, and Tarr Farms—Johnny Steele," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 20, 1868.
Correspondence of the *Pittsburgh Commercial*, dated August 12, 1868, from the Tarr Farm and signed by "Raleigh."
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 21, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 22, 1868.
Especially important for the list of wells and production at Pleasantville.
- "An Oil Bubble Pinched," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 22, 1868.
The Anglo-American Oil Company swindle.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 24, 1868.
- "New Act about Petroleum," *The Times* (London), August 24, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 27, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 28, 1868.
- "Professor Hitchcock's Description of Petroleum," *The Times* (London), August 28, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 29, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 31, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 1, 1868.
Especially interesting in regard to Brown Brothers' store in Pleasantville and A. H. Curtis, who made a fortune from his farm.
- "The Anglo-American Oil Company," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 1, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 2, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 3, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 4, 1868.
Especially interesting is the story of "The Den" of oil operators at Pleasantville.

- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 5, 1868.
- "Petroleum Accidents and Heating Boilers by Steam," *The Times* (London), September 5, 1868.
- "Petroleum as Fuel for Locomotives," *The Times* (London), September 7, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 7, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 8, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 9, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 10, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 11, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 12, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 14, 1868.
- "Reminiscences of Crittenden Hall," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 14, 1868.
- An account of the history of this hall from the beginning in 1861 until occupied by the *Titusville Morning Herald*. Especially interesting is the brief account of Titusville in 1861.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 15, 1868.
- "Origin of Petroleum," *The Times* (London), September 16, 1868.
- "Factory of Petroleum, 6 Cwt. on Fire at Buda," *The Times* (London), September 18, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 19, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 21, 1868.
- An interesting story of the Black Flag well.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 22, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 23, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 24, 1868.
- "New Order on the Carriage of Petroleum," *The Times* (London), September 25, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 26, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 28, 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 29, 1868.

"The Oil Revival—The Pleasantville District—Lucky Investments—and Big Strikes—Principal Operators—How Production is Increased," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 30, 1868.

Special correspondence of the *Rochester Chronicle* from Pleasantville, September 24, 1868, and signed by "Flour City." The Editor of the *Titusville Morning Herald* says the main facts are correct but production is exaggerated.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 2, 1868.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 3, 1868.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 7, 1868.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 8, 1868.

Gives a list of 300 uncalled for letters at the Pleasantville post-office.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 15, 1868.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 19, 1868.

"Colonel E. L. Drake," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 20, 1868.

Reports on the improved health of Drake. Suggests financial aid for Drake.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 20, 1868.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 21, 1868.

"Colonel E. L. Drake," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 23, 1868.

From the *Erie Republican*. Points out the importance of Colonel Drake to the oil industry and suggests financial aid for him.

"Petroleum on Board a Mail Steamer," *The Times* (London), October 24, 1868.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 26, 1868.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 27, 1868.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 2, 1868.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 6, 1868.

"Letter from Shamburg," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 7, 1868.

Written by "Chuggins" and dated November 5, 1868; gives a good account of a trip to Shamburg, Middletown, Atkinson, and Miller Farm.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 9, 1868.

"Oil and Romance—Marriage and Dissipation—Desertion and Divorce," *The Venango Spectator*, November 13, 1868.

Reprinted from the *Erie Republican*; story of Nelson Rooker, his dissipation and loss of fortune.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 14, 1868.

"The Oil Regions of Pennsylvania," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 16, 1868.

Correspondence of the *Rochester Union*, dated November 11, 1868, at Titusville and signed by "Cornplanter." Observations upon the travel over the plank-road to Pleasantville, the increased business in Titusville, the belt theory, and the increase of tankage.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 16, 1868.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 17, 1868.

"The *Herald* Libel Suit," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 26, 1868.
Suit over the *Herald's* exposure of Anglo-American Oil Company.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 28, 1868.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 5, 1868.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Pennsylvania Oil Regions," *The Times* (London), December 7, 1868.

"Church Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 9, 1868.

Gives an account of operations on Church Run.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 5, 1869.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"The Oil Regions," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 12, 1869.

Correspondence of the *New York World*, written from Pleasantville, January 12, 1869. An excellent brief sketch of the oil development from the beginning to and including the Pleasantville field; especially good on the speculation and crisis of 1865 and 1866. The Editor of the *Titusville Morning Herald* commends the article.

"Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 26, 1869.

"New Law about Petroleum," *The Times* (London), January 26, 1869.

"On the Storage of Petroleum," *The Times* (London), January 28, 1869;
February 19, 1869.

"Second Annual Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 29, 1869.

Review of the petroleum market on Oil Creek. First installment.

"Second Annual Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 30, 1869.

Second installment—production since 1859.

- "The Bennehoff Robbery," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 1, 1869.
From the *Pittsburgh Commercial*. A story of the trial of Geiger and Shoppart for robbery.
- "Oil Producers Circular," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 3, 1869.
- "Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 5, 1869.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "Second Annual Report Continued," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 8, 1869.
Third installment—number of producing wells—average capacity—number of wells completed in 1868.
- "Pleasantville Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 8, 1869.
- "Second Annual Petroleum Report Continued," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 9, 1869.
Fourth installment—stocks on hand in the United States and Europe January 1, 1868 and 1869.
- "Letter from an Old Operator—Church Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 9, 1869.
"An Operator" records his observations of the work on Church Run.
- "Second Annual Petroleum Report—Concluded," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 10, 1869.
Fifth installment—Consumption in 1868.
- "Oil Producers Meeting—Adoption of Constitution—Election of Officers," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 13, 1869.
- "Oil Creek and Allegheny Railroad," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 15, 1869.
Annual report of the President, Edward F. Gay, history of the consolidation—condition of road and rolling stock—dividends, etc.
- "The Last Phase of the Benninghoff Case," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 27, 1869.
Story of the arrest of Ira H. Pierce, an ex-attorney of Titusville, his release and vindication.
- "Matters in Oildom," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 2, 1869.
Correspondence of the *Rochester Union* from Titusville, dated February 13, 1869, and signed by "Cornplanter." Observations upon the use of torpedoes—business in Titusville—Titusville Oil Works—refinery business.
- "Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 5, 1869.
Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Crime and Violence at Petroleum Centre," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 18, 1869.

Editorial upon the scandalous conditions existing at Petroleum Centre.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 5, 1869.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Pleasantville Letter," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 12, 1869.

Signed by "On Foot."

"The Pithole of To-Day—Reminiscences," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 27, 1869.

An excellent account of the deserted character of Pithole in April, 1869.

"The Titusville Postoffice," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 7, 1869.

History of the post office from 1815 to 1869.

Trowbridge, J. T., "A Carpet-Bagger in Pennsylvania," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 25, 1869.

Reprinted from the *Atlantic Monthly* for June, 1869. Trowbridge began his tour of the oil regions in November, 1868. He gives his impressions and observations upon Titusville in 1869, the coming of Drake in 1859, the drilling for oil, the spread of the excitement down Oil Creek valley, John Steele, Pleasantville, and Pithole. The Editor of the *Titusville Morning Herald* says of this article, "it is beyond comparison the best treatment of a familiar subject that has yet appeared in print." For other remarks see the *Titusville Morning Herald* for May 24, 1869.

"Liquid Fuel as a Substitute for Petroleum," *The Times* (London), May 25, 1869.

Trowbridge, J. T., "A Carpet-Bagger in Pennsylvania," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 26, 1869.

A continuation of the previous article.

Trowbridge, J. T., "A Carpet-Bagger in Pennsylvania," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 27, 1869.

A continuation of the previous article.

"Oil Developments below Franklin," *The Venango Spectator*, May 28, 1869.

"Oil Production below Franklin," *The Venango Spectator*, June 4, 1869.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 9, 1869.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Oil Developments below Franklin," *The Venango Spectator*, June 11, 1869.

Hays, Major, "The Oil Country," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 12, 1869.

Reprinted from the *Meadville Republican*. Major Hays, late Reserve Assessor for this district, visited in Titusville on June 10, and presents his observations on business conditions in the region, the activity at Petroleum Centre, and the appearance of Titusville.

"Oil Developments below Franklin," *The Venango Spectator*, June 18, 1869.

"Strange Story of a City," *The Venango Spectator*, July 2, 1869.

Reprinted from the *Cleveland Herald*. Short sketch of Pithole as it appears in 1869.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 9, 1869.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Petroleum Bill Amended," *The Times* (London), July 17, 1869.

"A Glimpse of Pleasantville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 24, 1869.

A pen picture of Pleasantville after the decline of the oil excitement.

"James A. Sheriff," *Petroleum Centre Daily Record*, July 30, 1869.

Story of one of the pioneers of the oil region. Sheriff came to Oil Creek in 1862; he began a hardware business at Petroleum Centre and built up an excellent trade.

"Early History of Pleasantville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 16, 1869.

Reprinted from the *Petroleum Gaslight* of Pleasantville. Story of the town from a very early date to about 1835.

"The Benninghoff Bond Robbery in a New Phase," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 17, 1869.

Reprinted from the *New York Herald*, August 14, 1869.

"The Income Tax," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 25, 1869.

Gives a list of persons in Meadville, Titusville, Pleasantville, Pithole, Shamburg, Neilsburg, Tionesta, Pioneer, Petroleum Centre, Tarr farm, Story farm, Rynd farm, and the amount of their income.

"Monthly Petroleum Reports," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 9, 1869.

"The Last Bull Movement in Oil," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 13, 1869.

Story of the attempt of the producers and refiners of Pittsburgh to advance oil prices by stopping the refinery of oil.

"Petroleum at Sea—a Fearful Scene," *The Times* (London), September 5, 1869; September 16, 1869; September 17, 1869.

"Petroleum Matters at Kane City," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 25, 1869.

"Petroleum and Gas Acts," *The Times* (London), September 30, 1869.

"Notes about Petroleum," *The Times* (London), October 2, 1869; October 6, 1869; October 16, 1869; October 19, 1869.

Cotton, J. C., "The Late Dr. W. W. Jennings," *The Crawford Democrat*, October 9, 1869.

This account of Dr. Jennings of Titusville was written by Dr. Cotton of Meadville for the *Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania at Its Annual Session*.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 11, 1869.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Petroleum and Naptha," *The Times* (London), October 12, 1869.

"The Parker's Landing Territory—New Strikes—Production," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 30, 1869.

"The 'Bull' Rise and 'Corner' in Oil—The Shorts 'Squeezed' at Philadelphia," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 1, 1869.

An account of the "bull" rise in October, 1869, and the squeezing of the "shorts" in Philadelphia.

"Carriage of Petroleum," *The Times* (London), November 1, 1869.

"The 'Corner' in Oil—A Crash Imminent," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 9, 1869.

From the *Pittsburgh Dispatch*. An account of the "corner" on oil organized in Pittsburgh.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 10, 1869.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Excitement in the Oil Markets—The 'Bull' Rise," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 18, 1869.

Discusses the "corner" of oil in Pittsburgh.

"Reminiscence of the Early Days of Petroleum," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 29, 1869.

Correspondent of the *Western Pennsylvanian*, writing from Union Mills, tells of the early days of Union Mills as an oil shipping point on the P. & E.

"Relief for Col. Drake," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 3, 1869.

An account of a public meeting held at Corinthian Hall on December 1, 1869, to discuss Col. Drake's situation and take measures for his relief.

- "Our Monthly Oil Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 9, 1869.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "Was Col. Drake Really the Pioneer of Oil Development?" *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 24, 1869.
Discusses prominent facts surrounding the sinking of the Drake Well to show that Drake was a pioneer—not a mere agent of an oil company. Also points out the borrowing of money to finish well.
- "The Pittsburgh Oil Ring," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 28, 1869.
- "Pennsylvania Oil Slang," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 1, 1870.
- "Our Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 10, 1870.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "Petrolia," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 12, 1870.
Correspondence of the *Springfield Republican*. A sketch about Dennis Run.
- "Our Annual Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 24, 1870.
Excellent resume of production, prices, developments, exports, etc., for 1869.
- "The Oil Regions by a Pittsburghian," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 1, 1870.
From a *Pittsburgh Gazette* correspondent. Excellent short account of Parker's Landing, Oil City, and Tionesta.
- "Petroleum Oil Wells," *The Times* (London), February 1, 1870.
- "Our Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 9, 1870.
Regular monthly oil report.
- "Sale of Petroleum," *The Times* (London), February 22, 1870.
- "Titusville Business Directory," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 1, 1870.
A classified list of business firms in Titusville in March, 1870.
- "Our Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 16, 1870.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 11, 1870.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "A Glance at Oildom," *The Crawford Democrat*, April 23, 1870.
The Editor writes about his trip to Oil City, Franklin, and other points in the oil region.

"The West Hickory Territory and New Strike," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 10, 1870.

Discusses the Venture well on West Hickory and the excitement.

"The New Fields, West Hickory, Brady's Bend, and the Prospects," *The Venango Spectator*, May 13, 1870.

Jackson, O. H., "Reminiscences of the Press of the Oil Country," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 18, 1870.

Jackson of the *Pleasantville Gaslight* records his recollections about the *Titusville Gazette and Oil Creek Reporter*, the *Petroleum Reporter*, *Oil City Register*, *Pithole Daily Record*, and *Petroleum Centre Daily Record*.

"The Gas and Burning Wells of Sandy," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 20, 1870.

"Tip-Top—How an Oil Town Was Named," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 24, 1870.

"West Hickory Oil Territory," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 25, 1870.
Correspondence of the *Tionesta Press* from White Oaks, Forest County, May 18, 1870.

"West Hickory," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 28, 1870.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 11, 1870.
Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Viewing the Oil Country under Difficulties," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 16, 1870.

Correspondence of the *Buffalo Courier* from Titusville, June 2, 1870, and signed by "Oil Off The Brain." Observations upon the activities about Fagundas City.

"West Hickory Items," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 20, 1870.

"West Hickory," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 24, 1870.

"Petroleum Trade," *The Times* (London), June 27, 1870.

"Shamburg," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 29, 1870.

An excellent account of the rise of Shamburg and Atkinson and the growth of these communities.

"West Hickory Wells," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 1, 1870.

An account of dry holes struck on West Hickory and the abandonment of other wells.

Johns, W. R., "Oil City As It Was and Is," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 11, 1870.

Especially interesting in regard to pond freshets.

"Personsville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 12, 1870.

An account of the business activity.

- "Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 12, 1870.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "The Shaffer Run Territory," *The Venango Spectator*, July 22, 1870.
Describes wells and activity in this region.
- Johns, W. R., "From Oil City to the Nobel Well in the Olden Time,"
Titusville Morning Herald, July 25, 1870.
From the *Oil City Register*. Reminiscences of the early days and the operations between Oil City and the Noble Well.
- "Petroleum Bill," *The Times* (London), August 4, 1870.
- "Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 11, 1870.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "'Mill' on the Mill Farm," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 16, 1870.
A report of the famous Garvey-Shepard prize fight at Red Hot.
- "Oil Spring at Hackney Wick," *The Times* (London), August 30, 1870.
- "Reminiscence of 1797," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 5, 1870.
A short article about Oil Creek valley by a correspondent of the *Meadville Republican*; possibly written by John Reynolds.
- "The New Opera House and Hotel Building," *Titusville Morning Herald*,
September 7, 1870.
Discusses the construction and arrangement of the Parshall Opera House and Hotel.
- "Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 12, 1870.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "The Citizens Bank," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 19, 1870.
A description of the new building and a general account of the institution.
- "The Signs of the Times in Titusville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, Sep-
tember 22, 1870.
An account of the building progress in Titusville during the summer of 1870.
- "Building Improvements in Titusville during the Past Season," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 30, 1870.
Gives a list of building improvements made in Titusville during the past season.
- "Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 11, 1870.
Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Oil Found in Sugar Grove, Pa.," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 13, 1870.

From the *Jamestown Journal*.

"Stand Off City," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 14, 1870.

Correspondent's letter to *Titusville Morning Herald* dated October 13, 1870, from Stand Off City, Venango County, and signed by "Amanzo."

"Rouseville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 15, 1870.

Correspondent's letter to the Editor dated October 14, 1870, from Rouseville, signed by "Bismark." Gives a description of the activities about Stand Off City.

"Manufacturing Statistics of Titusville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 22, 1870.

"The Late Ebenezer Brewer," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 5, 1870.

Short sketch of the life of Ebenezer Brewer, who died in 1870.

"Parker's Landing in Flames," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 5, 1870.

An account of the fire.

"The Parker's Landing Fire—Further Particulars," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 7, 1870.

"Thirty-Seven Years Ago," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 8, 1870.

Letter from Ohio to the Editor telling of some recollections about Titusville thirty-seven years ago.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 10, 1870.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Petroleum *versus* Coal for Fuel," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 19, 1870.

Curry, Samuel, "Reminiscences of Titusville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 1, 1870.

Tells of the early days of Titusville.

"The Oil 'Corner'," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 2, 1870.

A short account of an oil corner on December oil.

"The Oil 'Corner'," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 5, 1870.

"The Corner in Oil," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 6, 1870.

Corrects some errors in previous article and gives further information.

"Cost of Oil Wells," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 8, 1870.

New improvements in drilling and cost of sinking wells are discussed.

"The Ups and Downs of a Petroleum Prince," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 10, 1870.

A correspondent of the *Cincinnati Commercial*, writing from Oil City, gives an interesting account of the career of John Steele.

"The St. Titus (R. C.) Church Property of Titusville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 10, 1870.

Gives an account of the establishment of the church, parsonage, school, convent, and the amount of property.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 12, 1870.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"The Refineries of Titusville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 14, 1870.

A detailed description of the refining process and individual refineries located in Titusville at this date.

"The New Parshall Opera House," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 15, 1870.

A description of this magnificent new opera house.

"Down the Creek—Stand Off City," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 17, 1870.

Correspondence to the Editor, dated December 15, 1870, from the Shaw Farm and signed by "Bismarck Jr." An account of the operations on the Shaw Farm.

"Parshall Opera House—Opening Night," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 20, 1870.

"A Visit to the Oil Region," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 23, 1870.

From the *Scranton Republican*. The writer of the article visited Titusville, Pleasantville, Shamburg, and Petroleum Centre, and recorded his observations. Signed by "R. M. J."

"The Other Side," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 26, 1870.

This article refers to those parasites about Johnny Steele and then quotes the letter of a correspondent to the *Meadville Republican* in defense of Steele.

"Letter from Stand Off City," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 5, 1871.

Letter dated January 2, 1871, from "Shawville" and signed by "Amanzo." Gives an account of business places and wells producing as well as those being drilled.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 11, 1871.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Great Gas Blowing Wells in Ohio," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 17, 1871.

"Letter from Oil City," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 19, 1871.

"New York Letter," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 23, 1871.

Letter dated from New York, January 18, 1871, signed by "L." A story of those Titusville citizens in New York at Henry Harley's invitation.

"Plea for an Oil Exchange," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 23, 1871.

Letter of a producer to the Editor urging cooperation against the forces depressing oil prices.

"Our New York Letter," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 23, 1871.

Letter dated from New York, January 19, 1871, signed by "L." Tells of the visit of the Titusville Commercial Club to New York City at Harley's invitation.

"New York Letter," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 24, 1871.

Letter dated from New York, January 20, 1871, signed by "L." Tells of the magnificent banquet given by Harley for the Titusville Commercial Club and other entertainment in New York. These articles were written by C. C. Leonard.

"The Titusville Oil Exchange," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 24, 1871.

A report of a meeting held January 23; the election of officers and list of members.

"Petroleum—Daily Product of the Oil Districts," *The Times* (London), February 1, 1871.

"The Benninghoff Robbery," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 3, 1871.

Reprint of an article from *The Venango Spectator* about the Benninghoff robbery in the light of new evidence gained by the trial and conviction of two more robbers.

"The Benninghoff Robbery," *The Venango Spectator*, February 3, 1871.

The conviction of two more of the Benninghoff robbers at this time makes the whole affair clearer to the public. A revised and corrected version of the robbery is given here.

"The Parshall Hotel," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 8, 1871.

Gives a detailed description of the exterior appearance.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 10, 1871.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Our Annual Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 15, 1871.

"Union and Titusville Railroad," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 16, 1871.

An account of the towns through which the railroad passes, distances, and facts about the railroad.

"Railroad Expansion," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 17, 1871.

An account of the celebration at Union Mills over the completion of the Union and Titusville Railroad.

"Geo. M. Mowbray," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 20, 1871.

Copied from the *Petroleum Monthly*. Story of Mowbray meeting Drake at the Scott House in Pittsburgh and the subsequent contract made for the sale of oil.

"A New Feature of the Benninghoff Robbery," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 27, 1871.

Letter of S. D. K. dated February 25, 1871, from Tarr farm.

"Pithole Valley Railroad," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 27, 1871.

"The Future of Titusville—Building Improvements," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 4, 1871.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 8, 1871.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Letter from Oil City," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 10, 1871.

"Destructive Fire at Petroleum Centre—Upper Half of Town in Ashes," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 11, 1871.

"Columbia Oil Company," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 14, 1871.

"By-Laws and Articles of the Titusville Oil Exchange," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 16, 1871.

The By-Laws and Articles were amended in March 13, 1871, and an exact copy of the amended by-laws is given here; not found in the existing records of the exchange.

"Titusville Driving Park," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 20, 1871.

A review of the organization, its rise, and the important horsemen.

Keeler, Ralph, and Harry Fenn, "Sketches in Oil," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 28, 1871.

Reprint of an article from *Every Saturday* for April 1, 1871. Of this article, the Editor of the *Titusville Morning Herald* says, "well done."

"Stand Off City," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 31, 1871.

Letter dated March 29, 1871, from Stand Off City and signed by "Georgius."

"Pithole Redivivus," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 5, 1871.

A lengthy review of the history of Pithole.

- "Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 10, 1871.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "Rouseville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 11, 1871.
- "The Van Syckel Refinery," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 15, 1871.
An excellent account of Van Syckel's activity as a shipper, pipe-line builder, and finally as a refiner in Titusville.
- "Church Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 19, 1871.
Discusses these operations on Church Run from its beginning in 1865 until the present date.
- "Church Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 22, 1871.
Gives a comprehensive report of the wells, owners, and yield on Church Run.
- "Armstrong County Oil Field—Lechburg and Kiskiminetas," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 27, 1871.
Letter signed by "Carpetbagger" from McBrierville, Pa., April 24, 1871.
- "Church Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 28, 1871.
An account of the lively operations on Church Run, especially on the Andy Kerr Farm.
- "Letter from Oil City," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 28, 1871.
- "Prentice Station," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 29, 1871.
Gives an interesting account of the rise and development of Prentice Station (Driftwood City).
- "Riceville—No. 1," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 2, 1871.
Gives a good account of the early days of Riceville—3½ miles below Oil Creek Lake.
- "Oil Operations at Shaw Farm," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 3, 1871.
Signed by "Carpetbagger," and dated May 2, 1871 at Stand Off City.
- "Church Run," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 8, 1871.
Principally about the Burns well, a dry hole, and the new developments.
- "Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 10, 1871.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "A Grand Affair," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 16, 1871.
An account of the preparations being made for the banquet and ball in honor of Henry Harley to be given by the Titusville Commercial Club.
- "Reminiscences of Lawrence County Oil Fields," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 16, 1871.
- "Riceville—No. 2," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 17, 1871.
Continues the history of Riceville.

- "Another Nitro-Glycerine Horror," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 20, 1871.
- "The Harley Banquet," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 25, 1871.
A full and detailed account of the Harley banquet and ball in Titusville.
- "The Commercial Club Ball and Reception," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 26, 1871.
- "Titusville As It Is and Was," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 2, 1871.
Letter signed by "Old Resident" telling of the early days. No indication of a specific date to which he refers; possibly he refers to the time prior to the oil discovery.
- "Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 10, 1871.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "A Visit from the Western Associated Press," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 10, 1871.
- "Petroleum Bill," *The Times* (London), June 20, 1871; June 26, 1871; June 27, 1871.
- "Phillip's and Webb's Circular on Petroleum," *The Times* (London), June 24, 1871.
- "John C. Bryan," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 30, 1871.
An account of Bryan's activities in Titusville in manufacturing and handling oil well supplies.
- "Universalist Society—Its Organization and History," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 8, 1871.
Short sketch of the Universalist Society in Titusville.
- "Titusville Gas Company," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 10, 1871.
Opinion of Judge W. H. Lawrie in the case of Titusville Gas Company in which history of company is fully reviewed.
- "Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 11, 1871.
Regular monthly petroleum report.
- "Notes about Petroleum Bill," *The Times* (London), July 15, 1871; July 25, 1871; July 29, 1871; July 31, 1871; August 2, 1871; August 3, 1871; August 24, 1871.
- "Notices about Petroleum," *The Times* (London), July 20, 1871; July 22, 1871; September 11, 1871.
- "The Oil Excitement of a Few Years Ago," *The Venango Spectator*, July 21, 1871.
Contains a short story about James Tarr repossessing his farm from F. Prentice.

"The Petroleum Iron Works," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 24, 1871.

Gives an account of the organization, development, and business of the Petroleum Iron Works of Titusville.

"New Building for Second National Bank," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 5, 1871.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 11, 1871.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"The Grocery House of Granger and Co.," *Titusville Morning Herald*, August 12, 1871.

Gives a brief account of the rise and expansion of this grocery firm in Titusville.

"Petroleum Wells of Pennsylvania," *The Times* (London), August 31, 1871.

"The Present Process of Refining Petroleum and Its Defects," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 1, 1871.

"Pipe Lines," *The Venango Spectator*, September 8, 1871.

Short sketch of the early pipe line development in the oil region.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 9, 1871.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Oil in McKean County," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 11, 1871.

An account of the early operations around Bradford.

"General Grant in the Oil Region," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 15, 1871.

An account of General Grant's visit to Titusville and other points in the oil region.

"Building Improvements in Titusville during the Year Ending October, 1871—Total Cost of Building Improvements about \$2,000,000," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 21, 1871.

"The Nilsson Concert," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 26, 1871.

"Nilssoniana," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 26, 1871.

"McKean County Oil News," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 26, 1871.

"The Famous 'Oil Corner' of 1869," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 4, 1871.

Reprint from the *Pittsburgh Ledger*. An account of the oil corner, who organized it, how it worked, etc.

"The Columbia Farm—Its Resources, Location, Developments, etc.," *The Venango Spectator*, October 6, 1871.

Reprinted from the *Petroleum Centre Daily Record*. Gives an account of the Columbia Oil Company farm, wells in operation, dividends declared, oil produced, the library associations, and school system.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 17, 1871.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"A Brilliant Wedding," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 19, 1871.

An extended account of the brilliant social occasion upon the marriage of William B. Sterret and Miss Sadie Farel of Titusville. Interesting example of the growing wealth of Titusville.

"Important Oil Strike," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 27, 1871.

An account of the McLaughlin well and developments on Dawson Run.

"From Pleasantville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, October 30, 1871.

Letter of "Sojourner" from Pleasantville, dated October 25, 1871.

"Notes from Cash-Up," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 7, 1871.

Discusses the growth of the town and the wells in the vicinity.

"In the Oil Regions," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 8, 1871.

R. M. J. signs this article, which is reprinted from the Scranton Republican.

"The New 'Pithole'," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 11, 1871.

Letter of S. N. Holmes, of Holmes Park, November 6, 1871. Tells of developments about Cash-Up.

"Petroleum on the Thames, new Bye Law," *The Times* (London), November 10, 1871.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 13, 1871.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"Sketch of Petersburg," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 15, 1871.

Gives an account of the early developments at Petersburg and its expansion.

"Disastrous and Fatal Accident," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 21, 1871.

An account of the fall of the new Roberts Block in Titusville.

Titus, Samuel, "Pioneer Reminiscences No. 1," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 21, 1871.

An account of the early days of Titusville, especially the story about Titus and Kerr settling the county.

"The Death of James Tarr," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 22, 1871.

Gives an excellent account of the Tarr farm from June, 1861, to October, 1865.

"Rexford Pierce," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 24, 1871.

A short account of Pierce's coming to Titusville in 1839 and the appearance of Titusville at that time.

"The Grocery Trade in the Oil Regions," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 24, 1871.

An account of the enormous grocery trade of McEowen and Co. of Titusville.

"The Tonsorial Tribe in Titusville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 6, 1871.

Survey of the barbers' business in Titusville.

"Monthly Petroleum Report," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 12, 1871.

Regular monthly petroleum report.

"The Eldorado of Oildom and How It Came So—Some Information of Interest," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 21, 1871.

Gives a sketch of the beginnings of the oil developments at Parker's Landing.

"Fire in Pleasantville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 22, 1871.

Gives a sketch of the \$150,000 fire which almost destroyed the town.

"The Titusville Oil Exchange," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 5, 1872.

"The Poor-Rich Man—Jim McCray," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 6, 1872.

A story of the appeals received by J. S. McCray for money, loans, gifts, etc.

"A Reminiscence," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 10, 1872.

A good brief account of Titusville as it was in 1863. Signed by a "Citizen."

"Petroleum," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 1, 1872.

Correspondence of the *New York Sunday News* from Titusville, dated January 19, 1872, and signed by A. J. W. Discusses the production of the oil region, the Coquette Well, the fire at the Hyde and Egbert Farm, John Bennehoff, and the origin of petroleum.

"The Late Titus Kerr," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 6, 1872.

A short account of Kerr's death and importance of the Kerr family in the community.

"Refining Capacity of the Oil Region and Other Points," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 18, 1872.

Gives statistics upon the refining capacity of different plants in the oil region and those outside.

"The Mitchell Farm, Rouseville," *The Venango Spectator*, June 13, 1872.

A few facts about one of the richest oil farms in the region.

- "Death of Major Mills," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 19, 1872.
Interesting account of the days when Major S. M. Mills ran the Moore House and later, the American.
- "The Funeral of Major Mills," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 22, 1872.
An account of the funeral services at Wellsville and burial at Coudersport.
- "A Busy Day on Change," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 2, 1872.
Discusses the settlements made for the first half year at the Titusville Oil Exchange.
- "Past and Present," *Titusville Daily Evening Press*, September 28, 1872.
An excellent article on the early days of Titusville and especially its newspaper history from 1857-1872.
- "Our New Office," *Titusville Daily Evening Press*, September 28, 1872.
Gives a lengthy account of the entire new plant and office of the *Daily Evening Press* at Titusville.
- "Death of Ex-Major Hinkley," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 16, 1874.
Short sketch of Henry Hinkley, who had the third refinery in Titusville.
- "Hunted Down," *The Denver Tribune*, April 21, 1874.
A story concerning the arrest in Denver of James Saegar, who planned the famous Bennehoff robbery.
- "Caught At Last," *Rocky Mountain News*, April 21, 1874.
An account of the arrest in Denver of James Saegar, who planned the famous Bennehoff robbery.
- "The Great Benninghoff Robbery," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 30, 1874.
Story of Jim Saegar's career after the Benninghoff robbery and his apprehension in Denver.
- "Saegar Again Free," *Rocky Mountain News*, May 12, 1874.
Story of James Saegar's release from custody in Denver.
- "Rouse Returns Alone," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 14, 1874.
Story of Chief of Police Rouse's trip to Denver to get Jim Saeger and his failure to bring him back.
- "Death of Samuel M. Kier," *Pittsburgh Gazette*, October 7, 1874.
A short account of Kier's life.
- "A Prominent Citizen Dead," *The Pittsburgh Commercial*, October 7, 1874.
An obituary of Samuel M. Kier.
- "Samuel Martin Kier," *Pittsburgh Evening Telegraph*, October 8, 1874.
An account of Kier's life.

Ward, Charles L., "Reminiscences of Titusville by a Pioneer of 1860," *Titusville Morning Herald*, July 17, 1876.

"Death of Judge Chase," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 19, 1878
Short sketch of the life of E. H. Chase of Titusville.

"A Pioneer Gone," *Titusville Morning Herald*, April 24, 1879.
Death of Joseph L. Chase announced. A brief sketch of his life.

"About Colonel Drake," *Titusville Morning Herald*, May 10, 1879.
Letter from Mrs. Drake to J. H. Mather, dated May 1, 1879, from Bethlehem, Pa.

"Colonel Edwin L. Drake," *Titusville Morning Herald*, September 11, 1879.
A South Bethlehem correspondent of the *Philadelphia Times* interviews Colonel Drake. Fairly good interview—tells of early life, the trip to Titusville in 1857, the drilling of his well, and his subsequent history.

"Titusville Oil Exchange," *Titusville Morning Herald*, December 3, 1879.
Discusses the early history of the Oil Exchange, the rival branches in other regions, and the revival of the Titusville Oil Exchange.

"The Cradle of Oil," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 8, 1880.
An interview with Wm. Smith who tells some of his experiences on the old Drake Well. The interview was made while Smith was on a visit to his son-in-law, T. R. Williams of Titusville. Smith would be 68 years old on March 19, 1880.

"Our Local 'Maine'," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 12, 1880.
The Editor points out the importance of the election of officers of the Titusville Oil Exchange as it will settle the question of a new oil exchange building. Also includes letters from different citizens regarding the election.

"Titusville Oil Exchange," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 13, 1880.
An account of the annual election of officers of the Exchange for 1880.

"H. L. Taylor and Co.," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 15, 1880.
An account of the establishment of this firm's general office in Titusville.

"Oil Exchange Meeting," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 22, 1880.
Gives an account of the meeting when the Committee on Incorporation of a new oil exchange reported and received instructions.

"The Parshall House," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 26, 1880.
Report of an informal meeting of a group of Titusville citizens in order to discuss ways of reviving the glory of the old Parshall House.

"The New Oil Exchange," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 9, 1880.
Report of a meeting held to discuss the Articles of Incorporation and Articles of Association.

"The Exchange," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 16, 1880.

An account of the meeting to finish the sale of stock and for electing thirteen directors.

"The New Oil Exchange," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 26, 1880.

Points out what the construction of the new oil exchange building will mean for Titusville.

"The Oil Exchange," *Titusville Morning Herald*, February 28, 1880.

The by-laws of the new Titusville Oil Exchange are printed in full in this article.

"Home Horses," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 12, 1880.

Gives a list of horses in Titusville left in public and private stables.

"Colonel E. L. Drake," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 19, 1880.

Letter of Mrs. Drake to H. C. Bloss of the *Titusville Morning Herald* about the condition of Colonel Drake.

"An Old Land Mark Going," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 26, 1880.

Story of the old American Hotel.

"Our Oldest Fane," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 31, 1880.

Excellent sketch of the founding of St. James' Memorial Church, Titusville.

"The Great Fire," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 12, 1880.

Miscellaneous items about the fire at Titusville.

"Black Friday," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 12, 1880.

Story of the big oil fire in Titusville.

"Colonel E. L. Drake," *Titusville Morning Herald*, November 10, 1880.

A sketch of the life of E. L. Drake, who died Monday, November 8, 1880, at Bethlehem, Pa.

"The Old Oil Exchange," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 15, 1881.

Sketch of the career of the first Titusville Oil Exchange from its beginning in 1871 to 1881. This account was corrected, amended and enlarged by the article in the *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 27, 1881.

"The Old Oil Exchange," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 27, 1881.

Sketch of the first Titusville Oil Exchange from its beginning in 1871 to 1881. Corrected, amended and some additions made over the one printed on January 15, 1881.

"The New Oil Exchange," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 27, 1881.

Early struggles of the institution and events leading up to the building of a new exchange, the articles of incorporation, the articles of association, and an elaborate discussion of the new building is included here.

"Glory of Titusville," *Titusville Morning Herald*, January 28, 1881.

An elaborate account of the opening of the new Oil Exchange at Titusville; a complete history of the event.

"Life's Journey Over," *Titusville Morning Herald*, March 26, 1881.

Life history of Colonel E. A. L. Roberts.

"Rock Oil," *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, October 30, 1881.

A story concerning A. C. Ferris and his connection with the petroleum business.

"Rock Oil," *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, November 6, 1881.

A letter from A. C. Ferris on his relationship to the early petroleum industry.

Abbott, W. H., "Transportation of Oil in Pipe Lines," *Centennial Edition of the Daily Tribune-Republican of Saturday Morning*, May 12, 1888. *Containing A History of the Founding of the City of Meadville and Settlement of Crawford County and Its Growth and Development During One Hundred Years; An Account of the First Centennial Celebration Held at Meadville, May 11 and 12, 1888, together with Historical and Biographical Sketches of Prominent Men and Events.* Tribune Publishing Company, Meadville, 1888, 163-164.

A short account of the early pipe-lines.

Abbott, W. H., "The Refining of Petroleum," *Centennial Edition of the Daily Tribune-Republican of Saturday Morning*, May 12, 1888. Tribune Publishing Company, Meadville, 1888, 164-165.

Mr. Abbott of Titusville was one of the first to build a refinery and refine oil. In this article, he tells his experiences.

Watson, Jonathan, "The City of Titusville," *Centennial Edition of the Daily Tribune-Republican of Saturday Morning*, May 12, 1888. Tribune Publishing Company, Meadville, 1888, 165-166.

An interesting sketch of Titusville as it was when Watson arrived in the fall of 1845. This is followed by some reminiscences of the early oil days.

"Ben Hogan's Career," *The Oil City Derrick*, January 22, 1889.

The Oil City Derrick, in an interview with Ben Hogan, gets his life story until the time he became an evangelist—an amazing and sensational career of debauchery and crime.

Stofiel, L. E., "The Pioneer in Oil," *Pittsburgh Dispatch*, July 31, 1892.

A story of Samuel Kier and his connection with the early petroleum industry.

"Francis Beattie Brewer," *Erie Morning Dispatch*, August 1, 1892.

A lengthy account of the life of Dr. Brewer.

Stofiel, L. E., "The First Oil Refinery," *Pittsburgh Dispatch*, August 7, 1892.

An excellent account of Kier's connection with the early petroleum industry.

Mellon, Thomas, "Early Days in Oil," *Pittsburgh Dispatch*, August 14, 1892.

A story concerning the development of the petroleum business prior to Drake's discovery.

"A Pioneer Gone," *Titusville Morning Herald*, June 18, 1894.

Short sketch of the life of Jonathan Watson.

Alvord, Mrs. Charles L., "Striking Oil," *New York Daily Tribune*, April 28, 1895.

Recollections of R. D. Fletcher on the drilling of the Drake Well.

"Death of Joshua Merrill," *Boston Evening Transcript*, January 15, 1904.

"Story of the Mineral Oil Industry," *The Oil City Derrick*, August 27, 1909.

Gives an elaborate account of the development of the coal oil business prior to Drake's discovery of petroleum as well as developments subsequent thereto.

"Schemes to Raise Price," *The Oil City Derrick*, August 27, 1909.

A lengthy account of the various schemes used by oil men from the beginning to improve price conditions, including the great shut-down of 1872, 1884, and 1887-8.

"Uncle Billy Smith," *The Oil City Derrick*, August 27, 1909.

A reprint of an interview with William A. Smith by a representative of the *Derrick* in the summer of 1892. Gives an account of his work on the Drake well.

"For Fifty Years," *The Oil City Derrick*, August 27, 1909.

Gives a table showing the average daily production of Pennsylvania crude oil from 1859-1909. Also, includes average price for refined and crude and total stock at end of year.

"Transportation System Created," *The Oil City Derrick*, August 27, 1909.

A lengthy account of the pipe line business from its beginnings to the formation of the National Transit Company.

"Drake's Fortune," *The Oil City Derrick*, August 27, 1909.

A short account of Drake's life after 1859.

Scott, Walter Judd, "Men Who Knew Drake Tell of His Labors," *The Oil City Derrick*, August 27, 1909.

Contains the reminiscences of R. D. Fletcher, Harrison Locke, Samuel B. Smith, Bates Fink (W. B. Fink), and Margaret Jane Smith about the drilling of the Drake Well.

"Early Pond Freshets," *The Oil City Derrick*, August 27, 1909.

Gives a short sketch of the early pond freshets.

"Pennsylvania Oil," *The Oil City Derrick*, August 27, 1909.

Gives the number of wells drilled, the production, and the price for the years 1859-1909.

"Story of the First Year in Oil," *The Oil City Derrick*, August 27, 1909.

A rather detailed story of the various events of the oil developments in 1859-1860, leases signed, how news of Drake's discovery reached the outside world, the events chronicled by the *Spectator*, sale of barrels, and oil buyers.

Bell, Edwin C., "Isolation of the First Oil Well," *The Oil City Derrick*, August 27, 1909.

This account considers Titusville's lack of communication with the outside world in 1859, the difficulties in spreading the news of Drake's discovery, and the hauling of oil to market. It also gives an account of Samuel M. Kier's part in the early use of petroleum.

Bloss, Joseph M., "Early History of Titusville Set in Review," *The Titusville Herald*, December 15, 1932.

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Love, Gilbert, "In The Days of Coal Oil Johnny," *Pittsburgh Press*, July 30, 1934; July 31, 1934; August 1, 1934; August 2, 1934; August 4, 1934.

"Famous Safe Wandered Far," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A story concerning the safe in which John Bennehoff kept his money.

"Geo. Bissell First Stirred Oil Interest," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

"'Uncle Billy' Smith Was No Mere Driller," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A story concerning the driller of the Drake Well.

"Pithole Resulted from Finding of Fourth or Third 'Stray' Sand," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

"Editor Satirizes Exaggerated Reports of Early Lawlessness," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A story about the lawlessness in the oil region.

"1-12th Interest in Well at Petroleum Center Brought \$200,000," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A story of the Hyde and Egbert farm.

"'Original' Drake Derricks Not Originals; No Photograph of First Structure Ever Taken," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

Pictures of the Drake well in 1864 and 1866 are printed here and an account of the two photographs is given.

"Single Throw of Dice Gave Winner \$64,000," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

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"Murders Were Few in Early Oildom Days," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

"Watson Led All Others in Leasing Land," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

An account of the early leasing activities of Jonathan Watson.

"Score Perish in Regions First Big Fire at Rouseville," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A story of the Rouse fire.

"Pond Freshet of Oil Boats Was Novel and Interesting Scene," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

"Company That Drilled Drake Well Made Not a Cent's Profit," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A story of the Seneca Oil Company after the Drake Well was completed.

"Peter Wilson Came to Aid of Colonel Drake," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

"George M. Mowbray Coming to Titusville Early, Helped Bring Order out of Chaos," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

"Drake Lot Deed Requires City to Hold It 'Forever'," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

"Monument to Colonel Drake Unveiled Here October 4, '01," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A story of the H. H. Rogers monument to Drake.

"'Uncle Billy' Smith's Daughter Told of Coming to Titusville," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

Margaret Jane Smith's story of Drake and her father's connection with the Drake well.

"A Page of Drake's Own Manuscript," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A portion of Drake's own story written about 1870.

"Drake Saw Early That Drilling Was His Best Method," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

"Colonel Drake Read His Own Death Notice," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

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"Contract for Drake Well Output," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A copy of the agreement between S. M. Kier and E. L. Drake, dated November 14, 1859, for the sale of oil.

"Many Serious Oil Fires Have Marked History of Early Pennsylvania Field," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

"Moving Stone to Drake Well Was Big Task," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A story about the marking of the Drake well site.

"Photography of Oil Creek," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A brief note about J. A. Mather.

"Drake Sent to Oil Creek by Townsend," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

"Second Kier Still May Be Shown at Jubilee," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

"Fletcher Was Close Friend of Col. Drake," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

"6 Companies Raised Here in Civil War," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

"Oil Scouts Were Bold and Daring," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A story about oil scouts, also early oil exchanges.

"To Titusville Veterans of the Great Valley of Petroleum, A Salute," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

Gives a brief account of Wm. Barnsdall, A. B. Funk, the McKinney brothers, John Fertig, Charles Hyde, James A. Cadwallader, Calvin S. Payne, Frank S. Tarbell, Hugh O'Hare, Samuel S. Fertig, Col. John J. Carter, Joseph Seep, David McKelvey, David Emery, W. H. Abbott, R. D. Benson, W. T. Scheide, Roberts brothers, James R. Barber, Frederick Crocker, Milton Stewart, Theodore N. Barnsdall, S. P. Boyer, James H. Caldwell, Sr., S. S. Henne, George K. Anderson, E. O. Emerson, and Miles W. Quick.

"Vigilantes Stirred by Many Fires, Erected Gibbet in Titusville," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

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"Fire and Flood of 1892 Took Toll of More Than Sixty Lives in Titusville," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

"A Titusville Product," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A short story of Helen Jepson.

- "First Theatre Is Still Here," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.
A story about the Bliss Opera House.
- "Bread Cast upon Waters Didn't Return," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.
A story about Titusville aiding the Chicago fire-sufferers in 1871, yet Titusville received little assistance in the disaster of 1892.
- "Many Drawn to Titusville in Early Days," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.
- "Brewer Had Leading Part in Oil Drama," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.
- "Mather Left Rich Legacy in Negatives," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.
- "Farms Along Creek Poured Forth Wealth," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.
- "White Pine Tank Cars Were Made in Titusville," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.
- "Ox-Team Deal Brought Wealth to Farel Clan," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.
- "Ida M. Tarbell, at 76, Is Still Going Strong with Her Pen," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.
- "Samuel Kier, First Refiner, Was Hot after Petroleum before Easterners Arrived," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.
- "A. P. I. Formed 19 Years Ago, Serves as Oil Man's Forum," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.
- "Pennsylvania Grade Crude Oil Association Has Won Signal Success in 11 Years of Life," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.
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- "Drake Calm When Derrick Was Burned," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.
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- "Benzine's Peril Carefully Told to 1868 Readers," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

Beebe, M. C., "Pleasantville Founded in 1821 by A. Lovell," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A story of the origin and development of Pleasantville.

Borland, James, "Evans Well at Franklin Was Third Drilled," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

Mackey, Louis J., "J. Wilkes Booth Was an Oil Operator at Franklin," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

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McCurdy, Herman, "The 1880 Oil Fire in Titusville Lasted 2 Days," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

McNall, E. W., "Frank Murray Was Factor in Preserving Drake Well Site," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

McNall, E. W., "Oil Industry's 50th Birthday Was Observed," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

A story of the celebration at Titusville on August 27, 1909. Gives an account of the movement to erect a memorial to Drake.

Morrow, Nancy C., "Warren County Prompt to Start in Drilling Game," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

Murray, Joseph, "Story of the Drake Well and Beginning of Oil Era," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

Murray, Joseph, "Developments Were Swift Soon after First 'Strike'," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

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A story about the experiences of H. T. Morian, who visited the Drake well the day after it was completed.

Murray, Joseph, "Robbers Obtain \$260,000, Nearly All in Cash, at Benninghoff Home; Little of Loot Was Ever Recovered," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

Murray, Joseph, "'Coal Oil Johnny' Didn't Toss Away a Million Dollars," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

Murrin, James, "Safe Owned by Steele Put in Park Museum," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

Rhodes, Martin L., "Blind Man Has Run 2 Leases for 44 Years," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

Story of Manley Copeland.

Scheide, William, "Museum at Park Houses Valuable Relics and Data," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1934.

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The editor of the *Herald* gives a brief account of R. W. Hanna, B. H. Waterbury, William E. Smith, D. McIntosh, F. G. McIntosh, and G. E. Glines.

Stevenson, James B., "Plan to Establish Drake Well Park Started in 1929," *The Titusville Herald*, August 22, 1939.

A story of the movement to establish the Drake Well Park and Museum.

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"Drake Lauded in Church He Helped Found," *The Titusville Herald*, August 27, 1934.

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"Corry Once Had Largest Oil Refinery in World," *Corry Evening Journal*, January 19, 1936.

A story of Corry's connection with the petroleum industry. Especially interesting on the Downer Oil Works. Related by E. D. MacKenzie.

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"John L. McKinney Dies Here, in His 95th Year," *The Titusville Herald*, May 21, 1937.

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"Titusville Man Had Intimate Knowledge of Drake Well; Lived Beside It for Five Years," *The Titusville Herald*, August 26, 1939.

Story of R. D. Locke and his recollections of the Drake well.

"Pittsburgh Editor Looked Into Brewer & Watson Lease and Turned It Down; Here 4 Days," *The Titusville Herald*, September 5, 1939.

The story of a Pittsburgh editor who had the opportunity of buying the lease to the Hibbard farm from Eveleth and Bissell for \$2,500.

"An Iron Horse That Consumed Wood, Not Coal," *The Titusville Herald*, August 24, 1940.

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"R. D. Locke, Who Knew Drake, is 90," *The Titusville Herald*, August 27, 1940.

"Drake Sold Part of Oil to Kier," *The Titusville Herald*, August 27, 1940.

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X. NEWSPAPER ARTICLES WITHOUT TITLES (Chronologically Arranged)

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A short account of the discovery of petroleum in a salt well on the Cumberland River, Kentucky, in April, 1829.

New York Daily Tribune, November 10, 1880.

A brief death notice of Colonel E. L. Drake.

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A short death notice of Colonel E. L. Drake.

Boston Evening Transcript, September 21, 1881.

A short account of the life of Samuel Downer.

New York Herald, November 20, 1884.

An obituary of George H. Bissell.

New York Herald, November 20, 1884.

An obituary of George H. Bissell.

Boston Transcript, June 23, 1891.

A short notice of the death of George M. Mowbray.

XI. NEWSPAPERS—SPECIAL EDITIONS DEVOTED TO THE HISTORY OF THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY

The following special editions are particularly valuable for the student of early oil history:

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Oil City Derrick, August 27, 1909.

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Titusville Herald, August 22, 1934. The Diamond Jubilee Issue.

XII. PAMPHLETS

Ashburner, Charles Albert, *The Bradford Oil District of Pennsylvania*. Philadelphia, 1879.

A paper read at the Baltimore meeting of the American Institute of Mining Engineers. See *Transactions*.

Bell, Edwin C., *Notes on Journalism*. Morning Herald, Titusville, 1910. Drake Museum.

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APPENDIX

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Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine

INDEX

[This is an index of names, articles, books, and reports cited; it is not an index to the *complete* contents of every work cited.]

- Abbott, W. H., oil refiner, 156; life of, 160.
- Albany, N. Y., 6.
- Alden, Timothy, 167.
- Allegheny River, 61; operations along, 105; oil wells along, 106, 107; flood on, 115; drilling along, 118.
- Allegheny River Railroad, opening of, 130.
- Allegheny Valley Railroad, eighth annual report of, 108; annual meeting of stockholders of, 109.
- Allegheny City, Pa., 10, 11, 28, 41, 50.
- Allen, T., 100.
- Alvord, Mrs. Charles L., 157.
- American Express Co., Erie, Pa., 46, 47, 79.
- American & Foreign Iron Pavement Co., 57.
- American Hotel, Titusville, Pa., 103, 153, 155.
- American & Ormsby Oil Co., 112.
- American Petroleum Institute, 161.
- Anderson, George K., life of, 160.
- Angier, J. D., 72; leases oil springs at Titusville, 2; collects oil, 2; sends petroleum to N. Y., 3; continues operation of oil springs for Eveleth & Bissell, 6-7.
- Anglo-American Oil Co., 133; sues Titusville *Morning Herald*, 136.
- Appleton & Co., N. Y., 3-4; threatens to sue Eveleth & Bissell, 32.
- Archbold, John, 123.
- Argand Burner, 8.
- Armstrong County, Pa., 148.
- Arnold, Ralph, and William J. Kemnitzer, 87, 95.
- Ashburner, Charles Albert, 166.
- Ashe, Thomas, 87.
- Atkinson, Pa., 135, 142.
- Atlantic & Great Western R. R., building of, 110.
- Atlases, oil region, 87. *See also* Maps.
- Atwood, Luther, Boston chemist, employed to analyze petroleum, 5, 19; reports on excellent quality of petroleum, 5, 19, 21.
- Austin, Jane G., 168.
- Bacon, Raymond Foss, and William Allen Hamor, 87.
- Baku, oil in, 8.
- Ball, Max W., 88.
- Baltimore Oil Co., 112.
- Bannan, Benjamin. *See* Daddow, Samuel Harries, and Benjamin Bannan.
- Barber, James R., life of, 160.
- Barbers in Titusville, Pa., 152.
- Barbour, John B., 171.
- Barnsdall, Theodore N., life of, 160.
- Barnsdall, Mead & Co. well, 105.
- Barrels, oil, 157.
- Bates, Samuel P., 88.
- Bates, F., & Co., Titusville, Pa., 87.
- Bath, Maine, 11, 52, 54, 73.
- Bayne, Samuel Gamble, 88.
- Bean farm, operations on, 129.
- Bedbugs, 162.
- Beebe, M. C., 162.
- Beers, F. W., 87. *See* Atlases, oil region; and Maps.
- Bell, Edwin C., 88, 162, 166; collection in Drake Museum, 103; secures Mather negatives for Drake Memorial Association, 103; recollections of Drake well by, 158. *See* Mather, John A., and Edwin C. Bell.
- Bennehoff, John, 127, 130, 131, 132, 152, 158.
- Bennehoff farm, operations on, 126.
- Bennehoff robbery, 137, 139, 146, 147, 153, 163.
- Bennehoff Run, 91; fire on, 120, 123.
- Benninghoff. *See* Bennehoff, John; Bennehoff farm; Bennehoff robbery, and Bennehoff Run.
- Benson, R. D., life of, 160.
- Benzine, dangerous quality of, 161.
- Benzole, 21.
- Bethlehem, Pa., 11, 59.
- Bibliography on the beginnings of the petroleum industry, 85-172.
- Billingsley, J. E., 172.
- Biographical accounts of oilmen, 96-97.
- Bissell, George H., frontispiece; vi; preface; 10, 11, 21, 26, 32, 34, 35, 45, 49, 54, 58, 59, 65, 67, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 83, 114, 158, 165; sees sample of petroleum at Dartmouth College, 2; impressed by its commercial possibilities, 2; sends Albert H. Crosby to Ti-

Bissell, George H., *continued*.

Titusville, 2; agrees to organize an oil company, 2; becomes trustee of Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y., 6; gets married, 9, 56; misunderstands Brewer's proposal, 18; is injured, 24; is sick, 43; is in New Haven to close up company business, 57; tells how much stock E. L. Drake had in oil company, 59; list of letters belonging to, 60; letters belonging to, 61-83; elected director of Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co., 79; arrives in Titusville after completion of Drake well, 80; is in Titusville, 81; arranges to establish a refinery, 82; has a birthday, 82; gets sick in Titusville, 82; biographical account of, 97, 118. *See also* Eveleth & Bissell; Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y.; and Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of Conn.

Bissell, Mrs. George H., 75, 80, 81-82, 83.

Bissell, Pelham, 82.

Bissell, Pelham St. George, preface.

Black Flag well, 134.

Bliss Opera House, Titusville, Pa., 161.

Blood farm, 110, 116, 133.

Blood Farm Petroleum Co., 114.

Bloss, H. C., 155.

Bloss, Joseph M., 158.

Board of Trade, Philadelphia, report of, 167.

Bone, J. H. A., 88.

Bonta House, Pithole, 103.

Books on the petroleum industry, 87-95.

Booth, James Curtis, 97.

Booth, John Wilkes, invests in oil land, 87, 162, 171.

Borland, James, 162.

Boston, Mass., 5, 17, 18, 21, 40, 46, 53, 66, 128.

Bowditch, E. B., New Haven cabinet manufacturer, 51, 70, 74, 76, 78, 79.

Bowen, Eli, 88.

Boyd, W. R., 165.

Boyd City, growth of, 124.

Boyd farm, 91, 122, 126, 128.

Boyer, S. P., life of, 160.

Boyle, P. C., lamp collection of, 104.

Brackett, Samuel, 40, 46, 47, 48, 64, 65, 66, 67, 72, 73; is going to Titusville, 46, 69; fails to fulfill his obligation, 58.

Bradford, Pa., 166, 170; early operations at, 150; oil exchange at, 170.

Brady's Bend, 142.

Brannt, William T., 88.

Breckinridge coal, 20.

Brewer, Ebenezer, 10, 22, 24, 28, 30, 39; has no confidence in Eveleth & Bissell, 29; considers oil venture a complete failure, 41-42; regrets that Brewer, Watson & Co. sold oil land, 80; life of, 144.

Brewer, Dr. F. B., frontispiece; vi; preface; 1, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30, 32, 33, 34, 36, 38, 40, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 65, 67, 68, 69, 74, 81; becomes interested in oil springs, Titusville, Pa., 1; believes in utilizing oil, 2; takes sample to Dartmouth College, 2; visits oil springs with Albert H. Crosby, 2; gives Eveleth & Bissell description of oil lands, 4; empowered to act as attorney for Brewer, Watson & Co., 4; leaves for N. Y., 4; becomes trustee of Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y., 6; deeds Hibbard farm to Eveleth & Bissell, 6; list of letters belonging to, 10-11; letters belonging to, 12-59; proposal to Eveleth & Bissell for organizing a joint stock oil company, 12-13; returns from N. Y., 22; oil venture causes his father great anxiety, 29; approves plan for a new oil company, 46; receives Sheldon & Pierpont in Titusville, 64, 65-66; Brewer, Watson & Co. agree to new lease, 72; starts for New Haven, 72; sends oil lease for new company, 73; life of, 156, 161.

Brewer, Mrs. F. B., preface.

Brewer, George E., preface.

Brewer, Watson & Co., Titusville, 13, 30, 34, 56, 71, 77, 82, 165; own oil springs, 1; use oil as illuminant, 1; use oil as lubricator, 1; lease oil springs to Angier, 2; agree to sell Hibbard farm, 3; empowers Dr. F. B. Brewer to act as attorney, 4; show Eveleth the oil springs, 5; sell Hibbard farm, 6; lease Hibbard farm, 6; agree to new lease, 72; story about, 118.

Bristol, N. H., 57, 70.

Bristow. Arch, 88.

British oil, 73.

Brooklyn, N. Y., 35.

Brown, George W., 88.

Brown, Isaac B., 101.

Brown Brothers, Pleasantville, Pa., 133.

Brown Hotel, Erie, Pa., 17.

Bryan, John C., manufacturer in Titusville, 149, 169.

Bryant, Louisa, 16.

Buchanan farm, 108.

Buck, William J., 166.

- Buckbee, A., 119.
Buda, fire at, 134.
Bughman, Ruben, life of, 118.
Bull movement in oil, 139, 140.
Bull Run, 91; developments on, 122, 124, 126.
"Burning well," 121, 168.
Burning fluids, 21, 30, 140, 161.
Burns well, Church Run, 148.
Burns & Fairchild farm, 124.
Bush. *See* Denslow & Bush.
Business directories:
 for Pithole, 97.
 for Oil Creek, 97.
 in Drake Museum, 104.
 for Titusville in 1870, 141.
Butler County, Pa., 102.

Cadwallader, James A., life of, 160.
Cady, D. H., 130.
Caldwell, James H., Sr., life of, 160.
California, 38, 113, 167.
Camphene lamps 63.
Canada, oil springs of, 109, 167; a visit to oil fields of, 120; oil districts of, 167.
Carcel's lamp, 63.
Carll, John F., 101, 102. *See* Geology of oil.
Carnegie, Andrew, 88, 91.
Carter, Colonel John J., life of, 160.
Cash-Up, Pa., developments at, 151.
Caughey, A. H., 88.
Central Petroleum Co., 91, 114.
Charlevoix, R. P. Pierre François-Xavier de, 88.
Chase, Judge E. H., life of, 154.
Chase, Joseph L., life of, 154.
Chase House, Pithole, Pa., 129.
Chautauqua County, N. Y., 102.
Chemistry, oil, 88, 90.
Cherry Run, 112, 119, 122; story about men drilling on, 120; developments on upper, 131.
Cherry Run Petroleum Co., 113.
Cherry Tree Run, developments on, 124.
Chicago, Ill., 16, 161.
Church Run, developments along, 123, 129, 136, 137, 148.
Churches in oil region, 164; St. Titus in Titusville, 145; St. James; in Titusville, 155, 163; Universalist Society in Titusville, 149.
Cincinnati, Ohio, organization of oil companies in, 113.
Citizens Bank, Titusville, 143.
City Savings Bank, New Haven, Conn., 5.
Civil War, 160.
Clapp, Frederick G. *See* Stone, Ralph Walter, and Frederick G. Clapp, 101.
Clapp farm, story about operators on, 118.
Clarke, W. W., 114.
Clarion County, Pa., 102.
Clinton, De Witt, 166.
Coal, 88, 89, 168.
Coal oil, 88, 90, 91, 109; as a lubricant and illuminant, 2; explosive character of, 100; origin and development of, 101, 157; manufacture of, 107.
Coal Oil Johnny. *See* Steele, John W.
Columbia farm, resources and developments of, 151.
Columbia Oil Co., 115, 147.
Colza oil, 63.
Commissioner of Deeds, N. Y., 20.
Companies, petroleum, early, 100; reports of, 103; organized in Cincinnati, 113, sketch of principal, 114, list of, 115; organization of, 115.
 Anglo-American Oil Co., 133.
 Baltimore Oil Co., 112.
 Blood Farm Petroleum Co., 144.
 Central Petroleum Co., 91, 114.
 Cherry Run Petroleum Co., 113.
 Columbia Oil Co., 115, 147.
 Cornplanter Oil Co., 112.
 Economite Oil Co., 170.
 First National Petroleum Oil Co., 114.
 Germania Oil Co., 112.
 Heydrick Oil Co. of N. Y., 113, 115.
 Hoffman Petroleum Co., 114.
 Home Petroleum Co., 114.
 Inexhaustible Petroleum Co., 114.
 Legal Tender Oil Co., 113.
 New York & Liverpool Petroleum Co., 168.
 New York & Philadelphia Petroleum Co., 113.
 New York, Philadelphia & Baltimore Consolidated Petroleum & Mining Co., 114.
 Ohio Petroleum Co., 112.
 Oil Basin Oil Co., 112.
 Oil City Petroleum & Refining Co., 116.
 Oil Creek & Allegheny Co., 167.
 Oil Wells Co. of Canada, 110.
 Osceola Oil Co., 120.
 Pennsylvania Lubricating Oil Land Co., 118.
 Pennsylvania Petroleum Co., 114.
 Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of Conn. *See* Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of Conn.

Companies, petroleum, *continued*.

- Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y.
See Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y.
 Petroleum Co. of W. Va., 116.
 Petroleum Trading Co., 110, 111.
 Pithole Creek Petroleum Co., 118.
 President Petroleum Co., 168.
 Seneca Oil Co. *See* Seneca Oil Co.
 Shoe & Leather Petroleum Co., 126.
 Tarr Farm Petroleum Co., 114.
 Tidioute Oil Co., 107.
 United Petroleum Farms Association, 114.
 United Service Co. of N. Y., 116.
 United States Petroleum Co., 103, 118.
 Webster Petroleum Co. of Boston, 116.
 Cone, Andrew, and Walter R. Johns, 88.
 Congress, U. S., oil speculative craze in, 94, 122.
 Consular, U. S., reports on oil in, 97-98.
 Connecticut, State of, 7, 8, 48, 66, 71.
 Connecticut Steam Heating Co., 75.
 Cooke, Jay, 92, 93, 172.
 Cooperstown, Pa., teamsters stop at, 114.
 Copeland, Manley, 163.
 Coquette well, 152.
 Corinthian Hall, Titusville, 140.
 Corners on oil, 140, 144, 150.
 Corning, Edward, will take stock in the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y., 27; purchases stock in oil Co., 28.
 Corning, Jasper E., 10; will take stock in the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y., 27; purchases stock in Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y., 28.
 Cornplanter Oil Co., 112.
 Corry, Pa., site of Downer Oil Works, 96, 110, 123, 164, 165; connection with oil industry, 163.
 Corsot Mechanical Lamp, petroleum will not work well in, 30.
 Cotton, J. C., 140.
 Coudersport, Pa., 153.
 Cow Run, drilling on, 122.
 Cowan, E., visits Tidioute oil wells, 107.
 Crawford County, Pa., 12, 88, 92, 95; history of, 92, 104.
 "Creek oil," 1.
 Crew, Benjamin J., 89.
 Crittenden Hall, Titusville, history of, 134.
 Crocker, Frederick, life of, 160.
 "Crocus." *See* Leonard, C. C.
 Croneis, Carey, 171.
 Crosby, Albert H., 6, 10, 19, 20; excited by possibilities in petroleum, 2; visits oil springs in Titusville, 2-3, 13; proposes purchasing McClintock farm, 3; obtains option on McClintock farm, 3; discusses organization of oil company, 3; returns to N. Y. with samples of petroleum, 3; drops out of oil venture, 6; uses influence with N. Y. press to sell stock in oil company, 7; sells stock and is eliminated from venture, 7; sends Brewer a proposal to organize a joint stock company, 12; confident of success of company, 14; regrets Brewer, Watson & Co. did not ask for higher price for land, 15; as an oil merchant, 16; annoyed over delay in letters reaching Titusville, 17; careless in explaining Brewer's proposal to Eveleth & Bissell, 18-19; sells out to Eveleth & Bissell, 25; returns to Hanover, N. H., 25.
 Crosby, Dr. Dixi, examines petroleum, 2; enthusiastic about its properties, 2.
 Crosby, [M. J.], 16.
 Crum, A. R., 170.
 Crum, A. R., and A. S. Dunagan, 89.
 Cuba, N. Y., 166.
 Culver Literary Association, Titusville, 123.
 Culver, Penn & Co., failure of, 121, 122.
 Cumming, F., 89.
 Curtis, A. H., 133.
 Curtis, C., 112.
 Curry, Samuel, reminiscences of Titusville by, 144.
 Daddow, Samuel Harries, and Benjamin Bannan, 89.
 Dardonville, Mr., 63.
 Dartmouth College, 1, 2.
 David, 49, 51.
 Davis, William H., 104.
 Dawson Run, 151.
 Day, 67.
 Day, David T., 89.
 Day, Sherman, 89.
 "Den," The, story of, 133.
 Dennis Run, 141; developments on, 124, 138; fire on, 125.
 Denslow & Bush, 166.
 Denver, Colo., 153.
 Derricks, 88.
Derrick's Hand-Book of Petroleum, 89.
 Diary, an oilman's, 169, 170, 171.
 Distilled oils, 90.
 Dividing rod, 95, 117.
 Dobbs, A. S., 110.
 Dodge, J. R., 90.

- Dollier De Casson and Galinée de Bréhant, 90.
- Downer, Samuel, 96, 165.
- Downer Oil Works, Corry, Pa., 110, 164.
- Drake, Charles, son of E. L. Drake, 164.
- Drake, E. L., frontispiece; vi, 11, 60, 76, 77, 80, 96, 156, 161, 165, 169, 171; buys Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. stock, 59; buys Seneca Oil Co. stock, 59; claims he invented the driving pipe, 59; claims he drilled first well ever drilled for petroleum, 59; believes petroleum an excellent lubricant, 75; character of, 76; arranges to move to Titusville, 76; visits Titusville in 1857, 78; favorably impressed by oil springs at Titusville, 78; and Bowditch lease oil land, 78; transfers lease to Seneca Oil Co., 79; goes to Titusville as Superintendent for Seneca Oil Co., 79; makes preparations to commence operations, 79; begins to dig well, 79; needs money, 79; abandons digging and decides to bore, 79; decides to drill with steam engine, 79; strikes large vein of oil, 79; needs money, 80; has lumber for pump house, 80; offered \$150,000 for oil lease, 82; to sell petroleum to S. M. Kier, 103, 159, 165; reports and letters of, 103; interview with, 124, 154; need for financial aid due to poor health, 135; comes to Titusville in 1859, 138; relief for, 140; was he a pioneer? 141; meets George M. Mowbray, 147, 169; life of, 154, 157, 169; is ill, 154; condition of, 155; death of, 155; Samuel B. Smith's recollections of, 157; reminiscences about, 157; Margaret Jane Smith's recollections of, 157, 159; fails to make fortune in oil, 159; drilling ideas of, 159; reads his own death notice, 159; his own story, 159; monument to, 159; aided by Peter Wilson, 159; Fletcher was friend of, 160; sent to Titusville by Townsend, 160; movement to erect monument to, 162; and St. James' Episcopal Church, 163; and his children, 164; picture of, 169. *See* Drake well; and Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of Conn.
- Drake, Mrs. E. L., 154, 155.
- Drake Memorial Association, 103-104.
- Drake Museum, Titusville, materials in, 103-104; 163, 167.
- Drake well, 3, 9, 80, 103, 106, 159, 161, 163; effect of, 81, 138, 164; production of, 82, 105; excitement over, 82, 138; early account of, 105; method of securing oil at, 105; fire at, 81, 105, 161; drilling of, 124; W. A. Smith's recollections of, 154, 157, 158; R. D. Fletcher's recollections of, 157; recollections about, 158, 165; pictures of, 158; marking site of, 160; story of, 162; hauling oil from, 163. *See* Drake, E. L.; Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of Conn.; and Seneca Oil Co.
- Drake Well Park, movement to establish, 163.
- Draper, Henry, 168.
- Driftwood City. *See* Prentice Station.
- Drilling, 105, 106, 108, 122; new methods of, 124; improvements in, 145.
- Duffield, C. C., report on oil wells and their production, 108.
- Dunagan, A. S. *See* Crum, A. R., and A. S. Dunagan.
- Dutton, Charles J., 172.
- Eaton, Amasa M., visits oil region, 171.
- Eaton, Rev. S. J. M., 88, 90, 105, 106, 107.
- Economites, oil wells of the, 128.
- Economite Oil Co., 170.
- Economite well, Tidioute, Pa., 108.
- Egbert farm. *See* Hyde & Egbert.
- Egberts, sketch of the, 119.
- Eldorado, 152.
- [Emerson]. *See* [Ewerden or Emerson], 83.
- Emerson, E. O., life of, 160.
- Emery, David, life of, 160.
- England, introduction of oil into, 109, 110; imports of petroleum into, 110, 116, 117, 131; petroleum market in, 113; exports of petroleum from, 117; petroleum legislation in, 149, 151.
- Erie, Pa., preface, 14, 17, 31, 48, 66, 70, 79.
- Erni, Henry, 90.
- Europe, introduction of oil into, 109, 110.
- Evans, E. W., 112.
- Evans, S. H., account of wells at Tidioute, 107; account of Hequembourg well, 107; account of Ludlow well, 107; account of wells on Tidioute Island, 107.
- Evans well, at Franklin, 162.
- Eveleth, James H., brother of Jonathan G. Eveleth, 53.
- Eveleth, Jonathan G., 10, 11, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, 32, 38, 39, 44, 50, 51, 52, 54, 55, 64, 66, 67, 68, 69, 72, 73, 74, 75, 82; agrees to organize an oil company, 2; inspects oil springs in Titusville, 5-6; predicts profitable oil business, 6; becomes trustee of Pennsyl-

Eveleth, Jonathan G., *continued.*

vania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y., 6; expects birth of heir, 9, 56; sickness delays organization of company, 15, 58; wife's sickness delays organization of company, 16; is encouraged by prospects of company, 17; did not receive Brewer's proposal, 18; is leaving for Titusville, 21; sends leases to Titusville for correction, 24; needs oil to distribute in order to sell stock, 25; receives Silliman's report and bill, 34; urges Brewer to send deed to Hibbard farm, 38; goes to New Haven to see about forming a new company, 40-41; believes Mulock, Hotchkiss, and Richmond will take all of stock in new company, 41; indicates basis on which new company will be formed, 43; owes Silliman more money, 43; proposes plan for organization of new company, 44; pays Silliman \$300, 45; is closing up business of Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y., 47; makes preparations for meeting of directors of Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y., 49; advances money for company's expenses, 49; offers plan for launching the new company, 51; explains deal with Ives and Pierpont, 51; is trying to secure his brother's stock, 52; leaves for Maine, 57; internal dissension develops between Eveleth and the other promoters, 67; demands payment of money he has advanced for company, 67; is in Titusville, 81; is sick in Titusville, 82; life of, 118. *See* Eveleth and Bissell; Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y.; and Pennsylvania Rock Oil of Conn.

Eveleth & Bissell, 10, 13, 36, 39, 40, 61, 76, 165; doubt Crosby's statements about oil, 4; reconsider Brewer's proposal, 4; receive oil in N. Y., 4; go to New Haven, Conn., 5; meet J. M. Townsend of New Haven, Conn., 5; fire enthusiasm of New Haven's capitalists, 5; employ distinguished chemists to analyze oil, 5; organize the Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y., 6; try to sell stock to New Haven capitalists, 6; convey Hibbard farm to Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y., 6; buy Hibbard farm, 6; employ Rev. Anson Sheldon to sell stock, 7; unable to sell stock, 7; difficulties in selling stock, 7; attempt to sell stock, 7; buy Crosby's stock, 7; decide to abandon oil company and reorganize in Conn., 8; retain controlling interest in Penn-

sylvania Rock Oil Co. of Conn., 9; deed Hibbard farm to representatives of new company, 9; attach greatest importance to petroleum as a lubricant, 15; employ Atwood of Boston and Silliman of Yale College to analyze the oil, 19; encounter many difficulties in selling stock, 20; expenses of oil analysis heavy, 21; fix price for land purchased from Brewer, Watson & Co., 22; feel pinch of hard times, 22; buy out Crosby, 25; buy Silliman new apparatus as a result of an explosion, 26; unable to pay notes for Hibbard farm, 28-30; dispose of switch business, 31; note past due and no money to pay, 33; unable to pay Silliman for report, 34; favor reorganization of oil company in Conn., 37; believe all stock can be sold in New Haven, 38; are in New Haven, 56; send notice of final meeting of stockholders of Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y., 57; asked to supply Silliman with materials and equipment to test petroleum in lamps, 62; meet with difficulties in New Haven, 75; propose organizing a company in N. Y. or Philadelphia, 77; propose to lease oil land to Lyman & Havens, 77; violently oppose leasing oil land to Bowditch & Drake, 78; buy two oil farms, 83; expect to make a fortune, 83; oil prospects brilliant, 83; efforts in developing oil business, 109. *See* Bissell, George H.; Eveleth, Jonathan G.; Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y.; and Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of Conn.

Eveleth & Reed, 35.

[Ewerden or Emerson], 83.

Explosions, 26, 108, 110, 149; of nitroglycerine, 149. *See* Fire.

Exportation of oil, 97-100; to England, 110, 116, 117, 131.

Fagundus City, Pa., 142.

Faillon, L'abbé Étienne Michel, 90.

"Fancy Stock Company," name given to Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y., 7.

Fanning, Leonard M., 90.

Farel, 161.

Farel, Sadie, wedding of, 151.

Faris, John T., 90.

Farms, oil, price of, 81, 116; on West Pithole Creek, 121.

Bean, 129.

Bennehoff (Benninghoff), 126.

Blood, 110, 116, 133.

Boyd, 91, 122, 126, 128.

Buchanan, 108.

- Burns & Fairchild, 124.
Clapp, 118.
Columbia (Story), 132, 139, 151
Farrell, 110, 119, 161.
Foster, 122, 126.
Graff, Hasson, 113.
Hibbard, 3, 6, 9, 13, 28-30, 165.
Holmden, 123.
Hyde & Egbert, 91, 115, 122, 152, 158.
Andy Kerr, 148.
G. W. McClintock, 119.
Hamilton McClintock, 2, 3.
McElhenny, 119, 122.
Mill, 143.
Miller, 122, 127, 129, 135, 171.
Mitchell, 152.
Parker, 55.
Rooker, 117, 120, 135.
Rynd, 118, 133, 139.
Shaffer, 169.
Shaw, 145, 148.
Skinner, 126.
Steele, 127.
Stevenson, 91, 121.
Story (Columbia), 132, 139, 151.
Tarr, 91, 116, 122, 133, 139, 149, 151.
Wood, 91.
Farmers' Hotel, Pithole, Pa., 129.
Farmers' Railroad, 125.
Farrell farm, 110; sketch of those drilling on, 119.
Faulkner, Harold U., 96.
Fenn, Harry. *See* Keeler, Ralph, and Harry Fenn.
Ferris, A. C., connection with early petroleum industry, 156.
Fertig, Samuel S., life of, 160.
[Fink, Peter]. *See* Fink, W. B.
Fink, W. B. [Peter], recollections of Drake by, 42, 157.
Fire, among oil boats at Oil City, 110; at Buda, 134; at Grant well, 168; at Little & Merrick's well (Rouse fire), 108, 159; at Parker's Landing, 144; at Petroleum Centre, 127, 147; at Pithole, 116, 121, 130; at Pleasantville, 152; at Rouse's well (Little & Merrick well), 108, 159; at Tidioute, 109, 118; at Titusville, 155; at Titusville in 1880, 162; at Titusville in 1892, 160; at Shaffer, 119; danger of paraffin oil, 109; in 1865-66, 123; in oil region, 121, 160, 169; insurance companies complain of, 109; on Bennehoff Run, 120, 123; on Boyd farm, 128; on Dennis Run, 125; on Hyde & Egbert farm, 122, 152; on Pioneer Run, 123; on Stevenson farm, 121. *See* Explosions.
First National Petroleum Co., 114.
Fletcher, R. D., 103; shows Eveleth the oil springs in Titusville, 5-6; recollections of Drake by, 157; friend of Drake, 160.
Flint, Timothy, 90.
Flood, at Oil City, 163; on the Allegheny River and on Oil Creek, 115.
Flowing wells, 100, 115.
Flynn, John Thomas, 90.
Force, W. W., 163.
Foster farm, developments on, 122, 126.
Fountain well, 169.
Franklin, Pa., 24, 38, 61, 77, 83, 105, 132, 168; appearance of, 106; Evans well at, 162; developments below, 138, 139; observations on, 141; oil excitement at, 106; oil wells and drilling around, 105, 106, 107, 108, 112, 118; production below, 138.
Freeport, Maine, 53.
French, gather oil, 66.
French Creek, oil wells on, 94, 106, 107.
Funk, A. B., life of, 160.
Funkville, 122.
Gale, Thomas, 166.
Galinée de Bréhant. *See* Dollier De Casson, and Galinée de Bréhant.
Garfield, James Abram, 94.
Garland, Pa., railroad to oil region from, 108.
Garland conglomerates, 102.
Garvey-Shepard fight, 143.
Gas, natural, 88, 101, 102.
Gas wells in Ohio, 146.
Gaspé, petroleum in, 110.
Gay, Edward F., President, Oil Creek and Allegheny Railroad, 137.
Gaylord, John W., 171.
Geology of the oil region, 88, 90, 101, 102, 104, 119, 120, 158. *See* Carll, John F.
Germania Oil Co., 112.
Gesner, Abraham, 90, 97, 168.
Gesner, George Weltden, 90.
Gibbons, William Sydney, 91.
Gibson, George R., 170.
Giddens, Paul H., 1 n., 91, 96, 103 n., 164.
Gillespie, James, visits wells along Oil Creek, 106.
Gilleten, F. M. L., 91.
Glines, G. E., 163.
Gould, Charles N., 172.
Government documents on petroleum, United States, 97-101; Pennsylvania, 101-102.

- Graff, Hasson, farm, 113.
 Graff, Peter, life of, 118.
 Granger & Co., grocers, Titusville, 150.
 Grant, President U. S., visits oil region, 150.
 Grant well, fire at, 168.
 Great Western Run, 91.
 Hackney Wick, 143.
 Haffey, Margaret Higgins. *See* Higgins, George H., and Margaret Higgins Haffey.
 Halderman, Len, life of, 118.
 Halsted, 58.
 Hamburg, Germany, 110.
 Hamor, William Allen. *See* Bacon, Raymond Foss, and William Allen Hamor.
 Hanna, R. W., 163.
 Hanover, N. H., 2, 10, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 25, 43, 82.
 Hard times, 22, 24, 38, 40, 45, 80, 121.
 Hardwicke, Robert E., 96.
 Harley, H., teamsters attack Shaffer works of, 123; pipelines of, 125; host to Titusville Commercial Club in N. Y., 146; to be entertained in Titusville, 148; tendered banquet and ball in Titusville, 149.
 Harris, C. H. ("Off T. Goof"), 91, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127.
 Harris, Thaddeus Mason, 91.
 Hartog, P. J., 96.
 Hasson, William, life of, 118.
 Hauling oil, restrictions upon, 134.
 Havens, R. H., 76, 77; refuses to work oil land under lease, 77; makes counter-proposal to operate oil land, 77. *See* Lyman & Havens; and Havens & Lyman.
 Havens & Lyman, 75.
 Haverill, Mass., 16.
 Hawkins, Dexter A., 6, 32, 50, 51.
 Hayes, S. Dana, 87.
 Hayes, S. S., 100.
 Hays, Major, 139.
 Hazzard, J. R. G., visits oil region, 132.
 Hendrick, Burton J., 91.
 Henne, S. S., life of, 160.
 Henry, J. D., 91.
 Henry, J. T., 87, 91.
 Hequembourg well, Tidioute, 107.
 Heydrick Oil Co. of N. Y., 113, 115.
 Hibbard farm, 3, 6, 9, 13, 28, 29, 165.
 Hickman, E. W., 91.
 Higgins, George H., and Margaret Higgins Haffey, 92.
 "High, Wide, and Handsome," movie of the beginnings of the petroleum industry, 164.
 Hinkley, Henry, life of, 153.
 Histories of petroleum in Drake Museum, 103-104.
 Hitchcock, Professor, description of petroleum, 133.
 Hoffman Petroleum Co., 114.
 Hogan, Ben, fights Jack Holliday, 122; life of, 156.
 Holliday, Jack, fights Ben Hogan, 122.
 Holmden farm, story about, 123.
 Holmes, S. N., 130, 151.
 Home Petroleum Co., 114.
 Homestead well, 171.
 Horse-racing, 155.
 Hotchkiss, Mr., of New Haven, Conn., 36, 39, 41.
 Hubbard, O. P., examines sample of petroleum, 2.
 Humboldt refinery, story about men operating, 120.
 Hunt, T. Sterry, 100.
 Hyde, Charles, life of, 119.
 Hyde & Egbert farm, 91; production of, 115; fire on, 122, 152; story of, 158, 160.
 India, oil in, 8.
 Inexhaustible Petroleum Co., 114.
 Ingall's Hydraulic tank, 110.
 Insurance companies, complain of danger from fire, 109.
 Investors in petroleum stocks, 91; guide-book for, 91.
 Iron, 89.
 Iron tankage, 127, 128, 129, 136; map of, 87.
 Irvine, General William, refers to oil springs, 102.
 Irving House, N. Y., 31.
 Irwin, Samuel, 166.
 Isaacs, Asher, 96.
 Ise, John, 92.
 Ives, William A., 8, 46, 48, 51, 54, 55-56, 58, 64, 65, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81.
 Jackson, O. H., recollections of newspapers in oil region, 142.
 Jennings, Dr. W. W., 140.
 Jepson, Helen, story of, 160.
Jesuit Relations and Allied Documents, 92.
 Johns, W. R., 142; reminiscences of early days in oil regions by, 143. *See* Cone, Andrew, and Walter R. Johns.
 Joint stock companies, prejudices against, 36, 37, 45.
 Journalism in oil region, 166. *See* Newspapers.

- Kanawha Valley, W. Va., 93, 172.
Kane City, Pa., 140.
Keeler, Ralph, and Harry Fenn, 147, 169.
Kemnitzer, William J. *See* Arnold, Ralph, and William J. Kemnitzer.
Kennard, T. W., visits oil region, 117.
Kennedy, J. C. G., 100.
Kentucky, salt wells of, 109, 165, 171, 172.
Kerosene. *See* Coal oil.
Kerr, Andy, farm of, 148.
Kerr, Titus, story about, 152.
Keyer, [Kier, Samuel], offers distilled oil for sale, 62.
Kier, Samuel M., 96, 158, 160, 161; to buy oil from Drake, 103, 160, 165; discovers oil at Tarentum, 115; story of, 118, 153, 156; oil refinery of, 156.
Kiskiminetas, Pa., 148.
Lamb, J. H., 97.
Lamps, Corsot Mechanical, 30; camphene, 31, 63; Carcel's, 63; story of, 94; in the Drake Museum, 104; paraffin, 123, 125; danger from petroleum, 131.
Larson, Henrietta, M., 92, 172.
Lawlessness in the oil region, 124, 158; in Petroleum Centre, 124, 138; at Pleasantville, 131; in Shaffer, 123; in Titusville, 108, 160.
Lawrence County, Pa., oil field in, 148.
Lawrie, Judge W. H., 149.
Leases of oil lands, 2, 24, 59, 72, 73, 75, 79, 103, 113, 157, 159. *See* Brewer, Watson & Co.; Eveleth & Bissell; Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of Conn.; and Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y.
Lechburg, Pa., 148.
Le Clercq, Father Christian, 92.
Legal Tender Oil Co., 113.
Legislation on petroleum, in England, 43, 151, 149; in Pennsylvania, 102.
Leon, Señor Lilo, visits oil region, 117.
Leonard, Charles C. ("Crocus"), 89, 125.
Light House Board, U. S., Secretary of, 63.
Lighthouses, oil in, 63.
Lincoln, Abraham, 87.
Liquor business in oil region, 108.
Little & Merrick well (Rouse well), fire at, 108.
Locke, Harrison, recollections of Drake by, 157.
Locke, Robert D., recollections of Drake and the Drake well by, 162, 165.
Loskiel, George Henry, 92.
Love, Gilbert, 158.
Lovell, A., 162.
Lowell, Mass., 17.
Ludlow well, Tidioute, Pa., 107.
Lyman & Havens, Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of Conn. leases oil land to, 77, 159; fail to execute terms of lease, 77; terms of lease with Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of Conn., 78. *See* Havens, R. H.; Havens & Lyman.
McBeth, Reid S., 92.
McCarthy, J. M., 59.
McClintock, G. W., story about operators on farm of, 119.
McClintock, Hamilton, famous oil spring on farm of, 2; story about operators on farm of, 118.
McCray, James S., 152, 169.
McCurdy, Herman, 162.
McElhenny farm, story about those drilling on, 119, 122.
McEowen & Co., Titusville, 152.
McHenry, James, visits oil region, 117.
McIntosh, D., 163.
McKean County, oil in, 150.
McKelvey, David, life of, 160.
McKinney, J. L., 163, 164.
McKinney Brothers, life of, 160.
McLaughlin well, 151.
McLaurin, John J., 92.
McNall, E. W., 162.
McNeil, 14.
MacKenzie, E. D., 164.
Mackey, Louis J., 162.
Macrae, Alexander, 167.
Maine, 18.
Manuscript material in Drake Museum, 103-104.
Maps, to be prepared, 66; of iron tankage in oil region, 87; in the Drake Museum, 103. *See* Atlases, oil region. [Marchal and Stratton], 75.
Mather, J. A., 103, 154, 160, 161, 169.
Mather, John A., and Edwin C. Bell, 92.
Massachusetts, State of, 1.
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Society of Arts, 87.
Mead and Steele well, 108.
Meadville, Pa., 17, 29; persons paying income tax in, 139.
Meadville Literary Union, 104.
Mellon, Thomas, 156.
Merchants Bank, New York City, 63.
Meredith. *See* Miller farm.
Merrick well. *See* Little & Merrick well.
Merrill, Joshua, 96, 157.
Middletown, Pa., 135.

- Mill farm, 143.
 Miller farm, 122, 127, 129, 135, 171.
 Millern, Alexander von, 92.
 Mills, Major S. M., 153.
 Milwaukee, 64, 66.
 Mitchell farm, 152.
 Mitman, Carl W., 96.
 Mog's Run, 168.
 Moore House, Titusville, 103, 153.
 Morian, H. T., 163.
 Morris, Edmund, 93.
 Morris, William S., 123.
 Morrow, Nancy C., 162, 164.
 Morse, Jedediah, 93.
 Mowbray, George M., 93, 96, 123, 147, 159, 165, 169.
 Mulock, Charles, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 41, 43, 44, 46, 50.
 Munson, 70, 71.
 Murray, F. F., 162, 171.
 Murray, Joseph, 162, 163.
 Murrin, James, 163.

 Naphtha, 140.
 Naphthalin, 21.
 National Transit Co., 157.
 Navy, U. S., experiments with petroleum as fuel, 128.
 Navy, U. S., Secretary of, report on use of petroleum as fuel, 101.
 Neilsburg, Pa., persons paying income tax in, 139.
 Nevins, Allan, 93.
 New Haven, Conn., 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 21, 30, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 43, 44, 45, 48, 51, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 58, 60, 64, 65, 67, 68, 69, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 167.
 New Haven Hotel, New Haven, Conn., 57, 75.
 New Haven Railroad, tests petroleum, 75.
 New Orleans, La., 83.
 New South Wales, oil in, 118.
 Newspapers, articles relating to petroleum history, 104-167; in Drake Museum, 104; in Titusville, 153; special editions devoted to petroleum history, 166. *See* Jackson, O. H.
 Newton, J. H., 93.
 New York, 36, 37.
 New York, Bank of, 34.
 New York City, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 29, 30, 31, 33, 35, 36, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73, 75, 80, 82, 83, 146.
 New York and Liverpool Petroleum Co., 168.
 New York & New Haven Railroad Co., 8, 37.
 New York Petroleum Exchange, description of, 123.
 New York and Philadelphia Petroleum Co., 113.
 New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore Consolidated Petroleum and Mining Co., 114.
 Nilsson, Christine, appears in Titusville, 150.
 Nitro-glycerine, explosion of, 149.
 Nobel well, 143.
 Northrup, M. H., 117.

 Oberholtzer, Ellis Paxson, 93.
 O'Callaghan, E. B., 89.
 "Off T. Goof." *See* Harris, C. H.
 O'Hare, Hugh, life of, 160.
 Ohio, salt wells of, 172.
 Ohio Petroleum Co., 112.
 Ohio River, oil along the, 8, 93.
 Oil Basin Oil Co., 112.
 Oil City, Pa., 104, 114, 115, 122, 125, 130, 132, 141, 143, 146, 147, 148; oil exchange in, 103, 107, 170; developments at, 105; and pond freshets, 109; fire among oil boats at, 110; rise and progress of, 113; oil trade in, 117, 118; drilling around, 118; character of, 119; observations on, 141; as it was and is, 142; and the flood of 1865, 163; growth of, 161.
 Oil City Oil Exchange, 103, 170.
 Oil City Petroleum and Refining Co., 116.
 Oil Creek, 1, 2, 3, 12, 41, 42, 54, 61, 66, 82, 106, 110, 114, 125, 132, 160, 170; business directory of, 97; developments along, 105, 115, 117, 120, 124; early history of, 143; farm along, 161; flood on, 115; geology of, 119; in 1865, 169; oil pits along, 123; oil wells along, 107, 109; speculation along, 112.
 Oil Creek Lake, 148.
 Oil Creek lands, description of, 60-62.
 Oil Creek packet, ride on, 119.
 Oil Creek Railroad, 126, 165.
 Oil Creek and Allegheny Co., prospectus of, 167.
 Oil Creek and Allegheny Railroad, annual report of, 137.
 Oil farms. *See* Farms, oil.
 Oil exchanges, need for, 146; in oil region, 154; at Bradford, 170; at Oil City, 103, 170; at Pittsburgh, 171; at Titusville, 103, 146, 147, 152, 153, 154, 155.
 Oil pits, at Titusville, 61, 66, 95, 104, 114, 123, 167, 170, 171.

- Oil region, 80, 110, 112, 116, 118, 136, 137, 142, 152, 168, 169; atlases of, 87; bedbugs in, 162; churches in, 145, 149, 155, 163; culture in, 164; depression in, 127, 128, 136, 167; developments from beginning to 1868 in, 136; grocery trade in, 152; journalism in, 142, 166; horse-racing in, 147; lawlessness in, 108, 123, 124, 127, 131, 138, 158, 160; motion picture of, 164; observations of Major Hays on, 139; pictures of, 160; sketches of, 166; sports in, 163; visit to, 145, 151; visited by President Grant, 150. *See* Maps; Fire; and Newspapers.
- Oil springs, at Titusville, Pa., 1, 2, 9, 12-13, 20, 33, 35, 43, 44, 45, 61, 64, 66, 67, 69, 72, 77, 78, 80, 81, 82, 83, 90, 93, 94, 102, 110; at Tarentum, Pa., 104; in U. S., 109, 167; in Canada, 109, 167; at Hackney Wick, 143; at Cuba, N. Y., 166; in North America, 168.
- Oil stock exchange, Thurston, 113; New York, 123.
- Oil trade, 110, 115, 128, 142; in Oil City, 117; in Pittsburgh, 109, 110, 129; in western N. Y., 108.
- Oil wells, 110, 113, 114, 116, 141, 150; depth of, 91; ownership of, 91; tools used in, 104; being drilled, 105; along Allegheny River, 106, 107; along French Creek, 106, 107; around Franklin, 106, 107, 108; along Oil Creek, 106, 107, 109; list of, 108; action of, 112; along Sugar Creek, 114; tubed, 116; seedbagged, 116; improvements in drilling of, 124, 145; yield of famous, 126; at Petroleum Centre, 126; cost of, 145; number drilled 1859-1909, 157.
- Barnsdall, 106.
- Barnsdall, Mead & Co., 105.
- Black flag, 134, 137.
- "Burning," 121, 168.
- Burns, 148.
- Coquette, 152.
- Drake. *See* Drake well.
- Economite, 108.
- Evans, 162.
- Fountain, 169.
- Grant, 168.
- Hequembourg, 107.
- Homestead, 171.
- Little & Merrick (Rouse well), 108, 159.
- Ludlow, 107.
- McLaughlin, 151.
- Mead & Steele, 108.
- Nobel, 143.
- Ruffner, 172.
- "Spiritual," 130.
- United States, 114, 115.
- Venture, 142.
- Williams, 106, 107.
- Oil Well Supply Co., brochure on beginnings of oil industry by, 167.
- Oil Wells Co. of Canada, 110.
- Olean, N. Y., 87.
- Oleopolis, Pa., 120, 122.
- Osceola Oil Co., 120.
- Painter, Jacob, life of, 118.
- Palmer, Mr., 15, 20, 27.
- Palmer, Mrs., sister of F. B. Brewer, 17.
- Palos, U. S., experiments with petroleum as fuel, 128.
- Pamphlets relating to petroleum, 166-167.
- Panama conglomerates, 102.
- Panhandle, Texas, oil and gas field, beginnings of, 172.
- Paraffin oil, 109, 110.
- Parker, 72.
- Parker's farm, 55.
- Parker's Landing, 140, 141, 144, 152.
- Parma, Duchy of, oil in, 8.
- Parshall Opera House and Hotel, Titusville, Pa., 143, 145, 146, 154.
- Patent Office, U. S., Report of, on petroleum devices, 112.
- Payne, Calvin S., life of, 160.
- Pearsons, 14.
- Peckham, S. F., 96, 101.
- Pendleton House, Titusville, Pa., 122.
- Pennsylvania government documents on petroleum, 101-102.
- Pennsylvania Grade Crude Oil Association, 161.
- Pennsylvania Lubricating Oil Land Co., 118.
- Pennsylvania Petroleum Co., 114.
- Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y., preface; 20, 33, 36, 50, 104; organization of, 6; employs Angier to work oil springs, 6-7; has difficulty of selling stock, 7, 20, 26, 38; effect of Silliman's report upon, 7-8; opposition to organizing in N. Y., 8, 37; closes up its business, 9, 47; continues legal existence until 1924, 9; stock of, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 22, 24, 25, 27, 31, 32, 37, 39; stock books of, 14, 19, 21; stock certificates of, 14, 15, 19, 21; Board of Directors of, 15, 19; prospects look good for, 17; Trustees of, 20, 27, 32, 51; stockholders of, 32, 51; delays in organization of, 37; notice to close up the business

- Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co., of N. Y., *continued*.
 drafted, 45; causes Sheldon much anxiety, 45-46; Board of Directors meeting called to close up business of, 49-50; notice of final meeting of stockholders of, 57; stockholders to meet in New Haven, 73. *See* Bissell, G. H.; Eveleth, J. G.; Eveleth & Bissell; Sheldon, Anson.
- Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of Conn., 48, 75, 77; organization of, 9; Eveleth & Bissell retain controlling interest in, 9; basis for organization of, 43; committee of New Haven capitalists to visit Titusville, 44; stock nearly all taken, 44; New Haven men buy large amount of stock in, 44; most of stock subscribed, 45; able men as stockholders in, 46; plan for launching, 51; New Haven interest in, 52; sale of stock progressing, 53; Articles of Association of, 54; stockholders of, 55, 77; Drake buys stock in, 59; Sheldon trying to interest New Haven men in, 70-71; lease for oil land drawn, 73; stock books being prepared, 74; stock certificates of, 74; Board of Directors, meeting of, 76; leases oil land to Bowditch & Drake, 76; meeting of Directors of, 78; lease to Bowditch & Drake recorded by, 77; terms of lease to Bowditch & Drake, 78; election of Directors of, 79; leases oil land to Lyman & Havens, 159. *See* Bissell, G. H.; Eveleth, J. G.; Eveleth & Bissell; Drake, E. L.; Sheldon, Anson.
- Pennsylvania Tubing Transportation Co., operator of pipe line from Pithole to Oleopolis, 120.
- Periodical literature relating to petroleum, 167-172.
- Persia, oil in, 8.
- Personsville, Pa., business activity at, 142.
- Peter, Lesley, J., 101.
- Petersburg, Pa., early operations at, 151.
- Peto, Sir S. Morton, 93, 117.
- Petroleum:
 accidents, 134.
 annual reports on, 136, 137, 141, 146.
 at sea, 135, 139.
 buyers, 157.
 corners on oil, 140, 144, 150.
 danger from, 109, 110, 167.
 dividends, 151.
 early history of, 87, 88, 90, 91, 92, 94, 100, 104, 140, 150, 156, 166, 169-170, 171.
 excitement in markets, 140.
 excitement on Oil Creek, 105.
 fever, 112.
 imports, 110, 112.
 in California, 38, 113, 167.
 in Gaspe, 110.
 in Kentucky salt wells, 109, 165, 171, 172.
 in Ohio salt wells, 172.
 in Tarentum salt wells, 115.
 in W. Va. salt wells, 93, 172.
 introduction into Europe, 109, 110.
 laws relating to, 122, 134, 140, 149, 151.
 market, 89, 108. *See* Petroleum, monthly reports on; annual reports on.
 men, 103, 118, 162, 163.
 methods of locating, 170.
 monthly reports on, 129, 130, 131, 132, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152.
 notes on, 117, 125, 126, 127, 140.
 odor from, 110.
 options, 3.
 origin of, 88, 90, 119, 134, 152.
 pageant, 91.
 poetry, 112.
 policy of U. S., 92.
 prices, 4, 7, 61, 76, 82, 100, 106, 109, 110, 136, 137, 146, 147, 157. *See* Petroleum, monthly reports on; annual reports on.
 princes, 129, 130, 145.
 producers, 137, 167.
 production, 88, 91, 94, 96, 102, 108, 117, 128, 136, 137, 138, 141, 146, 151, 152, 157, 167. *See* Petroleum, monthly reports on; annual reports on.
 ring, 141.
 schemes to raise prices, 109, 157.
 scouts, 94, 160.
 ship, 110, 135.
 slang, 141.
 sold to French, 61.
 speculation in, 100, 112, 128, 139, 171.
 statistics, 89, 102.
 stock exchanges, 113, 123.
 storage of, 109, 110, 127, 136.
 tax on, 91, 100, 101, 122.
 technology of, 88, 96.
 transportation, 102, 121, 140, 171. *See* Railroads; Teamsters; Pipe lines; and Pond freshets.
 uses of, 88, 94, 96, 109, 110, 113, 116, 128.

- use as fuel, 12, 101, 113, 124, 125, 127, 128, 129, 134, 138, 144.
use as hair tonic, 108.
use as an illuminant, 1, 2, 12, 21, 31, 62, 115, 167.
use as an insecticide, 131.
use as a lubricant, 1, 2, 12, 15, 21, 62, 73, 75.
use as a medicine, 21, 38, 62, 73, 82, 110, 114.
use as a source of federal revenue, 100.
use in Pittsburgh, 90.
vats, 79.
Petroleum Centre, 91, 117, 119, 120, 121, 122, 125, 126, 132, 139, 158, 171; boom times at, 123; mob violence at, 124; fire at, 127, 147; developments at, 129, 139; scandalous conditions in, 138; persons paying income tax in, 139.
Petroleum Co. of W. Va., 116.
Petroleum companies. *See* Companies, petroleum.
Petroleum Iron Works, Titusville, history of, 150.
Petroleum Trading Co., 110, 111.
Petroleum wells. *See* Oil wells.
Petrolia, Pa., 170.
Philadelphia, Pa., 56, 167.
Philadelphia & Erie R. R., 140.
Phillip's and Webb's, circular on petroleum, 149.
Photographs, early oil, 103-104.
Pierce, Ira H., arrested in Bennehoff robbery case, 137.
Pierce, Rexford, 152.
Pierpont, Asahel, 8, 9, 11, 46, 51, 52, 60, 68, 69, 72, 73, 76, 77, 79; is going to Titusville, 46; well pleased with oil springs, 47; is pleased with inspection of oil springs, 48; active in promoting new oil company, 53-54, 55-56; expects to put in engine at Titusville, 55; expects to enlarge his stock subscription, 55; inspects oil springs, 64, 65-66; plans to operate oil springs at Titusville, 66; regarded as practical man, 70; is sick, 75; explains leasing oil land to Bowditch & Drake, 77-78; elected director of Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of Conn., 79.
Pierson. *See* Niagara and Pierson farms.
Pine Hill Run, 168.
Pioneer City, 91, 127; growth of, 126, 129; developments at, 129; persons paying income tax at, 139.
Pioneer Run, 91, 122, 123.
Pipe lines, 120, 127, 129; at Oleopolis, 120; early development of, 121, 150, 156, 157; of Henry Harley, 125; of the Pennsylvania Tubing Transportation Co., 120; of Van Syckel, 148, 171; teamsters attack, 123; National Transit Co., 157.
Pithole, 103, 115, 117, 118, 122, 125, 127, 151, 158, 162, 163, 168, 171, 172; history of, 89, 124, 147; business directory of, 97, excitement at, 113; fire at, 116, 121, 130; early days in, 116; production at, 117; sketch of men drilling at, 120; developments at, 120; pipe line at, 120; prizefighting at, 122; as it was, 125; important farms at, 126; walking match at, 129; decline of, 129; character of, 138; in 1869, 139.
Pithole Creek, drilling along, 114, 116.
Pithole Creek Petroleum Co., 118.
Pithole Railroad, account of trip from Oil City to Pithole *via*, 122, 147.
Pithole Valley Railroad, 147.
Pittsburgh, Pa., 4, 13, 56, 61, 62, 81, 87, 103, 130, 165; effect of oil industry upon business in, 108; oil trade in, 109, 110, 129; refineries in, 110; bull movement centers in, 139; corners on oil organized in, 140; oil exchange in, 171; oil ring in, 141.
Pittsburgh Oil Exchange, 171.
Pleasantville, Pa., 91, 127, 132, 133, 134, 136, 137, 138, 151; developments at, 130, 131; "The Den" at, 133; Black Flag well, 134; investments at, 135; postal business at, 135; production at, 135; operations at, 135; oil wells at, 135; in 1869, 139; early history of, 139, 162; persons paying income tax at, 139; observations on, 145; fire in, 152.
Plumer, Pa., growth and development of, 116, 117.
Poetry about petroleum, 112.
Pond freshets, 142, 159; at Oil City, 109; character of, 110; sketch of, 157.
Ponton, John, 129, 167.
Portland, Maine, 43, 52, 53.
Pouchot, François, 94.
Prather, George C., 120.
Prather City, Pa., 117.
Prentice, F., 114, 149.
Prentice Station (Driftwood City), 148.
President Petroleum Co., 168.
Price of petroleum, 4, 7, 61, 76, 82, 100, 106, 109, 110, 136, 137, 146, 147, 157. *See* Petroleum, annual reports on; Petroleum, monthly reports on.
Prize-fighting, 122.
Proctor, Colonel Thomas, 102.

- Producers, oil, constitution of, 137.
 Production, petroleum. *See* Petroleum, annual reports on; Petroleum, monthly reports on; and Oil, production.
 Providence, R. I., 53.
- Quechy, 14, 17.
 Quick, Miles W., life of, 160.
- Railroads in oil region, 108, 127, 128.
 Allegheny River, 130.
 Allegheny Valley, 108, 109.
 Atlantic & Great Western, 110.
 Farmers', 125.
 Oil Creek, 125, 165.
 Oil Creek & Allegheny, 137.
 Philadelphia & Erie, 140.
 Pithole Valley, 122, 147.
 Union & Titusville, 147.
 Red Hot, Pa., fight at, 143.
 Redwood, Boverton, 94.
 Reed, Ezra C., President of City Bank, New Haven, Conn., 71.
 Reed, Franklin, 6, 9, 26, 49, 50, 54, 56, 67, 68, 71, 73, 74.
 Refineries, Downer, 96, 110, 123, 164, 165; in Pittsburgh, 108, 110; Humboldt, 120; in Titusville, 137, 145; Van Syckel, 148; capacity of, 152; Hinkley, 153; first, 156. *See* Kier, S. M.
 Refining processes, 100, 145, 150, 156.
 Reno, Pa., improved methods of developing oil lands at, 122.
 Revenue Commission, U. S., report on petroleum as a source of revenue, 100.
 Revenue, U. S. Deputy Special Commissioner of the, report on export trade in petroleum, 99.
 Reynolds, John, 143.
 Reynolds, John Earle, 94.
 Reynolds, Martin L., 163.
 Riceville, Pa., early days of, 148.
 Richmond, 26, 32, 33, 35, 37, 41, 42, 46, 58-59, 71.
 Richmond, C., and A., 10, 23, 30. *See* Richmond.
 Richmond, Charles, Jr., 10, 11, 31, 33, 36, 39-40, 50. *See* Richmond.
 Richmond, H. L., visits Barnsdall, Williams & Drake wells, 106.
 Ridgway, Thomas, report on Pennsylvania oil region by, 168.
 Robbins, F. W., 94.
 Roberts, E. A. L., 156.
 Roberts Block, Titusville, 151.
 Roberts Brothers, 160.
 Roberts torpedo, 127.
 Robinson [of Titusville], 16.
 Robinson, E. W., 63.
 Rock oil, 1, 30, 61, 63, 68, 77, 82, 100, 108, 109, 156, 166, 167.
 Rock Oil Co., 35, 37. *See* Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y.
 Rockefeller, John D., 93, 162.
 Rogers, H. H., 172.
 Rood, Mr. and Mrs., 42.
 Rooker, Jesse, story of, 120.
 Rooker, Nelson, loses fortune, 135.
 Rooker farm, 117, 120.
 Ross, Victor, 94.
 Rouse (Chief of Police in Titusville), goes to Denver after James Saeger, 153.
 Rouse, H. R., life of, 108.
 Rouseville, Pa., 144, 148, 152.
 Ruffner well, 172.
 Rynd [James], 24, 28, 41-42.
 Rynd farm, 133; sketch of operations on, 118; persons paying income tax on, 139.
- Saeger, James, arrested for Bennehoff robbery, 153.
 Safety Railroad Switch Co., New York, 15, 16, 19, 22, 31.
 St. James' Memorial Church, Titusville, founding of, 155, 163.
 St. Louis, Mo., 44.
 St. Titus Church, Titusville, history of, 145.
 Salisbury, James H., 6, 26, 32, 49, 51.
 Salt pans, 80.
 Salt wells, early, 109; in Tarentum, Pa., 115; in Kentucky, 165, 171, 172; in Ohio, 172; in W. Va., 172.
 Satterthwaite, E. F., visits oil region, 117.
 Scheide, William, 163.
 Scheide, W. T., life of, 160.
 Schieffelin, W. H., 93.
 Schoepf, Johann David, 94.
 Schooley, John S., 168.
 Scott, A., 120.
 Scott, Joseph, 94.
 Scott, Walter Judd, 157.
 Scott House, Pittsburgh, 147.
 Scruggs, William L., 171.
 Second National Bank, Titusville, 150.
 Seedbagging, 116.
 Seeley, S. M., 114.
 Seely, Charles A., visits Titusville and oil region, 125.
 Seep, Joseph, 160.
 Seneca Indians, 61.
 Seneca Oil, 1, 61, 104, 105.
 Seneca Oil Co., 9, 59, 80, 104, 105; receives lease from Drake & Bowditch, 79; sends money to Drake, 79; property

- considered worth millions, 81; papers and records in Drake Museum, 103; story of, 159.
- Seymour, Conn., 11, 55.
- Shaffer, 91, 127; fire at, 119; mob violence at, 123.
- Shaffer farm, 169.
- Shaffer Run, wells on, 143.
- Shamburg, Pa., 131, 135, 142; rise and growth of, 129; developments at, 129; effect of Pleasantville boom upon, 132; persons paying income tax at, 139; observations on, 145.
- Shaw farm, developments on, 145, 148.
- Shawville, 145.
- Sheldon, Anson, 10, 11, 26, 23, 30, 31, 34, 36, 37, 41, 42, 43, 44, 48, 49, 50, 54, 55, 56, 60, 63, 66, 71, 72, 73, 75; requests Eveleth & Bissell to come to New Haven, Conn., 5; becomes trustee of Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of N. Y., 6; employed by Eveleth & Bissell to sell oil stock, 7; goes to Titusville, 9; tries to raise money to pay Silliman, 33, 35; has not sold any oil stock, 35; completely discouraged, 38; indicates difficulty of selling stock, 45-46; pleased with oil springs, 47; inspects oil springs at Titusville, 64; returns from Titusville, 65; requested to surrender Day's notes, 67; regrets his connection with oil venture, 68; tries to get Brackett to go to Titusville, 69; personal financial problems embarrass, 69; arranges to go into another business, 74.
- Shepard. *See* Garvey-Shepard fight.
- Sheriff, James A., pioneer at Petroleum Centre, 139.
- Shoe & Leather Petroleum Co., 126.
- Silliman, Benjamin, Jr., frontispiece; vi, 10, 24, 43, 49, 60, 165; employed to analyze petroleum, 5, 19; influences New Haven capitalists, 6; report delayed by an explosion, 7; report completed, 8; effect of report, 8, 36, 38; helps organize Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of Conn., 8; becomes President, 9; believes oil to be more valuable for arts than as medicine, or for burning, or lubricating purposes, 21; discusses progress of research on oil, 23, 25, 26; has an explosion, 26; about to complete analysis, 30; answers questions of interested capitalists, 31; report is favorable, 34-35; cost of analysis, 34-35; report goes to printer, 35; proposes to take stock in oil company, 37, 46; is paid \$300, 45; opinion of Ives and Pierpont, 48; demand for copies of report, 52; elated over success in testing petroleum, 62; asks for deposit on testing work, 63; asks for equipment to make comparison with sperm and colza oils, 63; petroleum hardly suited to Carcel's lamp, 63; influential in sale of oil stock, 70-71; report on petroleum in California, 167; report on petroleum in Pennsylvania, 167.
- Simonds, Joseph H., business manager of J. W. Booth, 87.
- Skiff & Gaylord, 171.
- Skinner farm, developments on, 126.
- Smalley, E. V., 170.
- Smiley, Alfred Wilson, 94.
- Smith, 72.
- Smith, Margaret Jane, recollections of Drake and the Drake well by, 157, 159.
- Smith, Samuel B., recollections of Drake and the Drake well by, 157.
- Smith, Theodore Clarke, 94.
- Smith, W. A., driller of Drake well, 158; recollections of the Drake well by, 154, 157.
- Smith, William E., 163.
- Speculation in oil. *See* Petroleum; Bull movement in oil; Congress, oil speculative craze in; and Corners on oil.
- Speculation in oil land, 81, 82.
- Speculation in oil stocks, 75, 91, 112, 113, 114. *See* Oil stock exchange.
- Sperm candles, 63.
- Sperm oil, 63.
- "Spiritual Well," Pleasantville, 130.
- Spiritualism. *See* Divining rod.
- Sports in oil region, 163.
- Sproull, Robert, life of, 118.
- Stand Off City, developments at, 144, 145, 147.
- Standard Oil Co., 171.
- Standard Oil Co. of N. Y., 94.
- State, U. S. Secretary of, report on commercial relations of U. S. with foreign countries, 97-98.
- Statistics, U. S. Bureau of, report on export trade in petroleum, 99.
- Steam Engineering, U. S. Bureau of, 101.
- Steele, John Washington, (Coal Oil Johnny), 94, 127; files bankruptcy petition, 130, 133, 138; career of, 145; 158, 163, 169, 171.
- Steele farm, 127.
- Steele well. *See* Mead & Steele well.
- Sterret, William B., 151.
- Stevenson, E. T., 163.

- Stevenson, James B., 163.
 Stevenson, William D., 163.
 Stevenson farm, 91, 121.
 Stewart, Milton, life of, 160.
 Stock exchange. *See* Oil stock exchange.
 Stofiel, L. E., 156.
 Stone, Ivan McKinley, 94.
 Stone, Ralph Walter, and Frederick G. Clapp, 101.
 [Stone] Empire Company, 37.
 Story farm, story of, 132; persons paying income tax on, 139.
 Stowell, S. H., 101.
 [Stratton]. *See* [Marchal and Stratton].
 Sugar Creek, activity at, 114.
 Sugar Grove, Pa., oil found in, 144.
 Sugart, Dr., 29.
 Sutley, Zack T., 171.
 Swindles, oil, 116, 133. *See* Anglo-American Oil Co.
- Tank cars, 125, 127, 161.
 Tankage. *See* Iron tankage; and Petroleum, storage of
 Tarbell, Frank S., life of, 160.
 Tarbell, Ida M., 94, 161, 172.
 Tarentum, Pa., salt and oil men at, 79; salt wells at, 115.
 Tarr, James, repossesses farm, 149; death of, 151.
 Tarr farm, 91, 116, 122, 133, 151; persons paying income tax on, 139.
 Tarr Farm Petroleum Co., 114.
 Tax on petroleum, 91, 100, 101, 122.
 Tax, U. S. income, list of persons in oil region paying, 139.
 Taylor, Bayard, 94.
 Taylor, B. F., 119.
 Taylor, Frank A., 97.
 Taylor, H. L., & Co., Titusville, 154.
 Teamsters, 113, 114, 123, 127, 163.
 Tennent, James C., 94.
 Thayer, L. Frank, 163.
 Thorpe, Francis Newton, 95.
 Thurston's Stock Exchange, Pittsburgh, 113.
 Tidioute, Pa., 127, 131; character of, 124, 128; developments at, 107, 131; Economy well at, 108; fire at, 109, 118.
 Tidioute Island, 107.
 Tidioute Oil Co., 107.
 Tionesta, Pa., operations at, 113, 141; persons paying income tax at, 139.
 Tip-Top, Pa., 142.
 Titus, Samuel, life of, 151.
 Titusville, Pa., 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 17, 20, 21, 22, 24, 28, 32, 35, 39, 44, 46, 47, 48, 50, 53, 56, 60, 61, 65, 72, 75, 79, 80, 81, 83, 87, 91, 104, 105, 122, 124, 127, 132, 156; U. S. mail to, 81; excitement over Drake well, 81-82; Drake Museum in, 103-104; oil exchange in, 103, 146, 147, 152, 153, 154, 155; civic improvements in, 105; drilling around, 106; tornado in, 106; liquor traffic arouses citizens of, 108; in 1864-1868, 130; effect of Pleasantville boom on, 132; in 1861, 134; increased business at, 136, 137; refineries in, 137, 145; in 1869, 138; post office in, 138; persons paying income tax in, 139; observations on, 139, 145; business directory for 1870, 141; Citizens Bank in, 143; building progress, 143, 147, 150; Parshall Opera House and Hotel, 143, 145; manufacturing in, 144; recollections of, 144, 154 St. Titus Church in, 145; citizens visit Harley in N. Y., 146; Van Syckel's refinery in, 148; Universalist Society in, 149; gas company in, 149; Petroleum Iron Works in, 150; Second National Bank in, 150; Granger & Co. of, 150; visit of President Grant to, 150; early settlement of, 151; Roberts Block in, 151; wealth in, 151; in 1863, 152; barbering in, 152; newspapers in, 153; Hinkley refinery in, 153; horse-racing in, 155; St. James' Memorial Church in, 155, 161; fire at, 155, 160, 162; in 1845, 156; Abbott's refinery in, 156; in 1860, 158; George M. Mowbray in, 159; in Civil War, 160; oilmen in, 160; vigilantes in, 160; aids Chicago fire sufferers, 161; Bliss Opera House, 161; in early days, 161; celebrates 50th anniversary of discovery of oil, 162; growth of, 164; culture in, 164; education in, 164; religion in, 164.
 Titusville Commercial Club, H. Harley entertains in N. Y. members of, 146; to entertain H. Harley, 148; gives banquet for Harley, 148.
 Titusville Driving Park, 147.
 Titusville Gas Co., 149.
 Titusville Oil Exchange, 103, 152; organization of, 146; by-laws and articles of, 147; first half-year of, 153; early history of, 154; Committee on Incorporation reports, 154; election of officers in 1880, 154; election of Directors, 155; construction of new building by, 155; by-laws of, 155; history of, 155; opening of, 155.
 Titusville Oil Works, 137.
 Tontine Hotel, New Haven, Conn., 5.

- Torpedoes, 125, 137.
Tower, Walter Sheldon, 95.
Towns, forgotten oil, 90.
Townsend, J. M., frontispiece; vi, 8, 70; meets Eveleth & Bissell, 5; sells stock in new oil company, 55; sells E. L. Drake stock in oil company, 59; elected Director of Pennsylvania Rock Oil Co. of Conn., 79; is in Titusville, 81; letters and records in Drake Museum, 103; sends Drake to Titusville, 160.
Townshend, H. H., 103, 167, 171.
Transportation of oil, 140; by teams, 113, 123, 127, 163; by pipe lines, 120, 121, 125, 127, 129, 150, 156, 157; by tank car, 125, 127, 161; by railroad. *See* Railroads.
Treasury, U. S. Secretary of the, statistical reports on the export trade in petroleum, 98-99.
Trego, Charles B., 95.
Trowbridge, J. T., tour of oil region by, 138, 169.
Tubing, 116.
[Tumper] William, interested in buying oil stocks, 75.

Udells, 14.
Union and Titusville Railroad, character of, 147; completion of, 147.
Union Mills, Pa., growth of, 106; an early shipping point, 140; celebration at, 147.
United Petroleum Farms Association, 114.
United Service Co. of N. Y., 116.
United States. *See*:
Congress.
Consular Reports.
Deputy Special Commissioner of the Revenue.
Government documents.
Light House Board, Secretary of.
Patent Office.
Revenue Commission.
State, Secretary of.
Statistics, Bureau of.
Steam Engineering, Bureau of.
Treasury, Secretary of the.
United States Petroleum Co., 103, 118.
United States well, 114, 115.
Universalist Society, Titusville, 149.
Use of oil. *See* Petroleum, use of.

Van Syckel, Samuel, 148, 171.
Veghte [Vegste] Bergh & Burtis, 58.
Venango County, Pa., 12, 61, 62, 65, 90, 92, 93, 95, 101, 102, 167.
Venture well, West Hickory, 142.
Vigilantes, 160.

Wadsworth, J. J., 120.
Wahl, William Henry, 167.
Wales. *See* New South Wales.
Ward, Charles L., reminiscences by, 154.
Warren, Pa., 106, 109.
Warren County, Pa., 12, 88, 102, 162.
Waterbury, B. H., 163.
Waters, W., gives list of oil wells along Oil Creek, 109.
Watson, Jonathan, 29, 42, 48; reminiscences by, 156; death of, 157; early leasing activities of, 159.
Webster Petroleum Co. of Boston, 116.
Wellsville, N. Y., 153.
West Hickory, 121; visit to oil farms along, 120; excitement on, 142.
West Pithole Creek, oil companies, farms, and developments on, 121.
West Virginia, 90, 93, 172.
Western Associated Press, members visit oil field, 148.
Western Empire Co., 8.
Westfield, N. Y., preface.
Whale oil, 62.
Wheeler, Charles L., life of, 170.
White Mountains, 50.
Williams, 28, 29.
Williams, D. M., 106.
Williams, T. R., son-in-law of W. A. Smith, 154.
Williams Well, 107.
Wilson, Peter, 159.
Wilson, Rufus R., 95.
Wood farm, 91.
Wright, William, 95.
Wrigley, Henry E., 87, 102.

Yale College, 5, 19, 21.
Yorkshire, England, discovery of oil in, 119.
Young, James, 96.
Young, Samuel, 95.

Zeisberger, David, 95.

