

Wheeling Register

PARKERSBURG.

A New Industry Stumbled Upon—News and Personal Items.

Special to the Register.

PARKERSBURG, May 20.—Many of our citizens are not aware that we have a new industry in our city. A REGISTER representative in skirmishing about for an item of interest dropped into the new brick building on the banks of the Little Kanawha, and known as the O'Brien building, around which clusters some reminiscence of interests to others besides the citizens of Parkersburg—inside we found Mr. N. L. Upson, the genial and efficient Vice President and general manager and Jacob McKinney, the popular President of the Commercial Oil and Soap Company. On being shown through the building your correspondent was surprised to find a full fledged soap factory in operation. The process is a secret one, originated by Mr. Upson and others associated with him, in which they are protected by a United States trade mark brand. The capital invested is represented by Parkersburg men, and the firm is composed of Jacob McKinney, President; N. L. Upson, Vice President and Manager; H. H. Diles, Jr., Treasurer, and C. N. Upson, Secretary. This building is well adapted to the purpose and the firm are well pleased with the encouragement received so far. Their present output is about 400 boxes per week now, affording employment to about 15 hands, but they expect to increase their production to 800 or 1,200 boxes, as the trade demands. The minutest details of the business are looked after personally by the proprietors. The factory has been in operation but a short time, but shipments have been made to many of the largest cities in the United States, and an order was recently received from Nova Scotia. They are to-day loading a car for Boston, and a shipment made to New Mexico. The firm buy their boxes in Michigan, already cut, and they are put together in the factory here. By the way, this reminds us that Parkersburg is well located for a box factory. An enterprise of this kind would be a good investment.

Colonel Harry Flesher, a former resident of West Virginia, has just returned from California and reports times good there. Colonel F. with his father, one of the simon pure Democrats of Ritchie county, are visiting relatives in the city.

Mr. Ralph Court and family have returned from a pleasant trip up the Kanawha.

Major A. W. Fitzhugh left last night on the Graham, for Wheeling, where he goes to fill a position with W. H. Scheib, the music dealer.

The steamer T. D. Dale is making three trips daily between Marietta and Parkersburg.

The Harry D. Knox, with Capt. Hod. Knowles on the roof and John H. Brookhart in the office, is as prompt and popular as ever.

The Heatherington and Atlantic are both up the river with tows of ties and sawed lumber. The Barnard is laid up here. The Horace and the King Bros. boats are on the move in the Kanawha.

Hopkins & Hassler, merchants and lumber dealers, of Elizabeth, Wirt county, made an assignment last week. N. B. Armstrong assignee, and Armstrong & Deem are made preferred creditors. The liabilities and assets are not known. A portion of the assets consists of a stock of dry goods and groceries at Wirt Court House. The same firm were involved about two years ago and made an assignment, and it was thought that they had about paid out the old debt. The notice of assignment was received with some surprise. Senator Camden left here for the East last night.