

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., 24 May, 1895.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—No communications published unless accompanied by the real name of the writer.

THINGS ABOUT TOWN & COUNTY

—The Bellefonte public school will close in about ten days.

—The biggest day Bellefonte has ever known will be June 6th and 7th.

—Traveling musicians furnished music for an informal dance in the Arcade last evening.

—A heavy frost and ice were seen, by early risers, in many parts of the county on Monday morning.

—Next Tuesday will be circus day and if you want to have a good time you had better come to Bellefonte.

—Thirty-two of Howard borough and township's strong men have left for the lumber woods in Potter county.

—Twenty of Wm. Stover's sheep were badly used up by dogs, in the vicinity of Smithtown, last Friday night.

—Mary H. Underwood and Della V. Goodfellow have taken the honors in the class of '95 at the Bellefonte High school.

—On Sunday Rev. H. A. Grant, of the A. M. E. church, will preach the annual memorial sermon to Gregg post, No. 95, G. A. R., of this place.

—According to Dr. Hibler's opinion the heavy frost of Sunday night didn't hurt anything, for the very simple reason that there was nothing left to be hurt.

—Work has been commenced on a fine new residence for F. O. Hosterman, on Penn street, in Millheim. R. D. Bierly, of Rebersburg, has the contract for the work.

—Don't forget to take all the flowers you can procure to the Post rooms on Decoration day. Remember your duty is to do whatever you can to keep fresh the memories of those who died for their country.

—James Wagner, of Milesburg, was brought to jail here Tuesday evening, charged with breaking up the furniture and the peace of his home. He has been up before for wife beating.

—Irvin Robb, of Nittany Hall, nearly cut the toes off his left foot while peeling bark on the Humes & Brooks tract, on Young Woman's creek, last Monday evening. His axe slipped.

—Don't fail to keep in mind the great Christian rally on Thursday, June 20th. It will take place at Hecla park and promises one of the largest gatherings of Christian people this community has ever seen.

—Rev. Samuel Creighton, of Salona, will fill Rev. Rue's pulpit here Sunday morning and evening. He is one of the old ministers in Methodism and before his health failed was considered a brilliant man.

—The superstructure for the new Lamb street bridge was in town on Monday, the day the contract called for its delivery. The abutments are not half done yet, so it will be sometime before the structure is set in place.

—Walter L. Main, the circus man, has ordered memorial services to be held over the graves of the men who were killed in his wreck at Vail, in 1883. The circus will Sunday in Tyrone, when the services will be held.

—In order to accommodate those coming to Bellefonte on June 5th, 6th and 7th, the Central R. R., of Pa., has arranged to run extra trains between Mill Hall and Bellefonte, the details of which will be made known in due time.

—The 12th annual commencement exercises of the Bellefonte High school will be held on Friday afternoon and evening, May 31st. There are fourteen young ladies and gentlemen in the graduating class. Hon. Thos. H. Murray, of Clearfield, will deliver the address in the evening.

—Dr. O. W. McEntire, of Howard, recently met with a very painful accident. He had a lance in his top vest pocket and while brushing a big bug off his shoulder his hand came in contact with the sharp blade of the lance. A large wound was the result.

—On Tuesday evening confirmation services were held in the St. John's Episcopal church, in this place, under the direction of Bishop N. S. Rulison. Those confirmed were: Mrs. John M. Bullock, Miss Jane Breeze, Mr. and Mrs. James McElhattan, Frederick and Blanche Chandler, William Michael, Blanche McGarvey and James Simmons.

—A Philipsburg woman named Hunter owed the borough \$11.00 for sewer privileges. She saw a man passing her house Friday morning, whom she supposed to be the burgess, Andy Bolger. She called him in and paid him the money, then went to find some paper on which he could write a receipt, but while she was in another part of the house the supposed burgess skipped out and later she found out that her money had been paid to the wrong man.

THE JUNIOR ORATORICAL CONTEST.—Garman's opera house was filled from the orchestra circle to the last row in the gallery on Friday night, when the orators of the Junior class of the Bellefonte High school were to contest for the Reynolds prize. The stage was artistically set and draped in red and white, the class colors.

Eight young ladies and gentlemen, together with Mr. Ammerman, the principal of the High school, and Rev. J. W. Rue occupied seats on the stage and while the orchestra played its first selection the interest manifested on the many faces in the auditorium found expression in conversation and friendly wagers as to which one of the contestants would be successful.

After the invocation James G. Wright was introduced. His subject: "Toussaint L'Overture," was a good one, very cleverly handled. Blanche Underwood followed him; "A second Trial" being the subject for her pleasing recitation, which proved to have been the prize winner. The next declaimer was Willis A. Ishler, the eldest son of ex-sheriff Ishler. He told of the "Lights and Shadows of Scottish Life," in a way that left a very favorable impression with the audience.

Music again afforded an opportunity for the friends of the youthful orators to compare notes and, as warm friendship invariably blinds all failings in those whom we admire, there were just three divisions of people in that audience who were convinced, by that time, that their favorites were sure of the prize. The next declaimer was Willis Knox, a manly looking boy, who seemed almost as much at home on the rostrum as if he had been an elocutionist. "Silent Influences" were worked up so nicely by the young man that when he reached his climax in an epic to mother a vote of the audience would surely have given him the prize forthwith. But following him came Myrtle Longacre, who did very well with "Little Will," though her selection was a trifle too pathetic for such an occasion. Then Freida Baum recited "a Brave Boy" in a way that raised the hopes of her friends. Mabel Fauble followed her and in an easy, graceful manner recited "Better than Diamonds." When she had finished it was clear that her work had left a very favorable impression and added more to the trials in store for the judges. The last selection was, "The Whistling Regiment," by Bessie Orris, a pretty little lady whose performance was very creditable.

The judges, W. I. Fleming, E. R. Chambers Esq., and Rev. B. C. Shaw, retired them and the orchestra played until they had come to the determination that Blanche Underwood had come nearest to perfection in the various divisions into which the work had been reduced.

As a whole the contest was a very creditable one and the large audience told of the interest taken in it by the townspeople. The good done by such measuring of oratorical powers is inestimable. No one can realize how valuable an acquisition, to a young man or young woman, it is to be able to say what they might wish to say in a clear, forcible way, without that stammering embarrassment which too often is found with the sharp blade of the lance who would otherwise have been illus-

trious.

COUNCIL IN SESSION.—On Monday evening council met, and transacted the business that had accrued during the two week's lapse between its regular meetings.

Council accepted an invitation to participate in a body in the Centennial celebration on June 7th.

The Street committee prepared considerable work done in various parts of town as well as the usual cleaning up. In response to a petition endorsed by this committee council gave it discretionary power to act in the question of allowing booths on the streets and alleys of Bellefonte for the sale of produce, fruits, etc. The petition was a protest against granting such privileges.

The Nuisance committee reported that the nuisance supposed to be maintained near the poor house was an annoyance to none and that its members had been able to find nothing wrong with the sanitary condition of the "Big Spring," which had been reported polluted by adjacent cess pools and drains.

The Water committee reported its department in good condition, that a new motor had been put in at Sourcebeck's, on High street, and that the flowers around the "Big Spring" had recently frozen. The request of Jenkins & Lingel and Wm. B. Mastland for water at their works at the old car shops was referred to this committee for action.

R. McCafferty & Son appeared to ask for an extension of time for the completion of the Lamb street bridge. They got it and council ordered them paid \$126.14 for work completed, to that date. An ordinance was then presented and adopted, which authorizes the paving of the Diamond in this place with composite pavement, the borough to bear one-third and the adjoining property holders two-thirds of the cost. The same to be done under an act of 1889.

After authorizing the payment of bills to the amount of \$302.89 council adjourned.

—Warriorsmark farmers are replanting their corn.

—The American express company has opened an office at Mackeyville.

—The Philipsburg village improvement society is actively engaged in cleaning up that town.

—Thomas Byron has leased the Philipsburg opera house and will manage it during the season of '95-'96.

—There were only four hundred and eighty-eight inmates in the Huntingdon reformatory when the roll was called Saturday night.

—The case of Governor Hastings vs. F. J. O'Connor, of Johnstown, for libel, will come up at Ebensburg, on Thursday, June 20th.

—Rev. W. C. Robbins, of Salona, who fell down a stairway in Williamsport last week and suffered considerable injury, is able to walk around again.

—Last Saturday evening, Michael Stahl, of Beech Creek, started to spend Sunday with friends at Salona and while on the way he experienced a slight paralytic stroke.

—An effort is being made to have the Clearfield cadets, a new military organization of that town, accompany the Clearfield fire company to this place during the firemen's convention.

—An isolated ward is to be built for the Cottage hospital at Philipsburg. That institution stands a good chance of receiving an appropriation of \$15,000 for maintenance now since W. P. Duncan Esq. has been to Harrisburg to protest against a proposed allowance of only \$5,000.

—Miss Mary Fleck, daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Fleck, formerly of Philipsburg, was married to William Rapsher, a son of Senator Rapsher, of Mauch Chunk, on the 14th inst. She will be remembered as a pleasant visitor at the home of Hon. James Schofield, in this place, and is his sister-in-law.

—A little girl wrote the following composition on "Saw Mills": "Saw mills is very useful. If it was not for saw mills we wouldn't have sawdust to stuff our dolls. If I was a doll I would rather die than to be stuffed with straw. Straw is very ticklesome when you ain't got anything else on your inside. I know a good deal more about saw mills, but my paper is all gone."

—Two Falls Creek wretches decoyed a Keating, Clinton county, woman into a lonely road near that place last Friday evening under the guise of giving her employment as a cook in a lumber camp. They robbed her of all the money she possessed and attempted outrage, but her cries brought help and the brutes fled. Later information is to the effect that the woman's name is Mrs. Birge and her assailant, was George Hart, of DuBois. He has been arrested and has confessed.

—For BELLEFONTE MOTHERS.—The dance which the firemen in this place will hold during the Centennial will be wholly for the entertainment of their visitors, many of whom will be entire strangers. It is very necessary that mothers see to it that their young daughters, those under sixteen years of age, are not allowed to attend the dances. The same air of security will certainly not surround them that does at the dances when none but home firemen are in attendance, all of whom are well known.

IN A CRITICAL CONDITION.—We regret to learn that the illness with which Mr. Henry Noll, of Pleasant Gap, has been suffering for the past two months, has developed so rapidly that his life is now dispased of. James, who is in collector Herring's office at Scranton, and Dr. Samuel, a recent graduate of the Medico-Chirurgical college in Philadelphia, were both telegraphed for and arrived here Wednesday to be at the bed side of their father.

ATTENTION WHEELMEN.—The Bellefonte wheelmen's club have arranged to hold a lantern parade on Wednesday evening, June 5th, 1895. All cyclers are cordially invited to join with the club to make this parade one of the most attractive displays of the coming Centennial celebration. Colored lanterns will be used for decorations, and the parade will start at 8:30 p. m. sharp.

The Bellefonte wheelmen have accepted the invitation of the Centennial committee to take part in the grand industrial parade, on Friday morning, June 7th, 1895, and will be glad to have all the wheelmen of the town and county help them make the cyclists' portion of the parade a great success. The rooms of the club in the Centre county bank building, corner of High and Spring streets, will be open to all visiting wheelmen during the centennial.

For further particulars in regard to arrangements for the parades, address George L. Williams, captain.

THEY SLEPT WHILE THEIR HOUSE WAS ROBBED.—A week ago, if you had told Archie Allison the junior partner in the Logan machine works company, of this place, that it would be possible for burglars to enter his house and go within a few feet of the bed in which he slept, without his hearing them, he would have laughed at you. He wouldn't do it to-day, however, for that is exactly what someone did early Monday morning.

Mr. Allison occupies a pretty little home on North Allegheny street. He was sleepier than usual, so he says, when he retired about midnight Sunday. His wife and infant daughter, Mrs. Humes and a maid, are also occupants of the house and the whole household was nearly frightened to death when they awoke in the morning to find how nearly they had all been carried off.

Some time between the hours of 12 m and 4 in the morning burglars effected an entrance through a kitchen window. After propping all the doors open, in order to make a hasty exit if necessary, the dining room was visited. Nothing was found suitable to their cupidity there, so Archie's bed-room was visited next and there, while the lord of the house slept sweetly, his trousers and underclothes were secured from a chair at his bed-side. The burglar then went back to the kitchen where he was considerate enough to leave the keys that were in the trousers' pocket and the underclothes, taking the trousers, a pen knife and between \$12 and \$18 along.

In a coat, that hung on the back of the chair from which the trousers were taken, was a wallet containing \$45 of which Archie is still the happy possessor.

A rather lucky incident of the robbery is that by which \$80 was saved to Mrs. Allison, his mother. On Saturday he drove over to Spring Mills for her and just as he was leaving his brother's home, the latter handed Mrs. Allison \$80. She did not have a purse with her and asked Archie to carry it for her. He took the roll of money, placing it in the watch pocket of his trousers. Never thinking of it again, until the robbery made it necessary to take an inventory of his possessions, he found that when he had retired Sunday night he had not changed his mother's money from his Sunday clothes to the pockets of the ones he intended wearing Monday, so it was safe in the wardrobe and he had something more to congratulate himself over.

THE MYSTERY DEEPENS.—Many rumors have been afloat since the WATCHMAN published an account of the finding of the body of an unknown man in a swamp near Fowler station last week. Everyone seems to have a different opinion as to who it might have been, the most ridiculous of all these theories being the one that the remains were those of "Billy" Wilson, the man who murdered Harry Waterhouse hero in circus day four years ago and escaped from jail later.

Since Squire Osman's inquest on the body residents of the vicinity have begun to remember that early last spring a strange man appeared about there. If their memory runs not to the contrary he looked very much like the body found at Fowler the other day. The story attached to him is about this:

A strange man appeared in that vicinity early last spring, apparently having gotten off a valley train. He carried a satchel and said that he came in from the west to look up some land he wanted to buy and relatives named Gingery and Ardery. Wandering about in the vicinity he came to the house of a man named Nearhoff, to whom he told his story and who took him out and started him straight on his road again. As the two men walked along together the stranger told his guide that his name was Garner and that his car fare had been paid to Tyrone. After getting him on his way right Nearhoff left him and returned home. This was the last seen of the strange man, though shortly afterwards a covered wagon was noticed going along the road in the direction he was traveling. It also turned into the woods at a point near where the body was found and returned soon afterwards. Whose wagon it was, or who the occupants were, or what they were doing there, nobody knows.

At the inquest a hole was found in the skull, near the temple, but the jury were unable to decide whether it was a bullet hole or not. The left arm was broken too, but this might have been done since the body has been lying in the marsh. District Attorney Singer went up yesterday morning to investigate the case, but had nothing to say about it.

A BRAVE LITTLE PATIENT.—Merchant W. T. Meyer, of this place, is in Philadelphia where his nine year old daughter, Maud, is a patient in the Howard hospital. A recent attack of the grip resulted in enlargement of the lymphatic glands of the neck for which she has undergone several operations. Dr. Martin has removed forty-seven enlarged glands, some of them as large as an egg.

—Centennial medals are already displayed in many Bellefonte stores.

STRAWBERRIES AND ICE CREAM TO-NIGHT.—The ladies of the Reformed church intend holding a strawberry festival in the Y. M. C. A. rooms this evening. Everything that is delicious will be served and all are invited to attend.

THE ICY MAY OF '94.—A correspondent of the New York Mail and Express writes: This spring is almost a duplicate of the spring of 1894, except that we have had heavy frosts instead of snow and light frost. Ice formed as thick in May of that year as window glass. On May 14 I hired out to work on a farm, two miles from Courtland. The spring had been very similar to this. Fruit trees were in blossom the day I commenced working, but it began to grow cold, and continued to do so for three days.

Finally it grew so cold that Mr. How, for whom I worked, had to wear an overcoat and mittens while ploughing. On the 17th it commenced snowing very fast, and the flakes were soon eight to ten inches deep. On the 18th and 19th it was very cold. Potatoes that were covered up with straw in the barn were frozen. On the 19th and 20th we drew wood to keep the fire burning.

The sleighing at that time was good. Nearly all the leaves dropped off the trees in the forest.

WANTED—At Lyon & Co.'s store, Bellefonte, 50,000 lbs. wool.

A SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL.—Necessitated by the Lamb street bridge trouble council met in special session, Wednesday night, to consider what could be done to get out of the dilemma into which the failure of R. McCafferty & Son, to complete their work on the abutments, has plunged them.

The contractors were originally bound up to have the work done by May 1st and, having failed in this, they were granted an extension which has availed nothing. Owing to the low price at which they took the work good masons feared to enter their employment and on Wednesday the constable seized the effects of the firm on a judgment issued by John Keichline. This was only one of several entered against the contractors, who to protect themselves had confessed judgment to T. McCafferty in the sum of \$50.

While council was investigating these matters the county engineer appeared to state that the work done thus far was not according to specifications, since on the upper side of the abutment the stones were not laid so that their joints would bind.

Council instructed the Street committee to procure some one to finish the work and it is altogether probable that Jas McCafferty will be given the job.

The employees of R. McCafferty & Son will all be paid.

News Purely Personal.

Miss Eleanor Mitchell returned from Drexel Institute in Philadelphia, Wednesday evening.

—I. B. Luse, a Millheim wheelman, rode up to spend Sunday with his brother J. W. Luse in this place.

Sheriff Condo, of this place, and Isaac Fraim, of Abbera, attended the United Evangelical convention in Millheim during the week.

—Mr. Edward Neubauer, a brother of the popular proprietor of the Brookerhoff House, an arrival from Erie and will spend the summer here.

—Misses Elsie Sellers