

The Shrivley Contest Ended at Last.

The tax payers of Centre county can now take a long breath as the last page by which ABRAM MILLER could hang on to the office of sheriff has been pulled and the contest that has been disturbing the public mind since last December is positively ended.

On Monday Judge LOVE filed the following decree with the prothonotary, finally disposing of the case and practically granting the prayer of MILLER'S counsel, published in our edition of the 5th inst., and asking that the costs be placed on the county.

THE DECREE.

R. V. MILLER et al. In the Court of Quarter Sessions versus W. M. CRONISTER, Sheriff of Centre county No. 74 W. M. CRONISTER, January 8, S. 1897.

In this case the contestants filed their petition December 3, 1896, laying the ground to contest the election of W. M. Cronister, sheriff of Centre county, who had been returned as duly elected at the general election of Nov. 3, 1896, by a majority of sixteen voters, Abraham V. Miller, his competitor for the office.

The chief ground for the contest alleged specifically in the petition was that a number of ballots in the several districts named, had been illegally marked by the voters that were counted for W. M. Cronister that no such ballots had been counted, and that a number of ballots in the several districts named were legally marked that should have been counted for A. V. Miller, that a certain number of the ballots would show that the said Miller had been duly elected by a considerable majority of the legal votes polled. We held the petition, which was in due form and specific in its allegations of fact to be sufficient, and called upon the contestant to answer.

The answer of the contestant was duly filed Jan. 2nd, 1897, denying generally the allegations in the contestant's petition and alleging additional matter, charging that a large number of illegal votes had been polled and counted for the contestant. At the same time to wit, Jan. 2nd, 1897, the contestant filed quite a number of affidavits of election officers, denying generally that illegal votes were polled or counted for the contestant in a number of the precincts named in the contestant's petition, but did not specifically deny that any ballots were marked as alleged in the contestant's petition.

Jan. 2, 1897, the contestant presented a petition asking for the impounding of certain ballot boxes. As the best evidence of how a ballot is marked is the ballot itself, we made the order that the ballot boxes be impounded.

Jan. 16th, 1897, the contestant (notwithstanding the affidavit of the election officers, filed Jan. 2nd, 1897), presented a second petition setting forth that a large number of ballots were marked with a cross in the circle at top of Democratic ticket, and with a cross opposite the name of A. V. Miller that were counted for Miller, and should have been counted for Cronister, and that certain ballots illegally marked and counted for Cronister, and asked that certain ballot boxes, about twenty in number, be impounded. The order impounding the same was as follows:

Knowing that the best evidence of illegally marked ballots was the ballots themselves, and believing that an examination and a recount of the ballots, impounded at the instance of both the contestant and the contestant, would most probably determine the contest one way or the other, on Jan. 28th, 1897, we appointed C. F. Hower, an examiner and competent clerk, and ordered a recount of the ballots. The examination of the ballots and recount evinced that the information upon which the contest was based was incorrect, and practically null and void, and that the result of the election as returned by the election officers, this the contestant admits by petition presented to the court, March 18, 1897.

While we are satisfied the contest was commenced in good faith, and upon what was regarded as reliable information as to how certain ballots were marked, yet we are satisfied that the investigation, so far as it went, clearly shows no illegal voting to have been done and that the result shows that W. M. Cronister was duly and legally elected as returned by the election officers. The only question left to determine is the disposition of the costs, which are as follows:

Examiner's fee.....\$10 00
R. F. Hunter, clerk..... 50 00
H. C. Brew..... 50 00
Constable Montgomery, mileage..... 65 30
Constable Dunlop, mileage 45¢ and 19 days impounding boxes..... 65 30
\$350 60

Inasmuch as the ballot boxes were impounded at the instance of both the contestant and the contestant, each party is to bear an equal number of ballot boxes to be impounded, and, as the contest was commenced in good faith, we are of the opinion it is proper that the county pay the costs, and so order, and now March 15th, 1897, for the foregoing reasons, we order that the county pay the costs as above set forth, and the record copy in this case.

By the Court, JOHN G. LOVE, P. J.

The ruling of the court in placing these costs on the county will tend to encourage other office grabbers to contest as MILLER did. In addition to the costs recited above there are \$26.10 record costs and about \$12 for returning ballot boxes. This would run the total up to \$389.70 which should have been divided among the thirty signers of the MILLER petition. The amount would have been only \$12.95 a piece yet it would have proven a dear lesson to some of those men, who either went into the contest through partisan bitterness or deception. It would have taught the latter class to be more careful and given the former a taste of what might have been a very bitter dose had the contest been allowed to go on.

The court's apology for placing the costs on the county will cause a smile to flit over the countenances of most who read it. Had the MILLERites not brought the proceedings Mr. CRONISTER would not have had to ask anything in his favor. From the view that judge LOVE takes of it we would infer that Mr. CRONISTER was expected to sit with his hands folded and let CHAMBERS, FURST, et al, go for him without making any defense, whatever. However, it is all over now. The tax payers will remember who tried to steal their franchise and pile costs onto them.

It is not probable that the master's report will ever be filed so that there will be no ruling on the ballots reserved for the court's inspection and we must take the actual count for Mr. CRONISTER'S majority. It was found to have been increased from 16 to 26.

Two Fine Posts and Their Wants

From the Altoona News.

Congressman Arnold, of the Clearfield district, has been looking around and, finding that almost every other Member from Pennsylvania is a candidate for the next Republican nomination for Governor, has concluded to get into the business himself. Senator McQuown will now want to have the capitol removed to Clearfield.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Concluded from page 1.

Congress Convened in Extra Session.

Mr. McAleer, of Philadelphia, who got a pretty good seat on the Democratic side, was screened from view as soon as he took it by an immense floral shield three feet high bearing a design of a keystone in red roses and adorned with yellow ribbons. James R. Young, the Philadelphia newspaper man who defeated Mr. Reuburn, was the only other Pennsylvania Member who had flowers on his desk.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES: Regretting the necessity which has required me to call you together, I feel that your assembling in extraordinary session is indispensable because of the condition in which we find the revenues of the government. It is conceded that its current expenditures are greater than its receipts, and that such a condition has existed for more than three years. With unlimited means at our command, we are presenting the remarkable spectacle of increasing our public debt by borrowing money to meet the ordinary outlays incident upon our economical and prudent administration of the government. An examination of the subject discloses this fact in every detail and leads inevitably to the conclusion that the only way to obtain a remedy which allows it to be unjustifiable and should be corrected.

We find by the reports of the secretary of the treasury that the revenues of the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1892, from all sources, were \$425,868,200.22, and the expenditures for all purposes were \$415,953,806.56, leaving an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$9,914,393.66. During that year \$2,400,570,467.98 were paid upon the public debt, which had been reduced since March 31st, 1891, \$259,076,890, and the annual interest charge decreased \$11,684,572.93. The receipts of the government from all sources during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1893, amounted to \$401,716,561.94 and its expenditures to \$458,574,857.65, showing an excess of receipts over expenditures of \$2,141,704.29. Since that time the receipts of no fiscal year, and with but few exceptions, of no month of any fiscal year, have exceeded the expenditures. The receipts of the government from all sources during the year ending June 30th, 1894, were \$772,802,498.29, and its expenditures \$442,905,758.87, leaving a deficit, the first since the resumption of specie payments, of \$326,896,739.42. The total payments of \$69,803,390.58 in the ordinary expenses of the government, as compared with the previous fiscal year, its income was still not sufficient to provide for its daily necessities, and the gold reserve in the treasury for the redemption of greenbacks was drawn upon to meet them. But this did not suffice, and the government then resorted to loans to replenish the reserve.

In February, 1894, \$50,000,000 in bonds were issued and in November following a second issue of \$50,000,000 was deemed necessary. The sum of \$117,000,000 was raised by the sale of these bonds, but the reserve was steadily decreased until on February 8th, 1895, a third sale of \$23,315,400 in bonds, for \$25,116,244 was announced to Congress. The receipts of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1895, were \$730,303,300, and the expenditures \$433,178,426.85, showing a deficit of \$297,124,873.15. A further loan of \$100,000,000 was negotiated by the government in February, 1896, the sale netting \$111,166,246, and swelling the aggregate of bonds issued within three years to \$238,166,246. For the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1896, the revenues of the government from all sources amounted to \$400,475,408.79, while its expenditures were \$434,678,634.04, or an excess of expenditures over receipts of \$34,203,225.25. In other words the total receipts for the three fiscal years ending June 30th 1896, were insufficient by \$137,511,729.46 to meet the total expenditures. Nor has this condition since improved. For the first half of the present fiscal year the receipts of the government, exclusive of postal revenues, were \$157,507,603.76, and its expenditures, exclusive of postal service, \$155,410,000.22, or an excess of expenditures over receipts of \$2,097,603.54. In January of this year the receipts, exclusive of postal revenues, were \$248,318,564.05, and the expenditures, exclusive of postal service, \$269,389.29, a deficit of \$5,852,395.24 for the month. In February of this year the receipts, exclusive of the postal revenues, were \$24,408,877.37, and expenditures, exclusive of postal service, \$28,726,056, a deficit of \$4,317,178.63 for the three months ending March 1st, 1897. Not only has there been a surplus in the treasury, but with an increasing public debt there has been a corresponding increase in the annual interest from \$25,863,883 in 1892, the lowest of any year since 1862 to \$14,397,297 in 1896, or an increase of \$11,486,584.

It may be urged that even if the revenue of the government had been sufficient to meet all its ordinary expenses during the past three years, the gold reserve would still have been insufficient to meet the demands upon it and that bonds would necessarily have been issued for its replenishment. Be this as it may, it is clearly manifested, without denying or affirming the correctness of such a conclusion, that the debt would have been increased in at least the amount of the deficiency and business confidence immeasurably strengthened throughout the country. Congress should promptly correct the existing conditions. Ample revenues must be supplied not only for the ordinary expenses of the government but for the prompt payment of liberal pensions and the liquidation of the principal and interest of the public debt. In raising revenues, duties are levied upon foreign products as to preserve the home market, so far as possible, to our own producers to revive and increase manufactures; to relieve and encourage agriculture; to increase our domestic commerce; to aid and develop mining and building and to render to labor in every field of useful occupation the liberal wages and adequate rewards to which his skill and industry are justly entitled. The necessity of the passage of a tariff law which shall provide ample revenue, need not be further urged. The demand of the hour is the prompt enactment of such a measure, and to this object I earnestly recommend that Congress shall make every endeavor. Before other business is transacted, let us provide sufficient revenue to faithfully administer the government without the contracting of further debt, or the continued disturbance of our finances.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY, EXECUTIVE MANSION, March 15th, 1897.

Jerry Simpson Wants Room.

But He is Willing to Wait Four Years For It.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Jerry Simpson, of Kansas, formerly a picturesque figure known as "The Sockless Statesman from Medicine Lodge," is here again as a member of the House of Representatives. He says: "I am glad to be called a Populist, but I am not here as an obstructionist. The Republicans elected a President and also elected a majority in the House of Representatives. They have a right to pass a tariff bill. They made lavish promises of prosperity, and they ought to have a chance to redeem those pledges. I believe in free trade and direct taxation. When my party comes into power in 1900 I want the Republicans to step aside and let us try our theory on the people. It will be our turn then. It is their turn now. If their ideas practically carried out can bring prosperity to the people I will be a Republican again. But I haven't any idea that a tariff bill with higher protection than was contained in the McKinley bill will give us prosperity. But we will give the old party a fair show."

Corbett Knocked Out in the Fourteenth Round.

A Fast and Furious Fight.—The Californian Lost By One Fleez.—His Blunder Fatal to Him.—He Gave Fitz the Opportunity to Law on His Stomach and the Cornishman Ripped in the Smash That Was Followed by One on the Jaw and Thus the Battle Was Ended.—Corbett Was So Mortified and Angry That He Lost His Head After He Was Counted Out And Made Another Rush at His Opponent, Who Took The Assault Calmly.

CARSON, Nev., March 17.—After two years of doubt and vexatious postponement, the heavy weight championship of the world was decided beyond cavil when Robert Fitzsimmons sent James J. Corbett helpless to his knees with one minute and seconds in the 14th round of their battle in the arena here to-day. The contest was won in the simplest manner and the knockout was the result of one unvarying move on the part of Corbett. After the first minute of the 14th round had been spent in a few harmless clinches and counters Fitz made a fake lead with his right for the jaw. It was a simple ruse, but it caught the Californian napping. Instead of keeping his body inclined forward and throwing back his head just a trifle to allow the blow, which was of the very lightest kind to slip by, Corbett contemptuously bent his head and chest backward and thus protected his abdomen. Fitz's eyes flashed and like lightning he saw and availed himself of his advantage. Drawing back his left he brought it up with terrible force, the forearm rigid and at right angles to the upper arm. With the full force of his wonderful driving muscles brought into play the Cornishman fairly ripped the blow up the pit of Corbett's stomach at a point just under the heart. Corbett was flung clean off his feet, and as he pitched forward Fitz shot his right up and around, catching Jim on the jaw and accelerating his downfall. Corbett sank on his left knee, and with his outstretched right grasped the ropes for support. His left arm worked convulsively up and down while his face was twitching with an expression of greatest agony. Referee Siler threw up his hands on the call of ten and left the ring. There were some cries of "foul!" when the referee declared Corbett out, but they were unheeded by anybody, as the battle was won fairly and squarely.

THE FIGHTERS' OWN VERSIONS OF IT. "I never saw such a clever man in my life," said Fitz, this evening. "He got away from me time and again when I thought I had him dead to rights. I knew I could not win, so I kept coming right along until my opportunity came. He was weak in the last round, and all his cleverness could not keep him out of that left punch under the heart. The only blow that really worried me was the one which split my lip. The others I never felt. He fought fair, and hereafter he may have my respect if he continues to merit it."

Corbett's version of his own Waterloo did not vary greatly from Fitz's. "I made a mistake in not keeping away," was the way he put it. "Fitz I knew to be a terrific puncher, but I never calculated on his being able to reach me. If he would have landed his left to a certainty, my nose would have been broken and his legs would have been clogged with blood and his legs would have wobbled. The gong sounded just as I was about to plug him with my right and end the battle. He recuperated wonderfully and I stayed away from him until I thought he was about right for another drubbing at short range. My neglect in not standing off when he tapped me on the cheek in the fourth round, lost me the championship. That heart punch simply checked me off. I could not breathe or move for 15 seconds, and it was several minutes before I realized that I had committed a breach of etiquette in trying to follow up my opponent after he put me out. I meant it when I said I would be his friend hereafter. He whipped me fair and square, but I don't think he is the best man yet, and we will have another go if money can bring him into the ring."

EX-U. S. SENATOR INGALLS STORY OF THE FIGHT.

CARSON, Nev., March 17.—The delegates to the convention began to gather at the Coliseum soon after breakfast. The weather was of incomparable loveliness. The Sierras were marble, the sky turquoise and the wind was tempered to the laments that were shorn later in the day. The amphitheater, which, like a huge bowl filled with benches ascending from the platform in the center to the top rim, flared gradually till by noon it contained an audience of seven or eight thousand well dressed, orderly, decorous, average American citizens, miners, merchants, farmers, cowboys, ranchmen, lawyers, with some toughs and crooks that, like beasts of prey, they would devour. There were a few women interspersed among the multitude, attended by fathers or husbands or brothers. The boxes, which were little pens with chairs near the platform, in which the price of a seat was \$40, were partially occupied by men in the garb of cities with Vandike beards and the aspect of opulence, culture and refinement. They had been brought abroad that the event would occur at 10 o'clock, but there was the customary delay for belated trains, for the kinetoscope, or some reason not disclosed, and it was nearly noon by the time the gladiators entered the building. During the interval the audience was good humored and patient. Noted arrivals were greeted with applause and delegated Sullivan, Sharkey, and "One-Eyed" Conolly made brief addresses from the platform upon issues of the day. The entrance of Fitzsimmons and Corbett in grotesque bathing robes, headed, with attendants bearing red fans, bundles of cloths and sponges, buckets and bottles, like the opening procession of an uncouth, awkward, and farcical opera, and it may as well be said here as elsewhere that the entire performance, with the single incident mentioned hereafter, lacked earnestness and sincerity, and left the impression of a duel on the stage. The convention was called to order by the national chairman, who announced the name of the referee, timekeepers and other officials and presented them to the audience, who received them with applause. Corbett's countenance was dark and drawn, lined deeply with the furrows of care and concern. He posed obviously and smiled comically. Fitzsimmons had the visage of a freak, with a silly, open-mouthed grin, and an uncouth, awkward, stumbling gait like a clown. Their appearance, and their robes were thrown off and they were stripped for the ring, was grotesque. With the exception of a small breach cloth they were naked. Their stockings were rolled loosely down over the tops of their thin, flat soled shoes. Laced to their wrists were stuffed gloves that prevented cutting or mutilation. Three minutes for springing and one for rest was a round. The blows fell muffled and the contestants seemed to be on good terms and frequently smiled even in the most violent encounter. When the gong was struck by the time keeper

they promptly retired to their respective corners, sat down in their chairs and were diligently fanned, rubbed, sponged and wiped by the men in red sweaters as around for a horse. They seemed to be fatigued early, perspired profusely and breathed with their mouths open. During some of the rounds Corbett hit Fitzsimmons on the face, making him look like a great school boy, with his glove, and gazed around with a smile like Banquo at the banquet of Macbeth.

And so it went on for nearly an hour, the audience sitting quietly as at a theater or in a circus or at a ball game, with occasional cries of applause at some agile movement, or some resounding blow, and then without warning the most surprising, unexpected and inexplicable event occurred, the first, the last and the only dramatic incident of the occasion, like the catastrophe of a tragedy that falls before the climax has been reached.

The auditors had grown a trifle listless. Bets were still offered at 100 to 75 on Corbett. He was not marked by the attacks of his adversary, whom he seemed to touch almost at will. But it was observed that his blows had little effect upon the tough, obdurate trunk of Fitz. They lacked steam and force. The early predictions of a short, sharp, and decisive battle by the partisans of both had already been disproved.

The tension was relaxed among the spectators, who had apparently concluded that the struggle would be indefinitely prolonged without decisive results. Corbett advanced from his corner to the last round rapidly, with agile step and confident smile. There was the customary display of gymnastics, feinting and prancing forward and backward, ducking and dodging, followed by a repetition of the apparently harmless exchange of futile blows which had become fatiguing by their previous monotony. The pugilists had separated near the western side of the platform, and Fitzsimmons turned with a buffoon grin to the audience, when Corbett, who was still erect, suddenly tottered, a swift spasm shuddered through his limbs, he sank slowly upon his left knee, his head fell forward upon his knotted chest and a deadly pallor overspread his features. He leaned for an instant upon his right hand in the precise attitude of the dying gladiator in the familiar statue described by Byron when his manly brow "consents to death, but conquers agony." Then he clutched the ropes with his gloved hand and pulled himself, with tremendous effort, up to his knees.

Meanwhile, the fatal bell was tolling its knell—one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine—before he had fully regained his feet it struck 10, and the battle was over. The audience seemed quite as much dazed as the defeated pugilist for an instant, and was uncertain what had happened or how it was done. There was a tremendous tumult, hubbub and confusion and a wild rush for the platform, with cheers for Fitzsimmons. Corbett, meantime having recovered from the effects of the concussion of head or heart, and exasperated by defeat, sought to renew the conflict, and for a moment a general fracas seemed imminent. The platform was so furious, barely-burly of struggling attendants, officers, detectives and spectators, which the referee was powerless to calm. But it soon subsided, the victor and the vanquished had an amicable interview in the conqueror's corner, and Fitzsimmons departed for glory, fame and fortune.

ADDITIONAL LOCALS.

WANTED.—A. Lester Sheffer, agent for the Columbia and Hartford bicycles, wants to trade bicycles for two horses. Enquire or address him at his rooms, in the Exchange, Belleville, Pa.

Ex-sheriff John P. Condo moved to Millheim, on Tuesday, and the band of that town gave them a delightful serenade on the evening of their arrival. Mr. Condo will embark in the store business in Millheim and his old deputy, C. A. Weaver, will be one of his clerks.

The second public rehearsal of the State College choral society will be given in the chapel, at that institution, this evening at 8 o'clock. Thirteen instrumental and vocal selections are on the program and the best talent at the College has been drawn upon for the evening's entertainment.

Do you ride a bicycle? If you don't and want to learn you now have an opportunity as A. L., and Paul B. Sheffer have opened their riding school, for the season of '97, on the 3rd floor of the Centre Co. bank building. Open each Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons and evenings. For terms apply to A. L., or Paul Sheffer.

A STATE COLLEGE LIVERYMAN IN TROUBLE.—John Corrigan, Jr., the State College liveryman, got himself in trouble, in Look Haven, the other day by trading horses with a man named Bowers of Jersey Shore. The two dealers met at Look Haven to "swap," but before the bargain was closed Corrigan is accused of having taken the Bowers' horse from Peck's stable, leaving his own, and driving off home. Bowers got a warrant out for Corrigan and followed him to State College where he gave bail for a hearing in Look Haven. He settled the trouble, on Tuesday, by returning the horse and paying the costs.

Corrigan claims that he understood that the trade had been fully agreed to and had no idea of sneaking Bowers' horse away.

Miss Ella Holter. The sudden death of Ella Leah Holter, daughter of H. C. Holter, of Howard, was a sorrowful shock to her relatives and friends in that place last Saturday morning. The young girl had been troubled with a sore throat for a few days and the night before had complained somewhat of it, but it was not supposed to be serious. She arose Saturday morning and was sitting at the breakfast table when she became much worse and died before 8 o'clock.

Deceased was 16 years old and was very popular in Howard. Her amiable disposition and lady-like manners made her hosts of friends who are grieved at her sudden death. Her remains were buried in Schenck's cemetery on Sunday morning, at 10 o'clock. Her parents, five brothers and four sisters survive. Others of the family have been troubled with sore throat, an ailment similar to the one with which she suffered and it was thought to have been diphtheria, but they are improving now.

The Howard High school, from which she would have graduated this spring, passed the following resolutions on her death: WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God, in his allwise providence, to remove from our midst by death our most worthy and esteemed schoolmate, Ella L. Holter, therefore be it Resolved, That we bow in humble submission to the will of Him who doeth all things well, trusting that our schoolmate has been taken from our number to that union above where ties have no separation.

Resolved, That we tender the family our heartfelt sympathy in this their hour of sad bereavement and commend them to Him who has promised to relieve the sorrowing. Resolved, That by the death of our dear schoolmate our school has lost a worthy student and the family a loving daughter. Resolved, That a copy of this resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased and published in our county papers; that the classmates wear a badge of mourning and our schoolroom be draped in mourning until the close of the school term.

Signed by the committee in behalf of the High school. NELLIE KLINE, FANNIE HOLTZ, MARY WEBER, WM. HENRY, WALTER FLETCHER, Committee.

Hulersburg. Services in the Reformed church next Sunday evening at 7 o'clock. Rev. J. M. Rankle made a flying visit to Altoona this week. Mrs. Love, of this place, has been laid up, the past week, with grip. Mr. Cole, of Loveville, spent Sunday with his friends in this place.

March weather seems to be very pleasant over-head but humanity is in the mud below. Joseph Kinzer, of Lancaster, Pa., recently had a short visit with his uncle, Ed. L. Bergstreser, of this place. Miss Ida McAuley, of this place, and Miss Hattie Hockman, of Belleville, are at present visiting friends and relatives in Look Haven.

On Monday Wm. Zimmerman moved his household effects from Nittany to Hecla, where he contemplates building a house during the summer on his own property. Adam Garbrick, of near Coleville, made a flying tour down through Nittany valley in the interest of his soap manufacturing establishment, which he has erected near the above mentioned place.

The song service, last Sunday evening, was led by John Hoy Jr. The program was very admirably carried out. Subject: "The World's Need of a Redeemer." H. E. Bierly read a very appropriate essay on the same subject. Select readings were made by Mrs. L. H. Youm, Charles Lee, and others. Rev. J. M. Bunkle gave a very interesting talk on the subject. The attendance was very good and we invite everybody to attend this service, for it is an excellent auxiliary to get people interested in church work.

Pine Grove Mention. Grandmother Keichline is suffering with throat trouble. Mrs. Ira Hess and her two interesting little boys are visiting Centre county relatives. Pine Grove academy will open April 5th, for a term of ten weeks. The prospects indicate a large school. Capt. J. M. Kepler has returned from an all winter's stay at Hot Springs, in Arkansas hale, hearty and well.

At the communion services in the Presbyterian church, last Sunday quite a number of people were taken into the church. We hope the bounty bill now before the Legislature will become a law so that Ed. Bubb need not be out of a job. The many friends of Hall Bortoff will be glad to learn of his improvement from an operation for appendicitis, which was performed in the German hospital in Philadelphia on the 10th.

Congratulations are being showered on John Niepce upon the arrival of a little girl at Grandpa Koch's. W. B. Ward is doing duty as nurse for number seven who is a girl doing well, but Mrs. Ward is very ill. There are many sick people all through the valley. In fact in many of the schools half of the scholars are unable to attend on account of bad colds or the grip, which has assumed the proportion of an epidemic. Rev. D. Y. Brouse and family are spending their yearly vacation with friends here. Last Sunday evening the Rev. preached an excellent sermon in the Methodist church and it was thoroughly appreciated by the goodly crowd. Forty dollars were realized from the supper given in the lecture room of the M. E. church on the afternoon of the 11th. Twice that amount could have been made had the committee in charge kept up the supplies. It was largely patronized by the Belleville excursionists. Thursday of this week Mrs. Athalia the third-half of Rev. C. T. Aikens reached her thirtieth year stone, and in honor of the event the fatted gobbler was killed. Mrs. A. presided over the feast with her customary grace and dignity and the guests thoroughly enjoyed the occasion. Our former townman Dr. Thomas, of Latrobe, is among the office seekers at the Washington. The Doctor has a foreign mission he is buzzing in his head and will be content to represent Uncle Sam at Honolulu, and enjoy the invigorating effects of the Sandwich islands. At a congregational meeting held in the Presbyterian lecture rooms last Monday at 2 o'clock, David Barr presided. Mrs. Kate Woods was elected treasurer, A. S. Bailey trustee and W. H. Roush janitor. Treasurer Mitchell's report was accepted as read and showed the church in a creditable condition. More funds have been paid to missions than for many years. Last Thursday, at 2 o'clock, at the parsonage, Rev. Aikens pronounced Emanuel B. Weaver and Mary A. Goodwin man and wife. They journeyed down Pennsylvania, and upon their return will go to housekeeping in part of Miss Sue Campbell's large brick house, at the Glades. The groom is an up to date farmer and is deserving of a good wife which we hope he got. The hack load of boys, who came from the College to this place last Thursday evening, had better made their calling and election sure or else return the large church lamp, Miller Wagner's little dog and everything else they could lay their hands on, as our town dads have found out who the boys are and are seriously thinking of making matters interesting. Turn on the light boys.

Centre Hall.

John Foeter, of Aronsburg, accompanied by his sister, Mary, spent Monday evening among friends in town. John is an ardent "Mason." An account was given in last week's issue of the sad accident of Miles Army. We are pleased to say he is in perfect health again, and is now teaching school. Our enterprising manufacturer of wheels W. W. Bobb, is now fitting vehicles with rubber tires and ball bearings and during the summer months will keep bicycles in stock. Miss Grace Alexander, who is taking a course at State College, spent Sabbath in Centre Hall. 'Tis strange we always have strange young men in town when Miss Grace returns. Miss Roxana Brisbane has just returned from an extended visit, to her sister, Mrs. Boone, of Schenectady, N. Y., also friends at Albany, N. Y., and Williamsport. She reports having had a lovely time. Mrs. John Puff is seriously ill, having been confined to her bed for a long time with consumption. Her little baby, aged six months, is not expected to recover from an illness of considerable length. Veterinary surgeon John Rider is kept busy these days looking after the good health of cattle and horses. The doctor also assists State veterinary Pearson in the examination of cattle infected with tuberculosis. Miss Emily Alexander has returned from an extended visit to the East and will now be ready to give her attention to those desiring to study instrumental or vocal music. Those who know her musically will not hesitate in saying that she is peculiarly fitted for that popular art. The public sales through the valley are, as a general thing, largely attended. Stock is selling at good prices. Cattle of all kinds and hogs are sold at figures which return a profit to the seller. Farm implements, when in good repair and of good make, also bring all they are worth. Rev. M. S. Derstine and wife are paying the farmers' motor a visit. Rev. Derstine is a young minister, who will receive his first charge at the coming conference. He is able in every respect and will gain the confidence, respect and love of his people wherever he is located. Messrs. Wolf and Crawford, of the central produce company, are shipping almost weekly a car load of produce, apples, potatoes, etc. The company handles a large amount of produce, that heretofore was almost dead stock on the farmer's hands. While prices are low at present, the producer is still able to sell since shipping is regularly carried on by the firm named above. Penns valley is to have a new mutual fire insurance company. The formalities necessary prior to the issuing of a charter by the State are being effected. One of these requirements is the guarantee of having \$200,000 insurance, which has already or about been secured. There is considerable interest being taken in the new insurance company by business men all over the valley. It is not definitely settled yet where the headquarters will be. Let the ball move, and when a loss occurs the proposed company should pay its insurance instead of going into the building business. Mrs. Eisenberg's Sunday school class of the Reformed church gave an entertainment Saturday evening. Those who took part in it displayed more than ordinary talent, and taken as a whole the affair was an entire success from every point of view. Among the new features introduced was the singing of "The Lorely," a German hymn, known to every one acquainted with that language. The tableaux were beautiful and original, the colored lights showing them to the best advantage. The singing by the class, as well as the solos rendered by Misses Kreamer and Alexander, were well received. Many of the other participants are entitled to special mention were it not for limited space. Some few weeks ago the building of the proposed grange hall was urged in these columns. While it is regretted that the announcement can not be made that the hall will be built this coming summer, the readers will be gratified to know positively that the enterprise is not dead, but is occupying the minds and attention of the proper persons, which will culminate within at least three years in the completion of a structure of modern design costing nearly or altogether \$5,000. This is not talk on paper, nor was your correspondent's informant talking through his hat when the statement was made that Progress grange could, without hampering itself, erect a hall, this year, costing \$2,500, and beside erect it in such a style that would surprise those not acquainted with the resources, ingenuity and business tact of the promoters. Don't sneer at the grange or its officials, it is an institution worthy of the respect and support of all. If you will consider the bustle and stir about town during the September days for the last ten years, you can get a hint at what a grange accomplished in our midst and that without a dollar's capital to start with. The writer could surprise the most sanguine expectations of the optimist if he were permitted to give to the public the plans laid by the head officials of the grange movement for the advancement and completion of the various projects now under way in connection with that organization.

Howard. Mrs. Alex Henderson, who has been sick at her daughter's home in Tyrone, returned home on Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. C. F. Smith, wife of Dr. C. F. Smith, started on a pleasure trip to Philadelphia on Tuesday morning. Messrs. Theoph and Will Fletcher, two prominent farmers who reside near this place, are confined to the house with pneumonia. W. L. Cooke, station agent and one of the most prominent citizens of this place, attended his cousin's funeral, Mrs. Emma Mahaffey, at Mahaffey, on last Thursday. The newly organized board of health is having its first experience with diphtheria. Five cases and one death were reported last week. They have quarantined the houses, thus keeping the disease from spreading. On last Wednesday the scholars of the High school gave a birthday surprise party for their teacher, Mr. E. S. Latschaw, who resides on Walnut street. He celebrated the 32nd year of his life that evening. Ice cream, cake and all kinds of delicacies were served and every one who was there reports having had a good time.