

PLEASANT GAP PHILOSOPHY.

By Levi A. Miller.

If we try to do what's right and just, we will invariably be rewarded for our efforts.

A smile beams upon the lover's heart like a ray of sunshine in the depths of the forest.

The earth will grow old and perish, but a charitable act will ever green throughout eternity.

The everlasting hills will crumble to dust, but a good act will never be forgotten.

If people knew the degree of good they could accomplish, by acts of personal attention and relief to the poor, and by an occasional visit to their sick beds, we are sure no selfish or falsely sensitive feelings would deter them of such truly christian acts.

The faculties with which our Creator has endowed us, both physical and intellectual, are so dependent upon exercise for their proper development, that action and industry must be regarded as among the primary duties of accountable man. Don't be idle, exercise improves the health, and employs the mind, and happiness and longevity is sure to follow.

The men of thought and the men of action are the natural leaders of mankind.

A good church member should be a good pioneer since they are expected to go forth with torch and trumpet and drive the demons of vice and sin from their jurisdiction.

Since our Creator has made a law adapted to the continuance of the human species, He has appended to it some limitations and exceptional clauses for our instruction and benefit. If properly understood and adopted as a rule it would save thousands from physical and mental suffering. These facts lead me to a few remarks regarding existing circumstances in our lovely, beautiful village. We now have a population of nearly one thousand good citizens, all prospering nicely, but unfortunately, there is more or less antagonism existing between the upper and lower sections of the town; they even go so far as to antagonize each other at times in political events. This is decidedly wrong; why not line up to the teachings of the Golden Rule? This detrimental spirit should be eliminated. Why not adopt the methods of the quiet citizenship of Bilger avenue, where peace and harmony prevails at all times (?)

We have a great and glorious country, but I fear we do not enjoy the many blessed privileges at our command. In many respects we are careless and reckless. We should take into consideration and reflect for what purpose we were born, and prayerfully look at the final end. We should consider, when affliction and sickness come, wherein we put our trust. Too many put their trust in medicine and regretfully find that it often disappoints them. Another class put their whole faith in the physician, but they eventually and invariably find that no difference how able and skillful he may be he is only the instrument in the hands of an overruling Providence, and on many occasions fails; not in the bauble of worldly vanity—it will be broken; not in worldly pleasures—they will disappear; not in great connections—they cannot save you in death; not in wealth—you are unable to carry it with you; not in rank—in the grave there is no distinction; and lastly, not in the recollection of a life spent in a giddy conformity to the silly fashions of a thoughtless and wicked world, but in that of a life soberly, righteously and godly, in this present glorious world.

Disappointed hopes, failure of all worldly calculations, constitute the history of mankind. We cannot violate the will, expressed or understood, of heaven, and be happy. If we indulge in sinful pleasures we will be disappointed. Take my advice. Prepare to meet thy God.

About everybody knows that beautiful and ever popular song entitled "Darling Nellie Gray," but few know of its origin or the circumstances under which it was written. Ben R. Hanby wrote the song, "away back in the fifties." At that time he was teacher in a little academy near Seven Mile, Butler county, Ohio. On his way from Cincinnati home, in reading the columns of the Cincinnati Commercial, his eye fell upon an account of a beautiful Quadroon girl who had been borne away from her slave lover and carried to the southern markets to be sold. The Quadroon's name was Nellie Gray. The account worked Hanby up to such an extent that he utilized the incident as a subject of a song, the words of which were almost completed by the time he reached home. After a slight remodeling and a few finishing touches, it was sent to a Chicago firm for their approval. He never received any returns from it, and the first knowledge he had of the words having become the least popular, or had even been used, was when he was on a visit soon after, to Columbus, Ohio. On calling on a young lady acquaintance in that city he requested her to sing something for him. She complied by saying she would sing him a sweet little song she had just received, and she remarked that by a strange coincidence, it had been written by a person of the same name as his. She thereupon, much to his surprise, sang with a trained voice "Nellie Gray." It is needless to say that the song was famous and it made for its publisher some \$30,000.

It is said that Hanby never received a dollar from the publishers. The most he ever got was six printed copies of the song. Hanby came from rather a musical family. His father was the compiler of the United Brothers Hymn book. Hanby himself composed a number of other songs, but none that ever reached the popularity of "Nellie Gray." He died a few years after the close of the Civil war, in obscurity and poverty. The fact that he was the Hanby who wrote the song

was known to but a few intimate friends. His remains lie today in the little village cemetery at Westerville, Ohio, the place of his birth. His grave has no mark, (I viewed it once) and the stranger might search for it in vain unless it was pointed out to him. Nature has covered it with green grass and lovely flowers. The song he left is the only monument to Hanby's memory. The originator of famous songs as a rule, receives no benefit. The publishers do. Stephen C. Foster, one of the greatest song writers known, was originally from Pittsburgh. I had more than one pleasant chat with him years ago. Like the most of the fraternity, he died some years ago, in a secluded hovel in New York.

THE HISTORY OF ANTHRACITE.

Suspension of operations in the anthracite coal fields may add a new chapter to the checkered history that has marked the hard coal industry during the past century or more.

It was in 1808 that Judge Jesse Fell made his successful experiment of burning anthracite coal in a grate without a forced draft, although before this hard coal had been used in a small way in a forge and with an artificial draft.

Existence of these coal beds was known to the Indians as early as 1710 and in 1754, the Lackawanna and Wyoming Valley coal regions were included in the sale of the property by the Five Nations to the Susquehanna Connecticut Company for \$10,000. Nine years later when the company laid out eight townships it reserved the iron ore and coal rights.

In 1769 Obadiah Gore first burned anthracite in his blacksmith forge and in 1775 coal was mined on the banks of the Susquehanna river at Pittston. John Schopf, a traveler, mentions a visit he made in 1783 to the Wyoming valley where he found a bed of brilliant black coal which burned without emitting an offensive odor.

However, it was not until 1792 that Colonel Jacob Weiss with others, formed the Lehigh Coal Mine company, and eleven years later began the mining of anthracite. Two arks, containing about 30 tons, were sent to Philadelphia, but no purchasers could be found. A second attempt to sell the coal in Philadelphia failed about three years later.

In 1808 Judge Jesse Fell made his experiment with the coal in an open grate in the bar-room of his hotel in Wilkes-Barre. In this connection he made the following memorandum:

"Made the experiment of burning the commonstone coal of the valley in a grate, in a common fireplace in my house, and find it will answer the purpose of fuel, making a clearer and better fire, at less expense, than burning wood in the common way."

In the same year John and Abijah Smith, of Plymouth, shipped several arks loads down the Susquehanna to Columbia, and sent along masons to construct fireplaces for purchasers. This coal sold for about \$10 a ton. Four years later the coal was being successfully used in Baltimore and New York, where it sold for approximately \$25 for 3,000 pounds. A few years later it began to be used in the iron industry in the vicinity of Philadelphia.

By 1817 the trade in anthracite was fairly well established and the next year the Legislature passed an act to improve navigation on the Lehigh river. This was followed by the formation of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation company. At this time coal was selling at \$8.20 a ton in Philadelphia.

The coal when it first was sent to market was shipped as it came from the mines. Later it was broken into a few sizes, but it was not until 1867 that pea coal appeared as listed separately by the Girard Estate collieries. Some years later these collieries listed buckwheat separately. Meantime shipments had increased until they totaled 23,477,242 tons in 1880. Ten years later they were 35,855,173 tons, and last year were 87,277,449 tons.

Log as Motor Vehicle

"Around the World in a Log" was the unique title of a motor vehicle which passed through Cascade Locks, Ore., recently, on a world tour to advertise the Pacific coast, says the Portland Oregonian. The body of the car was a huge Douglas fir which had been cut, bored and hewed by the men in charge, C. E. Cave and J. A. Nutter. After this preliminary work they spent 13 months in equipping it into a modern apartment. The log or car is 22 feet long and 7 feet 7 inches in diameter, and scaled 8,716 feet of lumber.

The car is equipped with electric lights, hot and cold water, shower bath, beds, a breakfast table and built-in seats, a sink and built-in kitchenette and also built-in dressers and linen closets and even a library. The truck, including the body, weighs 14,000 pounds. The men in charge expect to go to New York by way of Salt Lake city and Omaha and Chicago. Before returning to Oregon they will tour Mexico, Central America and Canada.

To Domesticate Musk Ox

Ten musk oxen, brought from Greenland recently on a sailing vessel, are spending the summer on Kjlholm Island, off the west coast of Norway. It is hoped they will become used to the climate of northern Europe. The flesh of these animals makes excellent eating, as Arctic explorers can testify, and there is always a demand for them in zoological gardens. The most anxious time for those interested in the experiment will be during the summer. The natural habitat of the musk ox is among the bleak regions of Arctic America, and it is possible that they will not survive a more southern summer. There is also danger that they will bring about their own deaths through eating too greedily of the richer grass of Kjlholm.

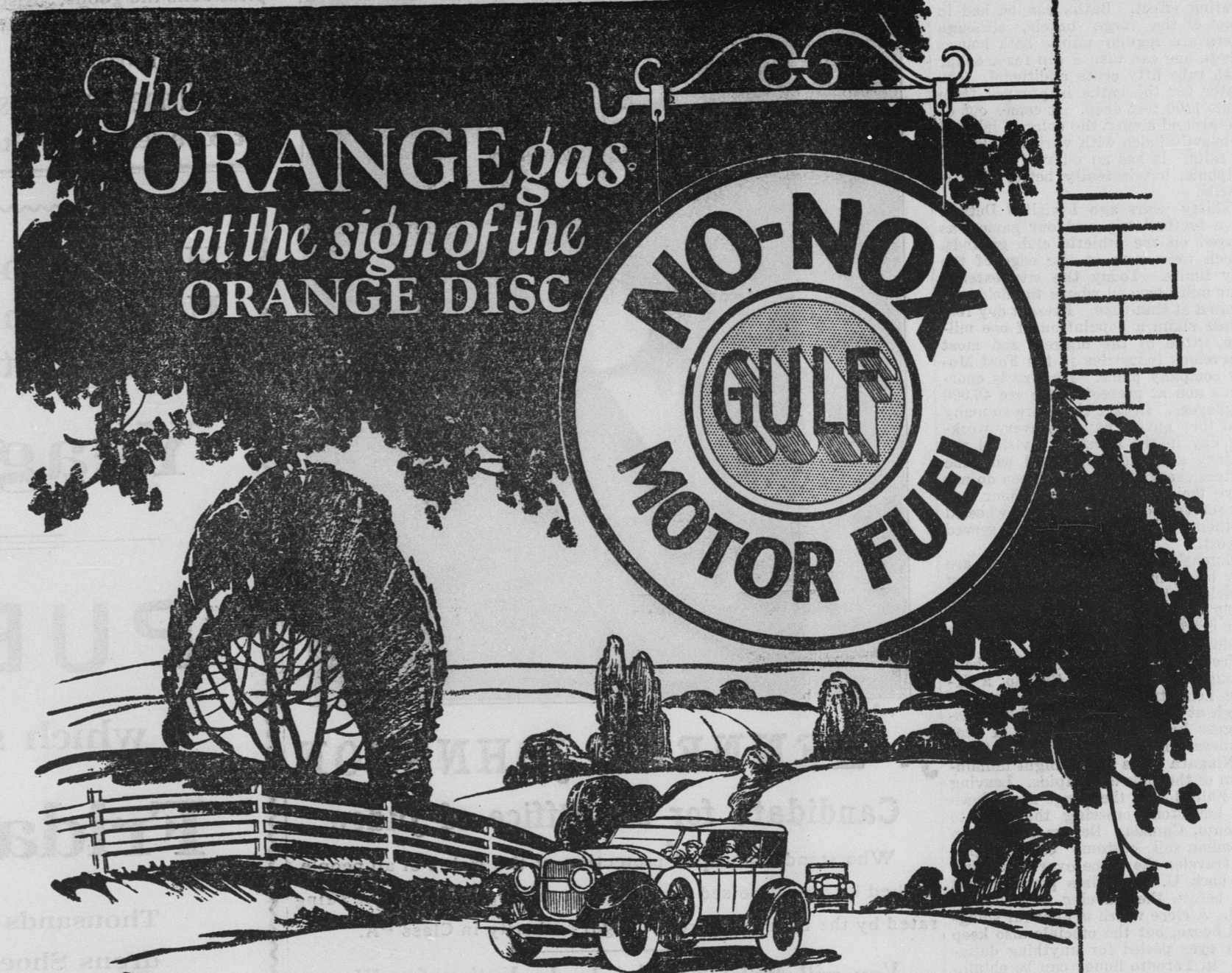
BOALSBURG.

Received too late for last week's issue.
Mrs. William Sweet, of Instanter, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Meyer.
Miss Anne Sweeney returned home from a visit with friends in Vandegrift and Altoona.
Rev. and Mrs. Ely and children, of Adams county, are visiting Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Wagner and Mrs. Hoy.
Mrs. Maria Wagner and daughter,

of Tusseyville, were visitors at the Samuel Wagner home on Sunday.
Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Stuart and daughter Elizabeth, of Crafton, are enjoying a visit among friends in this vicinity.
H. M. Hosterman accompanied a party from State College on a motor trip to Wilkes-Barre to attend a P. O. S. of A. convention.
Mrs. George Rowe, who has been quite ill for several weeks, is not improving. Miss Snyder, of State Col-

lege, is assisting the daughters in caring for her.
Miss Amanda Mothersbaugh, of Altoona, is visiting at the home of her nephew, George Mothersbaugh.
The Lutheran and Reformed Sunday school were well represented at the ninth district Sunday school picnic at Hecla park on Thursday.
Mr. and Mrs. Ira Hess, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Felty and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Gregg, of Altoona, were visitors in town over the week-end.

Keep After Them.
The angoumois grain moth is capable of giving Pennsylvania wheat growers a body blow in losses this fall. If a thresher has not already been engaged it is to the grower's advantage to see about it at once, for early threshing, completed early in September, may prove a great saving, say extension specialists at The Pennsylvania State College.
—Get your job work done here.



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