

Bellefonte, Pa., January 1, 1926.

F. GRAY MEEK, Editor

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

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Paid strictly in advance - \$1.50
 Paid before expiration of year - 1.75
 Paid after expiration of year - 2.00
 Published weekly, every Friday morning.

Entered at the postoffice, Bellefonte, Pa., as second class matter.

In ordering change of address always give the old as well as the new address.

It is important that the publisher be notified when a subscriber wishes the paper discontinued. In all such cases the subscription must be paid up to date of cancellation.

A sample copy of the "Watchman" will be sent without cost to applicants.

Brief Meeting of Borough Council.

It was the Monday before Christmas and only five councilmen turned out for the regular meeting that evening. Having heard of the improvements at Bellefonte's big spring M. J. Barrick, engineer in charge of the branch office of the State Department of Health, at Williamsport, wrote a letter to council demanding a revised chart of the changes made in the water system of the town. As no changes in the system were made it is naturally impossible to furnish a chart.

The Street committee reported the completion of the sewer on north Water street. Also the collection of \$57.25 from W. S. Williams and \$21.50 for old material.

The Water committee reported collections totaling \$235.73. The committee also reported that the water duplicate for 1925 had been completed and totaled \$11,676.50, while the estimated total of the meter bills for the year has been placed at \$8,080.04, or a total income for the department of \$19,756.54.

In connection with the improvements at the big spring Mr. Cunningham stated that as close as the committee has been able to figure it the total cost to date is \$21,510.75. Last spring when the committee was confronted with the question of repairing the old pump house at the spring they decided on completely remodeling it and gave as an estimate of the cost from \$8,000 to \$10,000. At the time, however, they did not consider the removal of the two big steam boilers and the big brick stack in connection therewith. And because of the tearing out of the old steam pumps it became necessary to install another electric pump. One improvement led to another and additional ground was purchased south of the spring to insure a perpetual water supply, then came the wall and fence enclosing the property, grading and sodding of grounds, etc. The total cost of the building proper, was in the neighborhood of \$11,000, a little in excess of the original estimate. The additional ground cost \$3,000, the new motor and pump almost \$4,000 and the other improvements accounts for the remainder of the expenditure. Mr. Cunningham stated that when the new pump is connected up the station's pumping capacity will be almost three thousand gallons a minute, considerably larger than ever before.

Mr. Cunningham also reported that the one thing yet needed is furniture for the new office and the question of purchasing what is needed was referred to the committee with power.

The Fire and Police committee reported an explosion of the heating boiler in the public building, on Sunday, and the installation of a new one by Caldwell & Son. The committee also reported that the new lockup had already yielded \$10.50 in fines from prisoners picked up by the police.

Bills totaling \$660.71 were approved for payment after which council adjourned.

Bellefonte High Basketball Outlook.

Bellefonte has scheduled, to date, eighteen games for the basketball team. All except State College and Altoona are Mountain League games. Two members of last year's league, Lock Haven and Juniata, have dropped out and will not be played.

A squad of about fifteen have been working out every day at the Y.M.C.A. Last June's graduation took some valuable men, leaving a crippled team. However, several of the scrubs have been coming along nicely and, with a little experience, fill in quite efficiently. The schedule as arranged thus far is as follows:

- December 22—State College High at State.
- December 26—Alumni at Bellefonte.
- January 6—State College at Bellefonte.
- January 8—Mt. Union at Mt. Union.
- January 9—Lewistown at Lewistown.
- January 15—Holidaysburg at Bellefonte.
- January 22—Tyrone at Bellefonte.
- January 29—Holidaysburg at Holidaysburg.
- January 30—Altoona at Altoona.
- February 5—Mt. Union at Bellefonte.
- February 12—Phillipsburg at Phillipsburg.
- February 13—Houtzdale at Houtzdale.
- February 19—Phillipsburg at Bellefonte.
- February 26—Tyrone at Tyrone.
- February 27—Huntingdon at Huntingdon.
- March 5—Houtzdale at Bellefonte.
- March 10—Lewistown at Bellefonte.
- March 13—Huntingdon at Bellefonte.

Monday morning a Ford car driven by one of the Beatty Motor company's salesmen collided with the big Imperial Oil company's truck, driven by Capt. Herbert Miller, on north Water street, near the Beaver & Hoy row. Neither of the drivers was injured nor the oil truck damaged, but the Ford had to be towed in for repairs.



ISAAC MILLER, VETERAN CONTRACTOR AND INTERESTING CITIZEN.

MILLER.—The passing of Isaac Miller, veteran contractor and eminently good citizen, marks another broken link in the gradually shortening chain that binds the Bellefonte of today to the Bellefonte of yesterday. Mr. Miller died in the Centre county hospital Saturday morning, from heart trouble and dropsy, superinduced by asthma, with which he had suffered more or less for several years. He had been about as usual up to the Wednesday preceding his demise, but then became alarmingly ill and was taken to the hospital at once.

Deceased was a son of John Miller and was born near Hartleton, in Union county, January 4th, 1840, making his age 85 years, 11 months and 13 days. Having a common school education which was more than most of the boys at that day were vouchsafed he came, at the age of twenty, to Centre county and located on a farm in Benner township. His father having been a lumberman, naturally he turned to carpentering for which he had a bent and developed exceptional skill. With a trade learned and confidence enough in himself to feel that he could make a success of it he married Amelia Straub, a daughter of George Straub, of Benner township, and brought his bride to make their home in Bellefonte. That was in 1865. Soon thereafter he formed a partnership with the late John Wetzel and they became one of the town's most reliable contracting and building firms. When Mr. Wetzel retired the late Joseph Fox joined Mr. Miller and they carried on the business with equal success for a number of years. As would be supposed many of Bellefonte's present buildings are monuments to his ability as a conscientious, economical contractor. Among the outstanding of them are the Catholic church, the Lutheran church, the Bush Arcade and Temple court, all imposing structures to which the town points with pride even today.

In 1915 he was elected a commissioner of Centre county, along with Wm. H. Noll Jr. and D. A. Grove, having defeated the present commissioner, Harry Austin, as the candidate of the Republican party. He then retired from the building business and gave his time exclusively to his public duties. It is interesting to note that while in office Mr. Miller conceived the idea of compelling able prisoners in the county jail to earn their board and, clothed with the proper authority, he experimented with a gang of them as road builders. The idea was practical enough and Mr. Miller personally supervised the gang, but after several days of persuasion he realized the futility of trying to make a convict do anything more than loaf and eat in a comfortable county jail. He served the county well for four years and then retired.

With all his material needs provided for the last years of his life were spent without concern for the future—for he was a Christian man—and regret for the past—for his dealings with all men had been according to the Golden Rule of do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

He enjoyed everything in his quiet, unobtrusive way. We have been with him at a Sunday school picnic and on the mid-way of a county fair and we knew from the twinkle in his eye that he was just as young at heart at seventy as he could have been at twenty. His one passion was hunting. Born in the days when game was aplenty and of parents who knew and loved the woods the lure hung to him to the last, for regularly he took out his license and went for deer every fall and many of them fell at his unerring aim. We can think of no happier gathering about the camp fire in the happy hunting grounds than that when the spirit of Isaac Miller joins those of George Weaver, James Alexander, Joseph Devling and Simeon Haupt, all companions of the hunt of years ago, and tales of the "Green Woods" are recounted.

Mrs. Miller died in September, 1916, and their son William died in infancy, so that only four sons survive. They are Edw. H., for years a trusted employer of the Phila. Rapid Transit Co., Harry S., Herbert and Morris E., of this place, all worthy sons of an

honorable father. Also surviving him is one brother, Jacob Miller, in Missouri, and a sister in Danville.

Mr. Miller was a member of the Lutheran church, the Odd Fellows, the Encampment and Rebekahs. In fact he was the oldest member of the Bellefonte lodge. Funeral services were held in the Lutheran church at 11 o'clock Tuesday morning, December 22, and interment made in the family lot in the Union cemetery.

AN INTIMATE APPRAISALMENT.

The following from a friend who knew Mr. Miller from boyhood will be of interest as revealing the real character of the man.

"Since your last issue we have had to part with a most highly prized citizen in the person of Isaac Miller who was known as a very philanthropic, congenial and charitable gentleman. He will be missed beyond estimation by all who knew him. I will explain briefly why Isaac left Union county and became a citizen of Centre. When a mere boy he was continuously playing with tools and had a desire to become a carpenter. But apprentices were not in demand at Hartleton, so one morning he set out from home and walked all the way to Pleasant Gap, arriving there after 4 in the afternoon, foot-sore, weary and very hungry. The poor boy had but a silver quarter and he demurred at parting with it, as he told me later that to him it looked large as a cartwheel. Finally he decided to invest it for the best, as he said, and went into the Gap hotel and bought himself a meal that he always referred to as the best he had ever eaten. After the supper he inquired as to contracting carpenters and was informed that the late George Miller, who then resided near where the penitentiary stands, might take him on since he did all the work for the thriving Valentine iron works and farms. It happens that contractor Miller was my father and I was present when the verbal contract was concluded. Father asked me what I thought of the boy to which I replied that I liked the way he talked. Father agreed that he seemed in earnest and the customary three year deal of apprenticeship was thereupon concluded.

The new apprentice was very proficient and a most biddable young man. In two years Isaac was as good a carpenter as we had on the crew of fifteen men. We had a contract to remodel a Valentine home and stable in Bellefonte and while working on it Isaac's ability attracted so much attention that he was offered a contract to build two houses. The faithful like, as we called him, refused to entertain any proposal of the sort because he was still under agreement with father. The matter came to father's attention and because his apprentice had been so faithful and willing he forthwith released him from his bargain, assuring him that should he not be successful there would always be a place for him on the Miller force. Isaac never returned, for he was successful, made money and saved it. He was an unquestionably reliable and a good man and his ability brought him to the day when a quarter didn't "look big as a cartwheel to him."

L. A. M.

SIMPSON.—Miss Mary C. Simpson, a member of the well known Simpson family of Lock Haven, died at her home in that place on December 20th, following an illness of six weeks with an affection of the kidneys. She was a daughter of William A. and Mary A. Simpson and was born in the home in which she spent her entire life and finally passed away. She was a woman of education and refinement and during her active life took a leading part in the social affairs of her home town. She was a member of the church of the Immaculate Conception, of Lock Haven, and Rev. William S. Davies had charge of the funeral services held last Wednesday morning, the remains being brought to Bellefonte for burial in the Catholic cemetery.

KLING.—David B. Kling, aged 77 years, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. Craig Allen, in Dallas, Texas, on Wednesday, December 23rd. He was a resident of Los Angeles, Cal., and had made the journey to Texas to attend the wedding of a grand-daughter, having been taken ill just after the ceremony.

Deceased was well known in Centre county and about Altoona, where he has a number of relatives.

SANFORD.—William H. Sanford, for many years a prominent resident of Phillipsburg, but for a number of years past a citizen of Patton, Cambria county, died at the Jefferson hospital, Philadelphia, the day before Christmas.

He was a native of England, where he was born in 1852. When but nine months old he was brought to this country by his parents, C. B. and Mary Connelly Sanford and seventeen years later the family located in Phillipsburg. The elder Sanford became principal of the schools of that place and William became a clerk in the old Perks bank. Later he went to Osceola Mills and was there when that town was almost wiped out by the fire of 1876. When he returned to Phillipsburg it was as cashier of the old Moshannon Banking company, a position he filled until going to Patton about thirty years ago. At that place he organized the First National bank of Patton, of which he was president for many years. He also acquired extensive coal interests in Cambria county.

While living in Phillipsburg he married Miss Ella Steiner, who died four years ago, and of their ten children only three survive. He also leaves one brother and five sisters. The remains were taken to Phillipsburg where funeral services were held and burial made on Monday afternoon.

POORMAN.—John Gingery Poorman, an overseas veteran of the world war, died at his home at Coleville on December 19th, following an illness of nine months, believed to be the result of poisonous gas he inhaled while a soldier in France.

He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. David Poorman and was born in Bald Eagle valley thirty years ago. His parents later moved to Coleville and there he grew to manhood. He went overseas as a member of Troop L and saw much active service on the firing line with the Keystone division. Several years after his return home he married Miss Jennie Miller who survives with one daughter, Zelma. He also leaves his father, two sisters and one brother, Mrs. Alfa Keller, of Akron, Ohio; Mrs. Ada Fink, of Tyrone, and Bruce Poorman, of New Philadelphia, Ohio.

Rev. J. A. Mills, of the United Brethren church, had charge of the funeral services which were held at the church on Tuesday afternoon of last week. Following the services the remains were taken in charge by the Brooks-Doll post of the American Legion and a guard of honor from Troop B, being conveyed to the Sunnyside cemetery on a machine gun casket. The services at the cemetery were in charge of his comrades in arms.

McHUGH.—Mrs. Catherine Elizabeth McHugh, wife of Charles J. McHugh, died at her home in Pittsburgh last Thursday evening as the result of a stroke following a siege of pleurisy. During the past year or so she had traveled considerably with her son Fred, manager of Waring's Pennsylvania, an orchestra of national reputation and only recently returned from a trip to California. She landed in Pittsburgh with a bad cold which rapidly developed into pleurisy, and this was followed by a stroke which caused her death.

Mrs. McHugh was the eldest child of W. W. and Catherine Lingle Montgomery and was born in Bellefonte about sixty years ago. Her early life was spent at her home here but following her marriage to Mr. McHugh they took up their residence in Pittsburgh and that had been her home ever since. She was a life-long member of the Episcopal church and always took an active part in all branches of church work. Surviving her are her husband and three sons, John, Joseph and Fred McHugh; one sister, Miss Emma Montgomery, of Bellefonte, and a brother, J. Fred Montgomery, of Los Angeles, Cal. Burial was made in Pittsburgh on Monday afternoon.

MEESE.—Edward Charles Meese, a native of Centre county, died on Saturday at his home in Tyrone following a brief illness. He was a son of Martin and Catherine Gingham Meese and was born in Bellefonte on November 9th, 1855, hence was a little past seventy years of age. During his early life he worked as an engineer but later followed the vocation of a painter and paper hanger. Before moving to Tyrone eighteen years ago he lived for a few years at Centre Hall.

Forty-five years ago he married Miss Anna Tate, of Pleasant Gap, who survives with four children, Walter, F., of Rochester, N. Y.; Elliott C., Mrs. S. J. Parson and Mrs. F. A. Smith, all of Tyrone. He also leaves two sisters, Mrs. Susan Keller and Mrs. Margaret Keller, both of Bellefonte. Funeral services were held at his late home in Tyrone on Tuesday evening and on Wednesday the remains were taken to Pleasant Gap where interment was made.

GARBRICK.—Mrs. Alice Garbrick, widow of the late George Garbrick, died at her home in Bellefonte on Thursday night, December 17th, following an illness of a number of weeks with a complication of diseases. She was a daughter of Martin and Sarah Wolford Brungard and was born at Zion seventy-six years ago. A good part of her life was spent in Walker township. Her husband died eighteen years ago but surviving her are two children, Mrs. W. C. Smeltzer, of Bellefonte, and Prof. Clarence Garbrick, of Philadelphia. Burial was made at Zion on Monday afternoon of last week.

STOVER.—On his way home from a Christmas entertainment in the Reformed church at Berlin, Pa., on Wednesday evening of last week, Rev. S. Charles Stover, pastor of the church, suffered a stroke of apoplexy and died in the automobile, which was being driven by his stepson, John Mothersbaugh.

Rev. Stover was a son of John and Elizabeth Stover and was born at Farmer's Mills on January 13th, 1866, hence was almost sixty years old. He was educated in the public schools of Gregg township and at the Spring Mills academy. He taught school several years then entered Franklin and Marshall college, at Lancaster, to study for the ministry. He graduated in 1888 and was promptly licensed to preach in the Reformed church. His first station was in Lancaster, where he remained seven years then accepted a call to Meyersdale.

In 1910 he accepted a call to the Boalsburg charge, which included the church at that place and the one at Pine Grove Mills. Later Pine Hall and Houserville were added to his charge and in addition to his pastoral work he taught several years in the Boalsburg High school. He resigned his Centre county pastorate in 1924 to accept a call to Berlin, where he had since been located.

He is survived by his second wife, who before her marriage to him was Katherine Mothersbaugh; two sons, John and Ellwood, both of Philadelphia; one step-son, John Mothersbaugh, at home, and a sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Rote, of Centre county.

Funeral services were held in his church at Berlin on Christmas day and on Saturday the remains were brought to Boalsburg by auto hearse where final services were held by Rev. E. B. Romig, of State College, assisted by all the local ministers of that vicinity. Burial was made in the Boalsburg cemetery, his Masonic brethren being in charge at the grave.

CRILEY.—Mrs. Effie Straub Criley died at her home in New York City on Tuesday, December 22nd, 1925, after an illness of only three days with pneumonia.

She was born in Bellefonte, having been a daughter of Levi and Henrietta Straub, and resided here until the family removed to Altoona. They lived there a number of years and then went to Chicago where Mrs. Criley studied medicine and practiced her profession until locating in New York City where she was married to Edward N. Criley and retired from active practice.

Mrs. Criley is well remembered here by the older residents as the Straub family was one of the most representative of the town and active especially in church work.

She is survived by her husband, her aged mother and three sisters: Miss Marie A. Straub, of New York City, Mrs. H. B. Herbert and Mrs. H. M. Curtis, of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Interment was made in New York on Saturday, Dec. 26.

WATSON.—Mrs. Hannah Jane Watson, wife of James Watson, died at her home at Runville on December 20th following a brief illness with pneumonia. She was a daughter of James and Margaret McClincy, and was born in Union township sixty-nine years ago. In addition to her husband she is survived by the following children: William Watson, of Runville; Mrs. H. W. Parsons, of Vandergrift; E. W. and J. Harris, of Snow Shoe; Howard M., of New Kensington; Mrs. George Wilson, of Tyrone; Florence F., at home; Clarence, of Unionville; Mrs. C. J. Packer, of Milesburg; Mrs. Lloyd Walker, of Runville, and Arthur, at home. She also leaves four brothers, James McClincy, of Unionville; Jacob, of Milesburg; Thomas, of Bellefonte, and Lemuel, of Sharon. Funeral services were held in the United Brethren church, at Runville, last Wednesday morning, burial being made in the Advent cemetery.

DAVIDSON.—Rev. John Calvin Davidson, a Free Methodist minister, died at St. Petersburg, Florida, on December 16th, following an operation for gall stones. He was a son of John and Mary Davidson and was born at Unionville fifty-one years ago. Before going to Florida he was located in Tyrone where he established the Free Methodist church. His health breaking he went to Florida and engaged in the real estate business.

Twenty-five years ago he married Miss Minnie Spotts, of Unionville, who survives with four children, Elmer and Miss Iva, of Jamestown, N. Y.; Ruth and Elva, at home. He also leaves his mother, two sisters and a brother, Mrs. Harriet Ingram, Mrs. Howard W. Bricker and Atee G. Davidson, all of Tyrone. The body was taken to Jamestown, N. Y., where burial was made on December 21st.

BARNES.—Annie, wife of James C. Barnes died on Sunday, December 20, at her home in Johnstown, after a long illness with an incurable malady.

Deceased was a daughter of James and Lydia Grove and lived in Bellefonte until about twenty years ago when the family moved to Johnstown where she married Mr. Barnes and made her home thereafter. Deceased was fifty-nine years old, a member of the United Brethren church and the last of her family, her husband being her only survivor.

Interment was made in Grandview cemetery, Johnstown, on Tuesday the 22nd.

MITCHELL.—James J. Mitchell, a member of one of the pioneer families of College township, died at his home at Lemont on Sunday afternoon as the result of a stroke of paralysis. He had not been in good health for several years and about a year ago suffered a stroke. He partially recovered therefrom but ten days ago had a second stroke which resulted in his death.

He was a son of J. H. and Nancy Mitchell and was born on the old homestead farm on Slab Cabin creek seventy-four years ago last April. His boyhood life was spent on the farm and in attending the public schools but after he grew to manhood he turned his attention to lumbering. For a few years he was located in Bedford county but the lure of the virgin forests in West Virginia attracted him and he went to that State where he followed the lumbering business for about thirty years.

Some four or five years ago he disposed of his interests in that State and returned to Lemont, and since then has lived a retired life. He was a life-long member of the Presbyterian church and a man who had the respect and esteem of all who knew him. While in Bedford county he married Miss Margaret Gates, of Hopewell, who survives with no children. He leaves, however, two brothers and two sisters, George and John Mitchell, Mrs. W. H. Thompson and Miss Maude Mitchell, all of Lemont.

Funeral services were held at his late home at Lemont at 2.30 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon by Rev. J. Max Kirkpatrick, and burial was made in the Branch cemetery.

GLENN.—Samuel Glenn, a retired farmer of College township, died at his home at Lemont on Sunday, December 20th, as the result of a stroke of apoplexy. A son of James and Susanna Glenn, he was born in College township seventy-seven years ago. As a young man he engaged in farming, an occupation he followed all his life until his retirement a few years ago. His wife, who prior to her marriage was Miss Priscilla Mothersbaugh, died five years ago, but surviving him are the following sons and daughters: John and Mrs. Samuel Wasson, of Lemont; Rev. James Glenn, of Carlisle; Edwin, on the homestead farm; Ella and Margaret, at home. He also leaves one brother and a sister, William Glenn, of Lemont, and Mrs. Elizabeth Bailey, of Altoona.

Mr. Glenn was a life long member of the Presbyterian church and an elder for thirty years. His pastor, Rev. J. Max Kirkpatrick, had charge of the funeral services which were held on Tuesday afternoon of last week, burial being made in the Branch cemetery.

LITTLE.—Mrs. Sarah Jane Little, widow of Samuel C. Little, died at her home in Tyrone on December 19th as the result of heart failure. She was a daughter of Harbin and Sophia Colver and was born at Port Matilda almost seventy years ago. The past forty years of her life had been spent in Tyrone where she was quite active as a member of the Presbyterian church and Sunday school as well as the Mission band.

Her husband died in 1917 but surviving her are the following children: Mrs. May Dubbs, John A., Miss Sophia, William C., P. Woodring, Samuel I., and Miss Virginia, all of Tyrone. She also leaves these brothers and sisters: A. L. Cowher, of Tyrone; Peter and Miss Maria Cowher, of Port Matilda. Burial was made in the Grandview cemetery, Tyrone, on Wednesday of last week.

SCHAD.—Miss Julia Frederika Schad died at Warren on Monday following a brief illness with pneumonia. She was a daughter of Charles and Julia F. Schad and was born in Bellefonte on January 23rd, 1874. Her entire life was spent here until going to Warren about twelve years ago. Her only survivors are two brothers, Charles and Albert, both of Bellefonte. She was a member of the Lutheran church since girlhood. The remains were brought to Bellefonte on Tuesday and taken to the Albert Schad home, on east Curtin street, where funeral services were held at 10 o'clock yesterday morning, by Rev. Arnold, and burial made in the Union cemetery.

McCLOSKEY.—Matthew W. McCloskey, an octogenarian who spent most of his life on Marsh Creek, Centre county, died at the Lock Haven hospital on December 20th, as the result of general infirmities. He was eighty-two years of age and is survived by four children, Orrie McCloskey, of Champaign, Ill.; Leroy, of Cleveland, Ohio; Mrs. John Packer, of Flemington, and Mrs. Howard Moore, of Blue Ball. He also leaves three brothers, Jacob, of Bragadocia, Mo.; Joseph, of Flemington, and William, of Howard. Burial was made at Romola, Centre county, on Tuesday of last week.

THOMAS.—Morgan Thomas, who during his life was among the old-time iron workers at the Valentine furnace, died at the Blair county home, at Holidaysburg, last Thursday as the result of a stroke of apoplexy. He was past seventy-seven years old and had been blind for some years. A son and daughter survive. The remains were brought to Bellefonte on the 1.20 p. m. train on Sunday and taken direct to the Union cemetery for burial.

—Now is the time to plant your 1926 advertisements to get results.