

# The Columbian.

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NO 1

## LOST ON NORTH MOUNTAIN.

### A HUNTING TRIP THAT WAS NEARLY FATAL.

OVERTAKEN BY SNOW.

A Williamsport correspondent of the Philadelphia Press of Monday writes the following story of an adventure on North Mountain:

Perhaps the most thrilling adventure in this section during the hunting season which is drawing to a close is the experience of Zeke Campbell, of Clinton Township, one of a party of six who spent several days deer hunting on the North Mountain, at a point where the counties of Lycoming, Sullivan and Columbia join. Campbell and his party had their headquarters at Laporte, but after an unsuccessful days' hunt in that neighborhood concluded to go further into the mountains and "bunk" in a cabin that is located in one of the timber belts. During the first night in the cabin a three-inch snow fell and made tracking excellent. They had no dogs, consequently next morning when the crowd started out it was arranged that two of the men should cover the low lands in the capacity of chasers, while the others hunted along the mountain sides where the timber growth was not so thick, and where the deer were likely to run when chased from the valley.

Campbell was selected as one of the chasers, and had proceeded along the middle of the valley scarce half a mile when he ran across the track of a deer in the snow. It was headed for the north, while his companion chaser was to the south of him, so it fell to Campbell's lot to track the game. The prints in the snow showed that the deer was a large one, and Campbell kept a sharp lookout ahead.

THE GAME IN SIGHT.

Suddenly coming into a partially cleared space right at the foot of the mountain, he spied the deer, a big buck, slowly making his way up the mountain side, fully 300 yards in advance of him. Every now and then it would stop to browse off the young scrub oaks, but kept far enough ahead of him to preclude the possibility of a ball from his rifle doing effective work. Finally the deer threw its head around, and looking down over its shoulders caught a glimpse of Campbell. Another instant and it was off like the wind up the mountain. Following its track in the fresh snow Campbell reached the top of the hills, but could discover no signs of the other hunters having been there.

He gave the prearranged signal and before twenty minutes had elapsed the other men had put in their appearance. After a consultation it was decided to chase the big buck. Scattering again the men started over onto the next mountain. Campbell following closely the track of the deer, which skirted along the hillside for nearly a mile, then suddenly plunged down into the valley below.

The trail was followed until noon without catching another glimpse of the deer and Campbell, being in strange woods, concluded that it would be well for him to get his bearings and start cabinward. After eating a lunch which he had deposited that morning in his game pouch, he started on a "short cut" over the mountains in the direction of the cabin, which he calculated to reach before dark.

IN A STRANGE COUNTRY.

When he reached the top of the mountain he was surprised at the immense tract of timber that lay before him to the south, extending over the valley and covering the next range of hills. A dense fog had settled down into the valley, but Campbell had no fear but that he would be able to find his way back to the bunking shanty, and such would probably have been the case had it not been for something that occurred in the valley. After crossing a small stream which flowed through the thick hemlocks in the very heart of the valley, Campbell's attention was attracted by pheasant tracks in the snow, and he concluded to look them up. After fully half an hour had passed, during which time he had been intently following the tracks as they wound in and out among briars and rocks, Campbell suddenly found that in his circling about he had got completely turned around. He could not tell from which direction he had entered the valley, for in his chase on the pheasant tracks he had crossed and recrossed the creek, so that his own tracks were nothing but a puzzling net work of footprints.

FOLLOWING HIS OWN TRACKS.

Here was a pretty muddle. The fog hung thick and heavy, making it impossible to see more than fifty yards in advance. He knew that in the valley it would get dark early, and which direction to take was a mystery. Finally he concluded to make a "break" and started up toward the mountain side. A half mile away his heart gave a bound of joy when he came across the fresh tracks of a man in the snow. They must be the footprints of one of his friends, he thought, and a moment later the valley echoed and re-echoed with Campbell's shouting. But no welcome answer came. Even a half dozen shots from his rifle brought no response, so Campbell comforted himself with the thought that he at least had the man's tracks to follow and was bound to come out right sooner or later. He started onward, feeling that at last he had found his way out of the forest. Suddenly, after walking a half hour or more, he came to where there were two tracks in the snow instead of one, as originally, and the similarity of the two attracted his attention.

Then the truth of the situation dawned upon him. He had been walking around in a circle. The tracks which he had discovered were his own, and in following them he had come back to the very point from whence he started. Again in desperation he shouted long and loud and fired off his gun repeatedly, but to no effect. Then he concluded to start off in an opposite direction, and he was soon climbing the mountain side, but whether the north or south slope the bewildered man had no means of knowing. The top reached, he found nothing whatever on which to base any calculation.

The valleys upon either side looked exactly alike; darkness was slowly but surely settling down, and in another hour progress would be entirely out of the question. Campbell then started along the brow of the mountain at as rapid a pace as his now weary limbs would permit with the hope that he would come to some habitation of man before night hemmed him in.

DARKNESS CLOSED IN.

In this he was disappointed, for after walking several miles dense darkness had overtaken him, and he resigned himself to fate. It was cold on top of the mountain, so he concluded to descend to the valley below, where he built a fire of pine knots and sat down to watch it burn. Food he had none, and as for shelter, the only protection afforded was the big hemlock tree under which his fire burned. About 9 o'clock snow began to fall and it kept up steadily for nearly four hours, during which time Campbell was busy feeding his fire in order to keep warm.

Once in the night an awful yell, which seemed to come out of the darkness not twenty five yards away, chilled the blood in his veins, for he was hunter enough to know that it was the voice of a panther, and he prepared for an attack. Crouching behind the big hemlock near the fire Campbell waited and watched, but the animal failed to put in an appearance.

As soon as daybreak appeared Campbell, after a night of untold misery, started up the mountain. Not fifty yards from his still smoking fire he came across the tracks of the panther, which had circled about him during the night, and close by were the tracks of still another, which showed that the animal had not been alone. He finally reached the top of the mountain weak and almost starved, and as he stood wondering what direction to take there came faintly to his ears, in the crisp morning air, a long, low sound. It was a locomotive whistle on the road that runs into Laporte, and taking this welcome sound as a guide he started in the direction from whence it came. It was nearly noon that day when he came upon a small clearing, on which there was a house, from the chimney of which smoke curled skyward. Inquiry at the door developed the fact that he was within a mile of the public thoroughfare leading to Laporte, and after getting something to eat he continued his journey. He learned that he was fully eighteen miles away from the cabin, having travelled in the opposite direction.

The practice of saying "God bless you!" whenever a person sneezes must be wide-spread indeed when we find a similar salutation, "Mbuka!" (literally equals live!) obtaining among the Fijians of the South Pacific, a race developed by the blending of the Malayo-Polynesians with the Papuans, the Fiji group being the borderland between the two. It has been said by a London physician that one is nearer death at the actual moment of sneezing than at any other period of one's life. Herein, perhaps, lies the reason for the kindly wish, and may account for the prevalent idea that it is dangerous to interrupt a person in the act of sneezing.

License court will be held on January 16th.

## KILLED BY A BLOW.

On Sunday last, at Sand Run, a small coal mine in Barclay township, Bradford county, Wesley McDowell, struck and killed Henry Haggerty. They were both former residents of Elkland township, and on Sunday were in Elkland on a horse trading expedition, and filled up on hard cider. They returned to Sand Run, and in company with two other men went to McDowell's house to supper. Mrs. McDowell found fault with him for trading horses and he scolded her about the supper, ending in her leaving the table and going out on the steps to cry. Haggerty advised McDowell to make his wife come in the house, and McDowell accordingly brought her in using considerable force in doing so. Haggerty objected to the unnecessary force and was told by McDowell that he could run his own house. They clinched and parted. Haggerty took off his coat and swore he could eat McDowell up, and McDowell threw a milk picher at him which struck him, as he ducked his head, in the back of the neck. They clinched again, McDowell struck a smashing blow at Haggerty's face, missing the mark and striking the left temple. Haggerty fell to the floor, and his brother Thomas, who had come in, took up the fight. They struck, choked and finally McDowell pushed his new antagonist out doors and went out with him. The men then started to leave when Mrs. McDowell came out and told them Haggerty was dead. He lay where he had fallen cold and stiff. McDowell at once went to Foot-of-Plane and gave himself up to Justice Blakeslee. The next morning he was taken to Towanda and placed in jail. McDowell is said to be a half breed Indian and is a man about 53 years of age, and until two months ago lived in Elkland township, where he had an interest in a saw mill with Christian Kobbe. Haggerty was about 34 years of age, and the two had always been the best of friends.—Dushore Review.

## Contagious Diseases.

There are a few cases of sore throat in our community, and every precaution should be taken to prevent their assuming a malignant form. As soon as any one knows of a case of any contagion they should report it to some member of the school board so that the members of such family may be kept away from other children. A little precaution in this particular will keep out of our community any epidemic. All malignant diseases begin in a mild form and as they spread among others the atmosphere becomes charged with germs of disease and may spread among all having weak constitutions. An ordinance of the town requires that every physician practicing in this town shall report the case of every contagious disease to the council, or if they are not in session, then report to some member of the board of health, within twelve hours after it has come to their notice. A similar report ought to be made to some member of the school board.

## Trinity College.

The catalogue of Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut, has been received. It is the leading institution of learning in the United States under the control of the Protestant Episcopal church. It is not sectarian in its methods of instruction, and any young man of any denomination can get the same liberal education there that he would get at any college of his own creed. The city of Hartford is one of the most beautiful places in the country, and the location of the college very attractive. The buildings are all comparatively new though the college is a very old one. A few years ago the state purchased the grounds and buildings which then were in the heart of the city, and erected a Capitol thereon. The college was then moved to its present location. There are dormitories, gymnasium, Alumni Hall, Scientific building, Professors' houses, Society lodges, &c., making it one of the best equipped of New England institutions. For catalogue, address Rev. F. S. Luttrell, Hartford, Conn.

While a lot of men were cutting ice on the river above town one of them hauled out a large cake in which a black bass measuring 22 and three fourth inches was imbedded, says the Clearfield Public Spirit. The fish was placed in a tub of water to thaw out and when the lady of the house went to the tub to get his fish-ship ready for supper it was found swimming around in the tub. When weighed the bass tipped the scale at 4 pounds and 11 ounces.

## EDUCATION AND EDUCATIONAL DESPOTISM.

Undoubtedly education is the key to the highest state of civilization. It is also the handmaid of a progressive and enlightened christianity. It is right and proper that the people support such a laudable cause for the intellectual advancement of the young and rising generation. It is the imperishable inheritance that alone can be bequeathed to the youth of our land. It is the foundation of "honest, upright, patriotic and progressive citizenship." We worked almost a lifetime in the cause of education. We appreciate and welcome every advance step that promotes its welfare.

But in its cause are men enlisted who have a zeal, either without knowledge or without consciences. Men who endeavor to build up an educational despotism upon our Free Public School System, seeking to obliterate a condition by substituting a theory. What is the theory? A longer continuous school term, a minimum of 8 months; increased salaries and compulsory education without additional cost to the tax payers by reason of larger appropriations. We ask Dr. Waller how this strikes the farmers of the rural districts. He and his subordinates in the educational harness are all salaried officials. The teachers are all salaried. The farmers are not salaried. Their aggregate annual product is their wages which they are obliged to convert into money to pay their taxes and other obligations. A farmer whose school tax was ten dollars twenty-five years ago, and assuming that to be his average annual school tax, and by virtue of increased appropriations the school term is extended to eight months, teachers' salaries raised and new educational machinery added by a compulsory system, the farmer's tax does not exceed ten dollars. The theory is that there is no additional cost to the aforesaid farmer. Dr. Waller does not propose that the farmer shall be a bit relieved from the burden of taxation by reason of increased appropriations, but asks the Legislature to continue these burdens without additional cost by extending the school term and suggesting such other expenditures that to him seem necessary. To further illustrate, we will take for example the farmer whose average annual school tax is \$10. Twenty-five years ago four bushels of wheat was sufficient to pay that amount of school tax. Now it requires fourteen bushels. His real estate and live stock is worth only half as much as it was twenty-five years ago. Besides, Dr. Waller would rob the farmer from the help of his children eight months in a year, and thereby compel him to employ outside help which he may have of his own. The school age is from 7 to 21 years. The teacher who realized \$35 per month twenty-five years ago, with one month's salary could buy 14 bushels of wheat. The teacher who realizes \$35 per month to-day, with one month's salary can buy 5 bushels of wheat, 36 bushels more than twenty-five years ago. How does this condition coincide with Dr. Waller's theory? No "additional cost" to the farmer, by raising the public school standard to the plane for which he has been paying the way. The great inequality, or difference between the purchasing and paying power of the product of all the salaried classes, and the purchasing and paying power of the product of the agricultural classes, either escaped the notice of the superintendent of Public Instruction, or he deliberately seeks to cast additional burdens upon the latter's shoulders that he and the salaried classes would under no circumstances be willing to bear, or submit to. We know as well as he, that the same number of dollars will meet the usual amount of taxes, expenses, or other obligations as formerly; but we also know that it acquires nearly three times the amount of agricultural products to meet the same obligations. Theoretically there is no additional cost to the proposed several changes in view of increased appropriations; but practically it costs the farmers a great deal more. How can Dr. Waller reconcile all interests, and practically apply his theory in justice to all concerned?

J. C. WENNER.

The severity of the winter can be demonstrated by the experience at the High school during the holiday week. There being no school the fires were not kept up, because nothing had ever frozen other years. When the janitor went to look after the building at the close of the week he found the water meter frozen and top burst off—while the water pipe, lying about six inches under ground in the bottom of the cellar, was frozen solid and burst in many places. The cellar is not exposed and was closed during the vacation.

## MILLVILLE.

Andy Carr of Dutch Hill was seen on our streets last week.

Benny Richard and Eddie Russel of Bellefonte, arrived on Monday to attend the Friends' School.

The new year came in dull and dreary, as it rained and snowed about all day.

It is not best to look back over our past lives unless it is done with the intention of improving upon them. Better let them go and look ahead and make renewed efforts to do what we can to alleviate the sufferings and distress of others, and the pleasure given to them will in return bring us happiness.

Did you ever stop to think that the most permanent and lasting happiness and enjoyment is gotten by making others happy? It is a fact. Try it.

The spring term of Friends' School opened up last Tuesday with a goodly number of scholars.

There seemed to be a regular land slide last week here. Sarah B. Rich sold her home on Main street to Rachel S. Eves and sisters, and W. B. German sold his property on State street to Chas. W. Brink, who will put up a bake shop on it in the near future.

Several other properties are under negotiations, and may change hands this week.

There will be several changes made this spring by the occupants, and some new houses will undoubtedly be erected, among which will be the new Lutheran church on Walnut street.

John Bruner is the possessor of a handsome gold watch. The gift of Mrs. Dr. Bruner of Roaring Branch.

An entertainment was given in the Opera House last Saturday night by the members of the L. T. L. which was well attended, and gave good satisfaction.

The second lecture to be given this winter at this place, will take place in the Opera House on the evening of the 13th, by Rev. Anna Shaw on "the strength of character."

Eva Patterson, who has been sick a long time, is gaining slowly in health.

Several of our townfolks went to Derris last Saturday to attend an infar held at the home of Frank Trivepiece in honor of their son's marriage which occurred recently.

## A HOUSE INSPECTION.

Mr. E. M. Laubach who lives near the confluence of the Huntington and the Fishingcreek, just recently moved into his new house. In order to express his satisfaction and good will toward the mechanics who were employed in its erection, he invited them to a turkey roast on last Saturday. Of course the parson and his lady were also invited to participate in the festivity. As we had no hand in the construction of the house, we took the privilege of giving it a thorough inspection. We were pleased with the design and work of the house. The mere fact that Mr. Jacob Geisinger, Mr. Willit Paterson and Mr. Hartman were employed in the erection is sufficient evidence that the work was well done. We congratulate Mr. Laubach and his estimable partner in the possession of so desirable a residence, and we hope they will live long to enjoy it and to extend their accustomed hospitality to their many friends, and particularly to the parson and his companion. A. H.

## A BAD BOY.

On Monday afternoon a boy aged about thirteen years entered the Episcopal Church, (which was open and being cleaned out preparatory to making repairs), and tore the poor box from the wall just inside the inner doors at the main entrance. He took it around behind the Parish House and broke it open with a stone. How much money was in it is not known. The boy was seen breaking the box by Mrs. W. B. Taylor and she called Sexton Thornton's attention to it. He had been seen in the church by Will Sawyer and Paul Harman, and they went out on the street and found the boy, and Mrs. Taylor identified him. His name is known, but is withheld for the present.

The building committee of the school board were appraised Monday of what seemed to be a break in the sewer connection at the new addition of the Fifth street Public school. The surface water was accumulating in one of the dry closets. Upon examination it was found that in making the attachments one of the workmen had closed up the sewer, not knowing it was intended to drain any excess of surface water. The difficulty was easily removed.

## PERSONAL.

J. Lee Harman and Harry Houck spent last Sunday at Scranton.

Mrs. M. H. McKinney has gone to the Sanatorium in Dansville, New York, for medical treatment.

Harry Pursel and family of Wilkesbarre, spent last week with his father, N. S. Pursel and family.

George B. Swank of Tank, Luzerne county, was in town on business on Wednesday.

Miss Sarah M. Rothrock of Williamsport is visiting her sister, Mrs. A. C. Freas, on Third street.

G. W. Bertsch has secured a fine location in Reading and will move there about the middle of next month.

Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Armstrong of Williamsport spent Sunday with their mother, Mrs. George Hassert.

Miss Nellie Packer and Miss Sarah Moody of Sunbury, are the guests of Mrs. S. F. Peacock.

C. D. Spigelmyer of Williamsport has accepted a position with a firm in Reading, and will travel for them hereafter.

Frank Pursel, Frank Ikeler and Samuel H. Harman attended the Bachelors' Ball at Scranton last Friday night. It was a very swell affair.

Miss A. D. Webb was in town on Monday. She has returned to Pottsville on account of the illness of her niece, Miss Kate Price.

Nicholas Kindt of Mordansville spent Wednesday in Bloomsburg. He is past eighty years of age, and is a well preserved old man. He was born on the same day as Caleb Barton of this town, in August, 1812.

Mr. E. W. Drinker has been appointed Division Freight Agent with office at Wilkesbarre Passenger Station, L. V. R. R., in charge of the Eastern Division, Penn Haven Junction to L. & B. Junction, including branches; also the Williamsport Division—vice Mr. T. B. Koons, who has been relieved of these duties. He will reside at Wilkesbarre.

## REPAIRS AT ST. PAUL'S.

The slate roof of St. Paul's Church has been overhauled to prevent leaks. On Sunday morning last Rev. W. C. Leverett announced that the services will be held in the Parish House for several weeks, as the interior of the church is to undergo a thorough renovation. The entire interior will be painted and decorated, a new carpet put down and new cushions placed in every pew. The carpet and cushions will harmonize with the colorings of the walls. Casey and Dawson will go over all the plastering and put it in condition for the work of the decorators. The painting will be done by a Philadelphia party who thoroughly understands church decoration.

These improvements will cost a considerable sum of money. A subscription book is in the hands of Geo. S. Robbins. All pew holders are requested to remove their cushions, books, &c. from the church at once, as there is no place on the premises to store them.

## GOOD SKATING.

The young people of Bloomsburg enjoyed themselves hugely last week skating upon the Fishingcreek, having the full moon as a bright lamp to guide them. All who could secure skates, ladies and gentlemen, took advantage of the occasion. It is the first for many years, that such excellent ice has been upon the creek, with no snow to interfere, and a bright full moon and cloudless sky overhead. All will long remember the close of 1892 as an event occurring but few times during life.

## THE NEW YEAR.

The new year was ushered in amidst considerable noise. The bells of the Methodist and Lutheran churches were rung, and the whistles at Harman & Hassert's shops and the Silk mill were blown. The tinkling of the tocsin facetiously called a fire alarm, on the Town Hall, was also heard by those near by. Pistols and fire crackers, and a small but powerful brass cannon, helped to swell the general din. People who did not know just when 1893 began, must have been sound sleepers indeed.

We give place this week to an article by our excellent friend, J. C. Wenner, but we cannot fully endorse his views. While it may now cost the farmer three times as much produce to pay his school tax of \$10 as it did twenty five years ago, his children are getting more than three times the benefit from the improved schools and the longer terms.