

THE VANDERSLICE-SNYDER CASE.

The trial of the case of T. J. Vanderslice, administrator of Mary G. Vanderslice deceased, against N. U. Funk, executor of Mary Snyder deceased, is on this week before Judge C. E. Rice, specially presiding for Judge Ikeler. The counsel for the plaintiff are J. B. Robison, R. R. Little, and James Scarlet Esqs., and those for the defendant are C. G. Barkley, Fred Ikeler and C. C. Evans Esqs.

There is but one point to submit to the jury, and that is whether Mary Snyder executed a certain paper by making her mark. In order that it may be understood, we give a brief history of the case. On February 5, 1876, Daniel Snyder signed a note in favor of Joseph R. Vanderslice, for \$2865. On the same sheet of paper, underneath the note is a written obligation guaranteeing the payment of the amounts named in the note, if not paid by Daniel Snyder, which obligation is signed "Mary Snyder, her mark," and witnessed by Samuel W. Adams, and Thos. J. Morris, bearing date the 18th day of May, 1877. Mary Snyder died in 1889, and in 1890 N. U. Funk, her executor, filed his account, showing a balance of about \$7000 in his hands. An auditor was appointed to make distribution, and at the audit this paper was presented and payment demanded out of the estate of Mary Snyder, on the guaranty. The claim was resisted by the estate on the ground that it was not Mary Snyder's obligation, that she never executed it, and that even if she did, that plaintiff could not recover for legal reasons. The hearing extended over nearly four years, and the audit was in session on about sixty different days. At the close of the testimony the counsel for claimants asked for an issue to be certified to the court of common pleas to try the fact whether Mary Snyder executed the paper in question. In his report the auditor refused to recommend such an issue, on the ground that it was not a material fact, and rejected the claim, holding that even if Mary Snyder signed it, the claimant could not recover, because of want of consideration, and for other legal reasons. Exceptions were filed, and Judge Ikeler, who was a witness, called in Judge Rice to hear the case. Judge Rice overruled the auditor, and granted the issue, and this is the point on trial.

Mr. Little opened the case for the plaintiff, and then called Samuel W. Adams, one of the subscribing witnesses to the paper, who testified in substance that on May 18th, 1877, he met Joseph R. Vanderslice in Bloomsburg, and the latter asked him to go with him to witness a paper. They went first to T. J. Morris' office, and from there all three went to Mrs. Snyder's house, corner of Main and East streets; that she met them at the door, and they went in the house, and then Mr. Morris made the mark, she touching the pen; he and Morris signed as witnesses, and they came away. A long cross examination followed, covering all the details of Mr. Adams' movements on that day, and of the transaction. Thos. J. Morris being dead, the following witnesses were examined: Guy Jacoby Esq., J. H. Maize Esq., J. J. Brower, I. W. Hartman, G. W. Correll, P. H. Freeze, B. F. Sharpless, Robert Morris, Geo. Morris, all of whom on being shown the paper, declared the belief that the signature of Thos. J. Morris was written by him. The testimony of D. J. Waller and J. P. Tustin, (both now deceased,) as taken before the auditor, was read to the jury. Both declared the signature to be that of Thos. J. Morris.

The plaintiff closed, and the defense was opened by Mr. Barkley. Mrs. M. E. Ent, a grand-daughter of Mrs. Snyder, was the first witness. She testified that she resided at her grandmother's from December 1876 to July 1877 and that on the 18th day of May 1877 and for several weeks before and after, Mrs. Snyder had sore eyes, and was confined to a dark room, with a bandage over her eyes; that she had to be waited on constantly and was not left alone; that Jos. R. Vanderslice, Thos. J. Morris and Samuel W. Adams did not call there on the 18th day of May, nor any other time, and that it was impossible for them to have seen Mrs. Snyder alone without some of the family knowing it; that Mrs. Snyder never transacted any business without advising with some of the family, particularly N. U. Funk, who was her trustee. Mr. Robison conducted a searching cross examination.

Mrs. White of Philadelphia testified that she was a distant relative of Mrs. Snyder, and visited at her house in June 1877, at which time Mrs. Snyder still had sore eyes and wore a

shade over them.

The testimony of Mrs. Petriken taken before the auditor was read to the jury. It was in substance the same as that of Mrs. Ent.

Isaiah Hagenbuch testified that Mrs. Snyder paid him some money in April 1877, that he saw her, and she was then in a darkened room, with her eyes bandaged.

C. R. Buckalew testified that as counsel for Mrs. Snyder he met at her house with Jos. R. Vanderslice and his counsel E. R. Ikeler, and members of the family, shortly before the date of the guaranty, and the note at the top of the paper was there, Mr. Vanderslice desiring Mrs. Petriken to sign it; that Mrs. Snyder then expressed herself as opposed to any member of the family going on any more obligations for Daniel, as he was insolvent.

E. H. Rauch, of Mauch Chunk, an expert in hand writing, testified that he believed the signature of Thos. J. Morris to be a simulated hand.

Dr. Persival Frazer, another expert, is on the witness stand on Thursday morning, and the prospects are that the case will occupy the full week. It is being closely and skillfully tried on both sides, and is exciting much interest. The court room is constantly filled with spectators. Judge Rice, with his quiet manner and prompt and pointed rulings, commands general admiration.

FROST IN THE SOUTH.

A report from Jacksonville, Florida, just after the recent cold snap, says: "Commission merchants and others in the North are sending many telegrams here asking if it is true that the unmarketed Florida orange crop will prove a total loss as the result of the recent freeze. These inquiries seem to be prompted by the fact that some dealers are still shipping oranges. There were some boxed oranges on hand at the time of the frost, and those were not hurt. But there were probably not 5000 boxes of them. In some parts of the State the damage was not so great as elsewhere. But there are not enough good oranges left to be worthy of consideration. The fruit now going forward has been nearly all touched by the frost.

I have been pretty much all over the orange-growing parts of the State since the frost, and I have yet to see the first grove that does not look as if it had been parched by a fire. The leaves on the trees are sere and yellow. An orange grove can easily be picked out from a long distance. The live oaks, palmetto, cabbage, palm and other such trees do not seem to have been affected. As they generally surround more or less the orange groves, the yellow leaves of the latter, in comparison with the green of the others, make a striking contrast. In many of these groves few oranges had been picked. In others nearly all. The total crop was estimated by experts at 5,000,000 boxes, half of which had been gathered before the frost. The average price of these oranges to the consumers was \$2 a box. This would make a loss of \$5,000,000 on the 2,000,000 boxes that have been spoiled by the frost. One half of this loss falls on the growers, the other half on the dealers and the transportation companies. I have met a number of growers who offered to sell the fruit on the trees at 5 cents a box. But they were unable to sell even at that rate, though I did hear of a few contracts of that kind at Montclair."

Mr. C. C. Trench, of Bloomsburg, was among those who suffered loss. He has large orange orchards, and between one and two thousand boxes of fruit were frozen. He says, however, that the losses will not be nearly so heavy as at first reported. Recent advices received by him are to the effect that not nearly so many trees were killed as at first supposed. Mr. Trench spends the winter in Florida looking after his property, and but recently returned from there.

Poor District Officers.

The following named gentlemen constitute the auditors for the Bloom Poor District: A. P. Young, of Greenwood, Wm. Mather, of Millville, Wm. Bogart, of Espy, H. L. Hess, of Sugarloaf, and F. M. Everett, of Bloomsburg. The directors are J. M. Larish, O. T. Wilson, A. C. Hilday, J. K. Grotz is treasurer, and C. A. Kleim is secretary of the board. A recent audit of the year's accounts has been had, and the board has rendered a favorable report.

Mr. and Mrs. P. B. Heddens lost their infant daughter, aged a month and a half, on Tuesday morning, after an illness of four days. They have been very unfortunate, as this is the second child they have buried in two years.

AT THE NORMAL.

The first lecture in the course for 1895 was that delivered on the evening of January 10th by Major H. C. Dane. The rain overhead and the uncertain footing prevented many outside of the school from attending. Still the attendance was all that might have been anticipated under the very unfavorable circumstances. The students marched into the auditorium punctually at the stated time and, taking seats, they of themselves constituted quite an audience. After listening to a choice selection rendered by the Normal Orchestra, which was heartily applauded, Professor Welsh introduced the speaker of the evening in a few complimentary remarks about the fighting qualities of the Danes.

The speaker spoke from experience largely, and he handled his subject with fluency, awakening patriotic enthusiasm and eliciting applause. Laying greater stress upon the importance of our naval engagements during the war than is generally surmised, he yet wisely admitted the overruling hand of Providence throughout, which he declared to have been frequently contrary to the most patriotic planning for national salvation on land and sea. And as for our illustrious admirals, who were frequently wiser than they knew, he declared them to have been risen up as the most proper agencies and at the most opportune moment for the purpose eventually effected in God's providence. He not only painted most vivid word pictures of our naval engagements, but he also disclosed some secret international history concerning the friendly attitude of the Russian government and the belligerent attitude of England and other nations in the darkest hour of our national gloom and despondency. Had the friendly attitude of Russia been an open secret upon the occasion of the visit to this country of Alexis, it is quite likely there would have been no reason to complain of the reception this country gave him—no matter who was President.

We will only say in concluding our criticism that if the other engagements of the course are as well rendered as this, a very profitable and edifying evening's entertainment may be had on each occasion by all who may choose to attend. The next entertainment will be given on the evening of January 19th, when the New York Philharmonic Club will occupy the stage.

The Magical Word "Imported."

Why is it that the very name "Imported" seems to add as much to the beauty and intrinsic value of a garment to most feminine eyes as it does to its price mark. The thing may not be a bit prettier or even more stylish than could have been achieved by one's home dress-maker; indeed, it may be positively ugly from an aesthetic point of view, but the fact that it hails from foreign shores is enough to make it a thing of beauty to most feminine beholders.

There is also a class of people who prefer to buy their goods in the city rather than patronize home merchants, notwithstanding the fact that the same articles can be bought for the same or less money at home. Of course, there are some things that cannot be found here, but we are referring to the ordinary necessities of life, as well as some of the luxuries. In printing alone there are enough orders sent out of town to keep a good printing office busy, and for work that can be done at any home office just as well or better. Too many assume that the home printers can't do what they want, and so send their work away without making any inquiry at the local establishments. We are in favor of protection to home industries, and the best way to get such protection is for everybody to try to get what they want, at home, before sending out of town for it.

Giving Away Horses.

Good horses are cheaper in some parts of the West now than dogs are in the East, for there are few dogs not owned by some one, while the horses cannot be given away. All over the West horses have been astonishingly cheap for some time, and \$2 or \$3 has been a good price for a good animal. A hundred head of ranch horses—sturdy, unbroken bronchos from Wyoming—were sold in Denver for \$90 and the freight recently. It is reported that a big stock firm in Idaho has turned more than 250 ponies adrift to shift for themselves during the winter, as it was cheaper to do this than to provide food for them. The firm could not get even a dollar apiece for them.

CAN'T MOVE THE COURT HOUSE.

The Grand Jury at Wilkes-Barre Decides Against a Change of Site.

There was an interesting fight before the Grand Jury last Saturday at Wilkes-Barre between prominent citizens on the question of a Court House site, and it ended in the decision that the present site should be retained. Several months ago two consecutive Grand Juries recommended that a new Court House be built, and shortly after the Commissioners decided to purchase a lot two blocks away from the center of the town. Several prominent people who believed their property would be damaged by taking the Court House away from the center of the town commenced suit to prevent the Commissioners executing their project.

After an interesting and lengthy legal fight the Court decided that the Commissioners could not remove the location of the Court House without the consent of two consecutive Grand Juries. The Grand Jury decided that the Court House should be kept on its present site.

Theatrical.

At the entertainment in the Opera House on Friday evening, Lincoln J. Carter's "Tornado" was artistically reproduced and it was rendered with good scenic effect. It succeeded not only in drawing a full house, but also in exciting much favorable comment upon its realistic scenes and the acting. Throughout there was a combination of humor and pathos which was well calculated to edify. The author very kindly arranged to have the dead resurrected, the cold blooded villain arrested, all offence at last appeased by marriage. The entertainment aside from the main play, such as song, dance, vomiting and ventriloquism also elicited much applause.

The School Book Trust.

And now along with the free text books for public schools we have what is known as the "text book trust," to which it is claimed the State has paid already over \$1,000,000 unnecessarily. It begins to look as though so-called advancement and benefit has its reactionary pull backs and hindrances of the common good, tending very largely to enrich and protect trusts and combines, lessening the line of legitimate competition, and making the State rather than the individual foot the bills. It is, accordingly, not altogether a species of legislation in the interest of the poverty-stricken and uneducated when trusts control all book trade and consequently reap extortionate profits.

A Sleighting Party.

The following named ladies and gentlemen took a very enjoyable sleigh ride, on the 9th instant, to Mayberry Ockey's, about five miles distant, in Montour township, where they were pleasantly entertained.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hartman, Mrs. Fortune and daughter Agnes, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Vanderslice, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Creveling, Miss Sue Potter, Miss Anna Creveling, Mr. Charles Hendricks, Miss Mamie Creveling, Mr. DeWitt, Misses Lou and Sue Creveling, Mr. George Miller, and Mr. Scott Creveling.

Williamsport Church Damaged by Fire.

Christ Episcopal Church Annex, at Williamsport was seriously damaged by a fire last Saturday evening that caught in the evergreen decorations of the Sunday school room and burned with the rapidity of powder. The janitor was examining the steam pipes and using a gas lighter as a torch, when the dry spruce became ignited and in five minutes the interior of the costly edifice was a mass of flames. The damage to the structure will approximate \$3,000.

An Eloquent Preacher.

In the Methodist Episcopal church of Bloomsburg, next Sunday, 10:30 A. M., Rev. Dr. John F. Crouch, of Philadelphia will preach. Mr. Crouch has filled some of the most prominent pulpits of the Methodist church of Philadelphia. He is at present pastor of Union church, long one of the most prominent Methodist churches of the city. He has also been presiding Elder of both the north and south Philadelphia Districts.

Moyer Brothers and others, who in the past were obliged to haul much of their shipping to Rupert, now find it a great convenience to just haul across the new bridge and ship from East Bloomsburg depot, from which point trains are now run to suit Bloomsburgers.

Contagious Diseases in Schools.

The Directors of the Bloomsburg Public Schools, in order to prevent the spreading of contagious diseases, request the attention of all parents sending children to our public schools, to the following regulations issued by the State Board of Health of Pennsylvania. The Directors feel it their duty to enforce these regulations in order to preserve the health of the public schools in Bloomsburg. Attendance is prohibited as follows:

SMALL POX—Six weeks from the commencement of the disease, if every scab has fallen off.

CHICKEN POX—Three weeks from the commencement of the disease, if every scab has fallen off.

SCARLET FEVER—Six weeks from the commencement of the disease, if the peeling has ceased and there is no sore nose.

DIPHTHERIA—Six weeks from the commencement of the disease, if sore throat and other signs of the disease have disappeared.

MEASLES—Three weeks from the commencement of the disease, if all rash and the cough have ceased.

MUMPS—Three weeks from the commencement of the disease, if all swelling has subsided.

TYPHUS—Four weeks from the commencement of the disease, if strength is re established.

TYPHOID—Six weeks from the commencement of the disease, if strength is re established.

WHOOPING COUGH—Six weeks from the commencement of the disease, if all cough has ceased.

Under judicious treatment the period of infectiousness may be considerably shortened, but no child suffering as above should be admitted to any school after a shorter period of absence, and should be provided with a medical certificate that he or she is not liable to communicate the disease.

LENGTH OF QUARANTINE—Teachers or children who have been exposed to infection from any of the following diseases may safely be readmitted to the school, if they remain in good health (and have taken proper means for disinfection), after the following periods of quarantine: Diphtheria, 12 days; scarlet fever, 14 days; small pox, 18 days; chicken pox, 18 days; mumps, 24 days; whooping cough, 21 days. Adults may be readmitted immediately, if they disinfect their clothes and persons—*Regulations, State Board of Health of Pennsylvania.*

In Memoriam of Mrs. Lavinia Robbins.

WHEREAS, it has pleased our heavenly Father to call home our beloved sister, Mrs. Lavinia Robbins, and

WHEREAS, in the death of our promoted sister, the Stillwater W. C. T. U. has lost a valued member, and one who was a wise counselor, cheerful, faithful spirit, and endeared herself to all who knew her, the husband an affectionate wife, the children a kind loving mother; therefore be it

Resolved: that, though we deplore our loss, and shall miss her cheerful face in our circle, we bow in submission to the will of Him who doeth all things well, knowing that our loss is her gain.

Resolved: that we extend to the bereaved friends and our sisters, the daughters of the departed, who are so far removed from us at present, our sincere sympathy in this time of bereavement.

Resolved: that a copy of these resolutions, be placed upon the minutes of the Stillwater Union, and that they be published in the Benton Argus and Bloomsburg papers.

Com. { ANNE MCHENRY,
MIRANDA H. HESS,
LIZZIE RABER.

Terrible Explosion.

While fighting a fire out in Butte, Montana, on the 15th instant, a whole fire department was killed by an explosion of giant powder which was stored in the burning warehouse. The entire department was wiped out, including the chief and all the horses. The relatives of the killed are frantic and the city is in consternation. The powder in the warehouse was in violation of law. It was the greatest explosion in the history of the West.

Stockholder's Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Farmer's Produce Exchange (Limited) will be held in their hall in Bloomsburg, on Tuesday, January 29th, 1895, at 10 o'clock A. M. A full attendance is desired, as officers will be elected and important business brought before the meeting.

GEO. W. SUPLEE, Sec'y.

Don't forget the Friday evening concert in the Opera House.

BRIEF MENTION

About People You Know.

M. G. Bittenbender of Espy, gave this office a call on Tuesday.

Judge Ikeler held the regular January term of court in Danville this week.

Judge Iram Derr was in attendance at court this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Will H. Laird paid a recent visit to friends in Hughesville.

Samuel H. Harman spent Sunday in Hazleton.

Miss Agnes Vanderslice of St. Paul, Minn., was in town this week as a witness in court.

Mrs. White, of Philadelphia, is the guest of Mrs. M. E. Ent.

Thomas McBride, the efficient steward at the Bloom Poor House, is on the sick list.

H. H. Grotz witnessed the inauguration ceremonies at Harrisburg on Tuesday.

Mr. Harry Purcell visited relatives in Hughesville recently.

We regret to report F. D. Dentler as being on the sick list recently, though he is now fairly convalescent.

Mr. F. M. Everett, who was recently elected cashier of the Mount Carmel Bank, went to his new post of duty on Wednesday.

Mr. W. W. Schell, an old subscriber from Beaver Valley, gave us a call to advance his subscription on Thursday last.

Mr. E. L. Distelhurst, undertaker of Berwick, was among callers in town on Thursday.

Mr. C. F. Knapp, the old and reliable fire insurance Agent, spent a few days in Mechanicsburg recently.

Miss Harriet Bogenrief took short-hand notes of the trial in court this week, for the defendant.

Judge Rice, who held court this week, was a teacher at the Bloomsburg Literary Institute in 1867.

Mrs. H. H. Grotz and Martha F. Clark went to Harrisburg on Monday to visit Mrs. R. C. Neal.

Mr. E. C. Caswell, is we are glad to learn, again in the enjoyment of his usual good health after a brief period of sickness.

Ex-treasurer P. A. Evans and Andrew Evans were among the visitors to Harrisburg on Tuesday.

L. M. White was in New York this week, representing the Bloomsburg Furniture Company at the furniture exhibition.

W. S. Moyer and J. C. Brown helped to inaugurate Governor Hastings on Tuesday at Harrisburg.

Dr. J. W. Bruner has located in Bloomsburg, and occupies one of P. E. Witt's houses on Fifth street.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark Merrell, of East Greenwood, will give a reception to invited guests for their son Orin J. and his bride, on Saturday, January 19th, at 12 o'clock.

Hon. Grant Herring is credited with the delivery of an able lecture before the Jackson Day Banquet, recently held in Williamsport.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant Herring were among the guests at the crystal wedding of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Zehnder, at Berwick, on Monday evening.

In the absence of Stenographer Walker at Danville court, Mr. S. E. Ems of Wilkes-Barre took notes of testimony in the Vanderslice-Snyder trial, as official stenographer.

Miss Grace Wall, who has been visiting Miss Bessie Kuhn for several weeks, returned to her home in Virginia on Saturday. Miss Kuhn accompanied her.

A. E. Chapin a former resident of Bloomsburg, and law student in the office of C. R. Buckalew, is now a candidate for Justice of the peace in Nanticoke, where he is now located.

The Board of Directors of the Farmers' National Bank met for organization last Thursday. No changes were made in the officers, which are as follows: W. S. Moyer, President; C. A. Kleim, Vice-President; A. H. Bloom, Cashier; J. V. Logan, Teller; Morris Broadt Messenger.

The annual election of stockholders in the Bloomsburg Furniture Company was held on Friday. Theodore Redeker, Dr. F. W. Redeker, G. W. Correll, Samuel McKamey and Dr. W. M. Reber, were elected directors. Dr. Redeker was elected president, Theodore Redeker, general manager, Samuel McKamey secretary, and G. W. Correll, treasurer.

Whatever may or may not happen in the future, we are certain to find our proper level in this life. And we need have no doubts or fears or scarcity of faith about it, either. A man's enemies will soon find his proper level for him if his friends don't. But the false accusation of an enemy only sets the righteous man's virtues forth in more glowing colors. Its truth that betrays and reveals the hypocrite and dissembler—no matter about his artificial efforts or professions.

If you miss the *New York Philharmonic* concert you will miss the greatest musical event of the season. Tickets at Slate's.

State Senator Lanfais wants to extend the minimum school term to seven months.