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NO. 5

DYNAMITE CASES.

Will Not be Tried at This Court. Continuance Granted on Motion of Defendant's Counsel.

When court opened on Wednesday morning, the court room filled up until every seat was taken, and there was no more standing room in the aisles. It was understood that the cases of L. S. Wintersteen and Clifton Knorr, charged with an attempt to blow up the residence of L. E. Waller Esq., last September, would come before the court in some shape, and in this the spectators were not disappointed. Judge Metzger of Williamsport, was on the bench in Judge Ikeler's place, as the latter will not preside at the trial of the cases. The grand jury on Tuesday afternoon returned true bills on seven indictments, and Judge Metzger came down in response to a telegram as pre-arranged.

Mr. Wintersteen sat at a counsel table with his attorneys Fred Ikeler and Col. J. G. Freeze, and at the other table were James Scarlet, Grant Herring, W. H. Rhawn and District Attorney Harman. Mr. Ikeler moved to quash the indictments on the ground that the defendant had been refused to be heard on his own behalf and by witnesses when before J. M. Clark, Esq., the committing magistrate. Messrs. Scarlet and Herring followed him on the other side, and then Judge Metzger suggested that he understood that a motion for continuance was to be made, and he would hear that motion before deciding the motion to quash.

Mr. Wintersteen was sworn and said that there were two important witnesses without whom he could not safely go to trial; that he had been diligent in searching for them, but had not yet been able to find them; that he had employed A. S. L. Shields of Philadelphia, and J. C. Jacobs of Reading as counsel, and that neither of them could get here this week; and further, that by direction of his counsel he had not subpoenaed any witnesses, and was not ready for trial, supposing that the grounds laid for a continuance were sufficient. After consultation with the associates Judge Metzger stated that the court was unanimous in granting the continuance and he especially desired it in order to give him time to examine the legal questions raised by the motion to quash the indictments.

He will file an opinion during this month. If the indictments are quashed it will end the case until there is a new arrest and hearing and binding over. If the indictments stand, the case will probably be tried at May court, though Mr. Scarlet suggested that they would ask for a special term at which the case may be tried.

Planned to Blow up a Prison.

Desperate Methods Fail to Free a Convicted Murderer.

Detectives claim to have unearthed a plot at Wilkesbarre which had for its object the blowing up of the county jail. Among the inmates of the jail is Peter Wanell, alias "Terrible Pete," who is awaiting execution for murder. Before he fell into the hands of the law he was worth considerable money, and it is claimed that his friends are using it to secure his liberty.

They had entered into a scheme with young Schaeffer, who escaped from jail on January 7, to open Wanell's cell door and allow him to escape by a window. Wanell's friends from the outside had a big jack screw and broke the bars of the window. When the critical moment arrived, however, Schaeffer, who had escaped from his own cell, was unable to pick the lock on the door of Wanell's cell. Fearing he would be caught by the watchmen in the corridor, he leaped to the window, where Wanell's friends were in waiting, and escaped.

Wanell's pals then became desperate and resolved to blow the prison up with dynamite. The prison authorities got wind of it and they put on extra guards. Detectives Kline and Honeywell have made two arrests in connection with the affair, and more are to follow.

Farmers' Institutes.

A Farmers' Institute will be held at Orangeville on the 19th and 20th insts., and at Numidia on the 17th and 18th. Interesting programs have been arranged.

The Indian School at Carlisle Pa., has been quarantined because of an epidemic of measles.

THE STATE CAPITOL DESTROYED.

In a Few Hours the Great Structure Was in a Pile of Ruins.

LOSS ESTIMATED AT HALF A MILLION.

The legislative halls are in ruins and its law making body without a home. The fire started in Lieutenant Governor Lyons rooms sometime Tuesday forenoon, but was not discovered until it had gained considerable headway, or until about 1 o'clock, when the buildings were too far gone to be saved.

The lieutenant governor's apartments are on the second floor of the main Capitol building directly over the Senate chamber, and it was only a short time before the senate was to have reconvened that a page hurried to the desk of President Pro. Tem. McCarrel, who was about to take his seat, preparatory to calling the body to order, with the information that there was fire in the room overhead. Bad news travels quickly, and it seemed that in a twinkling everybody on the whole floor knew of the fire.

The senate was to have received the amended Mitchell treasury investigation from the house and for this purpose the senators took a recess at 12.25 o'clock until 1. But the resolution was forgotten and the attention of all was turned in the direction of the room in which the smoke was discovered. "Get out your buckets." was the command of Chief Clerk Edwin M. Smiley to a group of excited senate attaches who were standing about not knowing what to do. The chief clerk's orders were obeyed; but the most efficient bucket brigade in existence could not have extinguished the flames that were eating their way around the upper part of the building between the brick work and the walls. As proof of this the most earnest efforts of the Harrisburg fire department were found to be entirely unavailing so far as the saving of the main building was concerned. The men with the buckets returned to their chief with the news that the fire could not be reached. Anticipating this Senate Librarian Miller pulled the auxiliary fire alarm in the senate library. The firemen say the alarm sounded was twenty-three, and because of their response to this box they did not answer as quickly to the call from the capitol as they otherwise would have done. When they reached the building the flames had gained such headway that old firemen predicted the destruction of the entire structure. And so it proved.

The cause of the fire has been variously stated. In an interview with an officer of the Harrisburg electric company last evening he stated that it did not and could not have originated from electric wires, as reported by some. "The building," he said, "we re-wired several years ago, at the time the insurance was placed. The wiring was installed under the rules and regulations of the board of fire underwriters and was carefully inspected and approved. The odor of smoke was apparent to a number of the senators and employes from one to two hours before the fire was discovered. Had it been caused by contact of wires the fire would have been apparent in a very short time. The theory which has the most foundation in fact is that it originated from the open hearth fire in the lieutenant governor's room and burned under the floor along the joists to the hall partition where it was discovered. This hearth was ordered rebuilt last summer by Senate Librarian Miller as he deemed it unsafe at that time. The accumulation of the dust of many years and inflammable particles made the progress of the fire under the floor an easy matter."

While the senators were excited over the fire the house was transacting business. But it did not take long to convey the information to the lower branch that the fire was in progress. Messengers brought the word and soon there was a hurried adjournment. Many of the members lingered thinking the blaze was slight. When they realized the situation fully they started to work to save their property. Others then appeared and a few desks and chairs were removed. When the last man had left the flames were leaping along the roof of the house. Representative Charles E. Voorhees was the last man to leave and he made his escape just as an explosion occurred in the dome of the building.

Governor William Findlay laid the corner stone of the capitol at noon Monday May 31, 1819, formal ceremonies following. This stone bears outwardly no distinguishing marks and while it is not positively known

where it is located it is generally agreed—an agreement based upon the recollection of old inhabitants—that it is at the southwestern corner of the building. A story of the time relates that "when Governor Findlay went through the form of laying it he accidentally broke the mallet, which was considered by the assemblage of people as a bad omen." The senate and house first occupied the building on January 2, 1822. The annex for the state library was built later. The entire sum set apart for the cost of the main building was \$1,350,000. "For the purpose of constructing the columns and capitals of brown stone and to cover the roof of the dome" \$15,000 were appropriated.

The main building of the capitol, destroyed Tuesday, was 180 feet front, eighty feet deep and two stories high. The lower story contained vestibule and stair case, the chambers of the senate and house of representatives and several small apartments for the accommodation of the members and officers of the legislature. The second story contained rooms for the state library, canal commissioners, supreme court, school department and committees. The main entrance was by a circular portico the whole height of the building, sustained by six Ionic columns of red sand stone, painted white, four feet in diameter and thirty-six feet high, the portico receding thirty-seven feet to a circular wall. The floor of the portico, upon which the columns rested, was about six feet from the ground, reached by steps of sand stone and paved with massive flags of the same material. From the floor to the top of the cornice the distance was forty-six feet and the front was fifty-six and one-half feet. From the top of the cornice to the top of the dome it was fifty-seven and one-half feet, making the whole height 130 feet.

The rotunda above the roof was composed of sixteen columns twenty-two inches in diameter and seventeen feet high, and was forty-eight feet in diameter outside of the columns. There was a space or three feet between columns and wall. The diameter of the inside was thirty-four feet. The dome was forty feet in diameter. It contained eight windows and eight niches. Four of the latter were partly covered with the faces of the clocks and the remainder were originally designed for the reception of statues.

Mayor Warwick sent a telegram to Governor Hastings Tuesday offering the council chambers in Philadelphia for the use of the legislature. Governor Hastings replied, thanking the mayor and saying that adequate arrangements have been made in Harrisburg for both branches of the assembly and that there will be no occasion for any interruption in their work.

UNIVERSITY VS. NORMAL.

We have waited patiently for the announcement that the celebrated basket ball team of the University of Pennsylvania would be here, and at last we have heard it. All lovers of the game should take advantage of this opportunity, as it will not be offered again this season and the game will undoubtedly be a fine one. Seats can be reserved at Slate's book store, the price of which is 25c. If you wish to have a good view of the game you should mark your seats early. These two fast teams will dispute honors in Normal Gymnasium on Friday night at 8 o'clock.

The Republican caucus re-assembled in the Town Hall on Thursday night to nominate a man for Town Councilman to fill the vacancy occasioned by the withdrawal of J. Lee Harman. W. S. Rishton and W. D. Brobst were named. Mr. Rishton was the choice of the caucus, the vote being 33 to 32 in his favor.

The congregation of the Presbyterian Church met on Thursday evening for the selection of a pastor. The meeting resulted in a call being extended to Rev. G. H. Hemingway, of Carthage, Mo. It is understood that he is to take charge of the pulpit at once. He preached a trial sermon in the church last November.

At the coming election in Berwick the school board will submit to a vote of the people the question whether or not the cooking school shall be continued in the public schools.

A number of ladies prominent in Bloomsburg society, set a good example by removing their hats at a recent entertainment in the Opera House.

TRIED TO BLOW UP A BANK.

DEPOSITORS WREAK VENGEANCE ON ONE OF HOLLIDAYSBURG'S BROKEN INSTITUTIONS.

A terrific explosion occurred at Hollidaysburg, Sunday night in an attempt to destroy with dynamite the banking house of Gardner, Morrow & Co. The bank was soon surrounded by a crowd of excited men and women. The bank door had been torn from its fastenings and hurled to the rear of the room, the flooring had been partially destroyed, bricks loosened and not a whole pane of glass was left. No damage was done to the vault. The glass in all the stores and residences on the square were completely shattered.

The buildings that sustained the greatest damage were the First National Bank, Frank Glessner's general merchandise store, and the residence of Charles Vowkel, Major S. S. Barr and Dr. J. R. Humes. H. M. Hemshey and Edward Nickodemus, who roomed next door to the bank, were shaken out of their beds by the force of the explosion.

The crime was committed by tearing out the frame work about the bank door and inserting dynamite. There is no clue to the perpetrators. It is believed that the crime is due to the revengeful conduct of depositors. Last September the bank failed, and the statement of its condition made a few weeks ago in court indicates that it was in an insolvent condition for many years. Its assets are only sufficient to pay between fifteen and twenty cents on the dollar.

Nominations.

The Fishingcreek Democrats have nominated the following ticket:

Tax Collector—O. J. Hess, Treasurer—A. B. McHenry, Supervisors—E. D., S. E. McHenry; W. D., Daniel Wenner. School Directors—Zaner D., Charles Emory; Asbury D., A. A. Eveland; Township Clerk—J. S. Campbell; Overseer of Poor—J. A. Karnes; Assessor—E. D., W. N. Hosler; W. D., M. R. Kelchner; Assistant assessors—Daniel Wenner and W. L. McHenry; Auditor—Rush Harrison; Judge of election—W. D., Hiram Karnes; E. D., Inspector—W. D., C. B. Ash; E. D., Emanuel Wenner. The Republican caucus was held at the same time and place, and nominations were made as follows: Inspectors—E. D., S. J. Harrison; W. D., J. F. Trump.

The ticket nominated in Benton is as follows:

Town Council, C. B. McHenry, H. F. Everett, J. W. Winley; High Constable, Daniel Hess; Assistant Assessor, J. R. Keeler; Inspector, E. Kanouse; Judge of Election, Clinton Dewitt; School Directors, W. C. Fuller, D. E. Keeler; Auditor, E. R. Davis; Poor Overseer, C. L. Davis. It will be observed that three nominations were made for members of town council. The reason given is that C. B. Ikeler will resign as a member of that body as he holds the position of assessor.

Typhoid at Lewistown.

There are thirty-five cases of typhoid fever in Lewistown and the epidemic seems to be spreading. The borough has failed to comply with the law requiring it to have a board of health, the town council refusing to appoint one when the last board resigned. No effort has been made to ascertain the cause by local authorities and new cases are developing daily.

The state board of health has been notified. The blame is laid to the water and recent digging up of streets for putting in the new water system. There have not as yet been any deaths, but there are several persons critically ill.

The late John Knies held a \$5000 accident insurance policy in a New York company. A post mortem examination showed the brain clogged with blood, indicating that death was caused by concussion of the brain resulting from striking his head when he fell down.

Selinsgrove is in a fit of excitement over a gang of five men who are safely entrenched in a little hut on the edge of a neck of timber. They break into houses and burn buildings, and commit other lawless acts, and cannot be captured. They are well armed with rifles, pistols and knives, and gave notice that any effort made to capture will surely end in death.

GOOD ADVICE



is often never heeded until too late. This sale may prove just that way to you. The prices now will not, in fact, cannot be repeated. It's a splendid opportunity to clothe yourself and family, and at first cost of manufacture. The winter has just about opened.

Storm Overcoats, \$3.90, \$4.50, \$6, \$7, \$8.

Boy's Reefers, 1.75, 2.25, 3, 3.50.

Warm Wool Underwear, complete sizes in best grades.

Mufflers, lined or unlined gloves.

THE Gidding's Store.

THE CATAWISSA BRIDGE.

Judge McPherson of Dauphin county has made the following order in the matter of the petition of Columbia County to rebuild the county bridge at Catawissa, at the cost of the state:

And now January 27th, 1897, the Commissioners of Columbia County having by their counsel (with Mr. Elkins appearing for the Commonwealth) submitted the within bills of the fees and expenses of the viewers in the above stated case, with an acceptance of due and legal notice and service of the same upon them, the Court under the circumstances of said case, fix the fees and expenses to be allowed the viewers aforesaid, and paid by Columbia county.

Here follows a statement of the amounts allowed, giving J. M. Africa \$750 for making survey, calculations, taking testimony and making report; D. B. Dykens, viewer, \$120; W. W. Grist, viewer, \$110; Luther Eyer, viewer, \$100; W. S. Moyer, viewer, \$100; M. E. Shaughnessy, stenographer, \$342.58.

Notice of the service of the bills was accepted by the county commissioners on January 26th.

Death of Charles Armstrong.

Charles Armstrong, second son of David Armstrong, departed this life at his home on Thursday evening last at 5 o'clock. The deceased had been sick for about eight weeks, during which illness he had at different times showed signs of improvement, but on Thursday he grew worse, and just as the shades of night were gathering he closed his eyes, and sank gently to his everlasting sleep. His death is a sad one as it renders two small children parentless, his wife having died four years ago. The deceased was a brother to William K. and John D. of this town and was in the fortieth year of his age. He was a good citizen and of a quiet and friendly disposition. Funeral took place Sunday afternoon, conducted by Rev. B. C. Conner, of the Methodist Church. Interment in Rosemont Cemetery.

Valentines will soon take up a portion of the postmaster's time

Installation of Officers.

Installation of officers of G. A. R. Post of Orangeville will take place on first Saturday, Feb. 6, at 2 o'clock P. M. sharp, in G. A. R. Hall. The installation services will be conducted by comrade Hayman of Post 159 of Berwick. After which two addresses will be made by Prof. Leshar Asst. Principal of schools of Berwick, and E. J. Bowman of Forks, two excellent speakers well known in the county. We all remember the beautiful, masterly and eloquent off-hand address of comrade Bowman delivered at Light Street on last Memorial day before a large audience. After which will follow a sumptuous banquet that will be continued in G. A. R. Hall at night. A banquet that will please the palate and suit the purse of the most fastidious. The proceeds of the banquet for the benefit of the Post at Orangeville.

Who does not appreciate the soldier, who left home, wife and children, parents, kindred, hallowed and endearing associations and sallied forth to do and die for his country? Come one come all.

COM. OF ARRANGEMENTS.

The extensive plant of the Scranton illuminating, heat and power company, at Scranton, was totally destroyed by fire early on Sunday morning, at a loss of \$50,000. Sunday evening services in the churches were abandoned owing to the lack of light and heat. The insurance covers about half the loss.

Harry, a thirteen year old son of William Gigger, who resides on the corner of East and Sixth Street, dropped dead of heart disease about five o'clock on Saturday evening. He was sitting on a chair, when he suddenly fell to the floor and expired without uttering a word.

A slight fire occurred in the picking room of the Woolen Mill, on Monday afternoon about two o'clock. The hose carriages were hurried to the scene, but were not used as the fire had been quenched before they reached there. The damage done was very little. The origin of the fire is unknown.