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POSTMASTER ARRESTED.

Arrest of Edward F. Bogart, at Wilkes-Barre Creates a Big Sensation.

A great sensation was caused at Wilkes-Barre on Thursday by the arrest of Edward F. Bogart, postmaster of Wilkes-Barre, charged with tampering with the mails. A well-laid trap had been prepared for the Postmaster and he stepped right into it. For a year past the postal authorities at Washington have been receiving complaints about irregularities in the Wilkes-Barre Postoffice and some months ago an investigation was decided upon.

Postmaster Bogart asked for an extra clerk and the postal authorities replied that they would send a man from Scranton. This was only a blind. The man sent was a secret service officer. He was given a place as night distributing clerk. He filled his position acceptably until Thursday morning, when he showed his true colors.

At 1 o'clock Thursday morning, after the mail from Baltimore and Washington arrived and had been distributed, Bogart entered the office and was seen to take several letters from the boxes and then go into his private office and carefully draw down a curtain. A few minutes later the "young man from Scranton" turned out an electric light in the rear end of the office as a signal to two other secret service men who were stationed outside. The man on the inside carefully admitted his associates, one of whom was Postal Inspector Hugh Gorman. The latter went at once to Bogart's private office and without the ceremony of knocking, entered and there found the postmaster seated at his desk, on which lay three letters addressed to prominent business men of Wilkes-Barre and all of them opened.

The postmaster was surprised, but soon recovered his composure. He was later escorted to his home by the secret service men, where a warrant for his arrest was subsequently served by Deputy United States Marshal Sol. Bacharach.

Friday morning he was taken before United States Commissioner Gustave Hahn where he gave bail for \$4000 for a later appearance, John T. Lenahan becoming his bondsman. Immediately after Bogart's arrest Mr. Gorman took charge of the postoffice.

H. T. Gregory one of the two post-office inspectors from Washington, who had been in Wilkes-Barre for several days and who collected the evidence and made out the information which led to the arrest, was seen at the postoffice Friday afternoon by a reporter. In answer to questions Mr. Gregory said: "H. J. Gorman, the other inspector who was detailed by the government to work on this case in conjunction with myself, and I came here last Monday, pursuant to complaints which had been made to the Postoffice Department at Washington of irregularities in the management of the Wilkes-Barre office. We made a thorough investigation and found evidence of the truth of the allegations. The discovery of this evidence resulted in the postmaster's arrest this morning."

Inspecting the Road.

W. A. Truesdale, the newly elected president of the Delaware, Lackawanna Railroad Company, passed through Bloomsburg on an inspection tour, in a special train on Friday. Saturday's Wilkes-Barre Record says of the trip:

"Mr. Truesdale has been out on the road for the past few days, making a personal tour and inspection of all the lines of the company. He inspected the Buffalo division on Wednesday, and on Thursday he went over the Utica and Syracuse divisions and Great Bend.

President Truesdale and party left Scranton, where he is stopping at the Jermyn, early Friday morning in the directors' handsome private car Oswego and in a few minutes were in Kingston. Engineer Swallow of Kingston, who pulled the special train, made one of the fastest trips ever made over the Bloomsburg division.

In regard to the railroad business and its management he seemed well satisfied. He would not say much about his plans. He could not say what changes will be made. Not till he has looked the entire field over and has had sufficient time to ponder over the matter will he make public what changes will be made. One thing, however, seems to be certain, general manager Hallstead and Mr. Storrs will not be disturbed. Their work and their methods are received with approval."

PITTSSTON NEVER IN THE HUNT.

Defeated in the Gymnasium by the Normal Boys in Easy Fashion.

Saturday evening another basket ball game took place, and again it is the old story renewed, Normal won. The score on this occasion was 52 to 3. The opposing team was Pittston Y. M. C. A., and while they put up a game that would hustle many a team, yet they were no match for our victorious boys who are walloping everything they go up against. Normal, a few years ago had a very formidable team of basket ball players, a team that won the majority of its games, and was looked upon as one of the strongest aggregations in this section. But, notwithstanding the strength of the old team, the present one is by far the superior. For passing the ball and general team work their performances are simply marvelous. The game Saturday night was a good, fast, clean exhibition and was won on its merits. The line up follows:

PITTSSTON. NORMAL.
McDonald.....Attack.....McGuffie
Anthony.....".....Lewis
Dodge.....Center.....Aldinger
Sheets.....Defense.....Clayberger
Trax.....".....Oplinger

Baskets: McGuffie 13, Aldinger 6, Clayberger 5, Oplinger 2, Anthony 1. Fouls: Anthony 1. Referee: Smethers. Time keeper, Cope and Miller; Umpire, Evans.

Between the halves a game was played between the Seniors and Juniors of the school, the former winning by a score of 5 to 3.

An Excellent Production.

Porter J. White supported by a company of unusual merit, rendered Goethe's immortal "Faust," before one of the largest and most fashionable audiences of the season, in the Opera House Thursday evening. In every material respect the representation rose above the level of merely average excellence. Several times during its production Thursday night it attained to a plane of very high distinction, and its development was closely watched by an appreciative assemblage with a growing sense of satisfaction, and at the end of the wondrous scene, Mr. White was compelled to come before the curtain and bow his acknowledgement. The leading parts were all well taken.

The Mephisto of Mr. White sustains comparison with any impersonation of the character we have ever witnessed, and in what respect it could be bettered anywhere cannot readily be imagined. Miss Verne portrayed the role of Marguerite, with artistic tact and succeeded in winning the large audience completely. Faust by Frank McDonald was very strong and impressive, and his emotion genuine. Another enjoyable feature was the song of the Intermezzo from "Cavalleria Rusticana," the rendition of which expressed the perfection of the vocal art.

The play was elaborately staged, so far as scenery and electrical effects were concerned, and the costumes were fine. Mr. White has won a warm spot in the hearts of our theatre goers, and the announcement of a return engagement will be looked upon with pleasure.

Centralia Council Organized.

The Council of Centralia borough, has perfected an organization as follows: The salaries will remain the same as the past year.

Supervisor—Robert White.
Treasurer—O. B. Millard.
Solicitor—E. J. Flynn.
Night Policeman—Jno. Mulligan.
Lamp lighter—Thomas Madden.
Street committee—Rooney, Cain and Walsh.
Finance—Stienmetz, Curry.
Law and order—Stienmetz, Rooney

Major Clement B. White, the only surviving brother-in-law of Abraham Lincoln, is a resident of Selma, Ala., is 70 years old, bears a close likeness to John Sherman, and, as a member of the Alabama State Guard, at the outbreak of the Civil War, took part in the capture of Fort Morgan, Mobile Bay. When Lincoln was told of this exploit he remarked: "Well, I suppose I shall have to hang White when we catch him." Later the Major served through the war on the Confederate side.

The employees of the Reading Iron Works, at Danville, were notified Saturday of an advance in wages, to take effect March 1. This increase, which affects all departments, makes the price of puddling \$2.65, instead of \$2.50 per ton.

PROMINENT COLUMBIA JOURNALIST.

John C. Rutter, Jr., Journalist, and New Figure in Politics.

Presented herewith is a portrait of John C. Rutter, Jr., of this town, who recently resigned as editor and manager of the Bloomsburg Daily and Democratic Sentinel, after a successful experience of more than a dozen years in that position. Mr. Rutter's prime purpose in relinquishing his



JOHN C. RUTTER, JR.

journalistic place, in which he has proved himself so eminently capable, is to better conduct his candidacy for the nomination for Register and Recorder on the Democratic ticket.

Mr. Rutter is one of the representative young men of Bloomsburg. He has attained a prominence in public affairs that has won for him a wide acquaintanceship, and his work in the newspaper field of the county has redounded very materially to his credit. He is at present the president of the School Board here, and has for years maintained a lively interest in the town's educational affairs. He is a son of Dr. J. C. Rutter, one of the oldest physicians and most respected citizens of this section of Pennsylvania. A brother, Mr. H. H. Rutter, is editor and publisher of the Democrat, at Muncy, Lycoming county.—Williamsport Grit.

STATE NEWS ITEMS.

—Fire which had its origin in a defective flue, destroyed \$10,000 worth of property located at the extreme end of Centre street, Mahanoy City at 3 o'clock Sunday morning.

—The body of a man found floating in the Susquehanna River, opposite Columbia, last night, was identified Saturday as that of Isaac Levy, who was drowned at Wilkes-Barre several weeks ago.

—Hiram H. Hepley of Northumberland, a boss carpenter on the Pennsylvania Canal, was drowned in the canal lock at Watsonstown, about midnight Saturday. He was stopping at the house of the lock tender, and during the night went out, and it is supposed that in the darkness he lost his way. He leaves a wife and four children.

—J. W. Meixell died in Beach Haven last Thursday, aged 55 years. Mr. Meixell is survived by a wife and four sons. He is a brother of P. A. Meixell and Mrs. Kate Byrum, of Wilkes-Barre, and Wm. C. Meixell, of Hicks Ferry. He served for many years as collector for the Pennsylvania Canal Company, in Beach Haven, and has been commissioned as justice of the peace for three terms.

—Union County will present this week the unusual spectacle of a term of court without a single case for trial. The civil suits have all been either settled or withdrawn, and the only criminal case on the calendar has been indefinitely postponed, owing to the prisoner's escape from jail. Judge McClure has issued an order notifying all jurymen drawn for the term not to attend.

Moved to Berwick.

John W. Moore who has been residing in Wilkes-Barre for some years past, has removed to Berwick, where he is engaged in the wheelwright business. He is located on Third Street and is prepared to do all kinds of repairing and painting on wagon work. He has had many years experience and is a skilled mechanic. Mr. Moore is a son of W. P. Moore, Esq., of Buckhorn.

Death of a Ball Player.

Frank Musser, who played with the Demorests for several seasons, and who was well known in this town, died at Youngstown, Ohio, on Monday. Deceased is survived by his wife and one child.

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

The Old Board of Town Councilmen Held Its Last Meeting Thursday Night.

The regular and last monthly meeting of the old board of Bloomsburg Town Council took place in the council chamber of the Town Hall, Thursday night. There were present, President W. O. Holmes and members W. S. Rishton, J. S. Blue, F. B. Hartman, W. L. Demaree and G. M. Lockard. Secretary Quick read the minutes of the last meeting which were approved.

The Electric Light Company, was represented at the meeting by A. W. Duy, Esq., who presented a new ordinance, number 101 which provides that the Company be granted certain rights in the town. It is the same as ordinance 50, which was granted by Council several years ago, but which was afterwards repealed. The ordinance passed, and the company will again have the rights and privileges it formerly enjoyed.

A permit to build was granted to Mrs. James Cadman, on the rear of the St. Elmo Hotel property.

J. K. Bittenbender exonerated from unpaid 1895 taxes.

The following bills were presented and orders drawn for payment:

Bloom Elec. Light and Power Co.	\$435 10
W. H. Luby	13 20
Isaiah Hagenbuch	12 50
Bloomsburg Gas Co.	21 50
Bloomsburg Water Co.	96 07
Bloom Steam and Elec. Light Co.	45 55
Creasy & Wells	1 53
Stephen Knorr & Son	4 05
W. U. Jury	10 00
Chas. W. Runyon	22 41
W. O. Holmes & Son	1 90
John Corbett	1 25
Geo. Yost	1 75
F. P. Drake	2 50
Wm. Detrick	1 25
C. M. Hess	1 25
Haranan & Hasselt	2 41
J. R. Schayler	1 55
Thos. Webb	8 60
W. L. Demaree	14 11
Total	\$699 00

The following orders were drawn:

Friendship Fire Co.	\$150 00
Winona	75 00
Rescue	75 00

William H. Gilmore requests council to have light placed in the Rescue Fire Company headquarters, on East Street. He also suggested that the Electric Light Company be asked to furnish light for the same free of cost.

WHAT A RECORD?

Ninety-Seven Murders in Fourteen Years, in Northumberland County.

In commenting on the many murders of Northumberland County during the past fifteen years the Record of Milton says:

"Northumberland county has an unenviable record—a record that is doubtless without a parallel in the United States. According to the Standard's data there have been seventy eight murders in the county within the past twelve years—but according to the Daily it is even worse than that. The Daily says that within the past fifteen years, ninety-seven murders have been committed. Only five persons have been brought to trial and only one convicted of murder in the first degree—Edward Crissinger. The crimes embrace every form of murder—murder for money; murder for revenge; murder to conceal crime; murder to obtain property; murder growing out of church feuds and political dissensions, murders prompted by jealousy and infidelity; murders in drunken brawls; unprovoked murders to gratify the brutal bloodthirsty nature of the outlaws who committed them (as the killing of young Catherine by St. Clair on the streets of Milton), and not a single murderer brought to justice. If there is another county in the United States from the half breed lumber regions of Northern Maine to the wild western borders of New Mexico and Arizona with a cleaner record of unpunished outlawry, let them speak up and take the belt? Is there another county in this broad land where human life is held so cheap? There has been one conviction out of ninety-seven murders. Crissinger after a fair and impartial trial was convicted of one of the most brutal, unprovoked murders on record. There is no doubt of his guilt; his sanity was never questioned until his attorneys realized that his case was hopeless, and now a new trial is sought upon purely technical grounds. If it is granted, two to one justice will miscarry. Is it any wonder that among our good people there is growing indifference for the law and its processes and a contempt for the courts?"

—It is nearly time for the Easter dress parade.

TOP COATS.

Our light weight Top Coat Departm't is stocked with the newest and best things in the market. We can fit all sizes and shapes, from slim to stout, in sizes from 32 to 50.

SUITS FOR MEN, BOYS AND CHILDREN.

Our Suit Department contains everything new in Cassimeres, Cheviots, Worsted, Basket Weaves, and everything in the line of Suitings. No old goods, everything new.

Our Hats are of the best makes, and we can give you any shape you desire. All the new novelties in Neckwear, Shirts, Hosiery, &c.

BEN GIDDING, Bloomsburg. Complete Outfitter for Men.

The Leader Department Store.

Rugs and Art Squares.

We carry a very complete line of this class of goods. Our variety is greater and stock larger than shown elsewhere. In the Moquette and Smyrna Rugs, our stock has been increased by our spring purchases, which arrived last week.

Many of the fads and fashions are senseless and arbitrary, resting upon nothing more substantial than a whim, or the desire to be different from one's neighbors. But this cannot be urged against the fad of using rugs of any sort. They are easily taken up and cleaned. Being bordered, they look finished, and they can be used in almost any room and corner, from one to another, as the needs require. These are all decided advantages. Our prices are very low, and we can meet the needs of almost any pocketbook, no matter how thin.

The patterns are new, some of them perfect gems of coloring, and all of the best quality for their class. Come in and look them over.

BODY BRUSSELS Body Brussels

Many people are unaware that there are two decided qualities of Body Brussels. If they are told by a dealer that a carpet is a Body Brussel, they take it for granted that that settles the quality. Such is not the case, and this explains why we will sell you Body Brussels for \$1.25, and the cheaper for \$1.00.

Quality versus Price.

We do not claim that we sell so much cheaper than anyone else. Given quality for quality. We sell the same article cheaper than anyone else, and can save you money. But we don't give you such yarns as that. We can sell you goods for half what the jobber buys them for. In other words, we believe that we address a class of readers whose bump of common sense is well developed, and who are not buying gold bricks—not this year, anyway.

Note Our Liberal Offer.

During March and April if you buy \$10 worth of Carpets and Furniture, and pay cash for it, we will rebate your railroad fare within 20 miles. We want to carpet 500 floors.

The Leader Store Co., Ltd., Fourth and Market Streets, Bloomsburg, Pa.