

THE COLUMBIAN.

BLOOMSBURG, PA.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1907

BUSY SEASON FOR THE READING

July and August Business of Catawissa Branch Largest in History.

Never in its history has the Shamokin division of the Reading Railway which includes the Catawissa branch, experienced such a reign of prosperity as it is at present, and with the rolling equipment taxed to its utmost capacity it is next to impossible to keep yards and sidings from being blocked almost continuously.

When the fact is taken into consideration that July and August are generally the slack months this condition of affairs is all the more remarkable.

The yard at Newberry is blocked almost constantly, and it is nothing unusual for 500 cars to stand waiting there for power to draw them to their destination.

All the regular crews that can be secured are called to do extra service, while the extra men outside of the legal time required for them to rest are constantly on the go.

Freight engineers who during this season in previous years considered themselves very lucky to draw \$100 for a month's wages are drawing as high as \$150, while firemen in many cases are making \$100.

At this season railroaders are generally plentiful, but there is now a marked scarcity, particularly on firemen, and as a result the officials are greatly handicapped in their efforts to keep things moving.

FARMS SUFFER FROM DROUGHT.

The Ground is Parched and the Corn is Withering—Many Streams are Dry.

The general drought prevailing throughout the country is quite keenly felt in this vicinity, where unless rain falls soon the corn and the late potato crop will be seriously affected.

While it seems only a short time since rain has fallen yet it has been many weeks since we have had a good soaking rain in this locality. The ground in the fields is parched. The corn at many places is actually withering and the potatoes look bad. Nearly all the small streams are dry or are very low.

The present is a very critical period for the corn, as it is just now forming ears. Copious rains are needed during the next couple of weeks in order to insure a good crop or even an average. Rain is also needed to help along the pasture and the crops of garden truck.

Owing to the lack of rain the river is falling at a rapid rate. It is already lower than for a long time past.

James Scarlet's Fee Is \$15,000.

For His Work as Chief Counsel of the Capital Investigation Commission.

James Scarlet, Esq. of Danville, who has just completed his work as chief counsel for the capital investigation commission, returned to Danville Saturday evening, and will spend several weeks resting before preparing the papers for the criminal and civil suits that will be brought against the men accused of being implicated in the capitol graft.

The commission on Saturday fixed the fees of its attorneys. \$15,000 was the amount to be paid Mr. Scarlet and \$10,000 was paid James A. Stranahan, Mr. Scarlet's associate.

Mrs. Sarah J. Richie, widow of William Richie, who died in 1880, died at her home near Bloomsburg on Tuesday evening, aged 73 years. She is survived by the following children: Charles W., Mrs., W. A. Wert, Mrs. Fannie Shultz, and John who resided at home. The funeral will be held on Friday at ten o'clock.

FOR AGENTS—AN OPPORTUNITY! "THE OLD WORLD AND ITS WAYS"

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Increase Your Earning Power.

There are thousands of young farmers in Pennsylvania who are trying to find the best way of handling live stock and land. They are waiting to win. The wisest of these men are watching the methods of successful farmers in their neighborhoods. That is a good thing to do. In addition to these observations and their own experience they want to know the principles that control in the development of animals and of plants.

When they have the principles there is less guess-work and there are fewer mistakes and failures. We have in this country tens of thousands of very successful farmers who say that they owe part of their success to the teaching of practical scientists who discovered facts that had a big cash value when carried into the field and orchard and stable.

The best way to get facts is by listening to the man who has the facts. When one can be with a man, questioning him and talking with him the true value of his facts is learned.

Our agricultural colleges have devoted much time to giving young men a full college course. That is all right but the agricultural college receives all the money that the state appropriates for agricultural education, and it owes a duty to the ninety farmers out of every hundred who do not want to devote four years to college studies. It must help all who want help. A few years ago some of our western agricultural colleges solved this problem. They established winter courses of study for busy young men. The scheme was to invite these men to spend twelve weeks at the agricultural college listening to lectures on practical farm subjects. No entrance examinations should be required and the twelve weeks should be devoted to a study of things that puzzle a man in his handling of land, plants, live stock and dairy products. The young men came to these colleges in great number and these winter courses have become immensely popular.

Last winter the Legislature gave funds to the School of Agriculture of The Pennsylvania State College to render this practical service to the young men of Pennsylvania. The reorganization of the School by the new Dean, Dr. Thomas F. Hunt, formerly of Cornell, brought in some of the most practical, helpful scientists of other states, and they became a part of the force of instructors in the five winter courses in agriculture. These courses begin December 3rd and continue to February 26th. Any man in the state may enter any one of these courses and he does so without any examination. If he is wanting facts that will help him to understand his life work he is welcome. The five courses deal with plain agriculture, horticulture, dairy husbandry, poultry and creamery. Every reader who is interested should address "Alva Agee, State College, Pa." for further information. Send a postal asking for details.

Sandwich Shower.

Hundreds of ham and chicken sandwiches fell at Eagles Mere during a thunderstorm the other day, says the "Seen and Heard" editor of The Williamsport Sun. For twenty minutes the sandwiches fell, with now and then a chunk of chocolate cake to vary the monotony. Some olives and a few pickles also came along, and now and then a pie. It was explained a few hours later, when a church picnic party told how a tornado had ripped up things at the grounds. The tables had been set and the dinner bell was about to be sounded, when a rip snorting wind came down through the woods and carried off most of the food. Strangely enough, several layer cakes were left behind, and the women who baked them were humiliated. They said that some unkind person might think they were too heavy.

JERSEYS

Combination and Golden Lad

FOR SALE—2 Cows, 3 Heifers and 12 Bulls.

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EYEGLASS ATTACHMENT.

Small Extension Prevents Them Falling Into Pocket.

Invariably novelties in the invention line come in small packages—the more simple the construction the greater the interest. Inventors work for years evolving a ponderous piece of machinery which in the end receives but passing notice; while the little lump in the De Long hook and eye, for instance, acquires world-wide fame. In the latter class is the attachment for eyeglasses, which is shown here. It is very convenient for a man to slip a pair of eyeglasses from the nose and drop them into his outer coat pocket without the necessity of placing them in a case. The chances are that they will slip down



Can't Slip Into Pocket.

Into the pocket, becoming tightly wedged in the lower corners, where they are hard to extricate. There is no chance of this happening with eyeglasses having the attachment shown here. It was designed especially to prevent such a thing happening. At one end of the rim of the glasses is a small extension at right angles to the glass. When the eyeglasses are dropped into the pocket the extension catches on the edge and cannot drop further. In addition to this pocket catch is a finger piece, by which the eyeglass can be grasped in removing from the pocket.

Reduced Rates to Saratoga Springs

Account G. A. R. Encampment.

For the National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., September 9 to 14, the Pennsylvania Railroad will sell excursion tickets to Saratoga Springs from all stations on its lines September 7 to 9, inclusive, good returning to leave Saratoga Springs September 9 to 17, at reduced rates. Stop overs at New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington will be granted on tickets reading via those cities.

Tickets via New York will be honored by Hudson River Boat lines between New York and Albany or Troy.

By deposit of ticket with Special Agent at Saratoga Springs and the payment of \$1.00 an extension of the return limit to October 6 may be obtained.

For full information regarding stop-overs, rates of fare, conditions of tickets and train service consult Ticket Agents 5-22-3t.

A bad debt collecting agency is at work in Williamsport, and their plan is as follows: The person owing a book account is sued, thus giving him a chance for defense. After a judgment is secured and a reasonable length of time given for payment, the judgment is advertised for sale in the local papers. While a man has no right to advertise a book account for sale, by giving name and amount, etc., he has a perfect right to advertise a judgment for sale, as it is a matter of public record, anyhow.

It has been decided by the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western company to construct and operate its own water works in Scranton. The plan is to have them placed in service within a year. The location of the works will be in the vicinity of Nay Aug, between the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western and Moosic Lake railroad tracks, embracing 112 acres. The negotiations for the land were closed a short time ago. Masonry will be used in constructing the reservoir dams and each dam is designed to have a capacity of 20,000,000 gallons.

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TRAINING WILD ANIMALS.

Acquaintance With One Another the First Step Taken.

In the beginning of the training of animals it is first necessary to get them thoroughly acquainted with one another, which is done by placing a collar and chain on each individual intended for the group. This is not always a safe or pleasant task, as there are few animals, however tame, that do not object to a collar. To accomplish this they are placed in a small cage, a rope passed over them, and they are then drawn up to the side of the cage, and held while the collar and chain is adjusted.

All felines use their claws as well as their teeth, thus the operation requires the utmost caution. The arena or training cage is next brought into play. In this the animals are placed one at a time, and secured in such a manner they cannot reach one another. They are left for several days; during this time the trainer makes a careful study of each, taking note of his disposition and general traits of character. It often occurs that one will prove so sullen, morose and vicious he will in no wise affiliate with the other members, then a new one must be sought and the vicious one is doomed to a life behind the bars in some zoo or traveling menagerie.

The animals selected are usually as near of an age to one another as possible. After they have become thoroughly acquainted they are all removed except one, and the collar is taken off. The trainer enters the cage holding a chair in one hand, which is used as a shield in case the animal should suddenly spring upon him, and a stout whip in the other.

About the first lesson they are taught is to mount a pedestal, which is hung upon the bars a short distance from the floor. If the animal is not too vicious and will allow himself to be approached, the trainer begins to caress and call him by name. This gives him to understand he is not an enemy but a friend, as nearly all animals fight only through fear.

After the animal fully understands what is required of him, and will mount the pedestal at the word of command, another member of the group is then introduced and taught in like manner. As each in turn has learned his first lesson, the pedestal is placed at different heights and all are taught to pass from one to the other, thus forming a pyramid. Jumping through hoops is taught by holding the hoop first very low, allowing the animal to merely step through. Once accustomed to this the hoop is raised a little at a time until the desired height is reached.

In teaching them to roll a ball, the ball is placed next to the bars, compelling the animal to pass over it. After he becomes used to this, the same as any other next object introduced, the whip is used by striking in front of the animal. He naturally stops and remains standing on the ball. The teaching of this trick requires many days of patience on the part of the trainer.

Training such a group is no child's play, few trainers seldom escape the unpleasant experience of being leaped upon in anger by some of their pupils. It therefore requires to make a successful trainer a man of powerful physique, cool nerves and unerring judgment. In order to understand just how far one animal can be driven without retaliating, it often becomes necessary when an animal's temper has been aroused to cease work for a time until he again becomes passive. Lack of knowledge along the line has often been the cause of trainers receiving serious injuries and in some cases actually killed.

The time usually required in training is from two to three months, much depending upon the intelligence of the animal, as some are much brighter than others. In case of the death of one of the animals, the great difficulty is in getting another to work in the group, as the others do not take kindly to a newcomer. It is often necessary to collar and chain them in the same manner as when all were strangers. They frequently attack and kill a newcomer if the greatest caution is not exercised.

When the animals are turned into the arena, ready for their act, they at once begin to play like so many frolicsome kittens, and mount the pedestal without being commanded to do so, which shows they are governed by kindness and not by fear.

Rat Attacks Man in Street

A strange incident has occurred at Crediton. While walking along the street, a man was alarmed by something springing at him from the roadway. He brushed his hand over his coat and a large rat fell to the ground. The incident, however, did not end there for the rat made further attacks on the man, who experienced some difficulty in keeping it off. Several passersby came to his assistance, but it was some time before they were able to kill the rat.

So wild and unusual an attack in the open street was doubtless due to the rat having lost its way back to its haunt.

A curious instance of animal instinct and attachment in an otter is related by a Cork correspondent of the Field. A few months ago in that city a man caught a live otter. Bringing the animal home, after some time, he succeeded in taming it, and trained it to fish.

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