The Centre Reporter.

FRED. KURTZ.....EDITOR.

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CENTRE HALL, Pa., April 5, 1877.

The Tweed trouble is throwing up a new bubble of trouble, and there is quite a commotion in Albany over the report that Tweed has made out a bill against every member of the legislatures of 1870 and 1871 to whom he paid money, taken from the city treasury, as bribery, with names and amounts and has assigned the bills to the city as payment of the $6,000,000 judgment. There is considerable speculation over who will be embraced in the list. It is claimed that it not only includes legislators but a number who have been prominent in local affairs heretofore unsuspected of sharing in the money taken from the city.

Some of John Bull's folks have been punishing an outrage done to one of Uncle Sam's schooners out in Africa. Advices from Congo, west coast of Africa January 15, state that the British war steamer Avon had destroyed seven villages on the Congo River, and killed three natives, as a punishment for plundering the American schooner Thomas Nickerson, of New York. This vessel had been captured by the natives and about thirty tons of coffee were carried off up the country. She was fired by the Avon in order to prevent further plundering.

Now then, after this, if any one undertakes to hurt John Bull see how Uncle Samuel will step in and administer a black eye.

One "dam" disaster follows another. The year started in with cheating Tilden out of the presidency, this is quickly followed by the terrible dam disaster in Connecticut, by which perhaps 2 million dollars worth of property was destroyed. Particulars in another column.

We have no less than three obituary notices upon one case of death. The obituary mania is growing a little too strong for printers and readers, and while corpses go under the ground, we fear the practice of writing about them is being run into the ground, as a common saying goes. These notices often are unnecessarily lengthy and crowd out other matter of greater interest to the reader. We see no necessity of extolling the dead—the living need our attention much more. To persons who did not know the deceased, an obituary is the dryest kind of reading—to those who did know them the virtues of the departed need not be rehearsed, and then there is the fond practice of exaggerating good qualities. Often long strings of stuff are written on the death of an infant, telling what a wonderful child the dear little one was. We do not object to these things if they can be put into a space not exceeding about ten lines, and that is enough for any ordinary mortal, man, woman or child, if any thing at need be said at all.

POOR HOUSE.

Mifflin county has a poor-house, and a prominent citizen of that county informs us that it is a sorry affair for the tax-payers of that county, on account of the gross mismanagement of the institution. This gentleman says that their poor-house management would be in a far healthier condition, and less burdensome for the tax-payers, if not so close proximity "to the evil influences of their county town." Here is just what argues against many similar institutions in other counties. The politicians, at at the county seats and other elements indigenous to all county towns, prey upon poor-houses making them sources of profit for themselves in a hundred little ways and positions and soft stealings, which would not be the case if located out of reach of these influences. Our people will have to vote upon this question on 21 of this month. Let them consider the matter fully and vote intelligently. The Commissioners will have the power to locate if it carries, and this question of where it would most likely escape influences that make poor-houses in many counties a source of private profit, demands first consideration.

We are further informed by the same gentleman, that the Mifflin county poor-house farm has 200 acres of good, clear land, and that it requires $14,000 to be raised by taxation, in addition to the entire farm products, to keep the institution, whereas with proper management the income of the farm should defray the expenses. The pauper labor there amounts to nothing, and outside of what labor the paupers do perform, he informs us, the other *hired* labor costs more than it does on any other 200 acre farm in that county. When the institution was founded, some 25 years ago, the expenses were some $600 per annum above the proceeds of the farm. This sum has increased from year to year until now it requires $14,000 per year in addition to the products of the farm to pay expenses. He thinks if the poor house were properly managed it would be nearly self-sustaining. Here is the trouble. Can we have a poor-house and farm and be secure against mismanagement? If so, then there would be little to fear, but we all know how such institutions are run. The starting in may be well enough, but how in the long run? If we are to have it, let the Commissioners so locate it as to best secure it against the evils that are chalked against the poor-house in our neighboring county of Mifflin.

The president has decided to withdraw the troops from South Carolina, thus leaving Hampton where the people want him, governor of the State.*

Ex-Mayor Hall has not yet been heard of. Where is Oakey Hall? never mind about Charley Ross.

A Rhinecliff, N. Y., on Saturday morning Mrs. Burns and her four children were burned to death in their house which had taken fire.

A new railroad freight war is on the carpet again.

On Saturday gold went up a point in New York, selling at 105.

A report has reached London that the roof of the Mount Cenis Tunnel has fallen in overwhelming two passenger trains.

Chamberlain asked for a commission to settle the South Carolina matter. Hampton "asked" no favors.

The State Bank, Harrisburg, has failed.

It is said upon good authority that Mr. Tilden's attorney had prepared papers to test Hayes' title to the presidency, in the courts.

They think Oakey Hall arrived in Liverpool on the steamer Victoria, under the name of "Sutliff."

HOW HAMPTON TALKS.

Fraudulent Hayes invited Hampton, the legally chosen governor of South Carolina, and Chamberlain the pretender to come to Washington, so he might have a talk with them and learn from them about their claims. Hampton knowing his right to the governorship, derived from an overwhelming majority of the votes of South Carolina, could not see that the matter was any of Fraudulent Hayes's business, so at first thought he made up his mind not to accept the invitation, upon second thought the gallant South Carolinian concluded he would go out of courtesy. And he went. On his journey to Washington last week he was met at every station by thousands of citizens who had assembled to greet him. At Wilmington in reply to an address he uttered the following patriotic and manly speech:

"MY FRIENDS: I go to Washington simply to state before the President the fact that the people of South Carolina have elected me Governor of that State. I go there to say to him that we ask no recognition from any President. We claim the recognition from the votes of the people of the State. I go there to assure him that we are not fighting for party, but that we are fighting for the good of the whole country. I am going there to demand our rights, nothing less, and so help me God, to take nothing less. I go to tell him the condition that South Carolina has been in for years past; that our people have been under disadvantages never encountered by any other people on the continent; that they carried the election, were successful, and that they propose to enjoy the fruits of their victory."

GRANT'S BIGGEST SPEECH.

Grant, not having been heard of since March 4 last, the Reporter concluded he had gone to see Charley Ross. He turned up at Cincinnati, however, the other day, where he made the longest speech of his life. Gen Grant said:

GENTLEMEN: This reception was entirely unexpected by me, but I assure you I am very glad to meet you all, and feel very thankful to you for this kind reception. I have no doubt but I will be a great deal better fellow now than I was six months ago. I don't suppose I will have any political opponents now since we are all sovereigns together, as I hope we will continue to be for a good many years yet. I feel that I have considerable life, health and strength left notwithstanding the past sixteen years of labor and toil I have undergone, which perhaps is not surpassed by any other sixteen years of my life.

A PASTOR'S FEARFUL CRIME.

POISONING HIS WIFE TO MARRY A RICH MAN'S DAUGHTER—THE PRISONER FORMERLY A RESIDENT OF JERSEY SHORE—SUFFERING OF A WOMAN WHO WAS DOSED TO DEATH WITH STRYCHNINE—THE UNCONSCIOUS CONFESSION—"I WISH I HADN'T DONE IT."

From the Chicago Times.

ASHTON, Illinois, March 13.

The centre of the excitement in Lee county is this little town of Ashton, a pretty village of 1,200 inhabitants on the Clinton division of the Northwestern Railway, about eighty-three miles from Chicago. Something less than a year ago there dropped in upon the quiet folk of that burgh the Rev. S. H. McGee or "the elder," as everybody soon came to call him. There is quite a settlement of so-called "Christains" hereabouts and he came to preside over their church. He brought with him his wife, one year his junior, a daughter about fifteen years of age—who became a mother at thirteen—and a son about twelve years of age. Mrs. McGee was an upretentious, unassuming, pleasant lady, whom to know was to respect.

Residing near this village is a wealthy and influential farmer, one of the nabobs of this region, named Thomas Paddock, with grown-up daughters. One of the most attractive is Lorella, or "Rilla," as everybody calls her, who has seen about twenty summers. Mr. Paddock, being one of the pillars of the church, exerted all his influence to make the stay of the elder among them as pleasant as possible, and the families in a short time came to be on very intimate visiting terms.

It was soon observed that the preacher showed a decided preference for the society of Rilla, and it was said by many that the young lady returned his fondness.

When this preacher made his advent here, Rilla was engaged to a young man named Throop. He had been here but a few months when it is reported, Mrs. Throop saw the preacher kissing or attempting to kiss her prospective daughter-in-law at a camp meeting. This enraged the old lady. She made a row about it. She was determined to have a church meeting over the matter, but the affair was finally hushed up "to avoid bringing the church of God into scandal."

Sometime about the 10th of February Mrs. McGee became ill, and Dr. Brown, a physician of excellent repute in this section of country, was called to attend her. The symptoms kept changing, and about the time he determined it was one thing, it would appear to be something else. To the doctor's mind there were indications of poisoning. However, in the course of a few days she so far recovered that his visiting ceased. About the 25th he was again called, and after leaving four powders, the first of which was administered by him elf, he left. This was about 9 o'clock in the evening At 2 o'clock the next morning he was again sent for. The symptoms were alarming. He found that the powders had all been given, and the patient was in spasms. Rilla Paddock was in the house, with several other ladies, in attendance upon the patient. The doctor asked her to go to the drug store, not more than a hundreds yards removed, and tell the druggist to give her some chloroform. The druggist complied with the request, but as soon as Rilla was gone he hurried to the doctor's house and asked Mrs. Brown to run over to the parsonage and call her husband, as he wished to see him on important business. Mrs. Brown complied. As soon as the doctor came into the house the druggist remarked to him that he believed that he was dealing with a case of poisoning, as Elder McGee had called there early in the afternoon and procured some strychnine.

This confirmed the doctor's worst fears. He hurried back to the parsonage as fast as his legs could carry him, and as soon as he entered the sick room he gathered from the floor the papers which had contained the powders and the spoon with which they had been administered. He also directly ordered coffee as an antidote. The nurses at the bedside instantly surmised what was in the doctor's mind, and remarked to one another. "This means poision."

At the inquest which followed the decease of Mrs. McGee, Mrs. Freeman Nettleton, one of the nurses, testified that when the patient took the first powder, administered by the doctor himself, she made no remark. Two hours later, when she herself gave the second, Mrs. McGee said, "Oh, how bitter this is." The Third powder called for no remark. On taking the fourth, however she was already in spasms—the patient again spoke up, saying, "Oh, this is terribly bitter; this is like the second one." Mrs. McGee died shortly after six o'clock in the morning, the last hours of her life being marked by terrible convulsions. As she expired her knees were so tightly pressed against her chest as to leave their impression there.

The physician advised a post-mortem examination, and the Coroner was summoned. The evidence being exceedingly damaging, the stomach was sent to Chicago for analysis, the jury in the meantime adjourning until such annalysis should be made.

On Friday night the report came from Chicago that the chemist had found one grain of strychnine in the stomach. On last Saturday the Coroner's jury held their adjourned session. At this time Dr. Brown gave important testimony additional to what he had deposed at the first meeting of the jury. Then he only recited the facts as presented in the above narrative, with some additions, to the effect that he had tasted the papers containing two of the powders and found them bitter—also the spoon, with which the powders were administered—while the powders he had prescribed being composed of bismuth and calomel, were tasteless. The addendum he gave to the jury last Saturday was to the following effect: On the day following the death, the doctor had a conversation with McGee in the rear of his barn. The doctor said: "This is a bad business; the talk about town, about poisoning, is liable to injure me. There has got to be some investigation in order to save my reputation." Then the preacher remarked. "Well, who is running this spoon business, any way?" "I have the spoon," remarked the doctor. "Well, can't you fix it; can't you put some quinine in it to conceal the taste of the poison, that may help me."

The preacher does not deny this conversation, except in regard to one word. He claims that he did not say "this may help me," but "This may help us."

The jury returned a verdict that "Mrs. McGee came to her death by being poisoned with strychnine, and that from the evidence they believe the drug was administered by Mr. McGee."

On Monday morning the reverend gentleman, in charge of a constable, was taken to Dixon, where he now languishes in jail, awaiting his trial for murder.

McGee was exceedingly dressy, wearing his stovepipe hat jauntly on one side, and sporting a goatee. He was born in Clinton county, Pennsylvania, in 1841, and married when 20 years of age, while his wife was 16. He moved to Indiana, where he was Vice-President of the Eel River Conference of Christians. He had been a minister since 1871, and pastor at this place about nine months. It now transpires that he bought strychnine two years from the same druggist, and the first time corresponds most suspiciously with the inception of his wife's sickness, a month ago. People suspected him of the intention to poison his wife, and it was common gossip that he was trying to get rid of her with a view of marrying Rilla, in order that he might get a slice of Paddock's property. The old gentleman has two daughters married and in each instance he made his sons-in-law a present of a farm. Of course he would have done no less for the husband of Rilla.

The body of McGee's wife was not yet cold when he set about arranging the details for the funeral, and insisted that the obsequies should take place immediately—the very day of her death. He was not then aware that he was suspected of murder. This effort on his part to get the evidence of his guilt under ground was strenuously resisted however, by the neighbors and he was forced to acquiesce to a postponement. During the first watch-night, half a dozen people, or more sat up with the body. McGee was about most of the time, now and then taking a nap, or at least, on a lounge. At one time he seemed to become oblivious of surroundings, and exclaimed, in seeming great mental agony, apparently speaking to himself, "Oh, I wish I hadn't done it." "I wish so, too," spoke up a brave young lady present. This remark seemed to recall him to a consciousness of his surroundings, he became deeply agitated and walked the floor the rest of the night. To one of the party, Miss Vessie Glen, he had acknowledged that he had purchesed strychnine in the afternoon previous to his wife's death, but in the presence of the Coroner's jury he stoutly denied it. Thomas Acres composed one of the party who watched with the body the second night. McGee was about most of the time, and, during a conversation with Mr. Acres, remarked: "I've no doubt they'll find poison in in the stomach, and if they do, my God, what will become of me?"

The analysis was made by Prof. Haynes, the chemist associated with the Rush Medical College, and one third of the stomach it said to have realized one grain of strychnine.

In an interview had with the suspected person, before he was taken to jail, he intimated his belief that poison might be found in the stomach submitted to analysis, but claimed that if found it got there through the carelessness of the doctor or druggist. He stated that he had always lived happily with his wife. Indeed, one brother in his church had intimated to him that they petted each other too much. He said that just before she died she put her arms about his neck and said: "How can I leave you?" he claimed to have no access to the medicine given her in the night before her death. It was all given by the neighboring women who came in to assist. He claimed that the only evidence against him was in the doctor's family, this statement having reference to the fact that the druggist is a relative of Dr. Brown by marriage.

Mr. Paddok is interesting himself considerably in the preacher's behalf, and it is believed that he will defray the expenses of the trial.

At first the people of the church were disposed to stand up for their elder, but day by day, as additional implicating facts come to the surface, they drop away.

AVENGED AT LAST.

JOHN D. LEE SHOT AT THE SCENE OF HIS CRIME.

Extraordinary Dying Speech of the Murderer.

Salt Lake City, March 23.—John D. Lee was shot at Mountain Meadow at 11 to day. The confession which he left behind him reveals a series of assassinations and mutinies by the Mormons. He admits being in the plot to massacre the emigrants, but says that he opposed it in council. The confession is not materially different from that in the New York Herald except that he goes into details and denies having taken any part in the butchery beyond being present.

At 11 a. m. precisely, Lee was brought out upon the scene of the massacre at Mountain Meadow before the executing party and seated on his coffin about twenty feet from the shooters.

After the order of the court was read to him and the company present by Marshal Nelson, he asked Lee if he had anything to say before execution. Lee then arose and said:

I have but little to say. I feel that I am upon the brink of eternity. I have made a manuscript history of my life. I have given my views and feelings with regard to all these things. I feel as calm as a summer morning. I have done nothing purposely wrong. My conscience is clear before God and man and I am ready to meet my Redeemer. I am not an infidel. I have not denied God or his mercy. I regret that in parting with my family, many of them are unprotected. When I speak of those little ones they touch a tender chord within. (Here Lee's voice faltered.) I have done nothing designedly wrong in this affair. I used my utmost endeavers to save these people. I would have given worlds were it at my command to have avoided that calamity, but I could not. I am sacrificed to satisfy other parties, but I am ready to die. I have no fear. Death has no terrors, and no particle of mercy have I asked of the court or officials to spare my life. I do not fear death. I am a true believer in the gospel of Jesus Christ. I do not believe everything that is now practiced and taught by Brigham Young. I believe he is leading people astray; but I believe in the gospel as taught in its purity by Joseph Smith in former days. I have my reasons for saying this. I used to make this man's will my pleasure, and did so for 30 years. I have been sacrificed in a cowardly manner. I regret to leave my family; they are near and dear to me. I did everything in my power to save all emigrants; but I am one that must suffer. Having said this I feel resigned. I ask the Lord my God to extend his mercy to me and receive my spirit. My labors here are done.

Parson Stokes (Methodist) then made a prayer commending the soul of the condemned man to God. Immediately after this a handkerchief was placed over Lee's eyes. He raised his hands and placed them on top of his head, sitting firm.

Marshal Nelson gave the word fire, and five guns ware fired, the balls penetrating in the region of the heart. Lee fell squarely back upon his coffin dead. Death was instantaneous. The body was placed in the coffin and the crowd dispersed. There were about 75 persons all told on the ground. Not a child or a relative was there. The best order prevailed. Lee's last words to Marshal Nelson were, "Aim at my heart."

The body is now on its way from the scene of the execution to be delivered to his relatives at Cedar City.

[The Mountain Meadow massacre occurred September 17, 1857. Lee was captured in 1874, and was twice tried, the jury on the first trial disagreeing. Of Lee's eighteen wives two were "sealed" to him by the Prophet Brigham after the massacre, but he lost eight of them by diverse within twenty-four hours after he was cut off from the church, in 1871. Three others were subsequently divorced from him, and only three remained faithful to the end. Of his sixty-four children fifty-four are still living, and twenty-four of these were dependent upon him for support at the time of his arrest in 1874, the oldest of these two dozen being then only sixteen years of age. Lee is—or was—a man of muscular and powerful physique, although not large; his forehead is low and receding, and his head shows an overbalancing weight in the cerebellum. He was born in Randolph county, Illinois, on Sept. 6, 1812, and thus has reached the age of 65. He joined the Mormon church in 1837, and attained a high rank in its so-called priesthood, being recorder of the quorum of seventy, head clerk of the church, a bishop, a traveling missionary, a member of the Mormon legislature and a probate judge.]

BREAKING AWAY OF A DAM.

A CONNECTICUT VILLAGE DEVASTATED BY THE ESCAPING WATERS

Mills, Stores, Houses, a Church and a Bank Swept off—Two Lives Reported Lost.

Providence, March 27.—The Staffordville reservoir dam gave way about 7 o'clock this morning, sweeping everything along the valley from Staffordville through Old Furnace to Stafford Springs. The national bank at Staffordville, the Congregational Church, L. W. Crane's store, the freight depot and all the houses on the island at Stafford Springs were destroyed. All the bridges between the scene of the disaster and Tolland, both on the railway and on the highway, were washed off. The loss in Staffordville is very heavy, the mills suffering more or less damage, and work will have to be suspended in them until the reservoir can be rebuilt. E. W. Converse & Co. mills have four sets of cards and 11,000 spindles and employ a large number of hands. The Home Company, the Home Manufacturing Company and the Home Woollen Company are also situated there; the latter runs 3,360 spindles. The Staffordville Woolen Company has three sets of cards. In Stafford Springs are the mills of Charles Fox & Co., six sets of cards; the Converse Company, with seven sets of cards and 1,800 spindles; Ellis, Converse & Co., the Mineral Springs Manufacturing Company, six sets of cards and 1,720 spindles. In Stafford are the Valley Company's mills; the Glynn Mills, 2,000 spindles; the Granite Mills, 5,500 spindles; the Valley Manufacturing Company, the Phœnix Woolen Mills and the Rossiter Company, each with four sets of cards. The granite mills and tenement house at Staffordville were all swept away and also the stores and store-houses. State Senator Julius Converse telegraphs that all the dams on the stream from Staffordville to a point below the springs, with all the bridges are gone. Probably not less than thirty houses were destroyed, and the loss will be very large. The dams of Rockville are considered safe, but the heavy rains of Monday afternoon and evening filled the reservoir to overflowing. The breaking away was wholly unexpected, but the reservoir being set some distance above the town the alarm reached the people in time for them to effect their safety.

Hartford, Conn., March 27.—The Staffordville reservoir belonged to the Reservoir Company, composed of owners of mills on the stream below. The dam was raised six feet during the past winter, and the storm last night filled it for the first time. Close by the reservoir stood the factory mill of K. A. Stearns & Son, and the shoddy mill of Jacob Basch, then the machine shop of of Samuel A. Midon. A mile lower down was the Phœnix Manufacturing Company's cassimere mill, at Hudeville, and three miles below there the Glenn Mills Cotton Warp Factory stood, at Glenville. The Converseville Manufacturing Company's cassimere mill and G. M. Ives' Granite Mill for making cotton goods, were on the stream at Stafford Springs, about five miles from the dam. The reservoir was about a mile and a quarter long, averaged a quarter of a mile in width. The dam was about twenty feet high, but short, the stream bed being narrow for some distance below. The water is the head of the Willimantic river. Six years ago a dam on a tributary stream above here gave way, and caused great damage.

The estimated loss to the town of Stafford in roads and bridges at 100,000, and the total loss by the flood at least $500,000. Reports this evening say that two lives were lost, the names of the parties being Richard Spedding and Wm Burwell.

REBERSBURG & VICINITY.

Dr. H. has at last taken unto himself a wife. We heartily congratulate him upon his success and wish them a happy life over the Turnpike of life.

Last week the house of Mr. Frank Barker was burned down with nearly all his goods and furniture. He was doing some hauling over in our "burg" at the time and no body was about the house. It is believed that the house was fired by an incendiary. We understand that there is no insurance on the property. H. M.

LINES on the death of a friend and schoolmate, BECKIE C. BARTGES.

Death has been here and borne away,
A sister from our side;
Just in the morning of her life,
As young as we she died.

Not long ago she filled her place,
And went with us to school;
But she has run her mortal race,
And never can return.

Perhaps our time may be as short,
Our days may fly as fast;
O God! impress this solemn thought,
That this may be our last.

How soon her little strength was fled,
Her life how soon was past;
She smiled upon her dying bed,
And loved us till the last.

Death rides on every passing breeze,
And lurks on every flower;
Each season has its own disease,
It's perils every hour.

The once loved form, now cold and dead,
Each mournful thought employs,
And nature weeps; her comforts fled,
How withered all her joys.

God had laid up in heaven for Beckie,
A crown which will not fade;
The righteous Judge, at that great day,
Shall place it on her head.

Sleep on, dear Beckie, sweetly sleep;
Your days of care are o'er.
Soon shall we all in heaven meet,
Where sorrow is no more.

—*Clara J. Guise.*

Mr. Daniel F. Beatty, manufacturer and proprietor of the Beatty Piano and Beatty's celebrated Golden Tongue Parlor Organs, Washington, N. J., is certainly a very reasonable and generous man to transact business with. He makes this very fair proposition to any who may favor him with an order, as follows: "If the instrument does not prove satisfactory after a test trial of five days after receiving it the purchase money will be refunded upon the return of the instrument, and he will pay freight charges both ways." This is certainly an exceeding, generous, and safe manner in which to transact business with him. He warrants his instruments for six years. See his advertisement. July 20.y

ELECTION PROCLAMATION.—I, L. W. Munson, High Sheriff of the County of Centre, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby make known and give notice to the electors of the county aforesaid, that an election will be held in the said county of Centre, on

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1877,

for the purpose of accepting or rejecting the provisions of the Act of Assembly, in reference to the erection of a poor house in said county.

I also hereby make known and give notice that the place of holding the aforesaid election in the several Boroughs and Townships within the county of Centre, are as follows to wit:

For the township of Haines, at the public house of Mr. Boyer, (Aaronsburg.)

For the township of Halfmoon, at the school house in Stormstown.

For the township of Taylor, at the house erected for the purpose, on the property of Leonard Merryman.

For the township of Miles, in the school house in the town of Rebersburg.

For the township of Potter, at the public house of John Spangler Centre Hall.

For the township of Gregg, at the public house owned by J. B. Fisher, Penn Hall.

For the township of College, in the school house at Lemont.

For the township of Ferguson, (old precinct) in the school house at Pine Grove.

For the township of Ferguson, (new precinct) in the school house at Baileyville.

For the township of Harris, in the school house at Boalsburg.

For the township of Patton, at the house of Peter Murray.

For the Borough of Bellefonte, and the townships of Spring and Benner, at the Court House in Bellefonte.

For the township of Walker, in the school house at Hublersburg.

For the Borough and township of Howard, at the school house in said Borough.

For the township of Rush, at the Cold Stream school house.

For the township of Snow Shoe, at the school house in Snow Shoe station.

For the township of Marion, at the house of Joel Kline in Jacksonville.

For the Borough of Milesburg, at the school house in Milesburg.

For the township of Boggs, at the new school house in Central City.

For the township of Huston, at the house of John Reed.

For the township of Penn, at the public house of Wm. L. Musser.

For the township of Liberty, in the school house in Eagleville.

For the township of Worth, at the school house at Port Matilda.

For the township of Barnside, at the house of J. K. Boak.

For the township of Curtin, at the school house near Robert Mann's.

For the Borough of Unionville and the township of Union, at the new school house in Unionville.

Given under my hand and seal, at my office in Bellefonte this 10th day of March in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven, and in the one hundredth and first year of the Independence of the United States.

L. W. MUNSON,
Sheriff of Centre county.

And now, Feb. 26, 1877, the petition of sundry inhabitants of Centre county present, praying the court to order an election to be held, in consequence with the provisions of the Act of Assembly, that the qualified voters of Centre county may accept or reject the previsions of the Act of Assembly in reference to the erection of a poor house in said county.

And now, February 26, 1877, the within petition presented and duly considered, and thereupon it is ordered that an election be held by the qualified voters of the county of Centre, at the several places of holding the general and township elections in the several boroughs and townships of said county on Saturday, the 21st day of April, 1877, for the purpose of determining by the votes of said county, whether the provisions of an Act of Assembly entitled "An Act to provide for the erection of a poor house for the support of the poor in the several counties of the commonwealth," approved the 8th day of May, 1876, will be accepted by a majority of the voters of said county. The said election to be conducted by the officers of the general and township elections, and the tickets to be voted to have written or printed on the inside thereof "for acceptance" or "against acceptance." The constable of each borough or township to give at least 15 days notice of the time and place of holding said election by posting six written or printed handbills, in the most public places in said township.

By the Court. J. H. O.

Certified from the record, at Bellefonte this 1st day of March, A. D., 1877.

A. WILLIAMS,
Clerk.

AN ACT.

To provide for the erection of a poor house and for the support of the poor in the several counties of the commonwealth.

WHEREAS, It is the duty of society to make provision for the comfortable maintenance of those upon whom fortune has frowned who are found to be destitute and void of the means of support; therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted, &c.*, That the county commissioners of the several counties of the commonwealth may select such real estate as they may deem necessary for the accommodation of the poor of their respective counties, and shall submit such with selection, together the terms and conditions upon which such real estate can be purchased in fee simple, to the court of quarter sessions in and for the proper county, and if the same shall be approved by said court, the county commissioners shall take a conveyance therefor in the name and for the use of corporation mentioned in the fourth section of this act; and they shall certify the proceedings therein under their hands and seals to the clerk of the court of quarter sessions of such county, and the same shall be entered at length upon the records of such court.

SECTION 2. That at the next general election to be held after the purchase of the real estate as provided for in the first section of this act, the qualified electors of such county shall elect three reputable citizens of the said county to be directors of the "Home of the Destitute" of said county; said election shall be conducted under the general election laws of the commonwealth in every respect, and the said directors shall meet at the court house in the respective counties on the first day of December following their election, and divide themselves by lot, in three classes, the place of the first to be vacated at the expiration of the first year, of the second at the expiration of the second year, that of the third at the end of the third year, so that those who shall be chosen after the first election and in the mode above described may serve for three years, and one-third years shall be chosen annually thereafter.

SECTION 3. That every director elected in the manner aforesaid, or appointed as directed by the twelfth section of this act shall within ten days after he is notified of his said election or appointment, and before he enters upon the duties of the said office, take an oath or affirmation as prescribed by article seven, section one of the constitution; and is case of neglect or refusal to take the said oath or affirmation he shall forfeit and pay the sum of ten dollars for the use of the poor of said county, which fine shall be recovered by said directors for the time being as similar debts are by law recoverable; and the directors qualified as aforesaid, are hereby authorized to administer oaths or affirmations where it shall be necessary in relation to the duties of said office.

SECTION 4. That the said directors shall forever hereafter, in name and in fact, be a body politic and corporation in law to all intents, and purposes whatsoever relative to the poor of said county, and shall have perpetual succession, and may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded by the name, style and title of "The Directors of a Home for the Destitute of the county of ——," and by that name shall and may receive, take and hold any lands, tenements and hereditaments not exceeding the yearly value of eight thousand dollars, and any goods and chattles of the gift, alienation or bequest of any person or persons whatsoever for the benefit of the poor aforesaid; to take and hold any lands and tenements within their county, in fee simple or otherwise, under the supervision of court as aforesaid, as may be donated to them by deed or otherwise, and dispose, of the same as deemed conducive to the comfort of the inmates; to provide all things necessary for the lodging, maintenance and employment of said persons; and the said directors shall have power to employ and at pleasure remove a steward or stewards, a matron or matrons, physician or physicians, surgeon or surgeons, and all other attendants that may be necessary for the said destitute persons respectively and to bind out apprentices so that such apprenticeship many expire, if males, at or before the age of twenty-one, if females, at or before the age of eighteen years: *Provided*, that no child be bound out for a longer time than till he arrives at the age of eighteen years, unless he be bound out to a trade other than a farmer: *Provided also*, That no child shall be apprenticed without the limits of the state; and the said directors are hereby empowered to use one common seal in all business relating to said corporation, and the same at their pleasure to alter and renew.

SECTION 5. That the said directors, as soon as may be, after their election and organization as aforesaid, and annually thereafter, shall make an estimate of the yearly cost of maintaining said establishment and furnish said estimate to the county commissioners, who shall add the same to their yearly estimate preparatory to levying their tax for the coming year, and they shall, from time to time, make such suggestions to the county commissioners as they may deem necessary, as to keep the improvements or alterations that may be required to pace with the necessities of the occasion, and the commissioners aforesaid shall make such changes and improvements as they may deem necessary; and for the purposes of this act the commissioners aforesaid are hereby authorized to procure a loan, for which they may pay interest not exceeding six per centum, if they deem it best to do so, and loan not to exceed three-fourths of the amount necessary for the purchase of said property and the erection of the necessary buildings; said loan to be gradually reduced and to be entirely cancelled within five years.

SECTION 6. That the amount necessary to defray the annual expense of the "Home for the Destitute" shall be paid over to the county treasurer, and by him paid out on warrants drawn on him by the county commissioners, upon orders presented to them signed by the president of the board of directorts and countersigned by the secretary, and to which the seal of the corporation shall be attached, and it shall be the duty of the county commissioners to keep the accounts of the "Home for the Destitute" in a set of books to be provided for that purpose, and said accounts shall be audited by the county auditors at the same time the other accounts of the county are audited by them, and to publish annually a detailed statement of the receipts and expenditures of said "Home for the Destitute" at the same time and in the same manner as the annual county statement is published; and the judges of the several courts of the said county, and the ministers of the gospel of the different denominations, shall *ex-officio*, be visitors of said institution, and shall have the privilege at all reasonable time, to visit and examine the condition of the same, including the books of said institution, in which shall be kept an account of all expenses of the same, as also of all the receipts of the same, as well as those derived from the county treasury as the productions of the farm and the industry of its inmates, as also whatever gifts or bequests they may have received from whatever source the same may have been derived.

SECTION 7. That as soon as the said buildings shall have been erected or purchased and all necessary accommodations provided therein, notice shall be given to the overseers of the poor in the various districts of said county, requiring them forthwith to bring the poor of their respective districts to said "Home for the Destitute," which order the overseers are required to comply with or otherwise forfeit the cost of all further maintenance, except where by sickness or any other sufficient cause, any poor person cannot be removed, in which case the overseers shall represent the same to the nearest justice of the peace, who being satisfied of the truth thereof, shall certify the same to the said directors, and at the same time issue an order under his hand and seal to the said overseers directing them to maintain such poor person until he or she may be in a situation to be removed, and then to remove the said person and deliver him or her to the steward or keeper of said home, together with said order, and the charge and expense shall be paid by the said directors.

SECTION 8. That the said directors shall from time to time, receive, provide for and employ, according to the true intent and meaning of this act, all such indigent persons as shall be entitled to relief or shall have gained a legal settlement in the said county, and shall be sent there by an order or warrant for that purpose under the hands and seals of two justices of the peace of said county, directed to any constable of the same county or to the overseers of the proper district or of any district in any other county in this commonwealth; and the said directors are hereby authorized when they shall deem it proper and convenient to do so, to administer relief to any person in need of assistance or to permit any person or persons to be maintained elsewhere: *Provided*, That their expense in any case does not exceed that for which they could be maintained in the said home.

SECTION 9. That the said directors or a majority of them shall be a quorum for the transaction of business, and shall have full power to make and ordain such ordinances, rules and regulations as they shall think proper, convenient and necessary for the government, control and support of said home and of the revenues thereunto belonging and of all such persons as shall come under their cognizance: *Provided*, That said directors shall not incur any debt or any other of the laws of this state or of the United States: *And provided further*, That the same shall not have any force or effect until they shall have been submitted to the court of quarter sessions for the time being of said county and shall have received the approval of the same.

SECTION 10. That a quorum of said directors shall and they are hereby enjoined and required to meet at the said home at least once in every month and visit the apartments and see that the inmates are comfortably supported and hear all complaints, and redress the same if found to be redressed, all grievances that may happen by the neglect or misconduct of any person or persons in their employment otherwise.

SECTION 11. The annual salary of the said directors shall be one hundred dollars each.

SECTION 12. That in case any vacancy by death, resignation or otherwise of any of the said directors, the court of quarter sessions of the respective county shall fill such vacancy until the next general election.

SECTION 13. That all claims and demands existing at the time of this act being carried into effect shall have full force and effect as full as if this act had not been passed and when the same may have been fully adjusted and settled, all moneys remaining in the hands of the overseers, as now required by law to be returned for the support of the poor in the several districts in said county, shall be paid over to the supervisors of the highways of said county to be by them added to the road fund and applied as road tax is by law applied in said county.

SECTION 14. That as soon as the poor of said county shall have been removed to the home of said county and the outstanding taxes collected and paid over the office of overseers of the poor thereafter shall be abolished.

SECTION 15. That all fines, forfeitures or bequests for the use of the poor shall be payable to the county treasury for the use of said home, and the directors are hereby authorized to demand and receive the same and in the name of said corporation may bring suit for the recovery of all such moneys belonging to said institution, plead and be impleaded in all matters of law and equity and to prosecute all such suits to final judgment and the money so recovered shall be paid into the county treasury and shall be applied in liquidation of the debts of the institution and the support of its inmates.

SECTION 16. That the provisions of this act shall not apply to any county or district that has already within it a county or district poor house or houses under any special law, nor to any county or district unless the same shall be accepted by a majority of the voters of such county or district at an election for that purpose to be ordered by the court of quarter sessions of the proper county: *Provided*, That the directors of the poor may erect and maintain two houses for the destitute in any county containing a population of over 150,000 fifty thousand inhabitants and 600 six hundred square miles.

SECTION 17. That whenever the county commissioners of any county see proper from any cause whatsoever not to comply with the requirements of this act, any four or more taxpayers of said county through a commissioner appointed by the poor overseers of each township can proceed to procure real estate as provided by the first section of this act: *Provided*, That in all cases it shall be necessary for the majority of the commissioners to concur in all acts before the court shall take cognizance of the same: *And provided further*, That district poor-houses shall be governed by all the provisions of this act the same as county poor-houses, except as far as relates to the appointment of commissioners by the poor overseers forming the aforesaid district.

SECTION 18. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

APPROVED—The 8th day of May, A. D. 1876.

J. F. HARTRANFT,

Private Sale.

A Choice Farm and House and Lot.

The following described property, of John Emmert, dec'd, situate in Harris twp, Centre county, one FARM, containing one hundred and thirty three acres more or less, bounded by lands of B. E. Erhart, dec'd, James Glenn, McFarlen, Dr. Henderson, dec'd, and others is offered at private sale. The farm is well watered, a never failing stream of water running throughthe farm and within thirty yards of the barn, also, a well of never-failing water at the house, with good pump in it. The improvements are a large FRAME HOUSE, two stories high almost new; a frame bank barn, forty-five by eighty feet and all other necessary outbuildings. This is one of the best producing farms in this section for all kinds of grain; is all limestone land. A large ORCHARD of choice fruit on the premises.

For particulars inquire of Wm. Wertz on the farm. Also one House and lot

Situated in Boalsburg, Centre co., the house is two stories high, with kitchen attached to it, and all necessary outbuildings also a good stable, a never failing well of water with good pump. The lot is well set with fruit trees of best quality.

Also two acres and 123 perches of excellent land situate near the German Reformed church in Boalsburg within two squares of above house.

JOSIAH NEFF, Executor of J. Emmert, dec'd. 30 nov 3m.

Wolf's Old Stand.

AT

AT CENTRE HALL,

Magnificent Stock of Fall and Winter Goods.

One Price! Low Price!

POLITE ATTENTION!

Having just returned from the East, and bought at panic prices, I am now prepared to sell cheaper than ever before. My stock consists in part of

DRY GOODS,
GROCERIES,
NOTIONS,
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HATS & CAPS,
BOOTS & SHOES,
RUBBER BOOTS,
SANDALS, &c., &c.

Ladies' and Gents' Underwear a speciality.

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READY - MADE CLOTHING

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Customers will find the stock complete, and a call is all that is required to assure you that this is the best place in the valley to buy your goods.

Remember, we have but one price for everyone.

WM. WOLF.

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WANAMAKER & BROWN,

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