

### THE CENTRE REPORTER

FRED. KURTZ, Editor and Prop'r

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tions, and 5 cents for each subsequent insertion.

CENTRE HALL, PA., THURS, MAY 1.

#### The Season for Rifle Practice.

HARRISBURG, April 28.—In an order soon to be issued from the adjutant general's department will be published a circular of rifle practice. The current season for rifle practice will open May 1 and close Nov. 8. The maximum of fixed ammunition for target practice, which will be delivered to companies making requisition therefor, will be 2,000 rounds, and of blank town cartridges 500 rounds, including special cases. It is understood that the soldier may practice from time to time during the season as frequently as the ammunition allowed him may admit of.

#### A Female Defaulter.

PITTSBURG, Pa., April 28.—A decided sensation was caused here when it became known that Mrs. George Northrup, well known throughout the Wyoming and Lackawanna valleys as a leader in the women's department of the Knights of Labor, had left town, taking with her \$75 of the Ladies' assembly, No. 664, of Pittsburg, of which she was a trustee. The neighbors say that she had a weakness for borrowing small sums of money and many of these loans have not been repaid.

#### Quay Will Stay.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—One of the current features of the opposition to Senator Quay is the constantly recurring rumor that he is to be forced out of the chairmanship of the national Republican committee through influence exerted from the White House.

And how successful the execution may be, was demonstrated today when Warden Durston explained and rehearsed the execution for the benefit of a few reporters at the United Press.

### ALL EYES ON AUBURN

Watching for the First Experiment in Electrocution.

#### THE DOOMED MAN MAKES HIS WILL

The Man Who Chopped Up His Wife with an Ax Disposes of His Bible, Testament and "Pigs in Clover"—The Chair of Death Described.

AUBURN, N. Y., April 29.—The state prison at Auburn, where Kemmler has been waiting since midnight on Sunday for his death by electricity, was built in 1816, and the town grew up around it, like the homes of tenantry around a great manor house. It looks more like a castle than a jail, and its top is surmounted by a tricolor copper figure in continental uniform as inappropriate and as vain as the painted decorations on an iron safe. The copper soldier was typical today of the people of Auburn in their apathetic interest in what might be going on inside the stone walls, over which he has stood and kept guard over half a century.

#### The Whole World Watches.

The big prison has no interest to them; they pass it by with the contempt of familiarity and it has less consideration in their eyes than the postoffice and the railroad station which it faces. So they went about their business today as unconcerned as though the eyes of the whole country and of countries across the sea were not turned on it with morbid, human or scientific interest. And while all of these people may wonder at the delay, very few seem to consider the effect it may have on the murderer or to regard him in any other light than the subject of an experiment of great scientific interest. For the execution is but an experiment.

#### The Process Explained.

And how successful the execution may be, was demonstrated today when Warden Durston explained and rehearsed the execution for the benefit of a few reporters at the United Press. Among them was Dr. A. P. Southwick, one of the state commissioners, who accompanied them and who has experienced on over 100 animals and has modeled over half a dozen chairs for use in execution by electricity.

He was shown the chair which has finally been decided upon, the one constructed by Warden Durston himself, of which he is very justly proud. He thought there was perhaps a superabundance of straps and fastenings, but this is a matter of opinion. "I have killed in my experiments over a hundred dogs," said Dr. Southwick, "by electricity, and I have never found it necessary to bind them."

#### The Chair of Death.

To show how quickly the action of the experiment could be arranged in place for his taking off, one of the visitors was placed in the chair and the straps and head piece were placed over him. The time was very brief. The chair itself is a straight backed, large arm chair with a movable head rest fashioned somewhat on the principle of the head rest on a barber or dentist chair. Over the top of the chair back is a wooden "No. 4" through which passes the wire attached to the cap and which rests on the victim's head.

There is in all eight broad leather straps attached to the chair, all of which have to be fastened. Two of them fasten the body; one holds the electrode; two fasten the arms; one passes over each wrist and the seventh fastens the leather mask that fits under the chin and across the eyes, leaving the mouth and nostrils open to permit the condemned man to breathe for a minute or so at least before it is over.

#### Kemmler's Will.

Kemmler's most important recent act has been the making of his will. He left the pitifully few things he owns to those whom he has been thrown with in the prison. His Bible went to Daniel McNaughton, his pious keeper, and the Testament to "Bill" Wemple, the other watchman. He gave the "pigs in clover" with which he amuses himself to Rev. Dr. Houghton, and his slate to Mr. Yates, the prison chaplain. To Mrs. Durston he gave the primer from which he learned to read under her teaching and his little book of Bible stories. There is absolutely nothing known as to when the electrocution will take place, but it is popularly supposed that it will occur some time before Thursday morning.

#### Eight Hours at Montreal.

MONTREAL, April 28.—A gigantic labor demonstration took place here in favor of the eight hour movement. Between 3,000 and 4,000 representatives of the several labor organizations assembled in Chaboulez square and were addressed by their leaders. They were advised to combine to combat capital, which was daily driving the workmen to starvation. Resolutions in favor of eight hours were passed. A strong police force maintained order.

#### Shot While They Slept.

GAINESVILLE, Tex., April 28.—John L. Morris of Fannin county, while traveling into Deer county, killed his two companions, W. E. Roberts and John Mows, while all were in camp. The shots were fired from a six shooter, both parties being shot from behind as they slept. Morris buried the bodies in a sand bank and tried to make his escape out of the county, but was arrested shortly after he had concealed the bodies.

#### A Tattooed Burglar Killed.

OMAHA, April 28.—George Woods, a farm hand, was found dead under the cash drawer in Roscod Bros.' general merchandise store, at Auburn. The store had been troubled by burglars frequently, so a gun was attached to the drawer by wire. This was discharged into the body of Woods. The dead man's arms were liberally tattooed, and among other things bore the picture of a woman's face and the words, "In memory of mother."

#### A Town Destroyed.

ONWEGO, N. Y., April 28.—A fire at the village of Sandy Creek, this county, destroyed the best part of the business portion of the town, including the Bulkley Opera house, the Sandy Creek hotel and several stores.

#### Did Not Catch Jackson.

NEW YORK, April 28.—The printer arrested at Pittsfield, Mass., on suspicion of being the murderer of Mamie Murphy in New York, is not the man wanted.

### PENNSYLVANIA FARMERS.

The Farmers' Alliance Takes Steps to Organize the State.

HARRISBURG, April 29.—"We number nearly 8,000,000 farmers," said Col. L. L. Polk, president of the National Farmers' Alliance, who came here with Maj. Gray, of Louisiana, from Washington to consult with Pennsylvania farmers and others relative to the growth of the alliance in this state. Those present learned that the alliance had made considerable progress in Pennsylvania, with organizations in five or six counties, applications coming in from others, and letters of inquiry from every direction.

At a private meeting held in this city Hon. C. D. Eldred, of Lycoming county, was the president (the gentleman who prepared the first Pennsylvania state grange constitution); Isaac Garretson, vice president, member of the state board of agriculturists from Adams county; secretary, Rev. Wilfred M. Kellogg, of Lancaster county, well known there as a most effective talker on agricultural subjects.

Among other members present of the Farmers' Alliance were Col. James Young, of Middle town, member-at-large of the state board of agriculturists; Henry C. Shavley, a prominent horticulturist of Lebanon county, and ex-county deputy of the Patrons of Husbandry; Hiram Young, of York, vice president of the Pennsylvania State Agricultural society, and member of the National Wool Growers' association; Messrs. C. F. Helms, Samuel Sheetz, Enoch Runkle, John Brinton, W. M. Helms, E. O. Haeuser and other prominent farmers in Dauphin county. It was unanimously agreed that the subject of organization in Pennsylvania be left in the hands of Col. H. C. Demming, of this city, ex-state deputy of the grangers, master of the Pomona grange in Pennsylvania and president of the alliance in Susquehanna township.

Steps are being taken to organize 200 alliances in Pennsylvania in sixty days, when a state alliance will be formed.

#### The Trial of Rev. Fritch.

SINKING SPRING, Pa., April 29.—Lebanon classis of the Reformed church convened in St. John's church to try Rev. M. L. Fritch, of Shillington, on the charges preferred by a committee of classis. Under the first count there are two charges of theft, and the second count embraces four charges of falsehood. Rev. James E. May, of Birdsboro, presides. There is a full attendance of the members of classis, but Rev. Fritch, the accused, is not present. He denies the jurisdiction of classis on account of having withdrawn therefrom before the charges had been formulated.

#### A Bursting Bucket Shop.

PITTSBURG, April 28.—The Pittsburg commission company, the largest bucket-shop in the state, suspended payment. The company's business was larger than any three similar concerns in this city. The capital stock was only \$10,000 but the aggregate amount handled by them was at least \$500,000 a year. Their liabilities are estimated at \$150,000. It is said that the company paid out \$350,000 in the last seven weeks. Superintendent Campe said the bulge in grain and pork sadly crippled the concern, and the continued advance in the stock market rendered abortive all efforts to recover.

#### Charters Granted at Harrisburg.

HARRISBURG, April 29.—These charters were issued from the state department: The Pittsburg, Warren and Venango Oil company, of Pittsburg; capital, \$500,000. Triennial Savings and Loan association, Philadelphia; capital, \$100,000. Ferry Street Railway company, of Allegheny; capital, \$100,000. Allegheny and Bellevue Street Railway company; capital \$8,000. Collegeville Ice Manufacturing company, of Collegeville, Montgomery county; capital, \$5,000.

#### To Be Paid Twice a Month.

HARRISBURG, April 28.—The Pennsylvania Steel company has decided to have semi-monthly pay days instead of monthly. The first pay under this arrangement will occur on Thursday, July 3, in order to give the employees pay before the Fourth of July. After that Saturdays will be regular pay days. The employees are jubilant. It is expected that the Steelton transfer and brick companies and the stove company will also have semi-monthly pay days.

#### The Ellwood Railroad Company.

HARRISBURG, April 28.—A charter was granted at the state department to the Ellwood Short Line Railroad company. The road will be four miles in length, running through Beaver and Lawrence counties from a point north of Sewickley station to Rock Point station. Both points named are on the main line of the Pittsburg and Western Railway company. The principal office of the company will be at Beaver Falls, Pa. The capital is \$200,000.

#### A Pennsylvanian on Appropriations.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—It has been semi-officially announced that Representative Mutchler will be appointed to succeed Mr. Randall on the appropriation committee. This is but simple justice to Pennsylvania, which has been left without representation on the committee. Mr. Mutchler has been urged by all of his colleagues, by Mr. Randall's friends, and by many Democratic members from other states.

#### Private Hearing of Witnesses.

WEST CHESTER, April 29.—District Attorney Baldwin had a private hearing of the witnesses for the commonwealth against John Trewhith. A number of witnesses were heard, but whether any new points were secured is not known. The hearing took place at the prison, and pains were taken to keep it as quiet as possible.

#### He Wanted a Helpmeet.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., April 29.—McDonald Shoemaker, has just married a poor girl after breaking an engagement with an heiress. He is wealthy, but afraid of reverses, and wants a wife who will be of assistance in poverty. The family is an aristocratic one, and the protests against the match are very vigorous.

#### A Very Bad Stomach Ache.

LEXINGTON, Mo., April 28.—Patrick Brennan cut his wrist three times with a razor on the streets while carrying his baby. He explained that he had been driven almost crazy by stomach ache and preferred to die rather than suffer the pain.

#### John J. O'Brien Dead.

NEW YORK, April 28.—John J. O'Brien, the noted Republican leader in the Eighty-first assembly district, died yesterday at Coney Island, where he had been ill for some time past.

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