

CAPITOL GOSSIP

THE BOND BILL WENT THROUGH THE HOUSE.

Senate Committee Re-organized. Republicans Take Charge.—Another Bond Issue Will be Announced.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Speaker Reed was given a taste of what sort of a job he has on his hands when that bond bill was put through the House, and the result was probably one of the worst half hours he ever spent. He won, and the bill went through by a majority of thirty-three, but if the vote could have been put off until today it is believed he would have lost and the bill had been defeated, instead of being sent over to the Senate to die by being smothered by amendments. It was not a coincidence that the revolting Republicans were mostly McKinley men. It was on the contrary a very plain intimation to Mr. Reed that the McKinleyites intend to make things unpleasant for him whenever they get an opportunity. Another notable thing about this short but sharp skirmish was the indication of an understanding having been reached between the Reed and Allison Republicans of the House. Mr. Reed is doubtless very glad that the House concluded to make this week a holiday. It will give him time to pull himself together and arrange his programme.

The reorganization of the Senate committees has been all arranged and this week the Republicans will take charge, but it is not certain whether they will elect the officers of the Senate until later. President Cleveland will, on January 4th, issue his proclamation declaring Utah a state, and the Republicans expect its legislature, which will convene on the 6th, to elect two Republican Senators at once. They may wait for the arrival of those two Senators before electing the officers of the Senate. They have made a deal with the Populists, but they are still afraid to trust too much to them.

Congress has by a joint resolution which passed without opposition authorized the Secretary of the Navy to accept the ram Katahdin, which was rejected by the President for failure to make the speed required in the contract, at the contract price, it having been shown that the builders were not to blame, they having constructed the vessel on government plans.

Representative Johnson, of California is one of the Republican members of the House who openly kicked against the bond and tariff bills forced upon the majority of the House by the will and power of speaker Reed. Mr. Johnson voted for the tariff bill under protest, but he with forty-six other Republicans refused to vote for the bond bill, which he declared gave the lie to every principle and precept of the Republican party, and in doing so he said: "Against my will, against my protest, I voted for a bill (tariff) which in my judgment was unnecessary, which in my judgment was not a Republican measure, which in my judgment did not meet the case, which in my judgment was not what we were sent here to do. Let us be consistent with our record. Let us stand by the rule which we adopted many years ago, that we will not issue bonds in time of peace."

There is little doubt in the minds of many that a majority of the Democrats in the House want Reed to get the Republican nomination for President. Why, doesn't matter at this stage of the game. A prominent Democratic member of the House says this feeling is so strong among the Democrats of that body that he believes they would not hesitate to help Reed if it became probable that any of his opponents for the nomination were trying to put anything through the house for the purpose of handicapping Reed before the Republican National Convention, if such help was needed to beat the scheme. Needless to say it isn't love for Reed which actuates them.

Senator Voorhees says he doesn't see the need for upsetting the business of the country by a prolonged debate on the tariff bill that has passed the House and that he will endeavor to get the bill to a vote as soon as possible. The Senate committee on Finance will take up the bill at once, and of its action Senator Voorhees, who was chairman of the committee under the Democratic organization of the Senate, said: "I think the bill will be reported back to the Senate almost immediately. But, then, you can't tell what will happen. There are some crums lying around, and every protectionist is after all he can get. There is no disposition on the part of the Democrats to delay action on the bill. If delay comes it will be from the other side." Senator Voorhees, is of course, strongly opposed to the bill.

Postmaster General Wilson has been giving the fraudulent advertisers a shaking up and the result is that quite

a number of them have been shut out of the mail. The postoffice people do their level best to keep the people from giving up their good money to these sharks, but so long as there are people who will be caught by promises of \$10 worth for a dime these frauds will continue to do business. As soon as they are shut out of the mails under one name, they take another, and slightly changing their scheme they go right ahead again until caught by the post-office officials.

It is generally believed that another bond issue will shortly be announced, but Secretary Carlisle will not discuss the matter for publication.

HON. SAMUEL T. SHUGERTS.

Dies While Visiting His Daughter in Phillipsburg.

Hon. Samuel T. Shugerts, of Bellefonte, one of Centre county's oldest, most distinguished and highly respected citizens, died last week at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. W. E. Burchfield, on Second street, Phillipsburg, where, in company with his wife, he had been visiting since Thanksgiving day. His death was due to a general decline of health, the result of advanced age, and for the past week or two it was noticed that he was growing very much weaker, and when the fatal moment arrived he passed away as gently as the gathering twilight on a summer eve.

The deceased was born in Half Moon valley on February 25, 1809, and was therefore aged 86 years, 9 months and 25 days. He had been a resident of Bellefonte for a great many years, and in his earlier life followed the occupation of a printer, publishing one of the first newspapers established in Bellefonte. He has held a number of positions of trust, for about twenty years serving as commissioner of patents at Washington, and also representing Centre county in the legislature. He was a prominent Mason, ranking very high in that order. Besides his wife he leaves two sons and one daughter, J. D., cashier of the Centre County bank, Bellefonte; Finley, clerk in the patent office at Washington, and Mrs. W. E. Burchfield, of Phillipsburg. The remains were taken to Bellefonte for interment.

ON THE TRAIL OF A MURDERER.

A Western Penitentiary Convict Believed to be the Slayer of Henry Waterhouse, Bellefonte.

If the story of a man who has just served a sentence in the Western penitentiary can be believed, one of the convicts there is the man wanted in Bellefonte for the murder of Henry Waterhouse in September, 1890. The murderer was known as Wilson. He came to Bellefonte with Wallace's circus and shot Waterhouse in a gambling quarrel. He was placed in jail, and on the night of December 24, 1890, dug his way out. He is said to have gone from there to New Castle, where he shot and killed another man and escaped into Ohio. At Youngstown he committed some petty crime and was sent to jail for two months. While he was serving time there he was located by the New Castle authorities, and as soon as his term was out he was brought to New Castle, convicted and sentenced to seven years in the penitentiary. That was in 1893, so that more than two years of his term have been served. The county authorities will investigate the case, and if he should prove to be the right man, just as soon as his term expires he will be brought to Bellefonte and put on trial for his life.

Are Legal Tender.

The man who kicks about accepting worn silver coins will do well to familiarize himself with a decision of the United States Supreme court rendered last week declaring that silver coins are legal tender as long as they bear the semblance of a coin. Of course this decision referred only to coins worn by circulation. Mutilated and defaced coin are not legal tender, even if they are new.

Not a few who read what Mr. Robert Rowls, of Hollands, Va., has to say below, will remember their own experience under like circumstances: "Last winter I had a gripe which left me in a low state of health. I tried numerous remedies, none of which did me any good, until I was induced to try a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. The first bottle of it so far relieved me that I was enabled to attend to my work, and the second bottle effected a cure." For sale at 25 and 50 cents per bottle by Wm. Pealer, Spring Mills, S. M. Swartz, Tusseyville, and R. E. Bartholomew, Centre Hall.

Struck by Lightning.

On Thursday evening last during the heavy storm the residence of David Haines, in Bellefonte, was struck by lightning and considerably damaged. Fortunately no one was injured.



J. B. Fisher

MAJ. J. B. FISHER. TOO MANY WIVES

DEATH OF PENN HALL'S LEADING CITIZEN.

His Demise Occurs on Saturday Morning.—The Wealthiest Citizen in the Valley.—Sketch of his Career.

Maj. J. B. Fisher, one of the oldest business men of Penns valley, died at his home at Penn Hall, on Saturday last, Dec. 28.

About five weeks ago Maj. Fisher had an attack of dysentery. He recovered from this and about one week later, his foot was attacked with senile gangrene. Every effort was made by the attending physician to give him relief, but to no success, and the death occurred on Saturday morning at 11 o'clock.

The funeral took place on Tuesday morning from the family residence at Penn Hall. It was largely attended. Interment was made in the Salem Reformed church cemetery.

Maj. Fisher was widely and favorably known over the county, as a prominent merchant and a gentleman of honor and integrity. He was born in Berks county, Oct. 3, 1829. His ancestors were Palatines from Germany, who removed to America as early as 1714, thro the dense forest to Schoharie, and seated themselves among the Mohawks, west of Albany. They succeeded in improving several settlements. Leaving there, wended their way thro the forest to the Susquehanna, came down it in canoes, and settled in Lower Heidelberg township, Berks county, in 1729. In 1756, Peter Fisher's name occurs in the assessment of Heidelberg township. He was the great-grandfather of Maj. Fisher, and in the graveyard of Hains' church hard by where they settled, lie Maj. Fisher's ancestors for five generations.

Maj. Fisher came with his father Adam, to Penn Hall, then called Centreville, in 1842, and engaged in milling and merchandising. Maj. Fisher took charge of the Penn Hall store in 1849. A fire on Jan. 4, 1854 destroyed his store. He, after the death of his father, also came in possession of his Farmer's Mills store and mill property. In 1863 he purchased the Musser farm. In 1881 Maj. Fisher purchased the "Auchentorle" farm, residence of the late Gen. George Buchanan, and belonging to the family of Governor McKean. The Major made many improvements at Penn Hall that gave the village its life. He was one of the founders of the academy. He also paid for a scholarship in Franklin and Marshall College, for the benefit of Centre County students, and was a director of the College.

He held the appointment of postmaster of the place since President Pierce's administration, a period of 42 years; he was also a charter member of the Farmer's Mutual Fire Insurance Co. of Centre Co., and served continuously as one of its directors.

He was identified with the military organizations of the valley. Of the Marion Infantry he became lieutenant and then captain. In 1852 he was elected brigade inspector of the Third Brigade 14th Div., serving until 1859. He never was a seker after office, but took pleasure in strictly confining himself to business. He was an active and influential Democrat.

He was a devoted member of the Reformed church and consistent with its teachings, and most liberal in its support. A kind neighbor and high-minded citizen he will be missed in that community.

Maj. Fisher was married in 1854, to Miss Sarah L. Weaver, only daughter of the late George Weaver, of Haines township, and surrounded by a happy family of three sons and three daughters. One son and a married daughter have preceded him to the other shore.

DESERTED HIS FIRST WIFE AND MARRIES AGAIN.

Desertion, Adultery and Bigamy are the Indictments Charged Against R. C. Lyle Formerly of Centre Hall.

"Is marriage a failure?"

This is a question that is agitating the minds of thousands every day and although there are many who think that it is, there are still a few who think it is not. When a man has two wives and families living at the same time then we must say that marriage is a failure.

R. C. Lyle, formerly of Centre Hall, but later of Bellwood and now of Fort Condo, Bellefonte, may be able to give some information about married life and its troubles. He certainly can tell something about the unpleasant ending of some marital periods. He was brought from Bellwood on Friday and lodged in jail in this place charged with desertion, adultery and bigamy.

It seems that in 1888 Lyle married a Miss Kate Keller of near Centre Hall. Their married life only lasted about a year when it was suddenly brought to a close by the disappearance of the husband. During their year of married bliss, a child was born and when his father skipped out the mother and child were left destitute and without any means of support. Nothing was heard of Lyle and it was thought that he would never be seen again in this country. Five years had elapsed since his sudden disappearance from his young bride and the fact that such a person as Lyle ever lived was forgotten by almost everybody. Not so was this true in the case of his wife. She had been on the lookout for him ever since he had left her and last summer she came to Bellefonte and had information made out against him. It was learned that Lyle was living in Bellwood where he was employed in the railroad paint shops. It was also discovered that he had another wife and child living at that place. On Thursday of last week a warrant was issued and Officer Garis departed for Bellwood to bring back the truant and deceiving husband. Upon his arrival in Bellwood Officer Garis found that his man was not in town just then but would be there on the next train from Punksstawney. Stationing himself near the depot, he watched for Lyle and was soon rewarded for his efforts by seeing the man he was after alighting from the train and rapidly disappearing up the street. Lyle had evidently been informed that officers were after him and instead of going to his home, he went to the home of his father. Garis saw him enter the house and in company with a constable from Bellwood he went to the house and asked for Mr. Lyle. He was told that that person was not in the house but not heeding this information he and the constable made a search of the premises and found their man crouching down on the floor in the attic. It took but a moment to put the handcuffs on him during which time the officers were "blessed" in warm terms by the female portion of the family. Garis took the first train for home and had his prisoner safely lodged in jail at this place by 5 o'clock Friday evening.—Daily News.

Sheriff's Sale.

Great bargains in all kinds of clothing at the Philadelphia Branch, a full line of men and boys' wear, at sheriff sale sacrifice prices. Bargains that beat anything known.

POTTER TWP.

INCIDENTS FROM EARLY HISTORY.

Early Settlers Suffer From Hunger and Some of them are Killed by the Indians.

The officers of Potter township in 1776 were: Constable, John McConnell; supervisors, Joseph McGrew and George McCormick; overseers, George Woods and Adam Harper.

In February, 1777, John Livingston and John McMillan represented Potter township in the Committee of Safety. Joseph McGrew was constable of the township, and on the 9th of June John Livingston was appointed one of the justices of the courts of Northumberland county.

On the 6th of April Gen. James Potter was commissioned a brigadier-general of militia, and as early as the 19th of June he was in active service near Philadelphia. The following is an extract from a letter to him at camp, dated at Fort Augusta (Sunbury,) Sept. 26, 1777, from Col. Samuel Hunter: "I received an express from Col. Crookson Long, at Bald Eagle, that he had discovered a party of Indian warriors about forty miles above the Great Island, and upon making this known the inhabitants thereabouts fled from their places, which induced me to order up the first class of militia to the Great Islands to encourage the people thereabouts. Two of the inhabitants are missing, supposed to be captured."

Col. John Kelly, of Buffalo valley, was in October sent up to the Great Island in command of fifty men, and had with him Job Chilloway, the friendly Indian, and found the inhabitants, to the number of five hundred men, women and children, with the families of some friendly Indians, assembled at the mouth of the Bald Eagle, at Antes' Mill (opposite Jersey Shore,) and at Locoming Creek.

Gen. Potter spent the summer and winter with the army, commanding his brigade, at Germantown, and occupying the picket lines of Washington's army while encamped during the winter at Valley Forge.

In the suit of Miles vs. Barber, Nov. 30, 1810, Robert McKim testified: "I came to Penn's valley in 1777. George Woods then lived in a cabin, described by George McCormick (ante, 1773 74,) within the lines of Potter's survey the house and improvement on the north side. Another man was with me. We could not come through Kishacoquillas. My brother-in-law and Mr. McGrew's brother met us in the Narrows, and came back with us to the Great Plains. Some of the women took a path and went by Woods'. We took off at that fork and drove up near to McGrew's Mills. There were perhaps twenty settlers in 1777, and our first tax was in 1785. I removed in the spring of 1778, came back in the fall, and wintered in the valley. I returned in 1784, brought my family in 1785. George Woods came back in 1784. Can't tell when Barber settled, but it was before 1790. Barber built the house where Alexander lives, front of Gregg's house, and the tavern at Potter's Mills. I was at Woods' in 1784, when he lived on the north side of the creek. There was a settlement in Brush valley before I came. They came to mill. There was a road from Penn's valley around the end of Nittany mountain. A path came over at Connelly's."

According to a statement of Rev. J. H. Boggs, another alarm was given in 1778. The date is fixed by the letter of Arthur Buchanan, referred to below. He says:—

"My father (Judge Boggs) started over the mountain for aid to protect them. He was away three days. After he left my grandmother took her little children upon Muncy Mountain, and remained there until he returned with a party of militia. As the latter came along the foot of the mountain they heard the children crying for bread. The militia were then divided among the settlers, and confidence was partially restored, when one night, while the men were lying around the fire, my grandmother in a small bedroom adjoining, she heard something at her window which warned her of danger. She awoke the men who immediately rushed out, but the Indians fled. It appeared they went immediately to the house of Jonas Davis, and one of them opened the door and stepped boldly in. One of the men hearing him enter sprang to the door but before the others had time to act, the Indians escaped from him, and then discharged the gun at the door. The ball passed through and killed the soldier, who was on the next day taken up to my grandmother's and buried.

"The same party of Indians, as was supposed, passed over into Nittany valley, and killed Abraham Stanford and part of his family. One of the

boys they took with them, but after some years he escaped and returned to the settlements. In 1840 I became acquainted with two of that boy's children in Clarion county, Pa. After the runaway, Judge Boggs, who was a boy of seventeen or eighteen, made several visits to the house to see after the stock which was not molested by the Indians. On one occasion he came suddenly upon an Indian, who recognized him and assured him of friendship on account of his father (then dead) who had been a "big medicine-man" and a great friend of the Indians. They traveled together that day, slept in an empty cabin at night, and parted the next morning taking different paths. The Indian went a few miles further, and surprised and murdered a whole family which had returned, supposing the danger had passed."

A BETTER R.R. ROUTE.

Letter from a Prominent Somerset Co. Citizen.

Editor of the REPORTER:

In your issue of 19 of December, it is said the Central Railroad Co. intend extending their line to Port Matilda, thence to Phillipsburg to connect with the Phillipsburg & Altoona Railroad now being constructed.

Would it not be less expensive and more expedient to extend it from Port Matilda to connect at or near Hollidaysburg with the Pennsylvania Midland, which is almost ready for the locomotives, to Cessna, in Bedford county, and which company have located and done work, on a branch from Osterburg up a tributary of Dunning's creek, said to be a comparatively light grade to Sheldon's Gap, on the summit of Allegheny mountain; thence to Central City in Somerset county, a survey and location of which has been made, thereby leaving the traffic of a large quantity of timber and the valuable coal fields of Somerset county, extending southward a distance of some forty miles, and the width of twelve to fifteen miles, as clearly demonstrated by a map locating the different veins of the bearing and production measures of the very best of semi-bituminous coals for generating steam or converting into coke, which was proposed by John Fulton, Ass't Geologist, assisted by Isaac A. Harvey, Geologist, and Alfred G. Prosser, Mining Engineer, with additions and connections from MS. Maps of various dates in the offices of the South Pennsylvania and Baltimore & Ohio Railroads, by E. B. Harden, Top. and Assistant Geologist, inserted in State Geological Report, H H II, 1877.

Four Patents Issued.

The department of internal affairs has issued four patents to the Clearfield bituminous corporation, covering 1,600 acres of land in Centre and Clearfield counties. This land has been without any legitimate owner up to this date save the commonwealth and it has been acquired for practically nothing.

Got 29 Pheasants

C. K. Sober, accompanied by Dr. Warren, state ornithologist, was in Sugar valley last week on a three day's hunt, and returned last Friday with a string of 29 pheasants that made our mouth water. When Sober raises his gun, a pheasant is sure to drop.

New Lumber Job.

Henry Gingerich, living a short distance above Linden Hall, is making preparations to saw up his large timber tract on his farm, and is now having a portable sawmill plant erected on the run a short distance north of his residence, to do the work.

Reusable Inklets.

We had a green Christmas, and the old wise ones say that always means a white Easter. Just wait and see.

Harry Dinges' new house is now under roof and has the siding on. He will have it ready for occupancy by spring.

John Frank, a well-known resident of Millheim, has been seriously ill the past two weeks.

Union County Deaths.

In New Berlin, Dec. 4, Wm. Dunkelberger, aged 63 years.

In Lewisburg, Dec. 15, wife of C. H. Hassenplug, aged 53.

In New Berlin, Dec. 15, wife of Edward Engle, aged 85 years.

Clothing at Sacrifice Prices.

A full supply of men's and boys' clothing at sacrifice prices, on account of sheriff's sale, at the old Philadelphia Branch. Never a chance like it for bargains in or out of Bellefonte, like at the old Lewins stand.

Dr. Shields, an eminent physician of Tennessee, says: "I regard Ayer's Sarsaparilla as the best blood-medicine on earth, and I know of many wonderful cures effected by its use." Physicians all over the land have made similar statements.