



PASSED THE CENTURY MARK.

CENTRE COUNTY TURNS THE HUNDRETH MILE STONE.

Tuesday, the County was 100 Years Old.—A Big Celebration Planned.—Some Early History.

On Tuesday Centre county was 100 years old, and though there was no formal celebration of the event, an elaborate celebration will be held during the summer, at the time of the laying of the corner stone of the Curtin monument, in commemoration of the event. It was on February 13, 1800, that the Legislature passed the act erecting the county of Centre from parts of Mifflin, Northumberland, Lycoming and Huntingdon counties, and though since then parts have been cut off to help erect contiguous counties, yet today Centre county is the largest in area in the state, embracing about 670,000 acres.

Most prominent among those instrumental in the organization of the county were James Harris and James Dunlop, the two men who at that time owned all the land grant on which Bellefonte is now located. Not only did these men work hard to secure the erection of the county at that time, but in order to establish a fund with which to build county buildings gave one-half of their possessions at that time in trust to Andrew Gregg, Wm. Swanzy and Robert Boggs, the trustees appointed by the state, to dispose of to the best advantage. Messrs. Harris and Dunlop also gave the ground on which now stands the county court house and jail.

The first court was held in the county in November, 1800, though it was several years later before Centre was constituted a part of a regular judicial district. The early settlers of the county were principally Pennsylvania Dutch, from the eastern counties, and in 1820 the population numbered but a little more than 15,000. From that time to the present it has grown until it now numbers over 50,000, while in every way the county has grown proportionately richer, and in some ways more celebrated than any of the sixty-seven counties of the state.

In scenery, Centre county is most varied. Farming is extensively carried on. The Centre county iron ore fields are well known everywhere. In addition, there are almost exhaustless beds of bituminous coal, limestone, fire clays, etc. Twenty-five years ago there were twenty-six furnaces operating in the county, but now there are only four and yet the output in iron is ten times what it was then. In wealth the county is one of the richest in the state, and instead of being burdened by a heavy debt, always has a surplus in its treasury.

The only means of outside communication the county enjoyed from the organization of the county until in 1859, was either by stage road or by the Bald Eagle canal. In 1859 the Bellefonte & Snow Shoe, the famous "switchback," was built, and in 1863 the Bald Eagle Valley was opened up, from Tyrone to Lock Haven. Since that time a hundred miles or more of road have been constructed within the county, and now all parts of it are accessible by rail. In addition to these general features of the county "Old Centre" is further distinguished for the great men she has sent out to serve both state and nation.

No less than six Governors were natives of this county, five of whom were the chief executive of Pennsylvania. They were: Governors Packer, Bilger, Curtin, Beaver and Hastings, while a brother of Packer was governor of California. In addition, Centre countians have served in the President's cabinet, on the chief justice's bench, in the supreme court of state and nation, in Congress and the Senate, and as ambassadors to foreign countries. A number have held important chairs in some of the foremost educational institutions in the land, while today Centre county people are numbered among leading statesmen, jurists, and in various other callings.

Centre county has a bright page in history, while in crime it is small. Although there have been a number of homicide cases in the 100 years since its organization, only four have explained their crimes on the gallows. These were "Negro Dan," hanged in 1802 for the murder of James Barrows; James Monks, executed in 1819 for the murder of Reuben Guild; Seely Hopkins, for the murder of his wife and mother-in-law, and Alfred Andrews, for the murder of Clara Price, both in 1890.

The only other black feature in the county's history was the existence here in the early days, of the famous robbers, Lewis and Connelley, who, during a long period, created a reign of terror among the inhabitants of this section of the state, until both were finally shot in an attempt to capture them. The holding of the county cen-

tennial during the year will be an event of more than ordinary importance, and is already being looked forward to with anticipation of a big time generally.

LATE NEWS CONDENSED.

The lawyers' fees in the prospective Frick vs. Carnegie unpleasantness will be fat enough to make those lawyers comfortable the rest of their days.

England is appealing for soldiers. She finds the needs of raising an army of 600,000 men to be safe at home. Every inducement is offered to militia and colonial to come to the flag's defense.

General Buller has been baffled at all points, and says it is useless to try to reach White from his position unless he can be made secure. It is believed the British have abandoned Ladysmith to its fate and that General White will have to surrender to the Boers.

The situation at Frankfort is quiet. Taylor has sent his armed mountaineers home, and taken his case before Judge Taft of the United States Circuit court. The Democrats deny the jurisdiction of this court and that it is purely a question for the state courts under the Constitution of the state.

Mrs. Saffell, who witnessed the shooting of Governor Goebel in Frankfort, said, on Monday, that she saw the man who fired the shot. She declares that she was only 30 feet away from the assassin. Two other alleged eye-witnesses corroborate Mrs. Saffell's statement, and the affidavits made by the three are now in the hands of Governor Taylor.

A big legal fight is on between Carnegie and his former partner and business manager, Frick. Mr. Frick claims the little sum of 25 million dollars as due on the value of his stock according to the estimate put on the iron plant by Carnegie. This Mr. Carnegie refuses to pay. The greatest lawyers in the country are engaged by the parties.

Milwaukee has raised \$100,000 to get the Democratic National Convention to meet in that city. Several months ago the Republicans of Philadelphia pledged \$100,000 to get their National Convention to meet there, and the offer was accepted, but up to this time only about \$40,000 has been subscribed for want of willingness. The sum will no doubt yet be raised.

The Taylor legislature has gone from London back to Frankfort, to hold its meetings, but neither house has a quorum. The Goebel legislature, both houses having a quorum, holds its sessions in Louisville, with Beckham as governor. Both sides have taken the trouble to the courts—the Taylor faction to the United States Circuit Court whose jurisdiction is denied, and the Beckham side to the State Court of Appeals which has jurisdiction under the constitution of Kentucky.

A County Fair Assured.

Yesterday it was authoritatively announced that a county fair was assured, and that Bellefonte was the objective point. The matter has been agitated for several years, but the schemes apparently lacked the proper spirit, and was allowed to lie dormant. Recently the project was again taken up by the business men and several prominent individuals of Bellefonte, and it received such encouragement that an organization was effected. Grounds have been leased on the Jacob Valentine farm about one-half mile south of Bellefonte, a tract of twenty-five acres or more. The grounds are conveniently reached by the Nittany Valley railroad and the Pennsylvania lines. As soon as the weather permits work will be started on grading the race course and erecting the buildings. The stock has been subscribed mainly by Bellefonte citizens and sufficient funds have been raised to go ahead and pull through the fair.

A Peculiar Accident.

Miss Carrie Spicher, the charming daughter of Mr. John Spicher, west of Old Fort, met with a peculiar accident recently from which she sustained injuries of a serious nature. About three weeks ago, she was sitting in a rocking chair when the rocker broke, and she was thrown violently to the floor. She was somewhat stunned by the fall, and at the time attributed her minor bruises to the seemingly small accident. In a few days however she became quite ill, and a physician was summoned who found that Miss Carrie has sustained severe internal injuries, from which she may be some time in recovering. The many friends of the young lady hope for her early and speedy recovery.

Guilty of Manslaughter.

A verdict of manslaughter was brought in by the jury on the Harman murder case at Clearfield last Friday night, after being out three hours. The counsel for the defendant have made application for a new trial.

FLORIDA.

Two Weeks' Tour via Pennsylvania Railroad.

The second Pennsylvania Railroad tour of the season to Jacksonville, allowing two weeks in Florida, will leave New York and Philadelphia Feb. 20.

Excursion tickets, including railway transportation, Pullman accommodations (one berth), and meals en route in both directions while traveling on the special train, will be sold at the following rates; New York, \$50.00; Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Baltimore, and Washington, \$48.00; Pittsburg, \$53.00, and at proportionate rates from other points.

For tickets, itineraries, and other information apply to ticket agents, Tourist Agent at 1196 Broadway, New York; 4 Court Street, Brooklyn; 789 Broad Street, Newark, N. J.; B. Courlaender, Jr., Passenger Agent Baltimore District, Baltimore, Md.; Colin Studds, Passenger Agent South eastern District, Washington, D. C.; Thos. E. Watt, Passenger Agent Western District, Pittsburg, Pa.; or to Geo. W. Boyd, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Broad Street Station, Philadelphia.

Stamps in Book Form.

Third Assistant Postmaster General Madden's idea, to have United States postage stamps issued in book form, will probably be inaugurated by the postoffice department. In fact, the question of getting out the books is now in the hands of the secretary of the treasury. All that is necessary is his order to the head of the bureau of printing and engraving to proceed immediately.

Mr. Madden's scheme is to have a book made to fit the vest pocket. Twelve stamps are to be placed in this book, with wax paper between the sheets, and a thin paper cover. This book is to be sold for twenty-five cents. Some of the advantages are manifest. Stamps may be carried without rumpled and they will not stick together in the summer. In addition to this the postoffice department makes about \$6 for each 1,000 stamps sold. This profit is derived from the one cent additional charged for manufacturing the books. Should one-fourth of the two-cent stamps issued be sold in book form, it would give the postoffice department \$200,000 a year from this source alone.

Readable Clippings.

The solidified alcohol which a Berlin firm has been sending out in a tin vessel intended to serve as a pocket lamp and stove is reported to consist essentially of 62 per cent. of alcohol, 20 of soap and 18 of water. A similar product is readily made by dissolving scraped tallow soap in warm alcohol.

A prominent physician remarks, "For every person who dies from over-drinking, or let us say, the excessive use of alcoholics, there are 20 who perish from overeating." It is no particular consequence what led to this declaration. The important fact is that it was made by an expert, and that no one has come forward to deny its truth.

The Boer horses are remarkably well trained animals, and when the Transvaal desire to form an ambush or firing line, their horses are taught to remain stationary as soon as they feel the reins dropped over their necks.

Wonderful Souvenirs Free.

Announcement is made by the publishers that every reader of the great "Philadelphia Sunday Press" will receive next Sunday, February 18, absolutely free two souvenirs of a character and value far beyond anything heretofore offered by a newspaper. One will be a beautiful picture in ten colors, by Paul de Longpre, the famous flower painter, entitled "A Yard of Roses." It is twice as large as any picture ever given away by a newspaper, and that it is worth framing is evident from the fact that copies cannot be bought at retail for less than a dollar. But, in addition to this, every reader of next "Sunday's Press," will receive an attractively illustrated booklet of convenient size, containing the greatest detective story ever written by Emile Gaboriau. If you want these splendid gifts you had better order next "Sunday's Press" at once, as warning is given that the supply will be limited. If there is no news agent in your vicinity get some bright boy to write for the agency.

How to Vote.

Those who vote at the coming election should remember that the ballot law plainly and explicitly states that a cross in the circle at the head of any column is a vote for every candidate whose name appears in that column, consequently a scratch vote in another column opposite a name in that column would be void, and the ballot might be thrown out. The surest way is to mark an X opposite every name you vote for.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

ATTITUDE OF DEMOCRATS OPPOSING CANAL TREATY.

We Build the Canal and Allow all Nations to Use Same.—Strong Sentiment against Passing the Bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The attitude of the Democrats in Congress, as a party, towards the Nicaragua Canal treaty, which the administration has negotiated with England and sent to the Senate, and the Porto Rico tariff bill, which has been reported to the House, and will be taken up this week and jammed through as a party measure, is thoroughly American, and consequently right. The treaty gives more than it provides for our receiving. It allows us to build a canal with our own money, provided we agree to let every nation in the world, even those we may happen to have war with, have exactly the same privileges we take for ourselves in using it. That is not the old Democratic idea of American control of the canal, and it is really surprising that there is a single Democratic Senator who is willing to vote for the ratification of the treaty. Without Democratic votes, it would be bound to fail. One of the strongest arguments in favor of the construction of the canal, has been the advantage it would give us in a war with a foreign power. Under the present treaty we should have no advantage, as our enemies would make just the same use of the canal.

Imperialism is the real question involved in the Porto Rican tariff bill. It makes one of the issues upon which this year's Presidential campaign will be waged. The Republicans in their report on this bill, which imposes a 25 per cent. duty on Porto Rican products, have come out flat-footed in favor of ignoring the constitution, and of having Congress assume the authority to deal with the territory recently acquired by the U. S. as colonies, and with their people as subjects. The Democrats contend that the constitution is the supreme law of this republic, and that it recognizes neither colonies nor subjects; that every foot of ground belonging to the U. S. is a part of the U. S. and every resident of territory belonging to the U. S., a citizen. The imperialists have the votes to win in Congress, but it remains to be seen whether they can win before the people.

The Democratic substitute for the Republican gold standard bill is short and plain. It was introduced by Senator Jones, of Arkansas, and it provides for the opening of the mints of the U. S. to the coinage of silver, as provided by the Act of Jan. 18t 1, 1837, upon the same terms and subject to the limitations and provisions of law regulating the coinage and legal tender quality of gold; and that when the silver coins shall be received into the treasury, certificates shall be issued for them as now prescribed by law. Unfortunately the Republicans have the votes to pass the gold standard bill—Chandler is the only Republican who will vote against it—but the substitute will give the Democrats an opportunity to record their votes in favor of "the dollar of our daddies." The vote will be taken on Thursday of this week.

Adjutant Gen. Corbin, who gained some notoriety during the war with Spain, through being Alger's tool in carrying out the several schemes devised for the humiliation of Gen. Miles, as well as for lobbying during the last Congress, for legislation to give himself the rank of Maj. Gen., is again playing the role of lobbyist for the same purpose. He gave an elaborate Sunday dinner, at a suburban club house, to twenty odd members of the House, including the Military Committee. As Secretary Root also attended the dinner, it is assumed that he is helping the effort of Corbin for promotion.

Notwithstanding the indignant denials on the floor of the House, by Gen. Grosvenor, and other administration men, of the charge made by Roberts, that Utah polygamists had been appointed to Federal offices by Mr. McKinley, the House Committee on Postoffices, which has been investigating, have to report to the House that Postmaster Graham, of Provo, had an indictment for polygamy hanging over him, when he was appointed. In order to soften this proof of the charge of Roberts, the Committee accompanies it with a statement from the prosecuting attorney of Salt Lake City, saying that for various reasons it is not likely that Graham will be brought to trial under that indictment. It is probable that the wishes of the McKinley administration, are among those "reasons" for not trying to convict the polygamist postmaster.

It is only by the magnanimity of Senator Allen, that today's Congressional Record does not place the Sen-

ate on record as sympathizing with the Boers and believing that this government should offer mediation. Senator Allen offered a resolution to that effect and through the absence of some Senators and indifference of others, it was put before the Senate and declared adopted without a dissenting vote. As soon as they realized what had been done, the administration Senators flocked upon the floor. The yeas and nays were demanded, but Mr. Allen objected, and the objection was sustained. Later, Senator Allen good naturedly agreed that the vote should be reconsidered and the resolution sent to the calendar.

Col. Bryan stopped in Washington again to talk to Democratic Senators and Representatives about what he learned of Democratic prospects during his trip east.

A Strange Woodyard in Alaska.

If our big lumbermen, Huyett, Colyer, Lindenhal Lumber Co., et al., are thirsting for new fields to feed their circulars, with logs prepared, provided and piled by nature free, and ready for manufacturing into lumber, we furnish information of such a paradise in the following:

One of the greatest curiosities noted by travelers in Alaska is the wonderful haven of driftwood on the coast between Yakatag and Kyak islands, some 1200 or 1500 miles northwest from Seattle.

The constant deposit of logs and driftwood in this particular spot, which has been going on for hundreds, nay perhaps thousands of years, is due to the phenomena of the tides, the Pacific Gulf stream, the mysterious ocean currents and the peculiar formation of the shore lines at that point.

Logs and timbers are readily identified there as having come from Japan, China, India and other parts of Asia, as well as from California, Washington and other parts of the American continent. There are fine logs of the camphor tree, the mahogany, the redwood and the pine in this driftage. Some of those from the State of Washington contain the names of the men who felled the trees and of the sawmills for which they were destined but never reached.

Logs eight feet in diameter are in this novel woodyard, and some entire trees 150 feet long are there, uplifted by the roots, cast into the sea by some terrible tempest and sent floating round the world. Often persons on the beach describ big trees floating shoreward, with fantastic roots above the waves, like some sea monster.

One beach after another has been formed by the floating timbers, and a little distance back from the shore the deposits are so old that the wood in some places is petrified, while a little deeper in the earth it has turned into coal. The newer logs are without bark and as hard as stone, due it is thought, to their long immersion in salt water. They have all taken on a whitish appearance. In places the timbers are piled 20 feet high; at other points they rise to a height of only four or five feet.

LATEST WAR NEWS.

General Buller is falling back. The British are whipped at Colesburg, and forced to retreat from many hard won posts. They had forced the Boers from Hobkirk's Windmill and Bastard's Nek, but were assailed and badly beaten.

All the British posts on the western flank, including the force and guns at Coles Kop, were withdrawn and retired under fire to Maeder's Farm.

Kruger will demand a ransom of 10 million dollars for Cecil Rhodes when the Boers catch him, but he will not hand him, the ransom to pay for the indemnity of the Jameson raid, which is charged to Rhodes.

May Sell the Church.

The Sinking Creek Presbyterian charge, will hold a congregational meeting on Saturday next, to consider the disposal of the Presbyterian church property at Centre Hill. The congregation at Centre Hill has dwindled until few members were left, and the building became dilapidated, and services were seldom held of late in the church. The members will consider disposing of the building, lot and fixtures at public sale.

Election Tuesday.

The election next Tuesday promises to pass off quietly although there is some dissatisfaction regarding the tickets put up by both parties. In the municipal elections the voter is given the one chance of the year to square up with his neighbor with whom he has harbored a petty spite.

Grand Tableau, Peace, by 40 young ladies, in Grange Arcadia, Feb. 15.

LOCAL ITEMS.

Callings of More than Ordinary Interest from Everywhere.

Flinding Fault With Providence.

The signs is bad when folks commence A finding fault with Providence, And balkin' 'cause the earth don't shake At every prancin' step they take.

No man is great till he can see How less than little he can be Ef stripped to self, and stark and bare He hung his sign out anywhere.

My doctern is to lay aside Contentions, and be satisfied, Jest do your best, and praise er blame That follows that counts jest the same.

I've allus noticed great success Is mixed with troubles more or less, And it's the man who does the best That gets more kicks than all the rest. —Thomas Whitcomb Riley.

Sunday very fine. Storm on Tuesday. Roads are becoming mud ways. Lemons keep fresh in dry sand. Bright but cold on Wednesday. Monday and Tuesday disagreeable. A heated knife will cut fresh bread. Bruised clothes keep moth from furs. A 2-year old oil cloth is wise to buy. Use old newspapers to brighten up tinware.

"The mills of the gods grind slow, but sure."

Gilt picture frames should be cleansed with half an onion.

Powdered rice applied on lint will stop a bleeding wound.

It's about time somebody in the valley finds coal again.

After eating onions munch a sprig of parsley dipped in vinegar.

Soak a cork that is over large in boiling water, and then it will fit.

Jacob Lose died at Snydertown, on 6th, after a day's illness, aged 82 years.

The aged Mrs. Finkle, of Georges valley, is quite ill. Also Mrs. Zettle, of the same valley.

Harrison Walker seems to be making good time in the race for chief burges of Bellefonte.

Rev. Rearick's appointments: Centre Hall, 2 p. m.; Spring Mills, 10 a. m.; Tusseyville, 7 p. m.

The Carnival tonight in Grange Arcadia will be a great treat. A big program has been prepared.

A knowing one says an onion taken at night is one of the best sleep inducers, calming the nerves, and putting the brain to rest.

The veteran, Mr. Geo. Thomas, we were pleased to find sufficiently recovered from his recent illness, to be able to come to town the other day.

Wm. Colyer purchased 1000 acres of the Curtin farm, one mile east of the railroad station; about 20 acres are woodland, which is likely to be turned into lumber soon.

The county financial statement, as a supplement, will go out in this issue of the Reporter. It should receive the scrutiny of every taxpayer, that he may know where his taxes go.

The Monitor says J. P. Swoope, a Huntingdon county trapper, one day last week made a visit to his traps on the mountain and was rewarded with the capture of one wildcat, five foxes, one mink, three polecats and two 'coons.

Easter comes this year on April 15, and Lent begins February 14. The date for Easter is unusually late this year, in fact is within one week of the latest possible date for the feast, the earliest being March 21 and the latest April 25.

Alluding, in another column, to the long continuation of a store without a change of name for about 50 years, the next and only ones to approach this period would be Fisher's store at Penn Hall, and Hess' store, now Ross', at Linden Hall.

James L. Mauck, of Flemington, has been committed to the State Insane Asylum at Danville, suffering from a peculiar hallucination. He imagines that he has a platform which one of the political parties is anxious to secure, and he wants \$1,500,000 for it.

The weather the past week has been mild and pleasant, being far from that expected in the middle of winter, and in marked contrast to that we had just one year ago when the mercury took a drop and was frozen down at twenty to forty below zero. The backbone of winter is broken.

Grange Arcadia has been finely frescoed. It's the largest grange hall in the state and the Patrons should honor it by holding one of their annual state assemblies in it. This has long been the grange centre of inspiration. With the buildings in the park ample capacity is at command for overflow meetings and committee rooms, while the delegates could find excellent accommodations in private families at less rates than in larger towns.