

THANKSGIVING SERMON.

RER. G. W. KERSHNER OF THE REFORMED CHURCH

Delivered the Union Thanksgiving Sermon in the M. E. Church.

Psalm 92:1—"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High."

Rev. Kershner, after announcing his text, said: "The statement of an universal truth. It is always a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord and to sing praises unto the name of the most High. The highest exercise to which we can put our religious faculties, after all, is praise not petition. The heaven for which we are striving will be fully attained when we have nothing more to ask for, when confession and petition, toil and sacrifice, longing and aspiration shall give place to the endless hymn of praise which the redeemed sing around the throne of God."

For another reason it is good always to give thanks unto the Lord. We are so apt to think that the reasons for thanksgiving are largely dependent on external circumstances. If our circumstances are favorable, we feel grateful and we are willing to give thanks and sing praise; if otherwise, we would rather grumble and find fault. That is, we have somehow formed the notion that when circumstances are favorable we ought to give thanks, but when they are contrarily we need not. And it may be that we have come to this service today with a feeling somewhat akin to this. It may be that back of our avowed intention to give thanks, underneath the prayer and the hymn, there hides away the question, what have I to be thankful for? And then naturally, following in the train of that question, is a whole series of unwelcome and disquieting reflections: Crops are short, prices low, stock has died, business dull, winter at the door, etc., and there you are counting up your misfortunes and forgetting your mercies. Well, if you will persist in looking only at the dark side, let me give you a piece of advice. When the Revolutionary war was over, and our National independence had been secured, there was great rejoicing in the colonies, and a day of Thanksgiving was proclaimed. George III not willing to be outdone in piety by his quondam subjects, also proclaimed a day of thanksgiving. A worthy divine, who shared the sovereign's intimacy, ventured to ask him, "Sire, for what are we to give thanks?" The King seemed non-plussed at first but finally exclaimed, "Thank God it is no worse." So if, after carefully enumerating your misfortunes and tabulating your losses, you ask "what am I to give thanks for?" I answer, "Thank God it is no worse." But after all there is a better way. There is a divine philosophy, a whole Gospel, in such simple, familiar, threadbare, commonplace as these: Look on the bright side of things; count up your mercies and forget your misfortunes; thank God for what you have got and quit wishing for what you do not and cannot have. It is possible to find in all lives and in all circumstances of life abundant reasons for thanksgiving. So today let us look at the bright side of our individual and national life; let us look from the shortened crop to the grand aggregate; from the shrinkage in value to the expansion of our wealth and the development of our resources; from the few dark spots upon the surface of our sun of prosperity to its evident and unquestioned brightness. I wish I had time this morning to note the signs of our national prosperity, to count the mile stones of our national progress and add up the sum total of our national blessings. But pardon me if on this occasion I wander out of the beaten path of Thanksgiving discourses to point out some of the simple but needful lessons that underlie all individual and national prosperity. National life is only the complex sum of individual lives and the ultimate elements of national greatness are after all the simple virtues of daily life embodied and expressed in your life and mine,—in the life of every individual citizen.

Among the needful lessons of our day are first, a plainer, more frugal living—as a corrective of the wasteful extravagance of private and public life. For good times, for bad times, for all times, this is the lesson. Good times foster extravagance that leads inevitably to hard times. We all know it to be so, and yet, as individuals and a nation, we take to the practice of economy with poor grace. The American people seem to live in sight of a rainy day. When times are good we live to the top of our income, then, when the bad times come we suffer and grumble, and find fault with every thing and every body but ourselves, and our wretched lack of thrift. We recall Misswater's quaint saying to David Copperfield: "Copperfield, my boy, it is a simple sum in arithmetic; income eighteen shillings six pence, outgo nineteen shillings six pence, result,—misery; but income eighteen

shillings six pence, outgo seventeen shillings six pence, result,—happiness. We talk sometimes as if good times and bad times followed each other according to some necessary and invariable law of average. But there is no such law. There is no necessity for even occasional hard times. When the masses of the American people shall cease to dress beyond their means and live beyond their income; when men and women shall stop buying what they cannot pay for and spending what they have not earned; when we, as a people, are willing to live frugally, add spend moderately and deal honestly with others and no less honestly with ourselves, we shall have permanent prosperity as our just and merited reward.

Secondly—Another lesson of the hour emphasized, illustrated and demonstrated in a thousand ways, in characters of lurid light, is the lesson of temperance. No nation that legalizes, maintains and defends a system that makes 100,000 drunkards annually, that wastes every year \$1,000,000,000 directly, and \$1,000,000,000 more indirectly, for intoxicants, can look nor ought to look for permanent prosperity. Take the case of the largest element of our population, the laboring class, and what hinders the improvement of their condition more than anything else? Is it not the fact that they spend so large a portion of their wages for liquor? Dr. Talmage says, "Give me all the money spent for liquor by the laboring classes, during the last thirty years, and I will buy for every one of them a house and lot. I will furnish the house comfortably and I will pay for a life insurance policy besides that will keep his wife and children above suffering and want when he is gone." Leaving the moral aspect of the question untouched, what stimulation in trade, what revival of business would result if the two billion dollars that are annually spent for liquor should be turned into the channels of useful and beneficent trade.

Thirdly—Let us learn the lesson of simple contentment. Discontent is one of our national characteristics, and it is at the bottom of a great many of our social, commercial, political, and even religious disturbances. More than we have any means of determining does this chronic dissatisfaction with existing conditions tend to unsettle things. The effect of our restless discontent in business, in social life and in religious life was pointed out. And lastly let us learn the lesson of vital godliness as the strongest, surest safeguard and assurance of national prosperity.

GEISS-GOODHART.
A Quiet Wedding at the Goodhart Home Near Centre Hill.
The spacious farmhouse of Mr. G. L. Goodhart, near Centre Hill, was the scene Wednesday evening, Nov. 28th, of a very pretty home wedding. The contracting parties were D. Wagner Geiss, son of D. K. Geiss, of Centre Hall, and Miss Ada, daughter of Mr. Goodhart. The ceremony was performed by Rev. W. H. Schuyler, pastor of the Sinking Creek Presbyterian Church, of which the bride is a member. The happy couple are well-known and highly respected in this community. After a brief honeymoon trip the couple will go to housekeeping in Bellefonte, where Mr. Geiss is employed in the office of Edward R. Rhoads, shipping and commission merchant. The Reporter wishes them a happy and successful life.

TRANSFERS OF REAL ESTATE.
Mary Nevel's heirs to Jacob Nevel, dated April 1, 1880, 17 acres and 57 perches in Potter township; consideration, \$150.00.
Jacob Everett, et ux., to Jacob Kerstetter, dated March 20, 1890, 11 acres and 4 perches in Penn township; consideration \$716.62.
Sarah J. Eisenhuth, et al., to Martha A. Kerstetter, dated May 9, 1900 for 10 acres and 122 perches in Penn township; consideration \$40.00.
H. E. Smith, et ux., to Thomas E. Vonada, dated May 12, 1900 for 13 acres and 113 perches in Haines township; consideration \$275.00.

Marriage Licenses.
Jeremiah Snively and Sarah C. Heckman, Spring Mills.
Mannasses Stover and Maggie E. Wohlfort, Livonia.
Aaron Grieb Snook, Mary Sevilla Sholl, Millheim.
Henry R. Newman and Lena E. Decker, Port Matilda.
Orlando Walk and Sallie Fink, Taylor township.
W. D. Walker and Rachael Woomer, Yarnell.
Geo. H. Vaugh and Anna Frank, Philipsburg.

Cause for Thanksgiving.

THE BOROUGH OF CENTRE HALL GIVES THANKS

BECAUSE it has had a continuous supply of pure, fresh water during the unprecedented drought just gone through. The borough has had an abundant supply of water, not only for domestic purposes, but for mechanical purposes as well. No restrictions were imposed at any time by the borough officials with regard to the use of water—it was for use at all times and for all purposes. Heretofore, during ordinary dry seasons, all sorts of notices were posted and published, which almost made the thirsty shudder when unconsciously the parched lips were cooled with a glass of water and spit on the ground before quenching the thirst.

BECAUSE several disastrous fires were averted by the splendid working of fire appliances owned by the borough, and the high pressure of water and the practically unlimited supply.

BECAUSE the public schools are conducted in a way that gives the greatest good to the greatest number. That curriculum, upon which all future educational matters were supposed to rest, was relegated to the rear and "horse sense" substituted. Children of twelve and thirteen years are now permitted to study the common branches—grammar, reading, 'ritin' and 'rithmetic, if you please.

BECAUSE the borough is constantly growing in every sense. The population is growing; business is increasing; the day laborer's days of labor are multiplying.

BECAUSE epidemics, which decimated many homes in Centre and adjoining counties, did not do its fatal work here.

THE CENTRE REPORTER GIVES THANKS

BECAUSE it enjoys the continued support of almost every old reader; because many new names have been added to its subscription list; because the Reporter readers, to a large extent, have dealt honorably with its present management and paid in advance to July, 1901; because the business men of Centre Hall, Penn's Valley and Centre County recognize THE CENTRE REPORTER as a valuable advertising medium; because the CENTRE REPORTER is recognized as the friend of all local institutions, local movements, business men and individuals.

November Court.

November term of court convened at Bellefonte Monday morning, Hon. John G. Love presiding. The early part of the morning session was occupied by presenting petitions by the several members of the bar.

H. H. Osborn, Esq., of Worth township, was appointed foreman of the grand jury by the Court. The several constables of the boroughs and townships made their quarterly returns as required by an act of assembly.

Verdicts were rendered on the following civil cases:
Agnes Porter vs. Wm. B. Mingle, Adm'r of etc.; verdict for plaintiff for \$120.93.

Isaac Frain vs. C. M. Bower, Adm'r of etc.; verdict in favor of plaintiff for \$599.58.

Rebecca Sparr vs. John Riter, Ex'r of etc.; verdict for plaintiff for \$460.00.

The following civil cases were settled by agreement of parties:
W. B. Musser vs. F. W. Confer, Harry McKinley vs. Robert McCalmont, et al. Blank & Gottshall vs. T. Hosterman.

The greater part of the afternoon session was occupied by the trial of the case of Com. vs. Daniel Robb; charge obstructing a public highway; prosecutor David Robb. The question at issue was of a trivial nature, but owing to ill feelings it has developed into a neighborhood fight. Cases of this kind are rather an expensive luxury to the tax payers of Centre county, and there should be some manner of preventing the venting of personal spite at the expense of the people. Col. Reeder made the argument for the defendant, while Clement Dale, Esq., closed for the Com. Verdict not guilty; defendant to pay two-thirds of the costs and prosecutor one-third.

Com. vs. W. M. Johnstonbaugh, charge, larceny. Defendant pled guilty; sentence, two years and three months in the Western penitentiary. The defendant in this case was one of the persons who broke into Krumrine's store at State College early last fall, and is an old offender.

Com. vs. James Murray; prosecutrix Lizzie Murray; charge incest, felonious assault, adultery. Verdict, not guilty.

Com. vs. James Murray, prosecutrix Lizzie Murray; charge, assault and battery, aggravated assault and battery. Defendant pled guilty to first count, nol. pros. to second count. Sentence, \$10.00 fine and thirty days in jail.

Com. vs. James Quiggle and Squire; charge cutting timber trees; prosecutor, Lehigh Valley Coal Company. The district attorney was assisted in the prosecution by Orvis, Bower & Orvis while the defendants were represented by Hon. A. O. Furst and W. E. Gray, Esq. The entire afternoon was occupied by the evidence in this case, with the exception of a few short arguments on questions of law. After the close of the evidence Court was adjourned until seven o'clock when the

argument before the jury was made, Hon. A. O. Furst for the defendant and E. L. Orvis, Esq., for the Com.

Com. vs. Oscar Veihorfer, charge, stealing cattle; prosecutor Geo. Katchick. There were several boys in and around Snow Shoe, who made a practice of killing and selling cattle which were being pastured in the woods. At November session, 1899, three of these boys were convicted and sentenced on this same charge, but the defendant Oscar Veihorfer left the country before any arrests were made. Some time during this summer the defendant returned home when he was arrested, and is now brought for trial.

DEATHS THROUGHOUT CENTRE.

Brief Sketches of Departed Friends, Who They Were and When They Died.

ABRAM SNYDER.
Abram Snyder, of Northwood, formerly a resident of Bellefonte, died at his home Thursday of last week, at the advanced age of ninety years and three months.

JEREMIAH HOY.
Miles township lost one of its most respected citizens in the death of Jeremiah Hoy, which occurred recently. The interment was made at Yearick's church. The deceased was aged over seventy-one years. A few years ago he was stricken with paralysis which greatly hastened his death. Mrs. Edward Dunkle, of Gregg township, a daughter, and two sons, Jeremiah, in the west, and William, living in Millheim, survive the deceased.

ANDREW HARTER.
The venerable Andrew Harter died at his home four miles east of Bellefonte Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock from infirmities incident to old age. He was a native of Centre county and was 77 years and 5 months old. He followed farming most of his days and was a sincere christian gentleman who enjoyed the respect and confidence of all who knew him, says the Daily News. His first wife was Miss Eva Smith, she preceding him to the grave many years ago, leaving him with a family of 8 children. His second wife was Miss Susan Armagast, of Snyder county Pa., who survives him. By his second wife he had ten children making 18 in all, and all of whom are living.

The funeral took place Wednesday morning at 9:30 from his late residence. The services were conducted by Rev. White of Pleasant Gap, and Rev. Bair of Howard. Interment at Jacksonville.

JOHN YOUNG.
John Young died at the home of his sister, Mrs. John Horner, in Greens Valley, north of Centre Hall, Saturday of last week. The deceased's age was seventy-three years, eleven months, two days. The interment took place at Pleasant Gap, Rev. J. M. Reaick officiating.

HEAVY WEIGHT HOGS.
J. W. Stover, of Millheim in the Lead—700 Lbs.
A number of heavy weight hogs were slaughtered last week and the following weights were reported to this office. J. W. Stover, general merchant at Millheim, takes the lead, having killed a 700 lb. hog. D. L. Zerby, connected with the Millheim bank, comes second, and Oscar Stover, of Boalsburg, third. Something very nice had been put in type about the Boalsburg Stover, but the report from the other end of Penn's Valley spoiled it all. The figures are there.

Name	Weight lbs.
Millheim, J. W. Stover	700.640
" D. L. Zerby	678.579
Boalsburg, Oscar Stover	575.450
" Henry Frederick	498.400
" Elmer Houtz	490

The Supplement.
The supplement that will appear weekly in the Centre Reporter until the end of 1900 should and will be carefully read by every Reporter reader. The business man who advertises in business to do business; up to the times in advertising means up to the times in business. The following firms are given in evidence:

- F. P. Blair, Jeweler, Bellefonte.
- Montgomery & Co., gents furnishing goods, Bellefonte.
- Sechler & Co., grocers, Bellefonte.
- C. P. Long, general merchant, Spring Mills.
- Meyer & Musser, general merchants, Centre Hall.
- F. A. Carson, general merchant, Potters Mills.
- Wilbur A. Henney, general blacksmith and carriage builder, Centre Hall.
- O. T. Corman, general merchant and produce dealer, Spring Mills.
- Leiberman's Cash Clothing Store, Bellefonte.
- J. F. Smith, general merchandise, Centre Hall.
- John Smith & Bros., furniture dealers, Spring Mills.
- G. W. Bushman, jeweler, Centre Hall.
- Mallory & Taylor, photographers, Bellefonte.
- Garman's store, drygoods and fancy goods, Bellefonte.
- J. T. Lee, wagon and carriage builder and repair shop, Centre Hall.

Senator Davis Dead.
U. S. Senator Davis, of Missouri, died at his home in St. Paul Tuesday evening. He was three times elected to the senate and was previously elected governor of Missouri.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

E. C. Nearhood will have sale Saturday, Dec. 8.

William Farmer, of Colyer, was a caller Wednesday.

Will H. Keller is back from Munson Station and will remain for a while.

George S. Weaver writes from Spring Mills that he killed four porkers which dressed 1,567 pounds.

Miss Emily Alexander was home from Tyrone on Sunday. Her friend, Miss Bertha Scott, of Tyrone, accompanied her.

Frank Royer, of Potters Mills, in a one day hunt killed a fine doe in the Seven Mountains, which dressed over one hundred pounds.

Hon. John Montelius, of Piper City, Illinois, is the guest of the Wolfs. He and Mrs. Anna Wolf are at present in Millinburg.

W. J. Carlin, Esq., of Rebersburg, when sending a remittance for the Reporter, complimented it highly and almost made its editor vain.

Mrs. Alexander, wife of Dr. H. S. Alexander, of Potters Mills, spent several days in Pine Grove Mills, with her brother who is seriously ill.

George F. Stover, of Earlstown, called Wednesday. Mr. Stover is one of the few men who learned that contentment is the first step to happiness.

Albert Colvin, a former parishioner of Rev. W. H. Schuyler, now a member of the Freshman class of State College, is spending a few days at the Presbyterian Manse.

John Koch, of Mason county, Ill., is east on a visit to friends and relatives. Mr. Koch is a nephew of George W. Koch, of this place and went west thirty-two years ago. This is his first visit east.

Prof. John D. Meyer, principal of the Bellefonte High School, will attend a meeting of the Association of College Preparatory Schools, at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Friday.

Charles Bitner, son of Samuel Bitner, of Potters Mills, Monday left for Illinois, where he will remain for an indefinite period. Mr. Bitner had been in Illinois before and is returning to the old place.

Miss Alda Sankey and Master John Odenkirk found time to watch the process of printing the other day. Printing was a mystery to the youth at first, but his close observation threw light on the matter.

J. A. Sweetwood, of Centre Hill, is employed a good part of his time stripping doors and windows. After Mr. Sweetwood gets through with the work of fitting up your doors you will have saved a great coal bill.

A heavy thunder shower passed over the valley early Friday morning. Although near the end of November, the lightning flashed with a vividness that was frightful. Early Thursday evening lightning played in the north and thunder could be heard rolling in the distance.

Messrs. M. J. Decker and M. P. Musser, both of near Centre Hall, were two gentlemen who called on the Reporter during the absence of the writer. Both these gentlemen are farmers and both these farmers are gentlemen, and just the kind of men who are always welcomed to the Reporter office on all occasions.

David Krape, who stays with his son-in-law, Edwin Stump, at Aaronsburg, and who has for a long time been demoted, was still able to walk around the house and yard, has finally grown so much worse that he is confined to his bed with no prospects of ever being able to be about again, though at times he sits up in bed.

A party of Pittsburgers are in the Seven Mountains looking for deer, having been fooled here by the foolish reports sent to the Philadelphia papers by Bellefonte's foolish correspondent, who made it appear deer were so plenty in the Seven Mountains that any jack could get a half dozen of them by simply propping himself against a tree and firing a gun at random.

Henry Jordan and S. C. Jordan, of Illinois, are east looking over their old home surroundings near Tusseyville. These young men went west with their father, John Jordan, in 1878, and in due time married western ladies and engaged in farming, in which pursuit they are engaged at this time, the former living at McConnell and the latter at Lena. They report crops good, and prices on hogs and cattle fair. Henry Jordan brought his wife with him to show her the make-up of the best valley in Pennsylvania. Samuel and Franklin are also sons of John Jordan, who are living at McConnell and Lena, respectively, and doing well on the farm.

The Centre Reporter one dollar.