



HISTORICAL NOTES.

By MR. J. D. MURRAY.

Centre Hall has been a town slow of growth; not like some of the western towns that grow up like a mushroom, almost in one night. After the hotel and store were fairly started, the place began to improve; one house after another was built but never more than a half dozen in one year. The first house in the upper end of town was the house owned by Mrs. Jacobs, wife of Dr. Wm. A. Jacobs. This house was built by a man named Musclemann, who only partly finished it. He sold it to Major John Neff, who made some improvements and it was then sold to Daniel Musser for his daughter, Mrs. Jacobs, the present owner.

The next house was the Lutheran parsonage, which was built in 1853 and 1854. The first minister who lived in it was a man by the name of Rothruff; he was not a young man, was past middle age and a fairly good preacher. Just about harvest time, and at that time nearly every able bodied man worked in the harvest field, men were tired, and almost all of them fell asleep in their pews on Sunday. On one occasion the old gentleman saw he had few hearers, and he very unexpectedly called out with a loud voice, "we will sing that familiar hymn, (naming hymn) perhaps it will have the good effect of waking you up for a short time." It did have the desired effect and many of them declared after the services it had completely knocked sleep out of them for the time.

Before this man came here there was a Mr. Albert came over from Bellefonte to preach for the Penns Valley Lutherans and as there was no church edifice in Centre Hall at that time he preached in the Loop, now Tusseyville, church. This seemed to be a very unsatisfactory arrangement and they then secured Rev. Rothruff. It was necessary for a minister to be able to preach in both the German and English language, and it was preached alternately. The same arrangements were made by the German Reformed people with their minister, Rev. P. S. Fisher, who lived at Boalsburg. He was a good German preacher but very poor in English.

About this time they concluded to reconstruct these two churches and the Lutherans had Bellefonte stricken from this charge, as it was always considered a hard and somewhat dangerous road to travel eight miles across the mountain from either side, and so it proved on one occasion. The minister, Rev. Albert, was coming from Bellefonte to this side on a cold frosty morning in the fall of 1853 and had with him in his buggy another reverend gentleman, whom we cannot name. When they came to the foot of the mountain they began to feel the effects of the cool morning, and were becoming a little chilly. Rev. Albert proposed that they get out of the buggy and walk up the mountain letting the horse walk ahead of them, a distance of about one and three-fourths of a mile, and by that time they would be prepared to enter their buggy and proceed on their journey feeling more comfortable. This arrangement between the two reverend gentlemen looked fairly reasonable and was based on good philosophy, which ministers are often able to produce; but in this case their plan did not materialize according to their wishes. They failed to see that the plan was fraught with danger and the sequel will show that they exercised very poor judgment.

Getting out of the buggy they started the horse gently before them; he walked off very quietly, and the reverend gentlemen engaged in conversation, perhaps theology was their theme. Mr. Albert noticed his horse quickened his steps to some extent, but attributed it to their having relieved it of more than three hundred pounds avoirdupois. At times he would increase his speed and no doubt as the horse's speed increased the respiration and pulsation of the reverend gentlemen was also making more frequent bounds. They were getting along nicely, and were now less than a half mile from the top of the mountain, where they expected to get into the buggy feeling comfortable, and go on their way rejoicing, but their goal was still in obscurity. As this horse had always been accustomed to having his body controlled by a simple motion of the bit in his mouth, and he had not felt the least motion of the bit since they started to make the ascent of the mountain, and being endowed with about as much natural instinct as any other animal of his kind, and had plenty of surplus strength, his action was evidently tormenting him.

His instinct would naturally teach him that this strength should be used to some purpose, but having no mind he could not know that this surplus ability might be used to the great disadvantage of his kind master. Not feeling any motion in his mouth, he began to feel like a ship without a rudder, nothing to control him, therefore he came to the conclusion if there was no one wanted to utilize this accumulated horse power he would make use of a little of it for his own gratification as this slow traveling up the mountain seemed very monotonous, and it also appeared to be an imposition on his equine dignity and when they came to what is called the "old road" which joins the Brush Valley road at Heckman's, this spirited steed made a spring from the pike to the old road; Mr. Albert and his friend walked slowly knowing that they could not catch him, but they could see his tracks.

He kept the road for a good distance, then got into the woods not far from the road where they found the buggy with the top torn off and part of the harness. They still followed, picking up part of the harness as they went; when they got on the Brush Valley road they came down this way until they got to one of the Hoffer farms, the one that J. J. Arney now owns and occupies, there, to Mr. Albert's delight he found his horse, not in the least maimed or blemished. Mr. Albert now felt that his financial loss was not going to be as great as he had apprehended; he related the accident, as he called it, to Mr. Hoffer in detail, and it is to Mr. Hoffer we are indebted for the truth of this account.

After dinner one of the Hoffers took a wagon and went for the buggy which was found in a very dilapidated condition, yet it did not require the amount of work that a casual observer would suppose. In about a week Mr. Albert came around to the shop to see his buggy. It was put up in running order; he examined the job and remarked, "why it is now in better shape than it was before." The shop man had the bill already made out, with some allowance for a poor preacher, but not for an accident. The preacher asked what the bill was, and the shop man replied \$10.50; well, said the minister, don't you make some reduction in case of an accident." The shop man said, "we might in cases where there was a real accident, but when men get out of their buggy and let the lines lie in the buggy and the horse runs away, it looks to us more like encouraging the horse to run away than anything else, and therefore can't see anything accidental about it. The minister tried to maintain his accident position being a better talker than the shop man, as it was more in his line of business.

The shop man replied by saying, "this case reminds me of a little primer I had when quite a young boy; there was a picture in it of a man being thrown from his horse and under the picture was written: "Horses will their rider throw, if they let the bridle go." He had intended making a few more little quotations, but on looking around noticed the preacher smilingly getting out his pocketbook. This is what happened one of the first Lutheran ministers. It also teaches that all men, no matter what their education, trade or profession, are liable to make mistakes, and this was one among the clergy.

The Keller family—While they are not among the most ancient they are truly among the most worthy and notable. Christian Keller was a miller by trade. He married a girl by the name of Henney and settled at what was always called the Red Mill, where he was engaged in the milling business for a number of years and where his two oldest sons, William and John H. were born. On the 10th day of September, 1813, at the time when the entire country was rejoicing over the great victory Oliver Perry had won over the British on Lake Erie, the late John Henney Keller was born.

The Destructive Caterpillar.

The tent caterpillar, a most ravencous larva, is everywhere visible, and is and should cause alarm to fruit growers. Their presence this spring are in unusually large numbers, and they are attacking trees and bushes and have already left devastating marks in orchards. Unless something is done to arrest this destructive larva, great damage will be done to fruit trees and shrubs in a very short time.

The Reporter one dollar per year.

Horses up in Price.

Jacob Hite's sale of horses at the New Hotel Deckard Mifflinburg Thursday of last week attracted many buyers. The horses were the finest lot offered in Union county in many years. A very handsome sorrel mare, purchased by Mr. J. R. Ritter, and admired by everybody, brought the top price—\$275. A pair of roan draft horses brought \$445. Twenty-three were sold, the average price being \$146.85. The horses were all guaranteed.

GOVERNOR ACTS ON BILLS.

He says that an Educational Measure is Un-constitutional.

Allowing parents or guardians of children to send them to the schools in the district in which they reside or any of the schools in the districts in which they own real estate subject to taxation for school purposes. The Governor says this is legislation for the benefit of one class to the exclusion of another, and is therefore unconstitutional.

Providing that the salary of county superintendents of schools shall be \$10 for each of the first 100 schools, \$5 for each school above 100 and not over 200 and \$2 for each school above 200, and that the salary of the superintendents shall not be less than \$1000 annually nor more than \$2000. In counties having 1200 square miles or a school term exceeding seven and a half months the salary shall not be less than \$1500. Where a convention of school directors electing a superintendent votes him a salary greater than the amount he would receive by this act the increase must be taken out of the school fund appropriated for the county.

Providing that where application is made for a transfer of a liquor license the application shall be advertised the same as original applications for such licenses, and that residents of the ward, borough or township shall have the same right to remonstrate against such transfer as against applications for original licenses.

BILL TO PREVENT IDIOCY

Passed in an Executive Session of the House.

The House Tuesday afternoon for the first time in a score of years went into executive session. It was to discuss the Thomas bill for the prevention of idiocy.

The author and principal advocate of the measure, which was passed finally, is Dr. Thomas, a member from Westmoreland. He was the only speaker on the subject, no one venturing to reply to him. Dr. Thomas pointed out the dangers which menace the State and the race by permitting the increase of offspring of idiotic or weak-minded parents. He discussed the subject from the standpoint of the physician and strongly urged the passage of the bill, which provides that in certain cases surgical science be called upon as a preventive agency. A circular advocating this method of treatment from five eminent medical authorities in Philadelphia was sent to every member of the House and Senate. The bill passed by a vote of 103 yeas and 44 nays.

The following House bills passed finally:

- To prevent the consolidation of competing telephone lines.
- Regulating and defining the legal relations of an illegitimate child or children, its heirs or their heirs, with each other and the mother and her heirs.
- Limiting the duration to two years of liens on real estate of decedents other than those secured by mortgage within five years after the death of the decedents.
- The Hall resolution, providing to amend the Constitution by striking out the word "fifty" in Section 16, Article 2, thus providing for a variable number of Senatorial districts as in the House of Representatives, passed finally.

HORSE KILLED.

Shied Over the Embankment Above Mill Hall.

L. S. Frazier, the well known meat man of Mill Hall, was driving along the road above Mill Hall last week when his young horse shied to the side. He went over the embankment and fell among the grindstones which are lying at that point. The horse was instantly killed. Mr. Frazier jumped from the wagon and caught a telephone pole and held himself, thus escaping injury.

WOMAN ON FESTIVALS.

A Minister's Wife's Ideas Should be Generally Instilled.

Owing to the absence of her husband from the city Mrs. May E. Frey, wife of the Rev. Frey, took his place in the pulpit in the East End Baptist church at Williamsport, last Sunday evening. During her sermon she arraigned the churches of today for methods employed and declared the men stumble over the church into hell. "One reason," she said, "for the church's lack of power is that it caters to the world in efforts to get money by holding fairs, festivals and private theatricals. Imagine Paul saying to Peter: 'Peter, we had better get up an ice cream festival to pay the expenses of the church in Corinth.'" See Grant Hoover before you insure.

TROLLEY LINE TO BE BUILT.

Williamsport and Lock Haven will be the Terminal Points.

A charter has been obtained for the Williamsport and Lock Haven Traction Company. The capital stock is \$150,000, of which \$50,000 has already been subscribed. Senator J. Henry Cochran, of Williamsport, is president of the Company.

It is the intention of the company to commence the building of the road, which will be about twenty-eight miles in length, as soon as possible, and that portion of the line from Lock Haven to Jersey Shore and Oak Grove, where the new shops of the New York Central Railroad are to be located, will be constructed immediately.

NEW APPOINTMENT PLAN.

Mr. Paul Will Offer a Bill Making Congressional Districts.

Representative Paul, Democrat, of Philadelphia, has prepared a Congressional apportionment bill which he expects to present as soon as opportunity offers. The bill has been prepared without regard to party lines and solely with regard to constitutional requirements and contiguous territory. Under this bill Centre county would become part of the Eighteenth district, comprised of the counties of Montour, Northumberland, Union, Centre and Clinton, with a population of 195,832.

Will go to Canton.

Although Mrs. McKinley's condition has greatly improved, the physicians have named a week or ten days as the shortest possible time in which she can gather strength to make the trip from San Francisco across the continent.

The immediate members of the presidential party will therefore remain in California for that length of time, though it is probable that the others will leave for the east during the present week. The president and Mrs. McKinley will go direct from San Francisco to Canton.

State Gets \$102,313.06.

Pennsylvania received a treasury warrant in the sum of \$102,313.06 from the national government the other day. Every now and then Uncle Sam, feeling in a liberal mood, decides to pay Pennsylvania a portion of the little bill that has been in process of settlement for the last forty years, covering the period of the Civil War and the war with Spain, when Pennsylvania generously contributed toward the outfit of her soldiery, with the express understanding that she should be reimbursed.

Deaths in Nearby Counties.

- Mifflin—Near Belleville, Benjamin Franklin Baker, aged sixty-nine years.
- In Lewistown, Mrs. Susan Gardner, widow of John A. Gardner, aged seventy-three years.
- In McVeytown, Benjamin F. Hosterman, aged twenty-two years.
- Near Belleville, Thomas E. Patton, son of Henry Patton, aged twenty-six years.
- In Lewistown, W. B. Weber, aged sixty-seven years.
- In Union township, Levi Z. Yoder, aged sixty-two years.

She's a Bird—She is.

The wife of a Methodist minister in West Virginia has been married three times. Her maiden name was Partridge; her first husband was named Robin, her second Sparrow and the present one answers to the name of Quayle. There are now two young Robins, one Sparrow and three little Quayles. One grandfather is a Swann, and another was a Jay, but he's dead. They live on Hawk Avenue.

COUNTY GRANGE.

Meets at Hubersburg, Tuesday, May 28, at 10 A. M.

Centre County Pomona Grange will meet in the Hall of Walker Grange, Hubersburg, Tuesday, the 28th inst., at 10 o'clock for the transaction of such business as may properly be brought before it. Patrons are respectfully invited and requested to be present. All 4th Degree members are eligible. Members will take Lunch Baskets. Ample accommodations for dinner in the spacious dining room on first floor of Hall. Let the attendance be general.

PROGRAM, 10 A. M.

Opening of Grange in Fourth degree. Reading of minutes. Roll call of officers and directors of insurance company. Address of welcome—Walker Grange. Appointment of committees. Recitation—member of Zion Grange. Song. Should Nature Studies be introduced into the Common Schools? By Worthy Deputy John S. Dale and D. K. Keller.

RECESS FOR DINNER.

1.30 P. M. Song. Recitation by member of Progress Grange. Reports of committees. Song. Quarterly report of secretary of fire insurance company. What has the Grange accomplished in legislation during the present session? Hon. L. Schone, member of legislative committee of State Grange.

Should agriculture be taught in our public schools? Opened by I. S. Frain. Conferring 5th degree. Township High School. Free Rural Mail Delivery. By GEO. DALE, Master.

D. M. CAMPBELL, Secretary.

DEATHS.

MRS. EMMA H. BOWMAN.

The remains of Mrs. Emma H. Bowman, a widow lady who died at Bryn Mawr, Pa., arrived at Pleasant Gap Thursday afternoon of last week. Mrs. Bowman, whose maiden name was Harrison, was the daughter of Thomas Harrison, deceased, and was born at Pleasant Gap forty-three years ago. She was married to a Mr. Bowman, of Bryn Mawr, who died last January. Deceased is survived by her mother, Mrs. Mary Harrison, of Pleasant Gap, and the following brothers and sisters: Thomas, of Philadelphia; Etta, of Ohio; Irvin and Ruth, of Pleasant Gap.

JULIA WEISER.

Julia, the wife of William I. Weiser, of Millheim, died Thursday of last week of paralysis, at the age of sixty-nine years, less one day. Mrs. Weiser had been a sufferer from paralysis for some time, and during her last few weeks of life was several times stricken. The deceased was Julia Hess, sister of D. Hess, of Linden Hall, prior to her marriage to Mr. Weiser. The couple were childless, but took into their home and raised two children both of whom are married, namely, Mrs. Keen, Millheim, and Mrs. Ricker, Altoona. Services were conducted by the deceased, pastor, Rev. Buck of the Evangelical church. Interment in the Union Cemetery, Sunday.

JOHN B. SHANER.

John B. Shaner, justice of the peace, of Antis township, Blair county, died at his home in Antis township Saturday, of neuritis, after an illness of five weeks, aged sixty-one years, seven months and one day. Deceased was born at Curtin's Iron works, near Milesburg, Centre county, October 17, 1839, the Shaner family being among the early settlers of Centre and Clinton counties. Mr. Shaner enlisted in the Union army during the civil war as a member of the Pennsylvania reserves, and later served a term in the Eighth United States cavalry. During the war he was made a prisoner for four months. In 1868 he was married to Miss Mary F. Isenberg, of Huntingdon. He is survived by his wife and nine children.

MRS. REBECCA C. CURTIN.

Mrs. Rebecca C. Curtin died Friday night at 10 o'clock at her home at Curtin Station. Mrs. Curtin was born near where she died, July 16, 1816, and had spent the whole of her 84 years of life at that place. She was a lady highly esteemed for her many motherly and neighborly traits. She was the mother of Mrs. Joseph Candor and C. C. Curtin, of Lock Haven; and also of R. W. Curtin, and Mrs. Julia Harvey, of Curtin Station, and L. B. Curtin, of Lador, Col. A sister, Mrs. Eliza White, and a brother, Samuel Bathurst, both of Curtin Station, also survive. Deceased was the wife of the late Austin Curtin, who was a brother of the late ex-Governor Curtin. Mrs. Curtin has been a life long member of the M. E. church and was probably the oldest member of the Eagle M. E. chapel at Curtin Station. The funeral took place Sunday afternoon. Services were conducted in the chapel at 1 o'clock, and interment was made at Eagle cemetery.

MRS. SARAH KENNELLY.

The death of Mrs. Sarah Kennelly, familiarly known about her home as Grandmother Kennelly, died at her home in Spring Mills at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon. She had been ill for about three or more weeks, with no special disease except the afflictions frequently suffered by persons of advanced age. The funeral took place today (Thursday) at 9 a. m. Deceased was a member of the Methodist church, and her pastor Rev. Haven officiated at the funeral.

Many years ago the deceased, whose maiden name was Sarah Breon, married Stephen Kennelly, deceased, and lived during that time on the old homestead. The union was blessed with thirteen children, nine of whom survive, and are as follows: James, Spring Mills; Mrs. David Burrell, Spring Mills; Mrs. Wes Sweetwood, Georges Valley; Daniel, Spring Mills; Thomas, Spring Mills; Mrs. James Smetzer, Centre Hall; Mrs. A. B. Miller, Mill Hall; Mrs. James Dubbs, Phillipsburg; and Robert G., Spring Mills. Winfield died in infancy, and Doublene, a daughter, at the age of fourteen years.

The deceased gave one son to the cause of the Union—Stephen, who was a member of Company F, 148th Regiment, and was killed in the battle of the Wilderness. Another son, Samuel, was killed on the railroad in Toledo, Ohio.

James Leitze and F. P. Auman, of Spring Mills, were callers at this office last week. Call again, gentlemen.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Rev. Reaick attended conference at Pine Grove Mills last week.

Samuel Shoop returned from a trip through New York state, in the interest of the Plano Binder Co.

Messrs. Clem, Milford and John Luse have each added a fine porch to their homes, which adds greatly to their appearance.

Mrs. Lyman Smith is able to be up after an illness of several weeks with typhoid fever. Mrs. Robert Foreman is still confined to her bed.

B. D. Brisbin, of Centre Hall, is the representative of the Odd Fellows order in this place to the Grand Lodge in session at Gettysburg this week.

Mr. Kryder, of the firm of Kryder & Orwig, has so far recovered from the injuries he sustained by being thrown from his buggy as to be able to get about on crutches.

J. Frank Reaick, of Spring Mills, was in town on business last week in the interest of his lighting system, which proves very satisfactory to all who are using it.

M. L. Snyder, Esq., wife and family, of Selinsgrove, were the guests of the Fishers in Penn Hall over Sunday. Lawyer Snyder is a potent factor in the community in which he lives.

Edwin F. Uhl, former assistant secretary of State and Ambassador to Germany under the Cleveland administration, died at his home at Grand Rapids, Michigan, last Friday, from Bright's disease.

James Carson, of near Bellefonte, stopped in Centre Hall a few minutes Friday of last week on his way home from Farmers Mills. Mr. Carson is a brother of Mrs. Elizabeth Love, of this place.

Miss Elizabeth Stuart, daughter of Postmaster John Stuart, of State College, accompanied by two of Phil. Foster's children, spent last Thursday and Friday with her aunt, Mrs. Lizzie Jacobs in this place.

Editor J. Frank Raine, of the Millheim Journal, and Prof. H. C. Rothrock, who represent Millheim in a literary and educational way, were in Centre Hall Thursday of last week, having made the trip on bikes.

The bill authorizing the payment by the county of the costs incidental to the arrest of Eutlinger at Woodward, which was recalled after it was in the governor's hands, has been passed finally with a few changes in phraseology.

Harry McManaway, of Penn Hall, for some years employed by the Fisher Bros., and who recently went to Sunbury to accept a position in a large store in that place, is home again. Mr. McManaway is about to take a situation offered him by the Hoover Mercantile Company, New York City.

Mr. Joseph Gilliland, of New Bloomfield, Perry county, and his daughter, Miss Bertha Gilliland, who is a student at State College, were guests at the home of W. O. Reaick over Sunday. Mr. Gilliland will remain a week looking after some repairs on his farm near Potters Mills.

The members of the Evangelical church at Tusseyville will observe Children's Day June 16. This particular congregation takes great pains in getting up good services on such occasions, and those who are fortunate enough to hear the program rendered will no doubt be well repaid in many ways.

A trio of gentlemen experienced in farm management and booked in up to date methods of soil cultivation are Messrs. George Swabb and James Kimport, of Linden Hall, and Squire Shaffer, of near Centre Hall. This information was gained by attentively listening to an exchange of opinions on these subjects in the Reporter office last week.

George R. Meiss, of Colyer, is making special preparations for the coming fruit season. He has a new wagon and new team, and will make regular tours through this section with the product of his berry and fruit plot. The first crop to ripen will be strawberries, then currants, blackberries, raspberries, etc., peaches and pears. Read Mr. Meiss' advertisement elsewhere.

Dr. D. H. Mingle, of Maxwell, Iowa, is east on a pleasure trip and is the guest of his many friends and relatives in Centre county. Last week Dr. Mingle stopped with his brother, W. B. Mingle, Esq., in this place. It is almost twenty years since the doctor left his associates about Millheim and Aaronsburg and located in his home in Iowa, where he is at present enjoying not only a lucrative practice, but is regarded a most useful citizen in his community.