

The Centre Reporter.

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CENTRE HALL, PA., THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 1901.

NO. 24.

HISTORICAL NOTES.

By MR. J. D. MURRAY.

The houses in that day, before the school law was passed, were all built of heavy logs chinked and daubed, and the stories of such houses were generally not very high, about eight feet was the average height. Mr. Jones and Mr. Peck were consulted in the matter of building, and both being well pleased to have the house favorably located, Mr. Peck, in the height of his enthusiasm said, "I will give half the logs out of my woods near the site," and Mr. Jones replied, "I will give the other half out of my woods." They now have the location and the logs and there may be a stone mason in this imaginary school district, also a carpenter, and in order to help the job along offer their work free of charge, the farmers doing all the hauling and other work and when the job was completed there was nothing to pay as the land on which the house would stand was only a grant from the owner for that purpose and after the school closed those houses were generally claimed by the owner of the land without any opposition, for there would be no papers of any kind to show ownership by any person or persons.

The school house of which we spoke in last week's issue was finished, with stove, and all other furnishings that belonged to a country school house. The desks which were only two in number, run the entire length of the house and were fastened to the wall sloping in towards the center of the house where a large ten plate stove stood, marked "Centre Furnace" or "Cornwall Furnace." Those stoves were furnished with wood by the farmers in turn; this was hauled to the house in all lengths from five to fifteen feet. There was an axe furnished for every school house and it was the duty of the larger boys to chop the wood fine enough to be used in this big stove. This rule became a great bore in some schools and a bone of contention between the boys and the schoolmaster, as he was called when in actual service; out of service he was given another name, but we do not remember that he was ever called a pedagogue, as he is now sometimes called.

The next question that engaged the attention of the people who lived in the neighborhood of this new school house, at that time no law prescribing rules and regulations for the government of these schools, the teacher being a law making power within himself, was the selection of a teacher, which was done in this manner: There were men at that time who made it a business to teach; some of them were indeed very good teachers, as far as it went. The winter term hardly exceeded three months, or a quarter, hence the expression, "It was as good for me as a quarter of schooling." The best teachers who were engaged came principally from the eastern states and were men sometimes advanced in life. The most successful teacher that tradition has given us any account of was a man from Massachusetts, near Boston, Timothy Ladd; he was a cripple, but a very successful man in his chosen profession. It appeared that he had no trouble to secure a school, as his reputation as a teacher was always in advance of his appearance.

They had at that time as now many amateur teachers; this man Ladd had the reputation of having sent out quite a number of fairly good teachers, such as did not expect to make teaching their chosen profession, but engaged in it during the winter season, and farmer's sons would often engage in it for a term. If he had a recommendation from Timothy Ladd, or some other influential person, his qualifications would not be doubted, but if he had no such recommendation he would take from his pocket a specimen of his handwriting and if this patron of the school thought it fairly good he would not hesitate to subscribe one, two or three pupils, or as many as he had to send, at two dollars a pupil or five dollars for three out of one family. Sometimes they would subscribe two and a half, thinking of sending the eldest girl or boy only about half the time. When there was a little boy or girl in the family who had not yet learned the alphabet, he or she would go a short time in the fall before the weather would get cold; such were called a b c darians, and for such there were no charges. After the teacher had secured subscribers to the number of twenty-five, thirty or more there would be a time for beginning determined, which would in some cases create dissatisfaction. In most cases it suited the farmers best to start in a little later, as they would have work for their older children in the fall.

On a certain day of the month it would be reported that the school would begin and there would be great excitement among the children and the larger boys and girls. The first day there would usually be a good attendance, particularly if the teacher was an entire stranger in that neighborhood, they would all be anxious to see the new teacher of whom they had heard very little. This new teacher had secured boarding and lodging with the nearest farmer, Mr. Peck, one of the very best school men and he had two children to send to school, a boy fourteen years of age and a daughter sixteen or seventeen; this apparently made a very pleasant place for the teacher to board, at about one dollar a week. Monday morning the teacher was on hand in good time about as anxious to see his pupils as they were to see him; he had the stove in good order, the room in good order and all other things accordingly in good shape and he is now propped upon his little bench at his desk at the end of the room. As his pupils enter he slightly rises to his feet greeting them with "good morning;" after they are all in and settled down as quiet as mice, he again rises to his feet, walks to the stove stirs up the green wood remarking, "a cold morning, but I think we can all be comfortable when we get started up; we must try and get some dry wood to start our fire." He then walks back to his desk and puts himself in position to make a little speech, which will appear in next week's issue.

Will Sandoe fills the position of clerk in the Centre Hall post office under Capt. G. M. Boal.

Samuel Spicher, of Liverpool, Perry county, last week spent several days with his Cousin John Spicher, in this place.

John Heckman and Miss Lizzie Snyder, west of Centre Hall, were ill during the past week, but have almost recovered.

H. H. Miller, of Rebersburg, was a caller this week, and advertises letters testamentary on the estate of his father, the late Joseph Miller, of Miles township.

Mrs. A. J. Musser, of Clearfield, Pa., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Durst, of Spring Mills, is visiting her parents. Mr. Musser is a telegrapher and holds a good position in Clearfield.

C. H. Murray, Esq., formerly of this place, but now living at Colorado Springs, Col., is physically disabled at present. It was noticed some months ago in the Reporter that Mr. Murray was chief of the editorial department of a prominent daily, but he was able to perform the work for one issue only, since which time he has been unable to do work of any character.

F. F. Farner, son of W. C. Farner, of Colyer, who holds a position as book keeper for a fish firm in Philadelphia, is a reader of the Reporter and is making strides to advance. He was first engaged on a trolley, afterwards was employed in weighing the mails for three months, from which place he went to his present position. Mr. Farner passed a very creditable civil service examination and eventually expects to be regularly connected with the city mail service.

Mrs. Jennie Ruble after spending a month in Centre Hall, returned to her home in Greensburg Tuesday.

Mrs. Maria Wagner, of Tusseyville, spent several days last week with friends in Centre Hall, leaving Monday for Pleasant Gap, where she will remain a week.

Mrs. J. Emory Hoy and daughter, of Philadelphia, last week returned to their home after spending several weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Mingle, in Centre Hall.

Miss Estelle Acker, of this place, has applied for a position as nurse in one of the leading New York hospitals. The young lady has many qualities requisite for the station in life to which she is aspiring.

Miss Anna Bartholomew Tuesday went to Harrisburg, from which place she will go to Lancaster, Philadelphia and other points. She will be absent a month or more. Miss Bartholomew for several years taught the primary borough school and has proven herself an efficient instructor.

Wm. Musser, station agent at Spring Mills, who is well and favorably known to many of the Reporter readers, was absent from his post of duty for a week, which time he spent in eastern cities. W. A. Odenkirk, of Centre Hall, acted as station master during Mr. Musser's absence.

Rev. Curry Love, of Pennsylvania Furnace, filled the pulpit in the Presbyterian church at this place Friday evening, Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, when Communion services were held. Rev. Love, though a young man, is an able minister and an earnest and pleasant speaker. His sermons were highly appreciated by his audience.

TEACHERS RE-ELECTED.

School Board Recognizes Worth and Re-elects Former Instructors.

At a meeting of the borough school board Monday evening the old corps of instructors was re-elected without dissent. The instructors gave such satisfaction during the term just closed, that the board felt justifiable in not considering other applications. The salaries remain the same, except in the case of the primary instructor which was increased from \$30 to \$32.

Instructors. Grade. Salary.
A. T. Igen. High School. \$50.00
James B. Strohm. Grammar. 35.00
F. A. Foreman. Intermediate. 22.00
Anna Bartholomew. Primary. 32.00

The length of the school term has not been fixed, but will likely be the minimum number of months. If the citizens desire a change in the length of the school term they should express their desires.

The rate of tuition for pupils in the township attending the borough schools remains the same as heretofore—\$1.50 per month.

Although the time for opening the public school has not been fixed, the board is inclined to begin about the first of September, and close for two days only during picnic week.

The great mistake made by the public schools in eliminating many of the common branches from the Grammar and High Schools, is tersely expressed by a Chicago National bank president in an address to a university graduating class. He outlined the educational qualifications which he regards as most helpful in attaining success in a business career. They are few and simple:

1. To be able to write a good legible hand, to make good figures, and to place them correctly—the units below the units, the tens below the tens, and so on.

2. To be able to add, subtract and multiply rapidly and accurately.

3. To be able to express yourself clearly, briefly and grammatically in a letter and to spell the words correctly.

Elementary as these qualifications are President Forgan says the young men who possess them are rare. Though Mr. Forgan has taken many youths into business, he says he can remember scarcely one who could be relied upon to do the simple things yet enumerated. Many of them were graduates of high schools, yet they could not always write legibly, figure accurately or spell correctly. Perhaps they could write a thesis on mythology or biology, but they had not mastered the first rudiments of the business in which they hoped to make a livelihood.

If you are not in sympathy with President Forgan, please read the above paragraphs again. You will notice he does not condemn higher education, but does say that the average young man is woefully deficient in elementary qualifications. In other words, the common branches in the public schools of to-day are supplanted by higher studies before the former have been thoroughly mastered.

This condition is being met in the public schools of Centre Hall.

The Potter township board has not yet elected teachers.

The Gregg township school board at its meeting Saturday elected the following teachers:

Spring Mills: Dr. D. M. Wolf, Miss Mabel Sankey, Jesse Reacker.
Penn Hall: Clyde Hubler.
Beaver Dam: Mary Geiss.
Coke Hill: C. E. Royer.
Toll Gate: Lutecia Goodhart.
Logan: Earl Rowe.
Murray: I. V. Bitner.
Hoy's: Harvey Hagan.
Cross Roads: L. Duck.
Decker: John D. Miller.
Mountain: Emerick.
Farmers Mills: Orpha Gramley.
Minimum salary, \$25.00; maximum, \$60.00.

MILLHEIM.
High School—Prof. H. C. Rothrock; Intermediate, W. E. Keen; Second Primary, Miss Lyle McCloskey; First Primary, Miss Florida Duck. Salaries from \$32 to \$55.

HAINES.
Aaronsburg—Grammar, H. F. Yearick; Intermediate, E. R. Wolfe; Primary, Cordelia Acker; Wolf's Chapel, E. M. Martini; Woodward, H. A. Detwiler; Vonada, W. T. Williams; Lose, C. E. Kreamer; Pine Creek, W. T. Winklebich; Mt. Pleasant, Orvis Meyer; St. Paul, to be supplied. Salary from \$29 to \$35.

MILES.
Rebersburg—High School, H. W. Morris; Intermediate, J. C. Morris; Primary, T. A. Auman; Harters, Noah Brungart.

Madisonburg—Grammar, J. N. Moyer; Primary, W. H. Lambert; Gramley, F. M. Emerick; Wolf's Store, C. C. Smull; Brungart's, C. M. Haines; Livonia, to be supplied. Salaries range from \$30 to \$45.

IN PHILADELPHIA.

Young Men Whom 'Squire Housman Met While in the City.

'Squire Housman, who returned home from Philadelphia last week, gives another chapter telling of the young men from Potter township who are earning a good livelihood in Philadelphia, and says:

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Farner live at No. 2140, N. 30th St. They certainly know how to entertain their friends from their native home and show them all possible marks of kindness. It is with such families who have been taught to cook at home that you get a square meal that reminds a person of home. Mr. Farner is now a bookkeeper for C. G. Linder & Bro., 2909 Market Street, and is also an applicant for a position in the Central post-office. We wish our friend success.

Another person not before mentioned is Miss Mary Feese, who is from Colyer, and is now living with Mrs. Hurlinger, 733 Corinthian Ave.; she has a fine position and is just the person to fill it. Miss Feese thinks of becoming a nurse in one of the hospitals. Success to Miss Mary.

I wish to say, in behalf of my daughter, I extend to all our friends and acquaintances in the city our heart-felt thanks for the beautiful flowers and all other marks of respect shown to her while she was in the hospital, and also towards myself; and to our friends and neighbors at home, for kindness shown to our family while we were away, hoping that we may be able some time to reciprocate their kindness.

To our friends I would say, we arrived home safely, and my daughter is doing as well as can be expected.

PICNIC COMMITTEE MEETS.

Changes on the Camp to be Made.—Camp Opens Sept. 14.

The committee on arrangements of the Patrons Exhibition and Picnic met on the camp grounds at this place Tuesday afternoon. There will be a number of radical changes made in the camp arrangement and a number of exhibit buildings will be moved to conform with the new camp plans. The music exhibit will be located west of the Philadelphia house, which will be a more desirable and pleasant location. The subordinate granges, twenty-one in number, will each appoint a sub-committee of five members, who will act with the committee elected by Pomona Grange.

The organization of the committee was effected by electing Hon. L. Rhone, chairman; George Dale, secretary; G. L. Goodhart, treasurer. James A. Keller was selected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of J. J. Arney, who served continuously on the committee since its existence. The time set for the opening of the camp is Saturday, Sept. 14.

The usual daily meetings will be held in the auditorium. One session will be devoted to the children. A quartette of singers will be engaged for the week, who will give an entertainment each day in the auditorium.

The committee is spurred up, and will put forth its greatest efforts to make the exhibition of 1901 the best of any yet held. Hon. L. Rhone next week will go to Philadelphia to make the railroad arrangements.

Among others who were present at the meeting Tuesday were Hon. L. Rhone and wife, John S. Dauberman and wife, G. W. Gingerich and wife, J. J. Arney, James A. Keller, John Spicher, Centre Hall; D. M. Campbell, Linden Hall; Nathan Grove and wife, George Dale, Lemont.

George Spayd.

George Spayd, of near Madisonburg, died at his home Thursday morning of last week, from ailments superinduced by old age, having attained the age of eighty-one years, three months and twenty-four days. The funeral occurred Monday forenoon, interment in Madisonburg. He was a life long member of the Reformed church, and his pastor, Rev. Wetzel, of Rebersburg, performed the funeral rites. Deceased leaves a wife and five children, namely, Israel, who farms the old homestead; Mrs. John Orndorf, near Penn Hall; Mrs. Henry Stitzer, Rebersburg; Mrs. Frank Ream, Spring Mills; Miss Della at home. Deceased was a prominent citizen of Gregg township where he lived the whole of his life. He was industrious and acquired considerable property, owning one of the finest farms in Gregg township. In politics the deceased was a Democrat, and was ardent in the support of the party of his choice at all times.

Methodist Festival.

The M. E. church will hold a festival on the lawn of W. H. Bartholomew, at the station, on the evening of July 4th. Refreshments of all kinds will be served; the public is invited. The refreshments at the Methodist festivals are always first-class.

EDWIN L. IRVIN SENTENCED.

Three Years and Four Months in the Penitentiary for Causing the Death of Miss McWilliams.

Judge Love Monday morning handed down his decision refusing new trial to Edward L. Irvin, convicted at the April term of court of causing the death by abortion of Miss Ella McWilliams, of Rock Springs. Judge Love sentenced Irvin to pay the costs of prosecution, \$500 fine and undergo three years and four months solitary confinement at hard labor in the Western penitentiary at Pittsburg.

The crime for which Irvin was sentenced was committed along about the 9th of last January. Miss McWilliams was the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. McWilliams, of Rock Springs, and Irvin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Irvin, of Baileyville. The readers are pretty well acquainted with the details of the case a full report having been published in this paper at the time.

Reeder & Quigley, attorneys for the defendant, it is stated will appeal the case to the Superior Court. In the meantime they asked that Irvin be released on bail but Judge Love refused this request and the defendant was committed to jail.

LAWS OF LOCAL INTEREST.

Constables No Longer Fire Wardens.—Bridge Bill Vetoes.

These bills were passed finally by the Senate:

Repealing an act making constables of townships ex-officio fire wardens for the extinction of forest fires.

House judicial apportionment bill. This bill has been amended by attaching Bedford County, which is at present a separate district, to Huntingdon and Millin Counties. Cameron County is taken from Clinton and Elk and attached to Potter County.

The Governor also disapproved a bill to make the Commonwealth liable for a proportionate share of the cost of construction of bridges built by county commissioners over streams above 1000 feet in width.

SAVED HIS FELLOW'S LIVES.

Pinched Down by a Heavy Stone, Freed Remembered His Duty.

Remembering the safety of others though himself suffering serious injuries, James Freed, an employee at the Mann-Edge Tool Company at Lewistown saved the lives of three men.

He was at the guide pole of the transfer, by which heavy stones are carried through the building, a 3500-pound stone being then in transfer, when a passerby overbalanced a smaller stone which he was rolling. It fell on Freed, crushing one of his legs and breaking the other. Had the injured man let go his hold on the pole the largest stone would have fallen on three of his fellows about ready to receive it, but though planned to the ground he kept his grip until help arrived.

Wanamaker Troubles Bosses.

John Wanamaker is willing to pay the city of Philadelphia \$2,500,000 for the franchises conferred by the ordinances passed by the city council to favored incorporators of the new street railway companies the right to occupy several hundred miles of city streets without any return to the municipality. Mr. Wanamaker's offer was made to Mayor Ashbridge after he had deposited \$250,000 on account of the proposition. The proposition was handed the Mayor, who upon recognizing the Ex-Postmaster General's handwriting, tossed the letter into a crowd. The Mayor remained away from home to escape a copy of the offer left at his house.

State's Graduates Get Positions.

Nearly every graduate of Pennsylvania State College has already secured a position. Of the twelve men in the mechanical section all have positions, with calls for six who could not be furnished. Of the civil engineering section all except two are placed. Of the electrical engineers thirteen have accepted positions and two are in the attitude of choosing. There were not enough electricals to go around. The mining engineers are all placed. Of the two geologists two will take a medical course and the remaining one is undecided as to what he will do. Six of the seven chemists, including Hooker, the short course man, have positions.

Patrons at Buffalo.

The executive committee of the National Grange have completed arrangements whereby patrons attending the exposition at Buffalo can secure comfortable lodging places and boarding at very reasonable rates. Any desired information can be had by writing or applying in person to the Keese Information Company, 72 Exchange Street, opposite the Union Station.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Mary had a little calf—
It was so neat and clean,
That every where that Mary went
It hardly could be seen;
But Mary got a pair of wooden pads
Which she put on her home,
And now the calf is plainly seen
Wherever Mary goes.—Exchange.

It followed her up street one day,
But not against her will;
The boys all smiled, and said, "da, da,"
That calf is fit to kill.

The butcher said he'd buy the calf,
But couldn't use the girl, he sighed.
Mary gave a little laugh,
And shook her golden curls, and cried:
"You naughty man, you only chaff,
—And think 'tis mutton on inside."

W. C. Farner, of Colyer, was a caller Saturday.

Warner Gunder returned to Cresson beginning of this week.

Meeting of Progress Grange, No. 99, Saturday, June 23 at 2 p. m.

Chas. W. Slack has the frame work of his house well under way.

Have your posters printed at the Reporter office. Both work and prices are right.

Miss Katharine Kerr, a student at Dickinson College, is home for the summer vacation.

Mrs. Maggie Love and Mrs. Wm. Mertz, of Tusseyville, were in Centre Hall Monday.

Miss Romie Van Pelt arrived in Centre Hall from Philadelphia, where she will remain for a short time.

J. I. Condo and daughter Ida, of Spring Mills, left last Tuesday for Pittsburg, where they will spend a week.

Chas. H. Meyer, liveryman of Millersburg, purchased a fine driving horse from the Howard Creamery company.

Miss Ella Fisher, daughter of Rev. W. E. Fisher, D. D., of Shamokin, graduated last week from Maryland College, and took first honors.

Dallis Hamlin, the seven year old son of Daniel Hamlin, of Lock Haven, fell off a chair at his home and broke his arm in two places.

W. C. Bible and J. H. Bitner, of Pottery Mills, were callers Monday to make arrangements for the Sportsmen's League festival and blue rock shot.

T. M. Gramley, one of the firm of the Spring Mills Creamery Company, left last Monday for Gettysburg to attend commencement exercises at that place.

Miss A. Mabel Boal departed Monday for Lewisburg, where she will attend Bucknell commencement. While in Lewisburg she is the guest of Mrs. J. Fred Kurtz.

Messrs. Claude Stahl, Witmer Lee and Chas. Homan, of this place, attended the Luther League convention at Lock Haven Wednesday and Thursday, making the journey on bicycles.

Miss Blanche Treasler, daughter of Ezra Treasler, of Boalsburg; Mrs. Verma Kline, of Kansas City, and Wm. Swabb, of Linden Hall, spent Sunday at the home of Hiram Durst, at Spring Mills.

Mrs. Catharine Alexander, of Millheim, who has been in poor health the past year, is visiting at the home of her son, W. P. Alexander, the head miller in Allison Bros. flouring mill, Spring Mills.

Robert Van Valzah, son of Mrs. Jennie Van Valzah and Charles Allison, son of Hon. Wm. M. Allison, both students at Princeton College, are spending their summer vacation at their homes in Spring Mills.

During the band festival at Colyer Saturday night some one strayed into the strawberry patch belonging to G. R. Meiss. One of the watchmen fired at the intruder and brought cries of alarm, if not blood.

Messrs. John Van Pelt and George Harris, of Bellefonte, stopped at Centre Hall Monday and Tuesday on their way to commencement exercises Bucknell College. Mr. Van Pelt went to Hastings in a few days to remain a month.

Rev. W. H. Schuyler has Wells Valley, Fulton county, chairman of a committee of bytery of Huntingdon the same ring with a similar committee of Presbytery of Carlisle, just Presbyterian religion.

Paul Murray is examining at the College last week. The election of Murray is a high school to demonstrate the public.

Write Mrs. John Dauberman "Squire"