

The Centre Reporter.

VOL. LXXV.

CENTRE HALL, PA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1902.

NO. 7.

Harris Not Libeled.

UGLY TESTIMONY PRODUCED BY THE DEFENSE.

The Harris-Meek libel case on trial in Clearfield closed last Friday with a verdict of acquittal; the defendant to pay costs. The testimony of Bertrand Busch, official stenographer for the Legislative Record, was appalling, and, together with the Phillipsburg episode, is enough to startle even a Stalwart not thoroughly familiar with the doings of kings of crooks in Harrisburg.

See Mr. Harris' letter:

GENTLEMEN:—At your request, I herewith present my bill for services in connection with your State appropriation of \$12,000. In doing this I feel safe in saying that your hospital would not have received over \$10,000 had I not taken up your cause. Governor Stone had arranged to cut you down to \$10,000, and absolutely refused to give the gentlemen a hearing; but concluded to give you the \$12,000 on my personal appeal when I went to Harrisburg at the request of your Mr. Duncan. This was not my cause, and because I spent at least four days of hard work on the floor of the House in your behalf by arrangement with Mr. Ziegler, and afterward made a special trip to Harrisburg to see Governor Stone for you, I feel that I have well earned my money.

Yours truly,

G. HARRIS.

A decided sensation developed near the close of the trial, however, when Bertrand Busch, official stenographer of the Legislative Record during the session of last winter, swore that, under orders from the chief clerk (Thomas H. Garvin), he had frequently falsified the record of votes on measures before the House.

FALSE RECORD SECRET SLIPS OUT.

When Busch took the stand his attention was called by Attorney Krebs to previous testimony of Harris that the Legislative Record was unreliable.

"I deny that, so far as is concerned the matter I was allowed to take without interference.

"As to roll-calls, I admit that the records of many of them are not correct. I was not permitted to record them as I took them, but, under instructions from the chief clerk (Thomas H. Garvin), I had to use the records from the clerk's desk, under penalty of being removed from my position.

"I know of many instances in which members were recorded as voting for or against bills when my own record showed that they had not voted, and when I knew they were not even present. I was obliged, under orders from the chief clerk, to make up the roll wrong."

HARRIS BILL FOR LOBBYING.

The other sensation of the day was the introduction of the letter of Harris, while a member of the Legislature, to the trustees of the Cottage Hospital at Phillipsburg, Centre county, demanding a fee of \$100 for his efforts in securing an increase in the State appropriation to that institution.

The letter is dated October 18, 1899, and addressed to "G. H. Lichtenthaler et al., trustees, etc., which is given in full above. Harris on the stand admitted the genuineness of the letter, but contended that he had acted in the capacity of attorney and was entitled to a fee for his services. He said that after the Governor had announced his determination to cut the appropriation from \$14,000 to \$10,000, Mr. Duncan, secretary of the board of trustees, had called him up on the phone one day and urged him to go to Harrisburg to try to persuade the Governor to change his mind; that Duncan had assured him he would be well paid for his time.

Dunlap told of Harris' attempts to collect \$100 from the hospital. He said the hospital had not employed Harris as an attorney, but had requested him, as a representative from a neighboring county and from the district from which came most of the patients of the institution, to do what he could for the hospital.

Both the letter and the bill to the hospital were introduced as evidence

during Mr. Duncan's testimony.

Harris also denied positively the alleged letter from the late Benjamin F. Haywood to himself, enclosing a check to defray the expenses of his campaign for the Legislature in 1896, on condition that he vote for Quay for United States Senator, against the Legislative apportionment and for Becker bill.

Meek had testified that he had heard of such a letter at second hand through his attorney, ex-Judge Krebs, who had said he had been informed about it by a reputable gentleman.

It turned out that the gentleman Krebs had in mind was Dr. E. M. Scheurer, a former member of the Legislature, who was called to the stand this morning. His recollection is not clear as to the matter. Krebs questioned him in a circumstantial manner, specifying the times and places where the alleged information had been given, but Scheurer said he could recall no letter containing a check. He had understood Harris was to vote for Quay and the Becker bill and against the apportionment, but knew nothing of a check.

His answers were so vague as to practically destroy the availability of the alleged Haywood incident as evidence.

Clarence Wolf, who was called when court opened, was on the stand only a moment. He admitted having been interested in the passage of the traction franchise bills at Harrisburg last winter to the extent of being one of the incorporators of certain companies chartered under those bills. When he was asked whether articles of incorporation had been signed before the bills were passed, the Court sustained a vigorous objection from the prosecution, and Wolf left the stand.

The defense wanted George D. Herbert, of the Harrisburg Star-Independent, to tell what he had heard of corruption during the last Legislative session, but the Court ruled him out.

Following is the language in which Stenographer Busch puts the responsibility for roll padding in the Legislature up to Speaker William T. Marshall:

"Early in the last session Garvin came to me and said that he had orders from Speaker Marshall to say that I must copy the roll call kept by the chief clerk, under penalty of dismissal, although neither Marshall nor Garvin had authority to dismiss me.

"After that I did not keep a roll call, but accepted that furnished me by the chief clerk, which was many times prepared in advance of the taking of the vote and handed to me to copy as soon as the vote was announced by the Speaker."

Peter Smith offers for rent at Centre Hill a house and lot.

Mrs. Lettie Signiller, after spending some time with her parents at Potters Mills, returned to her home in Huntingdon, West Virginia, a few days ago.

Daniel Daup and Wm. H. Stiver, of Potters Mills, were in Centre Hall on business Monday. The former is one of the Potter township school directors and takes a great interest in school work.

John A. Strunk announces sale in the Reporter for March 14. Mr. Strunk intends moving to the Dale farm at Pleasant Gap in the spring, and finds he has a lot of young cattle, cows, sheep, implements, etc., to sell to the highest bidder.

Mrs. J. Wilson Moore, nee Miss Kate Harpster, of this place, writes from her home in Missoula, Montana, when making a remittance for subscription to the Reporter, that the paper is a great comfort to her and the Harpsters in that place.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

J. Fin Stover, of Potters Mills, is ill with pneumonia.

Sturgis Shultz has recovered sufficiently from an attack of pneumonia to be about.

Send in your subscription to the Reporter. \$1.00 will pay for a year. Think of it?

Twenty per cent. off on all bed blankets and horse blankets, regardless of cost, at Meyer & Musser's.

Potters Mills gained a new resident in Wm. Kippe, who moved from Milroy to that place. He is boss of the Beebleheimer lumbering operations in the Seven Mountains.

Hon. Fred Ikeler is the greatest lecturer the people ever had an opportunity to listen to. Bellefonte will be well represented by lawyers and men of that standing on the night of the lecture.

The Centre Hall schools are well attended, while many country schools have been closed on account of measles, and kindred diseases. Centre Hall has not been thus visited. Very good fortune.

Edward Foreman, who has been in Youngstown, Ohio, working at his trade of carpentering, returned home last week. He has a very warm side for Youngstown, and thinks it just the place.

J. Ross Rockey is engaged with the Reliance Gauge Company, Cleveland, Ohio, who are doing an extensive business in the manufacture of a variety of gauges. The type-written letter bearing his remittance to the Reporter indicates that he is an office man.

Ira C. Corman, implement dealer and phosphate agent, of Oak Hall, was in Centre Hall on business Tuesday. Mr. Corman is building up a large trade in his line and each year extends his business over a larger territory.

W. W. Royer, of Centre Hill, who has been confined to the house for several weeks on account of illness, is not improving much. Mr. Royer is the Potter township assessor, and is a gentleman well known on the south side of Centre county.

The Philadelphia Inquirer Monday morning gave a fine portrait of Prof. Geo. E. Bible, principal of the East Stroudsburg Normal School. Prof. Bible is well known in Centre Hall, where he spent several years in training both the hand and mind.

Robert Bloom, Thursday of last week, returned from Northampton, Mass., where he was an attendant in the state asylum for the past ten months. He has not decided whether he will re-main here or not. Alfred W. Nearhood, also of this place, is located at the same place.

In the communication from Freeport in last week's issue it was stated that H. B. Leitzell, of Freeport, was a brother of Dr. J. B. Leitzell, of Freeport. That was an error, he is a son of Dr. J. B. Leitzell and a brother of Dr. C. P. Leitzell, of Cedarville. The Reporter stands corrected.

Fred Carter was unfortunate enough Friday to get his fingers in contact with a circular saw, while working in the stove and saw mill of Wm. Colyer. The accident occurred while Mr. Carter was taking a piece of edging from a saw with a mitted hand. Several of the fingers were pretty badly lacerated.

The party of "married hens" materialized Tuesday night at Old Fort hotel and dined on chicken and waffles, and enjoyed the evening hugely. It's really to bad to go off for a whole evening, all by themselves, charter a hotel, eat good things, drink water and chocolate, and not so much as invite a single man to share the pleasures. Men are not nearly so selfish.

W. O. Rearick, of Milroy, and Joseph Gilliland, of Bloomsburg, were in Centre Hall looking after business interests. The latter gentleman may become a resident of Centre Hall a year after this, at which time he hopes to have his business settled up at Bloomsburg, where until recently he operated a planing mill. Mr. Gilliland is the kind of man who makes a town known of his presence.

John W. Mersinger, of Tusseyville, who has been a familiar figure in Centre Hall for many years, paid the Reporter a visit Friday of last week. Mr. Mersinger thinks there would be no such thing as defeat for the Democratic party in Centre county, if the same spirit prevailed at elections as did in Potter township at the recent caucus at Centre Hill. Mr. Mersinger's "whiskers" would lead one to think him an "old man," but his face and white beard are illy suited together.

COUNTY COURT NEWS.

AS REPORTED BY J. VICTOR ROYER, ESQ.

At the time of going to press last week the court calendar had not been completed. Two cases were disposed of afterward.

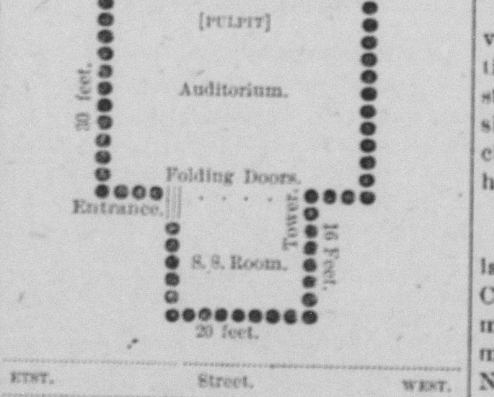
In the case of W. C. Farner, D. J. Tressler, and William Boal, trustees of the Evangelical Association, vs. Joseph Alters, J. S. Dauberman, J. H. Krumbine and J. F. Smith, trustees of the United Evangelical church of Centre Hall; the summons was in ejectment and the plea not guilty. The action was brought to recover the church and parsonage at Centre Hall. On account of the plaintiffs not having the proper records in court they were not permitted to introduce oral testimony as to the contents of the records. A juror was thereupon withdrawn and case continued at the cost of the plaintiff. The case of Gibbs vs. Brungard et al. was an action in ejectment brought for a tract of land in Walker township on the "Ridge" between Zion and Hecla. The plaintiffs claimed that the tracts, known in the original warrants as the William Wistar and the J. J. Lingle, were separated some distance while defendant contended that they were contiguous. On Saturday afternoon the jury brought a verdict for defendant, save a part to which defendant had filed a disclaimer.

TO BUILD CHURCH.

The Spring Mills Lutheran congregation will erect a place of worship.

Spring Mills is to have a new church—a new Lutheran church. That was decided by the congregation some time ago, and as soon as the weather permits work will be commenced on the structure.

The ground plan, giving dimensions of the proposed church is given here.



It will give a fair idea of the general plan, which was conceived by the pastor, Rev. J. M. Rearick. The structure is T shaped, the top of the T forming the main auditorium, 30x40 feet. The stem of the T is 16x20 feet, in which is the Sunday school room. The two rooms are arranged so they can be thrown into one, the pulpit being directly opposite the stem of the T. Entrance is gained to the main auditorium through the tower, located at the north-east corner of stem of T, where the top and stem intersect.

The roof, with its three gables, will be of slate, and well proportioned. The interior of the church will be finished in red oak. The side wall will be plastered to the square, the ceiling being arched and also finished in red oak. There will be three large windows, which will be of stained glass. These windows, located in the gables, will afford sufficient light, although there will be several smaller ones to relieve monotony.

The structure will be brick cased, Mill Hall brick being used. The estimated cost is \$2,000.

The Spring Mills congregation was organized ten years ago, just before Rev. Rearick became pastor of the Centre Hall charge, of which it is a part. It has a membership today of forty-two active workers, which will be demonstrated as the church home rises skyward.

Centre Hall should Follow suit.

A Rebekah Lodge will be instituted in the Odd Fellow's Temple, Legantion to night, Thursday. The Rebekahs will start with fifty members. Mrs. P. C. Moyer, of Renovo Lodge will do the installing, assisted by the degree team of twenty-four members from Jersey Shore Lodge. It is expected that quite a number of members from Renovo, Lock Haven and Jersey Shore Lodges will be in attendance, says the Journal. The Rebekahs will serve dinner and supper to the visiting members in the banquet room in the I. O. O. F. Temple.

Over One Hundred Singers.

Prof. W. E. Crawford has a singing class in Centre Hall of over one hundred members. The class meets twice a week in Grange Arcadia. It is the intention to close the term with a grand concert.

Cloth only 50 cents per yard.—C. P. Long.

Educational Conference

CENTRE HALL, FEBRUARY 21 AND 22.

There is great interest manifested in the coming educational conference to be held in Centre Hall, February 21 and 22. Principal Igen, chairman of the conference, and the secretary, Mr. James B. Strohm, are making the most detailed arrangements to make the affair not only entertaining, but instructive.

Hon. Fred Ikeler, who will deliver his famous address "Agitators" Friday night is a paid lecturer, and an admission of 25 cents (general) and 35 cents (reserved seats) will be charged. The audience Friday night will not be made up entirely from the local field, but from all sections of Centre county.

The program and a few hints as to what others think of Mr. Ikeler is here published.

FRIDAY EVENING.

7:30 o'clock. Music. Address: "Agitators"—Hon. Fred Ikeler, Bloomsburg, Pa.

SATURDAY MORNING.

9:30 o'clock. Music. Devotional Exercises. Pupil and Director Co-operation in School Government—H. I. Stahr, C. L. Gramley, D. M. Wolf.

Recitation—Miss Anna Bartholomew. How should the Study Period in the Home be Watched by Parents—D. K. Keller, R. B. Harrison, P. R. Foreman, R. U. Blitzer, T. L. Moore.

Modern Education—Prof. J. C. Bryson.

Admission to Friday Evening's Lecture, 25 Cts.; reserved seats, 10c extra.

the County Institute at Lock Haven last month, and made such an impression upon the audience that he was pronounced "a past master" in oratory and logic. A treat so rare as Mr. Ikeler's lecture will be, should not be missed by any one who loves beautiful diction, lofty sentiment and wholesome entertainment. Let me urge the people of Centre county to go and hear him.

Very truly,
W. C. HEISLER.

Bellefonte, Pa.,
February 11, 1902.

"Probably no one here ever obtained a larger audience than that which listened to Fred Ikeler, Esq., deliver his well known lecture on 'Agitators.' It is seldom that we are favored with the presence of so able an orator and his lecture clearly demonstrates that he stands in the front rank of American lecturers."

Williamsport, Pa., "Gazette and Bulletin." "To say that Fred Ikeler, Esq., makes his way with his lecture on 'Agitators' in the Parish House on Tuesday night. To say that his audience was both charmed and delighted, is but faint praise. He is one of the most intelligent and talented of platform entertainers."

Bloomsburg, Pa., "Columbian." "Fred Ikeler, Esq., delivered his well known lecture on 'Agitators' in the Parish House on Tuesday night. To say that his audience was both charmed and delighted, is but faint praise. He is one of the most intelligent and talented of platform entertainers."

THE PROGRAM.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

1:30 o'clock. Music. The Demands of the Present upon the Teacher—E. G. Boose, W. A. Kribe, J. R. Fortney, Geo. W. Smith. Causes of Mistakes in English Grammar—J. D. Meyer, M. E. Heberling. Recitation—Miss Edna Krumrine. The Use of Daily Papers in Schools—H. N. Meyer, H. D. Morris, C. E. Royer, F. A. Foreman.

COMMITTEE ON ENTERTAINMENT.

F. A. FOREMAN, MISS ANNA BARTHOLOMEW, T. L. MOORE. NOTE.—Teachers desiring to be entertained will please notify the committee.

A. T. IGEN, President. J. B. STROHM, Secretary.

DIED.

Lawrence B. Bathurst, of Unionville, died at his home Tuesday. Some time previous to his death he was stricken with paralysis. His age was sixty-five years. He was a prominent citizen in his community, and served his country in the war of the rebellion.

Miss Julia Swartz an aged maiden lady, died at the home of her brother, Christ Swartz, in Bellefonte Saturday morning. Death was due to pneumonia. Deceased was born in Nittany and was eighty-two years of age. The funeral took place Monday morning; interment at Snydertown.

John M. Furey died Thursday of last week at the advanced age of eighty-four years. His death occurred at the home of his daughter, Mrs. W. H. Flory, of Pleasant Gap. He was a member of the Lutheran church, and an ardent Democrat in politics. Besides Mrs. Flory he leaves the following children: Morris Furey, of Bellefonte; J. Milton, of Williamsport; Mrs. W. H. Flory, Pleasant Gap; John, of Minneapolis, Minn., and Mrs. Charles Tripple, Bellefonte.

Mrs. Sarah Fry, wife of Hiram Fry, of near Shingletown died Monday morning after an illness of three days, at the age of sixty-five years, twenty-one days. She was ill with croupous pneumonia for two days, and Sunday had a light stroke of paralysis. She was a member of the Reformed church. Interment took place today, Thursday, at Bonalsburg, Revs. Black, Hepler and Leisher, officiating. The husband and the following children survive: Frank, Pine Grove Mills; Wilson, Sprucetown; Mrs. Mulliner, Shamokin; Nora, Effie, Alice and Henry, at home.

Samuel Emerick, at the age of eighty-two years and two months, died at the home of his son John Emerick, at Unionville, last week. The remains were brought to Georges Valley Saturday and interred in the Cross Church cemetery, Rev. Koontz, officiating.

Mr. Emerick was a resident of Spring Mills for many years, and was the father of John Emerick, of Unionville; Mrs. John Kern, Millheim; Mrs. N. Burkholder, Milroy; and Mrs. David Sowers, Spring Mills.

Recommended to Conference.

At a recent congregational meeting of the members of the United Evangelical church in Centre Hall, Ward H. Shultz, son of Rev. J. F. Shultz, was recommended to the examining board of the Evangelical Conference for a license to preach the gospel as defined by that body. The conference will hold its next session in Lock Haven, March 6, and there is no doubt but what the wishes of the members here will be respected.

Water proof coats and blankets way below cost, while they last, at Meyer & Musser's.

Reunion of the 148th Regiment.

The reunion of the 148th Regiment, P. V., to be held in Bellefonte, 19th and 20th, will gather soldiers from all parts of Pennsylvania and adjoining states. The address of welcome will be delivered by Burgess Blanchard and Judge Love, and the response by T. W. Myton, Esq., Huntingdon, and Hon. Robert A. Cassidy, of Canton, Ohio. On Wednesday night Gen. St. Clair A. Mulholland will deliver an address. On the evening of the 19th J. W. Muffley, adjutant, will lecture on the reminiscences of the war. Major General Brooks will also be in attendance and give a lecture. Others who will read papers are Col. James F. Weaver, Col. R. H. Travis, Lieut. (Rev.) Wm. Gemmill, Rev. E. M. Stevenson (son of Chaplain), Lieut. J. E. Hall, M. D.; Adj. Charles A. Ramsey, Gen. James A. Beaver and others.

A party of sixty-six, mostly from Milroy, spent the night at Reish's Potters Mills hotel Thursday night of last week. On their way to Potters Mills one of the sleds had a "grand spill" over an embankment, and while a number of the occupants of the sled were slightly hurt, the music at the hotel caused them to forget all.

Monday night the Potters Mills party-goers paid back the compliment and went to Milroy, quartering at Hotel Brown. They report having had a most delightful time, as is always the case when going to Brown's.

The young people of Centre Hill and vicinity have arranged for a grand hop at Reish's hotel Friday night. If you want to strike a really jolly and good set of young lads and lassies you will be sure to find them at Potters Mills Friday night.

Killed in a Freight Wreck.

Morris Burd, son of Charles Burd, formerly of Aaronsburg, but late of Lock Haven, was killed in a freight wreck at Allegheny City Monday morning. Burd was on his way east from Princeton, Ind., and was accompanying a car load of horses. It was a rear end collision and the unfortunate man was in the caboose of the forward train at the time. He was about twenty-five years of age, and is survived by his father and mother and several brothers and sisters, residing at Lock Haven. Several cars were destroyed by fire and a lot of live stock slaughtered. The monetary loss will be heavy.

Killed Near Chicago.

John Thomas, the eldest son of Orlando Thomas, of Shingletown, this county, was killed on the railroad near Chicago on Tuesday of last week, says the Watchman. He was a farmer and in crossing the tracks got bewildered and in getting out of the way of one train got in front of another.

Mr. Thomas left Centre county when a boy and had become quite wealthy in Illinois. His aged mother and his sister, Mrs. Daniel Marz, of the Branteb, had just returned from a visit to him.

Local and Personal.

Yesterday was Ash Wednesday.

Ask Senator Heible what he thinks of H. D. Fred Ikeler.

Remember you get five per cent. discount on all cash purchases at Meyer & Musser's.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Allison, Mr. and Mrs. Frank McCoy, of Bellefonte, and Mrs. J. F. Alexander, of Centre Hall, spent Tuesday with Edward Allison, at Potters Mills.

Miss Jennie Smith, daughter of Adam Smith, deceased, of Centre Hill, who is staying in Bellevue, Ohio, one of the prettiest towns in all the Buckeye state, will hereafter get Centre county news through the Reporter.

Mr. and Mrs. John Heckman to night, Thursday, will have a couple dozen merry souls under their roof. The Heckmans live on the Gregg farm west of Centre Hall, and their genial dispositions is a guarantee that all who accept the invitation will be abundantly repaid.