

The Centre



Reporter.

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CENTRE HALL, PA., THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1903.

NO. 1.

CENTRE COUNTY IN THE CIVIL WAR.

148th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers.

GENERAL REVIEW OF MAJOR AND MINOR EVENTS.

Experiences of the Rank and File—Anecdotes and Observations.

By T. P. Meyer, Sergeant Co. A., 148th Regiment, P. V.

(To be Continued.)

Tuesday, the last day of our friends came, and it was a sad day; friends clung closer than before, and the sadness of the occasion was more fully realized as the day wore on, and the hour of parting was fast approaching; members of the company gathering, ready for the start; Tuesday evening came, and the dark, overhanging pall was resting heavily on the town. There was no sleep in that town, on that memorable, sad night, and long before the gray dawn of coming day tinged the eastern horizon the village drum corps sounded the reveille, strong, loud and long; immediately people seemed to emerge from the doors of every house until the street was a surging mass of humanity.

Two-horse spring wagons drove in one after another all a quarter of a hundred stood in line beside a number of single rigs, ready for the journey to Lewistown; the hour for the start had come; all was hurry and commotion; the air was now resonant with the wails of agony from many who were yielding their all to the sacrifice on the altar of their country.

Again the drum corps gave no stirring war music and the long train of wagons, funeral like, started out. Banners and handkerchiefs did not cease to wave; we watched our friends and returned their salute until the Rockville hills put them out of view. Meanwhile a number of fleet-footed boys raced after us shouting, good bye! good bye! Hurrah for the Union! Hurrah! Hurrah! Millheim, five miles away, was soon reached; here we halted and spread our temporary tables in the cool shade of overtopping trees were laid out especially for us, or for another gathering on that day I have forgotten, but the owner of the place, accompanied by several ladies, came out and invited us to "come in and eat." This we were glad to do for many of us were so patriotically frisky that we forgot to eat and had skipped several meals. We were hungry, and when the host said, "come boys, eat, eat, boys, eat!" we promptly obeyed. He trembled with emotion and tears rolled down his cheeks as he made us a little patriotic speech. There were so many of us that it did not take long to eat all he had, and it was a great supply, which the whole community must have joined to furnish.

All aboard! was shouted, and the sad partings commenced; this can not be described; sentiments of hope and patriotic consolation were the general themes; but all knew that many a hope here expressed would never be realized, and the tearful eyes were few in that vast concourse of patriotic and good rural people; hasty adieux were spoken, and many were there who saw for the last time their loved ones. This was the saddest and most memorable day the beautiful valley had ever seen. With the soldier boys all was excitement and we had no time yet to seriously ponder over what might be in store for us. In those days it signified something to go to war, and from our starting point it was only a matter of hours to reach the front, where fighting and killing were daily occurrences. But how did the parents, brothers and sisters and wives of those soldier boys feel when they returned to their homes that day, desolate and empty, yet full of sorrow certainly tried to make our going to war pleasant for us.

All aboard! and there was a rush for our places in the wagons, and we were again on the move. The "Half Way House" in the Seven Mountains was reached, and the caravan stopped; all got out and assembled at the "Inn," here we found that the drivers were so awfully dry that they could not drive any longer and halted for "stimulation." Out of sympathy for the drivers, who were so kindly assisting us in our efforts to get to war, we joined them in their pastime, at our expense, and we also "stimulated." This increased the number of drivers so much that it took some time to get "round and round," after which we again moved onward to war, with rejuvenated spirits.

Lewistown was reached in the afternoon and we stirred up the place when our train of some forty wagons and over a mile long pulled into the town and, in a manner, took possession. About midnight another company of a hundred men came in from Bellefonte, and in the morning still another full company, from Venango county, met us at the station, making over three hundred in all, for one train to Harrisburg, there to be uniformed and equipped.

We were a funny looking gang of boys; most of us wore scarlet red flannel shirts and no coats, belts in which we carried little pocket pistols, calibre .22, and we considered ourselves prepared to put down the rebellion. We were divided up among the hotels and boarding houses and all slept in-doors that night, thenceforth one blanket on the ground out-doors constituted our resting place and bed in summer's heat or winter's cold.

It was now Thursday morning, the time set by our festive mustering in lieutenant, and we were at Lewistown every man present and ready to be led "on to war." Word reached us that there was a train at the station waiting to take us to Harrisburg. "Fall in!" was promptly obeyed by both Bellefonte and Rebersburg companies. We formed our line of two hundred men and made our first move in military order, in a route step march, to the station. The people of Lewistown gave us a gratifying send off; they turned out en masse men, women and children and marched with us to the station, packed all around us; some joining in our songs, others cheering, shouting and waving flags and handkerchiefs, and the church bells were kept ringing while we marched. Martial music was wanting, so we hooted and cheered and sang with tremendous volume, "The Red, White and Blue," "E pluribus Unum," etc. Enthusiasm certainly was not lacking, and yet many marched quietly with us that morning, deeply moved and in tears.

We reached the station in prime order, halted and "broke ranks." I inquired of a railroad official, a fellow of great importance, where our train was; he pointed to an empty freight train of box cars and said; there you are! I inquired, where are the seats? He seemed surprised and said: funny soldiers if you expect to be sent to war on cushions, and walked away.

FROM MICHIGAN.

A Letter from Francis Fleisher Speaks Well for His State.

Francis Fleisher, of Hinchman, Michigan, under date of December 23, writes: We are having fine weather in Michigan, the sun is shining brightly and little or no frost in the ground. The weather had been pretty cold, but little snow fell.

From the best obtainable information it may be said that the peach crop in this section for 1903 is doomed. The fall was long and warm which developed the buds, and later the cold, froze the tender growths. The prolonged warm weather was not without profit, however, for strawberry plants developed and matured a crop of berries greater than ever before, which were shipped to market in Chicago. It is claimed by some that occasional an apple tree developed a second crop, but I did not observe such an unusual occurrence.

Times here are pretty fair, but if the poor had plenty of money with which to buy fuel, it would make some improvement.

As to the Reporter, let me say, that the changing of editors was a good thing for its readers. The paper one time was like a fiddle with but one string, on which you can play, but always get the same music. * * *

General Assembly.

The General Assembly of Pennsylvania will organize Tuesday of next week, being the first Tuesday of the new year. Harry F. Walton, of Philadelphia, will be selected speaker.

The inauguration of Governor Pennypacker will take place 20th inst.

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Here we waited for orders and meanwhile inspected our trains. The cars were ordinary freight cars, very dirty and without seats, one had recently carried cattle, one green hides, a third soft coal and so on. At Potters Mills they told us nothing was too good for us; here anything was plenty good enough; changes henceforth came rapidly and always getting worse until we imagined that a general opinion prevailed that nothing was too rough or too tough for the soldiers.

The very engine of our soldier train seemed to take on a war-like spirit aped the storied steel all panted in iron and brass, that snorted and pawed the earth as he smelled the battle afar. Yes, she sneezed and snorted with seeming eagerness to take us with the greatest of speed, onward to war.

We finally boarded our train, about thirty to a car, all standing and not half of the men could get light or air.

The train had the big link coupling giving about a foot of slack to each car; the engineer took up the slack of the train on a run and gave the cars a jolt now and then that would land us on a heap in the end of the cars; the heat was so intense that several of the men fainted; we knocked the siding of the cars out to get air. This, surely, was the great car-ride of our lives; such jolting and rolling of the cars and such tumbling and falling inside.

FOR RURAL PROTECTION.

A Law That the Next Legislature Will be Asked to Pass.

It is expected that the next legislature will be asked to pass a law providing for the appointment of salaried constabulary which shall, either by appointment by the governor or election by the people, act in the districts where petty crimes are committed, many of the perpetrators of which now escape punishment because of the inefficiency of the constables of several townships. Under the present system the work of local constables has for the most part proven most trying. This is mainly due to the fact that constables are not salaried officers and are forced to depend in many cases upon some other occupation for a livelihood. The fact frequently has a tendency to impair their usefulness and to prevent them from keeping that careful watch over transgressors so necessary to the preservation of the peace and upholding of the dignity of the commonwealth.

The objections that may be raised to the passage of such a law are numerous. In the first place it would require a large number of these state peace officers to patrol the counties and the aggregate amount of their salaries would be enormous. If these constables were to be appointed the probabilities are that politics would enter into the selection, and every body knows what that would mean. If they were to be elected by the respective counties a heavy burden would be thrown upon the counties. That better protection for rural communities is needed no one disputes, but it is doubtful if the state constabulary plan of meeting the emergency, will be approved by the tax-payers.

Marriage Licenses.

James G. Longwell, Philadelphia
Margaret B. Miller, Lemont.
Winfield Lose, Clearfield.
Anna McKinley, Milesburg.
Andrew D. Smetzer, Pleasant Gap.
Gertrude E. Keller, Milesburg.
Thomas I. Bitner, Blanchard.
C. Edith Gansalus, Snow Shoe.
James Lloyd Watkins, Howard.
Ella Miller, Howard.
Geo. N. Fisher, Boalsburg.
Nellie B. Ryan, Bellefonte.
H. Clayton Poorman, Romola.
Mable O. Beightol, Walker.
John B. Wert, Tusseyville.
Bertha G. Rossman, Tusseyville.
Clyde Beck, Loveville.
Elizabeth Fisher, Loveville.
Edward Wyr, Loveville.
Ilena Krebs, Fleming.
F. A. Holderman, State College.
Mary A. Smith, Tyrone.
James McCloskey, Blanchard.
Fannie Thompson, Howard.
James E. Parker, Williamsport.
Rhoda A. Ling, Williamsport.
Joseph F. Herr, Beech Creek.
Essie S. Schenk, Howard.
Boyd Williams, Lemont.
Alice Mense, Pleasant Gap.
Geo. H. Sechrist, Northumberland.
Jennie C. Kerstetter, Coburn.
David Richard, Julian.
Esther Spotts, Julian.
Arthur A. Bedrint, Cornng, N. Y.
Beatie M. Poorman, Runville.
Charles E. Confer, Howard.
Cora E. Gardner, Howard.
Laird Walker, Yarnell.
Nora Barrett, Bellefonte.
John I. Miller, Endendale.
Jennie Greek, Rush Twp.
Levi Wance, Aaronsburg.
Lizgie Stover, Rebersburg.
M. N. Garver, Centre Hall.
Annie G. Sommers, Centre Hall.
William E. Ball, Fleming.
Tertha H. Way, Fleming.
Theodore Catherman, Milesburg.
Mary E. O. Shope, Milesburg.
Fred L. Schieffer, Millheim.
Chester Beck, Miles Twp.
Albert Weaver, Phillipsburg.
Alminda Adams, Phillipsburg.
Barton Lorrab, Snow Shoe.
Laura E. Hampton, Snow Shoe.
Elmer Scholl, Honesville.
Minnie Lutz, Bellefonte.

LOCALS.

Late arrivals, long and short sleeve corset covers; knitted light gauze underwear, very desirable—Garman's. Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Foreman, of this place, spent last week in Tyrone among friends and relatives, the former returning to Bellefonte for institute Monday.

Earl Fleming, of Munson Station, Clearfield county, is at home at present on a vacation. He is principal of the public schools at that place, and is doing good work, all of which is a credit to the Lock Haven State Normal School of which institution he is a graduate.

Japanese and Hudson tablets—extra quality, 5 cents—Garman's.

\$10,000 FIRE AT SPRING MILLS.

H. F. Rossman's Store in Ashes. PROPERTIES WILL BE REBUILT IMMEDIATELY.

Mr. Rossman Will Open His Store in Temporary Quarters.

A very destructive fire occurred here on Monday night, or rather Tuesday morning 23rd inst. shortly after midnight, which for a time threatened the destruction of the whole village, involving a loss of over \$10,000, as follows: H. F. Rossman stock of goods, furniture and wearing apparel \$7,000; insurance, \$4,500. Wm. Pealer, store building \$2,000, insurance \$1,000; J. F. Rearick, bicycle building and acetylene gas fixtures \$1,000, no insurance, (occupied second floor as office.) Wm. Musser, bicycle stock \$500, insurance, \$325.

The origin of the fire is unknown. It was first discovered in the back part of the bicycle building, in which there had been no fire since the previous Saturday, and had gained very considerable headway previous to being discovered. An alarm was immediately sounded but so rapid was the fire that before anything could be done the building was enveloped in flames which speedily communicated to the large building occupied by H. F. Rossman as a general store. His entire stock, which was largely increased for the holiday season, together with his household effects and wearing apparel, were all consumed, he saved nothing. The fire made such rapid strides that the family had hardly time to escape from the building, and some members of the family did so by wading through the icy waters of the creek in their night clothes, the only avenue of escape they had. In a few moments dense volumes of smoke and flame issued from every window and door, and the interior became a raging furnace.

The post-office and shoe store of C. A. Krapp is directly opposite, and C. J. Finkle's general store a few steps above. These buildings were continually being drenched with water, but at one time their destruction seemed inevitable. Huge flames leaped across the street in a mad fury, and the heat was so intense that it was utterly impossible to stay the devastation. Fortunately the wind suddenly changed, when efforts were again renewed and the buildings were finally saved with scorched and blistered fronts.

On the west of the store building stands the old barn and stable owned by Wm. Allison, this building was on fire several times and as speedily quenched. The heat here became so intense from the burning buildings, that the firemen were forced to retire. In the barn was stored plank, flooring and boards; apparently the barn was doomed and the men commenced removing everything from the building.

Immediately upon the first alarm of fire W. P. Alexander one of the employes of the mill, quietly removed a large quantity of dynamite stored in the barn, to a place of safety. He and H. M. Allison, another employe of the mill, assisted by others, worked like heroes to stay the conflagration and prevent the flames from spreading west, they knew if the fire once started in the barn the destruction of the large flouring mill of Allison Bros. and the adjoining property would be certain to follow. About this time a fire extinguisher owned by C. P. Long was brought into requisition, and after hard work and by its use the fire was finally subdued and the barn saved.

This was the most disastrous fire ever experienced by Spring Mills. Owning to the lateness of the hour, very few persons reached the fire in its incipency, and many knew nothing of it until next morning. The heavens were brilliantly illuminated and the light was witnessed for miles in the surrounding country.

Wm. Pealer will rebuild as soon as the weather permits and will erect a handsome two-story building seventy five by twenty-two feet, which will again be occupied by H. F. Rossman when completed. Mr. Rossman will, however, resume business at once in temporary quarters in the neighborhood. It is uncertain whether J. F. Rearick will rebuild or not. Mr. Musser, if current reports are correct, will resume the bicycle business on the "hill."

LOCALS.

Foreman & Smith will receive a car load of coal today.
Miss Bertha Wolf spent Christmas week at Rebersburg.
Miss Grace Lee is attending teachers institute in Bellefonte.
Mrs. David R. Foreman, of Colyer, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Foreman this week, while her husband is attending institute.
Ladie's Fleeces lined hose, with light colored feet—Garman's.

DEATHS.

MRS. EVA SHOPE.
Mrs. Eva Shaffer Shope, wife of Barnabas Shope, died at her home near Roland, Sunday morning, December 21, aged seventy-nine years.

MRS. MARGARET WANTZ.
Mrs. Margaret Wantz, widow of the late George Wantz, died on Wednesday, Dec. 17, of dropsy, aged 75 years. She was a good christian woman, and is well known in Howard, having lived there most of her life. She is survived by her daughter Alice, at whose home she died, and two sons, John and Austin, of Potter county.

MRS. WM. J. SINGER.
December 21st Mrs. Singer, of Bellefonte, was called to rest, after a short illness of typhoid fever. She was the wife of William J. Singer, Esq., and before her marriage was Miss Edna Clark Trafford. Interment took place at Tyrone the following Tuesday. Deceased was aged thirty-four years. The husband and two children—John and Edward survive.

MRS. JAMES HASSON.
Mrs. Hasson, wife of James Hasson, of Boalsburg, was buried in the Union cemetery at that place on Sunday. She became mentally deranged several years ago and was sent to the insane asylum at Danville, where she died on Christmas day. She was a life long resident of that place, and was a member of the Presbyterian church. Rev. Hepler, her pastor, conducted the service.

WM. E. MEEK.

The death of Wm. E. Meek occurred at his home in Ferguson township, Saturday night, December 20, at the age of sixty-eight years. The deceased had been ill for some time. Interment took place Monday of last week. Rev. Hepler, of the Presbyterian church officiating. The deceased was devoted to the farm during his entire life. He was a brother of D. G. Meek, Fairbrook, and Mrs. P. Gray Meek, Bellefonte. One daughter, Miss Birdie, is the only survivor of the family.

MRS. LEVINA STONEBRAKER.

The death of Mrs. Levina Stonebraker, at Potters Mills, called to rest one of the oldest residents of Potter township. Her death occurred Monday morning at the residence of her daughter, who is the wife of Thomas Palmer. Her age was eighty-four years. Interment took place this (Thursday) forenoon in the Sprucecreek cemetery, Rev. W. T. Haven officiating. Mother Stonebraker was a member of the Methodist church for many years, and she was a native of Bedford county. Her husband, David Stonebraker, died about twelve years ago, but she leaves to mourn her death the following children: Mrs. J. A. Dower, Titusville; Mrs. Thomas Palmer, Potters Mills; W. Scott Stonebraker, Green Springs, Ohio. John M. Stonebraker, Coburn; Mrs. Theodore Tice, Phillipsport, New York.

LOCALS.

Edward W. Boob, of Potters Mills, who was seriously injured by being kicked by a vicious horse, has recovered sufficiently to be able to be about again.

Henry Frederick, of Boalsburg, Monday returned from a brief visit to his daughter, the wife of Prof. H. C. Rothrock, of Catawissa. On his way home he stopped with friends in Millburg.

Mrs. Emma Underwood, of Seneca Falls, New York, and Mrs. Linnie Ruble, of State College, have been guests of Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Brislin for several days. Mrs. Underwood will spend the winter at State College with Mrs. Ruble.

Rev. H. S. Eisenberg, of Millersburg, formerly pastor of the Reformed church in this place, on his way to Altoona stopped among his former parishioners Tuesday between trains. Rev. Eisenberg some time ago resigned as pastor of the Millersburg charge.

The Culps having about finished cutting the timber on their extensive tract in the Seven Mountains, have sold their land to the state for a forest reservation. This will not, however, prevent hunting nor fishing as the forestry commissioner has posted notices stating that the commission favors lawful hunting, fishing and camping on the state's land.

Samuel S. Brown, proprietor of the Duncan House at Millroy, has sold that popular hotel to a party from the coal regions, who will assume charge about the first of March. Mr. Brown will occupy the new house adjoining the hotel, which he built two years ago, to accommodate the increasing patronage of his hotel. This latter property Mr. Brown retained.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Sleighs and sleds made their appearance Monday, after having been stored away for nearly a week.

Mrs. Gray, wife of the late W. E. Gray, Esq., of Bellefonte, and little son are seriously ill with typhoid fever.

W. C. Cassidy and Edmund Blanchard, Esq., are aspirants for the Republican nominations for tax collector of Bellefonte.

Trains on the Lewisburg and Tyrone railroad for the past two weeks have been anywhere from ten minutes to an hour and a half late.

Miss Emilie Alexander Tuesday returned from a week's visit to Philadelphia, where she was the guest of Mrs. Ault, formerly of Tyrone.

Perry Alters, foreman in the transfer department of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at Blairsville is visiting his parents in Bellefonte.

The members of the National Guard will in a short time be clothed in new uniforms, but not in time for the inauguration of Governor Pennypacker.

James Sandoe Tuesday morning returned to Pittsburg to resume his duties as engineer on the Pennsylvania railroad, after spending several weeks with his parents in this place.

Sheriff Brungart was in town on Monday. The sheriff has a host of friends in town, who will be glad to see him at any time, whether high sheriff of a great county like Centre or not.

Christmas services were held in the Lutheran, United Evangelical and Reformed churches prior to Christmas. The services were all well attended, and were of such a character as to bring out the true meaning of the event.

James Gregg, representing the National School Library Company, of Phillipsburg, arrived in town Saturday. Mr. Gregg is especially well fitted for his work, being well versed in book lore and is well informed in current history. If the book company does not prosper it isn't Gregg's fault.

Prof. and Mrs. J. C. Bryson, of Flemington, were the guests of Miss Roxanna Brislin at Christmas time. Prof. Bryson is principal of the Flemington schools, and is doing good and satisfactory work. Mrs. Bryson has been spending the greater part of the holiday season at Boalsburg, her former home.

Mr. M. J. Beezer, of Pittsburg was a guest of relatives in Bellefonte and vicinity over Sunday. Mr. Beezer is one of the gentlemen who are placing the large \$3,500 pipe organ in the St. John's Catholic Church on Bishop St. as a memorial to their parents. Mr. Beezer says, the organ will be shipped the last of January.

Adolf Lorenz, "the great Austrian surgeon with soft, strong hand," is the subject of a very welcome paper by John Swain in the January McClure's. It is a story that will be read by many thankful parents, rich and poor, the country over—the story of the great hearted benefactor of little children, who began life as a poor farmer lad.

John G. King, of this place, recently had the misfortune to lacerate his hand with a drawing knife. The cut was made between the second and third fingers, and extended for fully an inch. Mr. King attempted to sew up the gash, but after making one stitch concluded to call on Dr. J. F. Alexander, who dressed the wound. The flow of blood was unusually strong.

Boyd A. Musser, who for the past three years has been clerk to the county commissioners, has purchased the insurance business of John C. Miller, editor of the Bellefonte Daily News, and accordingly opens his office today (New Years.) Mr. Musser will add a general line of insurance to that of his predecessor, which was exclusively fire insurance. Mr. Musser is a young man of rare tact and ability, and no doubt will make the insurance business a profitable one to himself and his patrons.

Daniel W. Poorman, formerly of this place, but now of York, is having the experience of being a member of a horse-ridden county poor board. Mr. Poorman is serving his third year as poor director of York county, and according to a time-honored custom, he should have been elected president of the board. During his two years of service, Mr. Poorman was instrumental in reducing the expenses of maintaining the poor department, by preventing favored ones securing contracts at fabulous figures, and thus earned the contempt of his unfaithful associates on the board who downed him for the presidency. Mr. Poorman's conscientious service to the county of York will no doubt be recognized later by the Democratic party.