



CENTRE COUNTY IN THE CIVIL WAR.

148th Regiment, Pennsylvania
Volunteers.

GENERAL REVIEW OF MAJOR AND MI- NOR EVENTS.

Experiences of the Rank and File—Anec-
dotes and Observations.

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

[To be Continued.]

We reached Baltimore toward even-
ing, and with unfurled flags and fixed
bayonets we marched through the
city, to the "Union Soldiers Relief As-
sociation Building," near the Wash-
ington passenger station, which shel-
tered the entire regiment for the night.
Here we got a fair soldier's supper, of
dry bread, fat pork, coffee and slaw.
But the building was without heat and
we nearly froze. In the morning I
said to my mess-mate, I will go out
and get a canteen of "fire-water," and
we will try to warm up on that. I
went and got a canteen, three pints of
brandy, and came in and we
took some "stimulation." Later we
decided to walk out, and to prevent
the boys from confiscating our supply
of cold weather medicine, we carried
it with us. When we came back there
was a guard at the door. What have
you in that canteen? he asked. Milk,
I said. Let us see; with this he drew
the strap of the canteen over my head
and sampled the medicine, looked at
me and smiled, as he let it out in the
gutter, saying, I am sorry to waste
this goods but such are my orders.
Canteens were kept running for some
time.

At six p. m. we marched to the
Washington station and were once
more packed in a freight train, dirty
and without seats, as usual, and start-
ed for Washington, where we arrived
at 3 a. m. next day.

The cars were cold and cheerless and
without light, thirty men with their
outfits were packed in each car, all
night, nine hours, to come forty miles.
We were again nearly frozen and so
cramped that we could hardly move,
yet there was no escape. There was
no fire to go to, or warm house to go
into; it was, stand it or freeze.

We marched to the Soldier's Re-
treat, near the Capitol. This was the
most cheerless den we had yet seen.
Not a stool or bench, the floor wet and
covered with trampled army crackers
and fat meat and here and there pools
of slop; throughout dirty and unfit for
anything but a cattle shelter, a "Bull
Ring." We were fed here on raw
moss pork, hard tack and coffee, and
held prisoners till three p. m. when
we slung knapsacks, gladly, and moved
out into the cold, cheerless December
rain and deep mud.

The snow was gone and rain was
falling fast as we marched down the
middle of Pennsylvania avenue, not
sparing the mud, it was so plenty
through the city, but after we got out
of the city the mud was something ap-
palling and a new experience for us.
We crossed the east branch of the Po-
tomac river. While crossing this river
Co. A got rid of their brass "shoulder
scales," or "epaulettes," we threw
them into the river while crossing
this bridge. A greater nuisance to
punish the soldiers and lame their
shoulders was never devised by the
military brass ornamentation fool.

We marched south on the east side
of the Potomac, in the direction of
"Port Tobacco," about six miles,
through mud deep and tough. It was
necessary to have the shoes securely
laced, so the foot would not pull from
the shoe, which, in this event, would
remain at the bottom and be lost. Several
men lost shoes in this way.

Night was upon us; the rain had
ceased, and it was rapidly getting
colder. We went into bivouac for the
night, no shelter, no fires, wet from
the soles of the feet to the top of the
head. Some would lie down, but they
would not lie long till they would have
to jump up and stamp and dance, or
freeze, for by midnight the mud was
frozen hard as a rock, a cold high
wind blowing. Many canteens in
which water froze burst during the
night.

This was one of the long nights of
our lives, and it was one that brought
up the memory of home and its com-
forts. From this on long, long nights
frequently came to each and all of us.
But on this particular night I fared
better than many; I had a stump to
sit on.

We had already discovered that cam-
paigning was not guarding railroads.
It mattered not how long the nights
seemed to us at times, they passed, so
here; morning came and with it the
sun, which dried our clothes, and re-
stored the mud to its former state.

At 9 a. m., Dec. 12th, we were again
on the road, which was deep with mud
and next to impassable. We had a
few crackers each for breakfast, and no

Continued on fifth page.

ADDRESS ON SCHOOL APPROPRIATION.

Col. D. F. Fortney, of Bellefonte, Before the Directors' Associ-
ation at Harrisburg, Tells the True Intent of the Legislation
Appropriating \$5,000,000 Yearly for School Purposes.

Part I.

"The increase in appropriation has
occasioned the decrease of the Tax
Levy in certain districts.—The evil
and the Remedy."

In this discussion I will use in a
measure, at least, Centre county to
illustrate certain facts. For the year
ending on the first Monday in June
1891 the actual tax levy for school pur-
pose was \$70,979.59 and for the year
ending first Monday of June 1901 the
actual tax levy for the same purpose
was \$68,829.25 with an increase in the
assessed valuation taxable for school
purposes of \$300,000. This would indi-
cate a considerable reduction in the
actual amount of taxes levied for school
purposes. The reduction did not be-
gin with 1901, but extends back to the
first year the \$5,000,000 appropriation
came into effect and in some districts
the levy is from half a mill to a mill or
two higher than it was four or five
years ago, and teachers wages in such
districts are some few dollars higher
than they were, but do not yet exceed
\$30.00 per month.

In several townships the State ap-
propriation exceeds the tax levy for
the year ending the first Monday of
June 1902, from \$100 to \$150. In a few
others the tax levy and the amount re-
ceived from the State very nearly bal-
ance. A comparison of the millage for
the year 1891 with the year 1902 shows
that there is very little difference. Two
districts levied 2 mills, five districts 3 1/2
to 3 3/4, six districts 3 to 4, 13 in all. These
are townships. The millage of the
other 19 districts in the county
varied from 5 to 12 mills. In 1902, two
districts levied 2 mills, four others 3 1/2,
and another four 3, and four more 3 1/2
to 4 mills, 14 in all. The other 20 dis-
tricts' millage runs from 5 to 10 mills.

All the boroughs are included in the
latter number, in each case, and in
these the teachers' wages are from five
to ten dollars higher per month, not
including the salary of the supervising
principals or the principal of High
Schools, to count which, would un-
fairly make the average wages much
higher. The expenses in all districts,
with the exception of two or three of
the larger boroughs, was considerably
increased by reason of the school term
being extended to seven months. This
without further detail illustrates the
situation in the county in which I live.
Considering the increase in the value
of property during this period the
actual tax levy for school purposes is
now some what less than it was in
1891. In counties in which the wages
average less than \$30.00 per month,
the districts in many instances receive
more money from the state than is
raised by taxation. A further search
and comparison of figures contained
in the reports of the department of public
instruction would abundantly support
these conclusions.

We should be fair to the rural school
districts. It is not over reaching the
subject to say, however unpleasant it
may be, that the large appropriation
first made to the schools by the legis-
lature in 1891 was made for the pur-
pose of relieving the people especially
the farmers, from the burden of heavy
taxation for local purposes.

This question was much discussed in
the gubernatorial campaign of 1890.
The two great parties had in their re-
spective platforms declared for such re-
lief. You will be able to determine
"which is which" by the resolution
adopted on this subject.

Secretary Hamilton's Successor.

N. B. Critchfield, of Somerset county,
has been appointed Secretary of
Agriculture in place of John Hamil-
ton, by Governor Pennypacker.

It was announced at the Executive
office that A. L. Martin would be re-
tained as deputy secretary; Dr. J. T.
Rothrock as Commissioner of Forest-
ry, and Dr. Leonard Pearson as State
Veterinarian.

Senator Critchfield represented Som-
erset county in the Senate from 1891
to 1895. He was born in that county
July 20, 1838, and was educated in the
public schools and the Ohio Universi-
ty. During the Rebellion he served as
a volunteer in both the One Hundred
and Seventy-first and Twenty-eighth
Regiments. He has served in Som-
erset county as school director, county
school superintendent, prothonotary
and clerk of the courts. He is close-
ly identified with the order of Patrons
of Husbandry, and is an officer in the
State Grange.

A Rare Bargain.

Our regular \$4.50 Cabinets for a short
time for \$3.00. A discount of 33 1/3
per cent. This is not an advertising
dodge but a straight tip. If you want
pictures now is your opportunity. At
Centre Hall every Friday.

W. W. SMITH.

"The one said "But the depression
under which our agricultural interests
are suffering has made the present sys-
tem of taxation bear heavily on them,
and we therefore pledge ourselves to
lighten that, and as far as possible
equalize taxation.

"To that end we recommend that
the surplus revenue derived from State
taxation be used to lessen the taxation
now laid upon real estate for local
purposes, by applying it so far as it
will, in legislative wisdom, prevail, to
the increase of the appropriation for
the support of the common schools,
and to making appropriation for the
care of the indigent insane, for the ex-
pense of the jury system and of hold-
ing the general election.

"If thereby there should be a ne-
cessity for enlarging our surplus re-
venue we favor a just and equitable in-
crease in the taxation of the property
of corporations.

"We recommend that the local sys-
tem of taxation be so reformed as to
permit the taxation of money capital
for local purposes to such an extent
as to enable the local authorities to re-
duce the rate of taxation upon real
estate to a more equitable basis."

The other declared, "That local tax
reform is necessary in order that the
taxation for county, municipal and
township purposes may be equalized,
the unjust discrimination against land
values and in favor of certain kinds of
personal property under existing laws
may be corrected and that the farmer
may be relieved of double tax on the
value of his farm and the principal of
the mortgage which may stand
against it."

By these declarations the relief of
the farmer from the burden of taxation
was made an issue before the people of
the State. The election resulted in a
division of power one party had the
chief executive and the other the legis-
lature. On the 22nd of January, 1891,
Mr. Taggart, a representative from
Montgomery county, read in place,
"An Act to provide revenue for "local
purposes," by taxation of real estate,
personal property and corporate prop-
erty." This bill was known as house
bill No. 210 and passed the house final-
ly March 24th, 1891. I do not discuss
the merits of the bill but it was sup-
ported very largely by the agriculture
interests of the State. They believed
it would furnish the relief promised.

From the house, in regular course, it
went to the Senate and was buried in
committee. But relief had been prom-
ised and if not given in the manner
desired by the farmer, it must be grant-
ed in some other way. Accordingly
late in the session a bill designated as
Senate bill No. 683, entitled "An act
to provide revenue for the purpose of
relieving the burdens of local taxation
being supplementary to an act, en-
titled "An act to provide revenue by
taxation" approved the 7th day of
June, 1879, and providing for greater
uniformity of taxation by taxing all
property of the corporations, limited
partnerships and joint-stock associa-
tions having capital stock, at the rate
of five mills on each dollar of its actual
value. The first clause of the pre-
amble of this act is as follows:—
Whereas, There is a wide spread de-
mand for the enactment of such
measures as will bring about the equal-
ization of taxation and the relief of local
taxation upon real estate." This
act was approved June 5th, 1891.

LOCALS.

Congress will adjourn next Wednes-
day, March 4.

Miss Elsie Krise returned from
Johnstown Tuesday.

Austin Krape is improving slowly
after an illness extending over a period
of some weeks.

Miss Jennie Thomas Tuesday re-
turned from Bellefonte where she
spent the past five weeks.

Miss Angeline Tobias, whose illness
was mentioned last week, has recovered
sufficiently to be about again.

Mrs. Jackson Stover, of Coburn,
Tuesday came to Centre Hall to visit
her sister, Mrs. M. L. Emerick.

Mrs. Rebecca Floray and daughter,
Gertrude, returned from Linden Hall
Tuesday where they visited friends.

Mrs. Simon Spangler, of Kansas,
will accompany Mrs. Carrie Osman
east on her proposed trip next spring.

Pink-eye is on the rampage in the
vicinity of Penn Hall. The disease is
quite fashionable, and if you want to
be some body you must have pink-eye.

Rev. Ward K. Shultz, assistant sec-
retary of the Railroad Y. M. C. A., in
Altoona, is expected home over Sun-
day by his parents, Rev. and Mrs. J.
F. Shultz.

TO GIVE SCHOOLS STATE'S SURPLUS.

Secretary of Internal Affairs Urges That the
Appropriation Be Increased, Relieving
Local Taxation.

The advance sheets of the annual re-
port of James W. Latta, secretary of
Internal Affairs, for the year 1902 have
just been issued. The report shows
that the number of taxables in Penn-
sylvania is 2,022,273 and that the ap-
praised value of all real estate is \$3,-
258,827,169. The total amount of money
at interest, including mortgages, judg-
ments, bonds, notes, stock, etc., is re-
ported to be \$814,271,829.

The aggregate amount of property
taxable for State purposes, including
money at interest, is \$814,890,316. The
aggregate amount of State tax assessed
is \$3,259,594,717. The total amount of
all county debts of the State is \$59,987,-
224.41. The tax collected and appro-
priated for the support of the poor in
the State amounts to \$3,127,310.

The school taxes collected through-
out the State during the year covered
by the report amounted to \$15,669,435.

In addition the State contributed \$6,-
500,000, making a total of about \$22,-
169,435 for the support of the common
schools. About one-third of the total
amount collected and appropriated in
the different counties is appropriated
for that purpose in Philadelphia.

On this subject the report says:—

"Just at this time there is much dis-
cussion about the salaries paid to teach-
ers in the several counties of the Com-
monwealth, therefore the figures that
indicate the percentage of taxes collect-
ed for the support of schools to the total
amount of taxes collected for all pur-
poses are an interesting study. For
instance, in Adams county the percent-
age is 32; that is, of the 100 per cent.
collected for all purposes, 32 per cent.
is collected for the support of schools. In
Allegheny county the amount is 16 per
cent.; in Armstrong, 29 per cent.; in
Fulton, 25 per cent.; in Juniata, 20 per
cent.; in Lackawanna, 41 per cent.; in
Dauphin, 43 per cent.; in Westmore-
land, 40 per cent., and so on, ranging
all the way from 16 per cent. in Allegh-
eny to 43 per cent. in Dauphin county.

"There should be greater uniformity
in facilities for education in the coun-
ties of the Commonwealth. So long as
the State is paying so much for edu-
cational purposes, it seems proper that
the State should exercise some super-
vision over the expenditure of the
moneys appropriated for school pur-
poses, so that a child in one county or
one township of a county should de-
rive as much benefit from the approp-
riation made from the State Treasury
as a child in any other township, or
any other county of the State.

"The State at this time seems to have
a surplus of money in its Treasury and
many schemes have been devised by
which portions of this money may be
used to relieve local burdens of tax-
ation, such as the improvement of pub-
lic highways and the construction of
bridges. These are commendable sug-
gestions, but probably the improve-
ment of public highways by the State
will be found to be somewhat imprac-
ticable at least.

"Looking at these problems that are
presented for local improvements or for
the relieving of local burdens of tax-
ation. Is it not better that the State
devote whatever money it can spare from
the State Treasury to the maintenance
of State and charitable institutions and
let the balance go for educational pur-
poses? The State is now expending \$5,-
500,000 a year for this purpose. Let this
amount be increased so far as may be
consistent with the financial condition
of the State Treasury and then such
supervision be given the school depart-
ment of the State and such regulations
established, either by law or otherwise,
as will insure equal facilities for edu-
cation, at least so far as may be pos-
sible, for every child in the common
schools throughout the State.

"If there is a desire to relieve local
burdens of taxation, or burdens of tax-
ation locally, this would certainly be
accomplished by increasing the
amount of appropriation for the sup-
port of the common schools, and then
those who are paying taxes in the ru-
ral districts will have more money to
devote to other purposes, such as the
construction, repairs and improvement
of public highways."

A Daring Hold Up.

Monday morning about half past
two o'clock Cloyd Herbster, operator
at the MY tower near Lewistown had
occasion to leave his office to perform
some outside work and just as he was
crossing the railroad opposite, two men
walked off the S. & L. track and or-
dered him to hold up his hands and
not to move or speak. One of the rascals
held a revolver close to his face
while the other rifled his pockets of
a thirty dollars and forty-five cents and
a bank receipt of forty dollars.

If you have any painting in view,
you must have lead, oil and colors, see
JOHN I. OLEWINE, Bellefonte, Pa.

MEMORIAL TO THE LEGISLATURE

Pomona Grange Asks the Legislature to
Take Action.

We, citizens of Centre county, organ-
ized into Granges, assembled under
the auspices of our County Organiza-
tion in special sessions at Millheim,
Feldler and Rebersburg, this 18th and
19th days of February, 1903, respec-
tfully petition your Honorable body to
pass the following bills:

1st. Bill to enlarge the powers of
the School Boards to divide the seven
months school term into two or more
terms and unite two or more schools
when it will serve better educational
advantages to the people of the rural
districts.

2nd. Bill providing for the pay-
ment of Jurors of the Courts of Quar-
ter Session and Common Pleas.

3rd. Bill to appropriate \$1,000,000
for public roads to be distributed on
the basis of the number of miles of
road in each township and expended
by the road Commissioners or Super-
visors.

4th. Bill for the State to relinquish
all the fees of County offices for the
use of the county where located.

5th. Bill for the State to relinquish
all the mercantile taxes for the use of
the county.

To reimburse the state for revenues
thus diverted to the counties, that the
State increase the taxes on personal
and corporate property, mines, oil
wells, gas wells, manufacturing com-
panies, etc., as these classes of prop-
erty pay less on their actual valuation
than three mills, while real estate is
compelled to pay over sixteen mills,
as shown by the Official Reports of the
Commonwealth, as follows:

Appraised value of real estate	\$2,776,695.00
Aggregate taxes paid, Report 1902	44,431,967.82
Average rate of taxation, sixteen mills	
Aggregate appraised value corpo- rate and personal property	\$1,725,469,277.88
Aggregate taxes paid	\$14,061,474.08
Average rate of taxation, three mills	

Resolved, That the Master and
Secretary of the County Grange be di-
rected to officially transmit the above
to the members of the Senate and
House of Representatives of Pennsylv-
ania.

GEO. DALE, Master.

D. M. CAMPBELL, Secretary.

From an Illinois Man.

While in Centre county my daugh-
ter and I were treated so kindly that
I feel like returning thanks through
the columns of the Reporter.

While at Potters Mills, Thomas Pal-
mer entertained us so admirably by
having the orchestra meet at his home
and invited a host of people there. It
was my greatest delight to associate
once again with my old comrades and
make new friends.

After visiting my brother John Roy-
er, at Bellefonte, we went on to Altoona
where we stopped with brother Ed-
ward Royer. From here we will go to
see my sister, Mrs. S. Krider, at Win-
ber, and from there to Chicago and
home, in McConnell, Ill.

W. L. ROYER.

Altoona, Pa., Feb. 17.

Last Florida Tour.

The last Pennsylvania Railroad tour
of the season to Jacksonville, allowing
almost three months in Florida, will
leave New York, Philadelphia, and
Washington March 3.

Excursion tickets, including rail-
way transportation, Pullman accom-
modations (one berth), and meals en-
route while going on the special train,
will be sold at the following rates:
New York, \$50.00; Buffalo, \$54.25;
Rochester, \$54.00; Elmira, \$51.45;
Erie, \$54.85; Williamsport, \$50.00;
Wilkesbarre, \$50.35; and at propor-
tionate rates from other points. Re-
turning, passengers will use regular
trains until May 31, 1903.

For tickets, itineraries, and full in-
formation apply to ticket agents, or
address Geo. W. Boyd, Assistant Gen-
eral Passenger Agent, Broad Street
Station, Philadelphia.

UNITING SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

A Measure Advocated in Grange Circle is
Entirely Commendable.

The measure advocated by the Cen-
tre County Pomona Grange whereby
two or more school districts may be
united is one that should receive the
hearty support of all interested in
school work. This uniting of districts
would be centralization on a small
scale, and in a way entirely practicable,
and could be done without disorgan-
izing the system where centralization
would be next to impossible.

The measure should be brought to
the attention of all patrons of rural
schools in all parts of the state, with a
view of enlisting the aid of the rep-
resentatives who have the interests of
the rural districts at heart.

The Grange was instrumental in
bringing about the magnificent ap-
propriation of \$5,000,000 for school pur-
poses, and by concerted action the
present school system can be im-
proved in a way that will be of infinite
benefit to children on the farm.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

If you are hunting a purchaser, ad-
vertise in the Reporter.

Mrs. Mary Shoop, of Scranton, may
become a permanent resident of this
place.

Oscar C. Homan, east of Centre Hall,
elsewhere advertises a colt and shoats
for sale.

Miss Florence Kline, of near town,
has a class in instrumental music of
twenty-four scholars.

Mrs. S. W. Barr, of Tyrone, is the
guest of her brother, W. H. Stiver, of
Centre Hall.

J. W. Mersinger, of Tusseyville, was
a caller Monday. The fine sleighing
was what brought him to town.

Elgard G. Dearmett, of the Old
Fort, moved to Mingoville Tuesday,
where he is working for McNitt & Co.

Miss Sidney Granley, of Aarons-
burg, and Prof. A. Miles Arney, of
State College, spent Sunday with the
latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. H.
Arney, in this place.

License court for Mifflin county was
in session on Monday. Fourteen hotel
licenses were granted; two wholesale
licenses in Lewistown and one hotel
license at Yeagertown were refused.

Mrs. Mary Dinges and Mrs. Carrie
Osman will to occupy a portion of the
Dinges home after April 1st. Mrs.
Dinges has been in Williamsport and
Mrs. Osman in Eureka, Kansas, for
the past few years.

J. H. Moyer, of Hiawatha, Kansas,
and Mrs. R. A. Shearer, of Lock Ha-
ven, were married Saturday. The
marriage was solemnized at the home
of the bride. The groom is well known
in Centre county.

Another crop of ice was harvested
during the latter part of last week and
beginning of this week. Monday after-
noon the sun shone so brightly that
the careful teamsters covered the glit-
tering cakes of ice with blankets.

The Central Supply Company has
sold its stock of groceries to Platt, Bar-
ber & Co., who will conduct a whole-
sale business in Bellefonte. The Cen-
tral Supply Co. will go out of business
entirely.

The March number of the Woman's
Home Companion contains the opening
chapters of a new serial by Eden
Phillipotts, the well-known English
author. The scene of the novel is on
the moors of Devon, and it promises
to be as strong and as popular as Lorna
Doone.

Mrs. H. E. Shadle, of Porterwood,
West Virginia, accompanied by her
son Harold, is among friends in the
Valley, and spent some time with Mrs.
W. F. Bradford, in this place. Mr.
Shadle is engaged in extensive lumber
operations in West Virginia.

The dwelling house occupied by Mrs.
O. H. Emery, of Lock Haven, was de-
stroyed by fire early Thursday morn-
ing of last week. Very little of the
furniture was saved. The loss on the
house was \$3000, and on furniture \$1000
with an insurance of \$1000 and \$700,
respectively. Miss Miriam Emery, a
school teacher, lost considerable money
in the flames, as she was obliged to
leave the house before the treasure
could be reached.

Frank Vogel, of Turtle Lake, N. D.,
was married to Miss Ida M. Herr, of
Beech Creek, Clinton county, in Belle-
fonte Sunday evening by Rev. Dr.
Wilford P. Shriner, pastor of the
Methodist church. Vogel and his
bride met for the first time on the eve
of their wedding, he having journeyed
fifteen hundred miles across the contin-
ent to meet Miss Herr in answer to
an advertisement inserted by her in a
matrimonial paper.

Charles Wiser, who about eighteen
months ago went to Cincinnati with
W. W. Boob, and has been in his em-
ployment since that time, was unfor-
tunate in having one of his arms in-
jured, which has rendered the member
entirely helpless. The arm was injured
by coming in contact with some ma-
chinery. It is thought the bone is
affected, and serious doubts are enter-
tained whether or not the arm will
ever be restored to its full use.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Mingle, of Belle-
fonte; Mr. and Mrs. I. O. Hoffer and
son Earl, of Philadelphia, drove from
Bellefonte to Centre Hall Thursday.
Mr. Hoffer is a son of George Hoffer,
deceased, and spent his boyhood days
on the farm now owned by J. J. Ar-
ney west of town. It is twenty-four
years since he left this place, and for
the past seventeen years has been in
Philadelphia where he is conducting
a merchant tailoring establishment,
on Walnut Street, in one of the most
fashionable quarters. The Reporter is
pleased to say that the world has used
Mr. Hoffer well, and that besides do-
ing a very extensive and profitable
business, he owns a well appointed
house at Oak Lane, a beautiful suburb.