

The Centre Reporter.

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CENTRE HALL, PA., THURSDAY, JULY 30, 1903.

NO. 30.

CENTRE COUNTY IN THE CIVIL WAR.

148th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers.

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

(To be Continued.)
CHAPTER III.

About one o'clock p. m. the white powder smoke and fire of all their guns suddenly flashed forth all along their line and we quickly dropped down behind our parapet. In a few seconds the dreadful roar and screaming shells reached us. Shells came flying thick and fast from one hundred and twenty guns, and exploding over and among us doing fearful execution among artillery-men and horses. Along our corps front nearly a hundred guns responded most actively.

Including batteries to right and left of our corps, we about equaled the enemy in the number of guns, in all about three hundred. In the concussion of three hundred guns and exploding shells earth and sky trembled for nearly two hours, during which time dreadful havoc was wrought along our line. A thousand horses and many men were killed and wounded.

About three p. m. our guns ceased firing and soon after the Confederates slackened their furious cannonade, under the impression that they had permanently silenced our batteries.

In a few minutes we saw great columns of the enemy moving out of the woods, and forming battle lines for a grand charge on our position. As soon as they came in sight our artillery opened a terrific shell fire upon them, but they moved bravely forward about twenty thousand strong, with several batteries of artillery, diagonally across the open fields.

Their batteries dashed forward and opened fire on us at short range; a number of guns were quickly dismounted by our batteries. The entire charging force was in close range of our artillery, which, by a terrific fire of grape and canister, mowed them down by the thousands, tearing great gaps in their columns and we shouted with glee at the sight of this awful butchery. They closed these gaps without a halt and came steadily and rapidly on, firing as they marched.

Fighting at close range commenced. Our guns were now loaded with double charges of grape and canister. These heavy charges sent the brass battery guns supported by the 148th P. V. recoiling twenty feet to the rear, and ringing like bells. A terrific explosion now knocked half a dozen of us sprawling. The rest jumped up while I lay still. Are you hurt? my comrades asked. I guess I am done for, I said. Look at my back. They carefully examined my back, and assured me that I was all right; that my coat was not torn. I crept back to my place, thanking my lucky stars that my new coat was not torn although I felt as if I were broken in two.

We were fearfully stunned; many similarly stunned by exploding shells suffered instant death. But the relief I experienced when told that my coat was not torn, I can not describe. The charging enemy was now in reach and our infantry joined in the fight which became more desperate every moment. The noise of battle mingled with the shouts of forty thousand desperate, maddened men was something appalling.

Gen. Armistead led the van of "Picket's charge" and struck our line a little to the right of the 148th near the "Clump of Trees," at the "Bloody Angle," so called by reason of the heavy losses on both sides in the terrible fighting which took place at this point, and which is known as the "High Water Mark" in the battle of Gettysburg and the Rebellion itself.

The "Bloody Angle" consists of a sharp turn forward by the "Clump of Trees," the objective point of Picket's charging column, to a stone fence, not two feet high, mostly bowlders. Here Picket's line under Gen. Armistead struck and broke the Union line in a most desperate hand to hand conflict that ebbed and flowed back and forth over this stone wall while the 148th, being close observers of this desperate fight, shouted and cheered our men whenever they crowded the enemy back, over and beyond the stone wall.

The crisis had now come and for a little while it seemed as if our centre was permanently broken when we saw Gen. Armistead leading, with a rush, a body of his men through our lines. Our men seemed stunned at this bold move. Firing had slackened; Armistead rushed up to one of our guns, laid his hand upon it and shouted to his men: "This is our gun, come boys!" This was his last command; that instant he fell mortally wounded. The men that had so bravely followed him seeing this, seemed

bewildered, threw down their guns and surrendered. This was the end, and the Union troops gave a prolonged, hoarse, loud shout that seemed to thrill earth and sky.

For a brief period a fierce artillery fire was kept up by the Confederates, to cover the retreat of what was left of Picket's grand charging column. Hundreds of them threw down their arms before the Second Corps, whose lines they had not quite reached, and stood still on our side of Plum Run Hollow, undecided; not a shot was fired at them. We loudly shouted: Come in and surrender or we will fire on you! Still they hesitated. An aide was sent out to tell them that they must come in at once, or receive the fire of artillery and infantry.

Hundreds of them now rushed up the slope and over our breast-work, and passed to the rear, as prisoners of war, and the battle of Gettysburg was ended and won.

No troops ever marched more bravely to their death than did these chivalric sons of the "South Land." Their undaunted bravery merited and received the admiration and applause of our men. It was the Union (Burnside's) blunder at Fredericksburg, exactly reversed at Gettysburg by Lee. Of all the great battles of the war, Gettysburg was the battle of great blunders on both sides.

It was all over by four o'clock p. m. and the all absorbing question then was, what next? The balance of the afternoon and the major portion of the night was spent in repairing damages; caring for the wounded, and burying the dead, men and horses, which thickly strewn the ground.

All night candles and torches dimly lit the way of incoming stretchers, bearing the wounded, mostly Confederates, gathered from the slaughter field of Picket's charge, the instruments and operating tables of the surgeons, and the heaps of arms and legs, feet and hands, that had already been amputated, lying in promiscuous confusion. While the surgeons could stand on their feet, and move their arms, their gruesome work never ceased.

CHAPTER IV.

On the morning of July 4th, according to orders, I reassembled my pioneers and took them out on the field of Picket's charge and fight, to bury the dead.

The field presented a dreadful sight; the dead were already in an awful state of putrefaction. Faces black as charcoal and bloated out of all human semblance, eyes, cheeks, forehead and nose, all one general level of putrid swelling, twice the normal size, with here and there great blisters of putrid water, some the size of a man's fist, on face, neck and wrists, while the bodies were bloated to the full capacity of the uniforms that enclosed them. It was a rare thing to find one who had not been robbed by the battlefield bandit or robber of the dead. Generally the pockets were cut open and rifled through the incision.

These battle-field robbers were well known by the large amounts of money they had, and the watches, pocket-books, pocket knives, and other trinkets of value they had for sale after a battle. All regiments had them. The 148th had at least a score of them. This work was never done during a battle; but during the nights following, and mostly by skulkers and cowards who shirked the battles.

A sifer belonging to the Drum Corps of the 148th P. V. was in the business on the Gettysburg field; he thrust his hand into the pocket of an apparently dead soldier, but the soldier began to move in an effort to get up, which frightened the sifer, and he ran as if the Devil was after him. We divested the dead of their accoutrements and arranged them in rows, as usual, laying one against another, heads one way, Union and Confederates in separate rows.

Then some would collect, while the majority of the men buried them. A shallow grave, about a foot deep, was dug against the first man in a row, who was then laid down into this grave and his face covered with anything that could be found. Often there was nothing even to cover the face. It seemed hard, even to us, at this time hardened soldiers almost devoid of human feeling, to shovel the ground upon the bare face of a dead comrade, though distorted and putrescent; for the majority there was no other way. The ground was then dug from where the first man was moved, and formed the covering for the first man, and the resulting ditch constituted the grave for the second man, and so on.

Re-dedication at Greenburr.

The Reformed church at Greenburr, Sugar Valley, Rev. F. Wetzel, pastor, was re-dedicated Sunday. The church was enlarged and extensively repaired. Rev. H. I. Crow, of Hubersburg; Rev. M. M. George, of Harrisburg, assisted in conducting the dedicatory services.

FROM OKLAHOMA TERRITORY.

S. J. Krader Tells His Experience Gained While in North Dakota.

S. J. Krader, of Mountain View, Oklahoma Territory, under recent date, writes the Reporter as follows: Let me give my experience I had in Dakota in 1893. I went to North Dakota to sell mill machinery in August of that year, and a pleasant climate, during the summer months, I never experienced. August was a decidedly cool month, and on the sixteenth of August I saw icicles as thick as lead pencils on the eaves of a house roof. Six days previous to that date, I helped to eat ice cream frozen with ice that was taken from a well, the ice having been formed during the winter of 1892. This well was five feet square and sixteen feet deep.

During the snow storms, the snow that falls resembles sand or granulated sugar. It is necessary to make preparation for these storms—fuel and provisions must be on hand as they can not be gotten during the time the storm rages.

There is no questioning the possibility of raising the finest kind of crops—wheat, rye, flax, oats, barley or any other crop. No one who has been in the Dakotas will dispute that.

Give your experience in the North West to the Reporter readers next January.

Great Fall of Rocks.

A dozen men had a narrow escape from being crushed by a fall of rock and earth at the Bellefonte Lime Company's quarry at Salona Thursday afternoon. While the men were at work about 3:30 o'clock there was a slight fall of rock and they all ran far enough away to be out of danger. A few moments later a mass of rock and earth estimated to weigh 5,000 tons came tumbling down. The top of the ledge from which it fell being over 112 feet high.

Later in the afternoon there was another mass of rock fell, the total weight of all that fell being estimated at 12,000 tons. Trucks, tools and the men's hats and coats were buried under the rocks and operations for the present greatly interfered with. A new supply of tools was obtained from Lock Haven Friday morning before work could be resumed. The escape of the men was almost miraculous.

A Changed Situation.

Joseph Chamberlain, who is secretary of State for the colonies in the British cabinet, married Miss Endicott, a daughter of the secretary of War Endicott, of Mr. Cleveland's first cabinet. Now the Duke of Marlborough has been made under secretary of state for the colonies, and he married Miss Consuelo Vanderbilt, of New York. Making the legitimate assumption in each case that the wife exercises great influences it is an interesting retrospect that after 127 years Great Britain relies upon Americans to conduct the affairs of her colonies, when at that remote period she spent seven years of obstinate war to prevent Americans from having any control over their own.

Reduced Rates to San Francisco and Los Angeles.

On account of the National Encampment, G. A. R., at San Francisco, Cal., August 17 to 22, 1903, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will sell excursion tickets to San Francisco or Los Angeles from all stations on its lines, from July 31 to August 13, inclusive, at greatly reduced rates. These tickets will be good for return passage to reach original starting point not later than October 15, inclusive, when executed by Joint Agent at Los Angeles or San Francisco and payment of 50 cents made for this service. For specific information regarding rates and routes, apply to Ticket Agents.

Possibilities for Pleasant Gap.

It is rumored that the American Lime and Stone Company is about to purchase an extensive tract of land in and about Pleasant Gap, says the Daily News, and will open up lime stone quarries there which will give employment to several hundred men. They have already closed a deal with John Herman for 40 acres of land and it is alleged paid \$4000 for it. The other land which they are negotiating for belongs to A. V. Miller, John Bilger, Mrs. Hartsock and Mike Spicher.

After the Paid Soloist.

In the crusade against violators of the "Blue Law," in Wilkingsburg, a new feature has entered—the fair soloist. Druggists, who have been prosecuted from week to week for selling soda water and cigars, turned the tables Sunday and sent "spotters" into all the churches employing paid singers, and later caused their arrest. Some wag now suggests that all church choirs be placed on the paid list, providing the "Blue Laws" will be strictly enforced.

NEW RURAL MAIL ROUTE.

Route from Centre Hall Will Give Ideal Service.

Inspector Frank I. Taylor, on his recent visit here, recommended a rural free delivery mail route that will give its patrons ideal service. The service will begin Tuesday, September 1st.

The carrier will be William Keller, son of James A. Keller. The length of the route is twenty-two and seven-sixteenths miles; area covered eighteen square miles; number of houses on route one hundred and one; population served five hundred and five.

Following will be found the names of heads of families on the route, as well as the distances and directions of the same:

From post office south east to stump corner, distance 2 miles.
George Durst. John Taylor.
Lewis Sunday. Elmer Isahler.
John Conley. David Keller.
George Koch. Eliza Stump.
North to P. W. Brown corner, distance 7-16 mi.
Oscar Homan.
Milton Snyder.
Jerome Auman.
Retrace to Stump corner, distance 7-16 miles.
Southeast to Youngmanstown pike, distance 5-8 miles.
Victor Auman. Bigler Shaffer.
George Bryan. P. A. Auman.
East to Keller corner, distance 5-8 miles.
Ivy Barigee. D. C. Keller.
Nathaniel Ziegler. Andy Rote.
North and north east to Smith corner, distance 2 miles.
Howard Durst.
Charles Weaver. Philip Durst.
John Korman. John Durst.
Wilmer Grove. John Durst.
Arthur Grove. James McClinton.
M. M. Decker. Isaac Smith.
George Gingerich.
North west to Brush Valley road, distance 5-16 miles.
South westerly to Centre Hall post office, distance, 3 7-16 miles.
James Grove. Misses Bilde.
Gardner Grove. Adam Neese.
George Emerick. George H. Emerick.
Wm. Fetterolf. Harry W. Dinges.
Wm. Homan. R. H. Arney.
Jacob Sharer. Byron Garis.
Wm. Scholl.
South west to Bartholomew's corner, distance 3-16 miles.
James Stahl. John Garver.
John J. Arney. Mrs. Kate Horner.
Xavier Gferrer. Robert Smith.
Frank Gferrer. Adam Rote.
Perry Luse. Samuel Gingerich.
George Sweney. Jacob Sprow.
Samuel Grove. John Williams.
J. Q. A. Kennedy. Frank Moyer.
Samuel Brus. Lanson Burris.
John D. Wagoner. G. W. Glace.
D. P. Houser. John Snyder.
Robert Bloom. George Earhart.
George Heckman. C. B. Houser.
John Heckman. Aaron Lutz.
Wm. Parker. Elmer Harshberger.
South east to Earlytown road, distance 1 3-8 mi.
David Snyder.
John Brown.
Richard Brooks.
West to John Rihel, distance 3-4 miles.
Alvin Stump. John Frazier.
John Cummings. John Rihel.
North east to Berigee corner, distance 2 3-16 mi.
James Ruttle. Nancy Yeager.
Samuel Klinefeiler. Andrew Gregg.
Milton Kline. Charles Neff.
John Blair.
Sarah Snyder.
South to Strohm corner, distance 1-14 miles.
Samuel Reeder. Wm. Grossman.
Elmer McClellan. Arthur Sinterbeck.
East to Flory corner, distance 5-8 miles.
James Ruttle. Frank Flory.
North west to Earlytown road, distance 1-14 mi.
D. S. Glasgow.
D. W. Bradford.
James Lytle.
North east to Old Fort, distance 1 mile.
John Kline. George Stover.
L. C. Lingley. Elmer Alexander.
Samuel Durst. Elmer Boyer.
North west to post office, distance 15-16 miles.
George Bradford.
Thomas Grove.
J. A. Kerstetter.

Two routes have been laid out from Bellefonte, to begin on the same date: Route number one will start at Bellefonte and go southwest on Buffalo Run road to Tressler's thence west to H. Armagast; thence retrace to Tressler corner; thence southwest to Fillmore; west to Greene corner; north to Hoover corner; east and south east on Mountain road to Post Office.

This route is twenty miles long, covers fifteen square miles of territory. There are one hundred forty-six houses on the route and seven hundred thirty people receive mail.

Route number two begins at Post Office in Bellefonte, southeast on pike to Axe Mann; south to Dale corner; southeast and south to Blue Spring corner; southwest to George Klines; retrace to Peru; south to Zimmermans; retrace to Peru; northeast to Pleasant Gap; southeast and south to Bilgers; north to Comleys corner; northeast to Bilger cross roads; southeast and southwest to Smetzers; retrace to Bilgers cross roads; northeast to Gentzels corner; northwest to Axe Mann road; southwest to old pike; south to Weavers; northwest to Post Office on old pike.

Route number two covers an area of fifteen square miles and is twenty-two and a half miles long. There are one hundred seventy houses on the route and the population is eight hundred and fifty.

The establishing of these two mail routes will mean the doing away with the post offices at Fillmore, Buffalo Run, Axe Mann and Pleasant Gap. Coleville district will likely be a part of Route number one which will take a big load from Letter Carrier Ardry. The Scale Works and Forge will be on Route two which will relieve Letter Carrier Ed. C. Woods.

Three More Cars of Cattle.

This week three more cars of live stock will be shipped from Centre Hall. The shipments will be made Thursday and Friday by W. J. Mitterling, Frank Rabler, and George Bradford & Schwenck.

MORE RASCALITY.

Machen's Successor Dismissed—He's a Four Dollar Man.

The solution of the post office question seems to be in the old cry: "Turn the rascals out."

A new scandal has broken out in the post office department. Charles Hedges, superintendent of the free delivery bureau, and the successor to A. W. Machen in that position, has been dismissed for drawing a per diem of \$4 for alleged services in different cities when it is proved that he was hundreds of miles away. He confesses that he took this method of bringing his salary up to a respectable level, and brazenly asserts that his dismissal is without warrant because the question has never been tested whether he cannot charge the per diem as matter of right. Of course the question has never reached the courts, because Mr. Hedges has the unique distinction of being the first official discovered who thinks it honest to charge the Government for bogus services. Padded expense accounts in his view have not been declared illegal, and hence doubt exists as to the venerable principles of honesty that conscience decides for most men for callousness to its decrees. The Hedges disclosure is rather petty, but it adds to the conviction that the department is so honeycombed with fraud and theft that Congress must clean it out.

Convicted of Selling Deer.

Secretary Kaibfus of the State Game Commission, reported to the Harrisburg Patriot last week three prosecutions recently brought under the game laws.

One case was the conviction of J. L. McNitt, of Milroy, by Justice John R. Longwell, of Milroy, for selling a deer to a party of hunters. The purchasers were from Coatesville and were Miller R. Best, Joseph Trego, Joseph Miller, George Miller, Robert Curry, John Pitzmyer and Frank Baletine. McNitt claims that the deer had been run by the dogs and was played out, he then caught it and sold it to these hunters. He further says that he will pay \$25 but not the \$100 imposed by the magistrate. He has made an appeal to the County Court. The deer cost the hunters \$125 as they paid \$25 for it and were fined \$100.

LOCALS.

Mrs. H. F. Bitter Monday went to Lancaster where her son Harry is ill in the hospital with typhoid fever.

Isaac Miller, of Tylersville, died Friday evening at the age of eighty-seven years.

Butchers Dauberman, of this place, and Kerstetter, of Pleasant Gap, Thursday got a car load of western cattle from Lewisburg.

Joseph H. Hollis succeeds J. Fearon Mann as superintendent of the American Axe and Tool Company, near Reedsville.

Wealthy Westmoreland county sportsmen have purchased a tract of mountain land containing 1500 acres in Havice Valley, near Milroy, on which they contemplate making a game preserve.

Mrs. Brungart, wife of ex-Sheriff Cyrus Brungart, of Bellefonte, accompanied by her daughters, Misses Sallie and Cora, Monday arrived in town and are spending the week with Mr. and Mrs. James Alexander and other relatives.

The west-bound freight train collided with several cars of prop timber at Coburn, one day last week. The engineer and fireman jumped from the engine and escaped injury. John Moyer, who was on the caboose, was somewhat injured. The engine was pretty badly wrecked.

The fiction number of McClure's for August is a triumph of editorial selection, and a clear case of the survival of the exceptionally fit. The leader is a delightful little story of child life by May Kealey Champion. "The Method of Charles Stuart", with illustrations in color by Jessie Wilcox Smith, of exquisite charm and feeling.

The carpets of the adjusting room of the United States Mint, at San Francisco, have been taken up and treated to a process for removing the gold dust. A bar of gold valued at \$9,000 is the result. The carpets were laid six years ago. In the adjusting rooms the coins are filed down to proper weight and the finer dust sinks into the carpets.

American cities present the most remarkable feature of the rapid growth of this continent in population and riches. There has been nothing like it in the whole previous history of the world. The stories of Terre Haute, Columbus, Youngstown and Harrisburg, crisply told and fully illustrated in the National Magazine for August, drive this fact home in the mind of even the least observant. These articles tell how these cities began, what they are and what they are doing.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Miss Lula Stover, of Aaronsburg, sister of John Stover, is the guest of G. H. Emerick and family.

Miss May Rhone, daughter of Hon. L. Rhone, is in Harrisburg where she will remain indefinitely.

The collections of internal revenue for the last fiscal year were \$230,740,382, a falling off of \$41,127,607.

Mrs. James H. Lohr, of Philadelphia, arrived in Centre Hall last week. Saturday her husband is expected.

Mrs. Robbins, of Loganton, at the age of ninety-two years, is quite active, being able to do all kinds of house work.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Sellers, of Oak Hall, Sunday were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Williams, west of Centre Hall.

The Penns Cave property will be sold at the court house, Bellefonte, Wednesday, August 12, at 10 o'clock. See adv. in this issue.

Dr. Wm. Frear represented the U. S. Food Standard Commission at the meeting of the National Association of State Dairy and Food Commissioners, at St. Paul, Minn.

Miss Roxanna Brishin, who for several months has been visiting her sister in Hartford, Conn., and friends in New York, Boston and other places, returned home Saturday.

Charles Zerbe was bitten through the thumb by a mink while endeavoring to loosen the animal from a trap. The jaws of the mink had to be pried apart before the lad could release his thumb.

Dr. John Bouse, of Chambersburg, son of Rev. Bouse, who served the Methodist church in this place during the decline of the seventies, is one of the state board physicians for the Royal Arcanum.

L. Ray Morgan, who has been the efficient and courteous clerk in the State College Post Office for ten years, says the Times, terminated his connection with the office last Saturday and will seek other employment.

Among the visitors recently at the home of F. P. Geary were Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Geary and Misses Mary Hartman and Estie Young. The former took home with them little Flossie Geary, who was in town for a number of weeks.

The large bank barn owned by Daniel Clinger, about a mile southwest of Milton, was struck by lightning, and was totally destroyed. Several head of cattle and pigs, with a lot of grain and farm implements were burned. The loss is about \$5,000.

Blacksmith Wilbur Henney undertook and successfully completed a difficult piece of repair work on the traction engine of George H. Emerick. The work included replacing the old cleats, on the main drive wheels, with new ones, which necessitated the cutting of many larger rivets.

Judge Auten handed down a decision last week refusing a new trial to Farmer Hood, of Snyder county, convicted of offering for sale rabbits out of season in the Sunbury market. Hood will now have to pay a fine of \$10 for every rabbit, nineteen of them, or undergo a day's imprisonment for every dollar.

J. B. White, of Pitcairn, accompanied by his wife and family, are spending their vacation near Penns Cave, their former home. Mr. White has been at Pitcairn for four years, having a position in the car building department of the car shops. For the past year he has been in charge of six car builders.

Samuel H. Quackenbush, special agent for the Achen and Munich fire insurance company of Germany, in company with Insurance Agent Hoover, was in Centre Hall Thursday last week. Mr. Quackenbush is from New York, and came here for the express purpose of re-adjusting the insurance rates in this place.

While painting at the United Evangelical church, in Howard, Lot Neff met with quite an accident, says the Hustler. He had just stepped from the ladder to the scaffold, which was twenty feet above the ground, when it gave way, he fell, alighting on the steps, and received a very badly sprained ankle and was otherwise bruised.

F. M. Fletcher, of Blanchard, representing the Rand McNally Company, publishers of geographies, was in town Monday, and Tuesday met the Potter township board of school directors at their meeting at Centre Hill. Mr. Fletcher will teach the Eagleville school next term, having been re-elected for the fifth time. The school is a Township High school, and an institution of which Liberty township is very proud.