



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 IV.

We will now reproduce some of the telegrams sent to the press and the Government during the battle. These will give the stages of the battle and the condition of suspense and anxiety at the time better than anything written since the battle.

Gettysburg, July 1, 11 a. m.
Gen. Reynolds, commanding the first corps, Army of the Potomac, has just been killed. His body was brought into town in an ambulance.

July 1, 11 a. m.
Wadsworth's Division of the first corps, is at this moment engaged with the enemy. The fight seems to be concentrated around McPherson's woods, a mile and a half from town. The firing is heavy and continuous. Many wounded are coming into town. Our citizens are greatly excited. Many are hiding their valuables and leaving the town.

July 1, noon.
The first corps passed here, crossing the fields, is hurrying to the front. It is rumored that other corps of the Army of the Potomac are near at hand.

July 1, 12:30 p. m.
Gen. Howard has passed through the town and gone to the front. The eleventh corps is now coming up. It is difficult to get reliable news from the front but it is believed that our troops are holding their own.

July 1, 1 o'clock.
The firing is very heavy now and seems to be coming nearer to the town. Streams of the wounded are pouring into the town by the Chambersburg road, and the fields are covered with them. Shells are seen bursting in the vicinity of the Seminary and the air seems alive with exploding missiles.

July 1, 2 o'clock.
The eleventh corps, under Gen. Shurz, is now engaged with the enemy. The firing is extending all around to the right of the town. Our citizens are terrified and know not where to fly. Many of the wounded are dying in the streets.

July 1, 2:30 p. m.
It is reported that Gen. Roy Stone's brigade is almost annihilated.

July 1, 3 p. m.
It is rumored that Hall's battery has been captured by the enemy. Two Mississippi regiments have been captured and have passed through town to the rear.

July 1, 3:30 p. m.
Hall's battery has been retaken by our troops. Streams of wounded are still pouring into town.

July 1, 4 p. m.
The firing around Benner's Hill is very heavy. Our army is believed to be falling back and the fighting is getting nearer. There is intense excitement among our citizens.

July 1, 4:30 p. m.
It is feared the first and eleventh corps have been defeated. They are now hurrying through the town, artillery and infantry in wild confusion. Our citizens are terror stricken.

July 1, 5:30 p. m.
The town of Gettysburg is now in the hands of the enemy and I send this dispatch by messenger to "Two Taverns."

July 1, 5:30 p. m.
Gen. Hancock arrived on the field an hour ago and seems to have restored confidence in our troops. He is busy forming new lines of battle and it is believed we can hold the new position.

July 2, 7 a. m.
Firing has commenced on our left. It is believed to be on the Emmetsburg Road, in the vicinity of Sherfy's farm.

July 2, 10:30 a. m.
The firing on our left continues. Our troops are busy fortifying their lines and are in good spirits.

July 2, 3:30 p. m.
The firing on our left is becoming serious. Crashes of musketry mingled with some artillery firing.

July 2, 5 p. m.
The fighting on our left is at this moment terrible and extends along the Emmetsburg Road to Sherfy's farm and the Devils Den. Little Round Top is enveloped in smoke and heavy firing is heard coming from the woods in that direction. The fire seems to be extending along the entire line. Just now a tremendous crash of musketry is heard on Culps Hill.

July 2, 7 p. m.
The day is drawing to a close but the fighting still continues without any abatement. Since shortly after three o'clock there has been one continual roar of artillery and musketry.

July 3, 6 a. m.
The battle is on again. Daybreak

was ushered in by a tremendous burst of musketry on Culps Hill. It has continued incessantly up to this hour. The roar is deafening. The twelfth corps is trying to drive the enemy out of our works, that they have occupied since last evening. All interest is now centered on Culps Hill.

July 3, 9 a. m.
The heavy fighting still continues on Culps Hill. It is believed that our troops are forcing the Rebels back.

July 3, 11 a. m.
Great cheering is heard, mingled with the firing on Culps Hill. It is believed that our men are gaining ground.

July 3d, 11:30 a. m.
Our troops have succeeded in driving the enemy out of our works on Culps Hill, and our whole line is once more intact. Every one is rejoicing.

July 3, 12:30 noon.
Some important movement is evidently taking place opposite our left centre. The enemy is seen concentrating on Seminary Ridge, and placing a great number of batteries in position.

July 3, 1:30 p. m.
An appalling artillery duel is now in progress. It extends over a line, a mile in length. The enemy opened with all their artillery and were promptly replied to by a hundred guns from our side. The heavens are filled with bursting shells and screaming missiles. The roar is awful.

July 3, 3:00 p. m.
The cannonade continues. The destruction is awful. We can see from the cemetery, caissons exploding and cannon being dismounted in all directions. The scene, though awful, is sublime. The firing is, at this moment abating and on our side is almost suspended.

July 3, 3:15 p. m.
A great attack is now being made on our left centre by a powerful column of rebels. We can see them advancing in hosts. Their lines are half a mile in length. They have a mile to march before they strike our line. All of our artillery has now opened upon them, and we can see them falling in hundreds. In a few minutes they will strike our line, and the fight will be at close quarters.

July 3, 4:30 p. m.
The battle is over and the rebel lines hurled back in wild disorder. We have won a great victory. The field is covered with rebel dead and wounded. Wild cheers ring out from all parts of our lines. Thousands of Rebel prisoners are being brought in; the rejoicing among our men is indescribable.

July 3, 10:00 p. m.
The field in front of the Second Corps, where the brunt of the attack fell, is covered with Rebel dead. The slaughter on both sides has been awful. Our men are gathering in the wounded, many of whom must die during the night for want of care. Our artillery suffered greatly in today's fight. Nearly half the guns along the front of the Second Corps were dismounted, and nearly all the caissons blown up. One battery had ninety-four horses out of one hundred killed.

Every thing is now quiet and profound silence reigns over the field, excepting the moans of the wounded and the rumbling of the ambulances, bringing in the wounded.

Not a light is visible along the enemy's lines; but sounds of moving trains and artillery are constantly heard. The men are worn out by three days fatigue and fighting and have settled down in sleep. Whole brigades are lying in line of battle, sleeping soundly, the dead and the living mingled together.

The heavy rains following every great battle were upon us in great earnest, so that if we were not wet and steaming with perspiration we were soaked in the rain. It must be borne in mind that we wore the same heavy, woolen uniforms, underwear and all, in the hottest summer or coldest winter weather, save only an overcoat. When blankets and tents were rained-soaked the weight of our luggage was greatly increased.

After a long and wearisome night of darkness, gloom and doubt the morning of July 5th, 1863, dawned wet and rainy. Our advancing skirmishers found that the Confederate army had left their positions and were in full retreat, toward "Old Virginia," by the same roads they had come.

Peculiar Wreck.
A peculiar accident happened to the freight engine one day last week when approaching Spring Mills. It appears the two middle drive wheels left the rails and thus the engine ran for a hundred feet or more when the wheels left the track, the engineer threw on the air-brake and the crew jumped for their lives. On removing the heavy rails, they curled up in all shapes, which demonstrated the wonderful strain on them.

Send the news to the Reporter.

FARM WORK FOR MICROBES.

A Pocket Army for Every Farmer to Levy on the Elements for Fertilizer—For the Progressive Farmer.

PART I.—BY HAROLD BOLCE.

In propagating nitrogen-breathing bacteria by the billion and shipping them, without impairing their vitality, to all parts of the United States to be used in multiplying the yield of crops from 100 to 1000 per cent. and in adding lasting fertility to the soil, the United States Government has brought about a great achievement in science. It is declared to be a wonderful thing even by progressive experts. It is a triumph which, those who know say, means the regeneration of the earth. It has passed the experimental stage, and the United States Government is now ready to start innumerable armies from the laboratories in Washington, where they are recruited, to levy upon the infinite supply of nitrogen in the air and convert it to the uses of mankind. Significant as the work of these bacteria will be in stimulating plant productivity and in renewing depleted soils, it will be equalled if not eclipsed by their further service of imparting to foodstuffs the albuminoids and proteids which are of primary importance in the diet of human beings and animals.

"That the agricultural future of the world is to depend on minute creatures reared by the American Government may sound incredible," said a Washington scientist, "but experts throughout the world have been eagerly awaiting results of our experiments. Many tests abundantly prove our claims. The world's problem in agriculture has been to secure available nitrogen for plant life. It has been known to students of agriculture that bacteria on the roots of legumes enabled them to absorb nitrogen from the air. The effort to cultivate these bacteria, and to invent a method by which they could be preserved and transported, to be used by farmers for the inoculation of seed crops, has absorbed the scientific attention of one branch of the United States Government for over a year. Now we have mastered the mystery of growth of these microscopic friends of husbandry, and we are prepared to introduce a factor destined to revolutionize the whole field of American agriculture."

Henceforth, the farmer, if he chooses, can get his fertilizing material in miniature packages by mail, instead of by the ton and wagon-load. Under the microscope a colony of these organisms, which to the naked eye forms a speck the size of a pin head, is found to contain hundreds of thousands of individuals. Ten million can be held in a thimble. In tiny oblongs of absorbent cotton—just the size and appearance of a cake of yeast—fifteen million of these nitrogen-breathing bacteria are shipped to farmers. One of these small packages contains enough to furnish complete fertilization for an acre. In the pockets of an ordinary working suit a farmer can readily carry 100 packages, containing 2,400,000,000 bacteria, enough to enrich the soil and vastly increase the yield on a quarter-section of land.

The Government's process for shipment brings about a condition of suspended animation in the bacteria. The farmer revives them by immersing them in water. The quickening of their activity by this baptism is marvelous. They are then fed on certain nutrient salts, whereupon the phenomenon of their amazing increase in numbers is believed to be unparalleled in nature. Beans, clover, cowpeas, alfalfa, lupine, peas, lentils, esparcette, vetches, lathyrus, peanuts and other

plants require different bacteria. The Government gives full directions as to the kind of organisms to be used and in regard to the processes of inoculation. If directions are carefully followed by the farmer, the increase of his crops in poor soil will be, as stated, 100 to 1000 per cent. Clover in a depleted soil that was producing only 200 pounds to the acre yielded as high as 2000 pounds on the same area after the nitrogen-breathing bacteria were introduced to aid the plants.

All the far-reaching benefits of the Government's discovery will be conferred without price upon the farmers of America. It is believed that when the possibilities of these nitrogen-gathering organisms are realized, their introduction throughout the United States will rival the enormous activity of seed distribution itself. To meet the inevitable demand, the Government is greatly elaborating its laboratory facilities.

It is with a platinum spade no larger than a flattened pin that the United States Government is cutting the way to the enrichment of American soil.

The new laboratories for the rearing of these nitrogen-breathing organisms will be similar to those in which the discoveries have been made. The work is carried on in great glass cages, the air in which is supplied through flues lined and covered at the point of inlet with cotton saturated with sterilizing chemicals. The walls of the compartments are washed down frequently with bichloride of mercury. It is necessary to exclude every atom of fungi and every malignant microbe that might attack the microscopic bacteria under development, and hence the air of the laboratories is purged of all noxious forms of life and rendered perfectly sterile. In this pure atmosphere science is working out the future of American agriculture.

It is there that the platinum spade is so serviceable. At one side of the investigator burns an oxyhydrogen light. Holding the implement by its wooden handle, the platinum is plunged into the fierce flame. The metal, which does not fuse in the intense heat, is instantly freed of any organism that might have clung to it from preceding experiments. The nodules of legumes containing colonies of bacteria are then opened, the individuals dug out and studied under lenses which magnify the bacteria to 3000 times their natural size. By using the platinum implement first plunged into purifying flame, possibility of mixing the bacteria is avoided, as the organisms are prevented from being carried over from one experiment to another.

Having classified the bacteria under examination as the species adapted to clover, vetches, beans or other plants, the organisms are fed upon the special nutrient salts which repeated tests have shown to be favorable to their increase. German investigators, operating along similar lines, sought to rear the bacteria on sections and deceptions of the plant which, in their free state, they naturally select. This proved to be a failure, for though the creatures grew, the super-abundance of nitrogenous food served them rendered them incapable of longer gathering it from the atmosphere. The mistaken method produced hearty-looking bacteria but led to atrophy of the faculty that makes them valuable to agriculture.

Note From Kansas.

Miss Margaret E. Keller, who holds a position with the Beall Grain Company, Kansas City, recently writes the Reporter; This has been the most disastrous flood record that this country has ever had. The loss to the grain trade alone being millions of dollars, to say nothing of the great loss to life and personal property. There were thousands of cars of grain standing on track, some of them being totally submerged, while some stood only half way in water. Some of the elevators in this city, in which were stored thousands and thousands of bushels of grain, stood from twenty to thirty feet in water, the grain being a total loss. You could only fully realize the situation, to have been here on the ground yourself; efforts fail, when one tries to tell of the great destruction. The cities of Argentine and Armourdale suburbs of Kansas City which were swept entirely away, you might say, are being rebuilt and people are going back to their homes, only to live in the filth, foul and impure conditions, as it will be impossible for ten years to come to put those cities back to what they once were, and to where people can live there as they once lived before the flood.

Henry Lowry Secures Contract.

Henry Lowry, of Bellefonte, has received the contract for the erection of the track building at Pennsylvania State College, and work will be commenced on it immediately. This edifice is intended for the use of the base ball and foot ball teams, together with all the other athletic clubs of the College. When teams or other athletic clubs come to State College this is the place they will be entertained.

The building will be a frame structure 33x84 feet, three stories high. It will contain a kitchen, dining room and parlor, together with bath rooms containing the very latest and most improved appliances. It will have in it a number of sleeping apartments which will be used in entertaining their guests. It is something that is badly needed and will have the effect of making athletics more a feature of the College.

Make no Deductions.

No deductions need be made from the story that Rev. W. F. D. Noble, a Methodist minister located at Snydertown, while out walking recently, came across a den of copper head snakes and dispatched thirty-nine of the venomous reptiles.

THAT ROAD LAW.

Estimated Cost of Roads Frightens Farmers From Applying for Aid.

From all accounts the money appropriated in this State for good roads is likely to remain in the State treasury. The Wilkesbarre "Record" as an illustration comments on the unwillingness of township authorities to apply for State aid, by the statement that the estimated cost of the roads to be constructed is \$5,000 per mile. Of this sum the State would pay \$3,334, the county \$833 and the township \$833.

The townships are unable or unwilling to tax themselves to the extent required, and in consequence the law is likely to remain a dead letter until amended or repealed.

The truth of the matter is the specifications laid down by the state authorities are of such a nature that the cost of construction, even with the state aid, is beyond the reach of the townships in the rural districts. The thought of Potter township, for instance, building \$5000-a-mile-road would not be entertained by the most progressive. That township has probably one hundred miles of road, and to construct roads at the rate of \$5000 per mile, would mean the bonding of the township for as many thousand dollars as there are miles of road.

It must be remembered that the greater portion of the county tax comes direct from the rural districts. To build roads, the county tax would at once be raised to a point beyond endurance.

An Object of Contempt.

The following is being printed in the local newspapers, because there is not a village that does not have a complement of street loafers. The writer of the article, however, forgot to say that the parents are responsible for this condition of their children. The average parent has a responsibility that is too lightly regarded. Hear about the street loafer:

The street loafer is an object of contempt everywhere. He has no social standing anywhere. His influence, if he is so fortunate to have any, is always in the wrong direction. No one has ever found out what he is good for except that of being in everybody's way. He is considered a common nuisance for which no one has found a successful remedy. No successful business man will employ any one hanging around on the street corners. The boy who can find nothing to do but loaf around the street would not be of very great value to his employer. When you have nothing else to do you should spend your time in trying to learn something that will be a benefit instead of spending it in idleness. You are watched just as closely when you are at work as you are when you are not working. Business men are on the lookout for boys of energy and thrift. A position is always ready for this kind of a boy. A street loafer does not want to work and could not get a position if he wanted it.

LOCALS.

Miss Mabel Arney last week went to Northumberland where she is being entertained by Miss Leisher, daughter of James Leisher, formerly of this place.

Dr. McCluney Radcliffe, of Philadelphia, arrived in town Saturday. Monday he returned to Mifflin county where, with his wife and daughter, he will spend some time.

W. A. Sandoe, Jr., is now located at Pittsburg. On returning to Cincinnati, after his visit to his parents at this place, a short time ago, he immediately came back to the Smoky City.

While George Cunningham, was driving over the mountain at Altoona a large panther attacked his team. Cunningham shot at the panther, but killed his horse. The panther escaped.

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Tressler, of near Penns Cave, Saturday stopped at the Reporter office on their way to the home of Felix Shuey, at Shiloh, who lives on one of the well kept farms in that locality, and is the father of Mrs. Tressler. Mr. and Mrs. Tressler belong to the present day frugal class of farmers who make farming pay.

Mrs. Myra Kerr and daughter Miss Kathryn and son William, about October 1st, will go to Chicago to take up permanent residence in that city. Miss Kerr has secured a position in the Elgin public schools, near Chicago. Mrs. Kerr has a son who has been living in Chicago for several years, and it is his purpose to again unite with the Kerr family.

Mrs. C. A. Spencer, of Curwensville, was the guest of W. H. Bartholomew, her uncle, last week. Mrs. Spencer is a sister of Miss Anna Bartholomew, and will remain in Centre county until the beginning of September. It was the intention of the Spencers to move from Curwensville to Harrisburg, but the plans have been changed, and consequently they will remain at the former place.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Mrs. John Mullen, of Allegheny City, accompanied by her little son, is visiting her brothers and sisters in this place.

A. J. Reesman last week received a fine line of heaters, ranges and cook stoves. The designs are new and pretty.

Dairyman W. J. Smith has one of the finest herds of cows in this section, and besides are well fed and well groomed.

Jeffries remains the champion prize fighter. Corbett was knocked out in the tenth round in the combat Friday night in San Francisco.

Mrs. Laura Bricker and Mrs. Harry E. Shirk, both of Boalsburg, drove to Centre Hall last week and were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Brisbin.

The apple crop throughout the United States is a large one. Cold storage space in the larger cities is being eagerly sought in advance of harvesting the crop.

Sidney Reish, brother of James Reish of the Potters Mills hotel, paid his brothers in Centre county a visit. He is engaged on a street railway in Pittsburg.

General John P. Taylor, of Reedsville, was one of fifteen persons who went from Mifflin county to San Francisco to attend the Grand Army Encampment.

Mrs. Clayton McKinney, of Altoona, whose husband is employed in the car shops in that place, in company with her two children is visiting her old home at Potters Mills.

Adam Krumrine, of Tusseyville, was unfortunate in losing a young horse valued at \$150. The animal was one of a pair of well mated colts purchased from Joel Kersterer, at this place.

Mrs. McGeehan, wife of Dr. W. A. McGeehan, of Eastbrook, Lawrence county, is visiting among friends in Centre Hall. Dr. McGeehan, several years ago, practiced his profession in this place and proved to be a skilled physician.

Milton Walker, of Penn Hall, was admitted to the Bellefonte Hospital Wednesday of last week, suffering with appendicitis. He was operated upon, the operation being quite successful and is reported as getting along nicely.

Mrs. W. A. Sandoe and daughter Helen, of this place, Saturday went to Burnham where they remained over Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Porter W. Odenkirk, and Monday proceeded to Mifflin. Before returning they will go to Harrisburg.

A state charter was issued to the Mifflinburg Buggy Company of Mifflinburg, for the manufacture and sale of vehicles, capital, \$30,000. Directors, H. F. Blair, R. S. Gutelius, H. B. Young, D. L. Glover, H. P. Glover and W. B. Sterling.

Mrs. J. Emory Hoy and daughter Elizabeth, of Philadelphia, Saturday returned from a visit to the Hoy family at State College to Centre Hall, where they will remain for several weeks with Mrs. Hoy's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Mingle.

The good work William Bilger did in building the abutments for the Spring Mills bridge across Penns Creek no doubt accounts for the action of the county commissioners in giving him a similar contract for a county bridge across Pine Creek, Harris township.

Miss Laura Runkle, of Centre Hall, for the past ten days has been in Pottsgrove, where she is being entertained by a former school friend, Mrs. Wm. Finkle, nee Katie McCool. Before returning home the latter part of this week, Miss Runkle will visit Mrs. John Detrick, of Milton.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmet Labar and niece, of Lestershire, New York, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Olie D. Stover, in this place. Mr. Labar is a barber and with his wife, who is the sister of Mrs. Stover, came to Centre county to compare mountain scenery and visit among friends.

Mrs. B. H. Arney and Mrs. A. J. Reesman were summoned to Tyrone last week on account of the serious illness of their sister, Mrs. Lydia Smith, who is suffering with pneumonia. From last reports her condition was such that recovery is possible. Mr. Smith is an employe of the railroad company.

H. W. Love, of Wilkinsburg, was in town last week to attend the funeral of his aunt, Miss Wilson, and look after the estate of his mother which had been left to Miss Wilson during her lifetime. Mr. Love is engaged in a large planing mill and has regular employment. A short time ago he was unfortunate in having all his tools destroyed by fire when the planing mill was entirely consumed.