



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 V. THE PRISONER'S STORY.

At the time I bought the udder, there was considerable beef sold to the prisoners by the guards. A few days later we were told that our beef cow had died a natural death, several days before she was cut up into beef and sold to us.

I said, "Skinner, we will try the rascals just once more." With a lead pencil we traced a twenty-dollar Confederate bill on paper, laid over the bill on glass; then greased it and crushed it till it was soft. I took this new bill out that night, and signalled; "Whist! 'Aye," came promptly; it was my man. "Trade?" I asked, "Yes," what have you? He answered, "Onions and potatoes, mixed a half bushel." I said, "I will give you twenty dollars for them. Hand it over;" I did; they took the new bill, lit a match and looked at it; when they lit the match I slid off the parapet and lay in the ditch so close to the parapet that they could not get range of me if they discovered the fraud; for a few minutes I was in great suspense, but they evidently pronounced the bill genuine, for they threw the onions over the parapet, right on me. I lay still till I heard them walk their beats, then slipped quietly away. We ate onions and potatoes for several days.

CHAPTER VI.

I had a big supply of paper, envelopes, needles, thread, buttons, etc., in my knap-sack, and we began to sell these. The ragged condition of the uniforms of the Confederates caused a great demand for needles, said to be very scarce in the Confederacy; therefore we had no trouble to get one dollar a piece for needles, while pant buttons readily sold two for a dollar. We put half a sheet of paper in each envelope, and both of us went down to "Market Street," and began to shout, "Oh! here you are for your paper and envelopes! Come, buy paper and envelopes and write home to your friends tell them you are living. Oh! here you are for paper and envelopes; a sheet of paper and envelope for ten cents, or one dollar Confed. They sold rapidly, and we had some money again, for which we bought extras to eat from the Johnnies, just to such an amount each day.

One day I was down to Market St. and saw a prisoner holding up an apple for sale; he was an elegant talker, and never halted for words as he loudly told us what a good apple he had to sell, always ending the strain with the price, ten cents, or one dollar Confed. I was down to my last dollar, but I could not pass that apple; I would walk away then go back to see if he still had it. I bought it; no apple ever tasted so good, and no apple ever cost me so much. My knap-sack was now empty and my money all gone, but spring was rapidly coming on and we kept our nerve.

Down along the bank of the river by the camp sink, there were blackberry and sassafras bushes, and the prisoners dug the roots of these to the depth of four feet, and used the bark for medicinal purposes, and which commanded a high price. Here also stood a number of large buttonwood trees, the bark of which, for a change, was an article of diet; the bark of the roots, deep into the ground, as well as the bark of the trunk and branches, to a height of twenty feet or more, was cut and scraped off the wood clean, and eaten. Some of the prisoners claimed that these barks relieved the distress of heart-burn, from which nearly all the prisoners suffered greatly, and for the relief and cure of which we also ate quantities of yellow clay, ashes, and drank weak lye, by way of experiment, with little or no benefit.

The prisoners were nearly famished for meat, and anything in the line of meat would be seized upon.

The Commander had a fine, fat, pet poodle dog; one day this fat dog came into camp, was seized on arrival, and butchered; the Confederate Commander was very mad, and stopped the rations on the whole camp till the butchers of his dog would be delivered to him. Those knowing would not tell; the second day the butchers of "ye said dog" went to the gate and surrendered, that the camp might be relieved. Nearly all afternoon I saw them sitting on boxes beside headquarters, eating something. I saw no punishment in this, and when they came in I asked, "what did he do to you?" "Nothing." "Did you only have to sit on those boxes and eat?" "That is all." "Well, what did he give you to eat then?" "A piece of raw dog meat."

TANGLED IN LAW.

Howard R. Homan, formerly of Centre Hall, became a Bigamist Through Mistake.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard R. Homan, of Altoona, accompanied by the latter's son Carl Jolley, were in town Saturday and Sunday, and called at the Reporter office. Mr. Homan is well known in Centre Hall and surrounding country, and his acquaintances will regret to hear the story related below which is taken from the Williamsport Grit. Mr. and [No. 2] Mrs. Homan were in the happiest mood, and hope before long to have these entanglements straightened out. The Grit says:

"To live for twenty-three years with a woman to whom he was not congenially mated; to then leave her quietly because he believed he could not longer control his actions if he stayed with her; to receive word through a lawyer that his wife had secured a divorce, leaving him free to marry again; to wed another woman and live happily with her for over a year; then to be torn from her side and taken to jail on a bench warrant charging him with non-support of his first wife; to learn, while behind the bars, that he was not legally entitled to marry the second wife, and is thus a bigamist, through misfortune rather than fault—that is, in brief, the history of Howard R. Homan's very bitter experience in the field of matrimony."

The Grit then goes on to recite the history made by Mr. and No. 1 Mrs. Homan during the twenty-three years they lived together, but with these facts a great number of the Reporter readers are thoroughly acquainted and will not be repeated.

Mr. Homan left wife No. 1 about four years ago, and some time afterwards, while working at Centre Hall, he received word from his wife's counsel in Williamsport, that she had applied for a divorce. Mr. Homan's attorney advised him not to contest her application, which advice was accepted. Some time later his attorney wrote him that his wife had secured her divorce, and later he was led to believe that under decree of the court he was at liberty to marry again.

Under the delusion that he was a free man, Mr. Homan, during April of 1902, was wedded to Mrs. Jennie L. Jolley, of Altoona. Before the marriage, the prospective bride was shown the letter from Mr. Homan's attorney and was given a full history of the case as it was understood by Mr. Homan. No. 2 Mrs. Homan states that she was not deceived in the matter, and that they have lived most happily together.

The first intimation Mr. Homan had that trouble was brewing was a few months ago, when he was notified that he must provide for his first wife. Beginning of December he was arrested while at work in the Juniata railroad shops, taken to Williamsport and imprisoned.

Later H. A. Davis, Esq., Mr. Homan's attorney, and wife No. 2, went to Williamsport, where it was learned that the writ No. 1 Mrs. Homan had secured was only for legal separation, not leaving either free to marry.

No. 2 Mrs. Homan, who is a woman of pleasing address and bears a good reputation, was willing to make a great sacrifice to secure the release of her husband. A proposition was made to No. 1 Mrs. Homan, which if accepted will permit matters to be adjusted. In this event steps may be taken to secure an absolute divorce. Then it will be necessary for Mr. Homan to be married again to his second wife.

The New Zinc Company.

The Blue Jacket, Republic, Clinton and Prairie Zinc Companies, whose mines in Missouri are being worked by Bellefonte capitalists have consolidated in one company known as the Pennsylvania Mining and Smelting Company. The following officials have been elected:

President, F. H. Thomas; Vice President, E. G. H. Hayes; Secretary, J. C. Meyer; Treasurer, C. M. Parrish, all of Bellefonte. Directors: F. W. Crider, F. H. Thomas, E. L. Orvis, J. C. Meyer, W. Harrison Walker, R. G. H. Hayes, Harry Keller, all of Bellefonte; A. Walter, Millheim; E. H. Heaton, C. G. Voris, Milton; J. I. Higbee, Watson; T. M. Stevenson, Reese Kintzing, Lock Haven; Chas. T. Aikens, Pine Grove Mills; C. F. Gephart, Lavansville. General Manager, R. F. Hunter, Bellefonte.

Two Nittany Valley Deaths.

Miss Josephine Hayes, daughter of Joseph H. Hayes, died at her home near Parvin, of consumption, aged about twenty-two years. Miss Hayes had been a patient sufferer for many months.

Mrs. Martha Kramer, widow of the late William Kramer, who resided for many years near Mackeysville, died at the home of her son, William, in the east end of Nittany Valley. Her remains were buried in the Disciple burial ground, near Salona.

ABOUT THE MOSERS.

Prof. S. L. Stiver, Ph. D., Superintendent of the Bunker Hill Military Academy, Bunker Hill, Illinois, writes some interesting facts concerning the Mosers and the estate in litigation.

I find from recent items in your columns that considerable interest is manifest in your region concerning the Moser estate matter, and that in some respects there is a lack of correct or definite information, especially concerning the descendants of Burkhardt Moser, Sr., and even as to the identity of said Moser. As there are descendants of Burkhardt Moser, Sr., all over the region in which your valuable journal circulates, and as doubtless there are others who would be glad of further information, I will give your readers the benefit of such information as I obtained in July, 1900, from the records of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company in Philadelphia, access to which I was courteously permitted to have by some of the officials. In one of the many large volumes of this company at the central office in Philadelphia containing printed descriptions of and records of titles to the various real possessions of this corporation, I found a large folded leaf, after the style of a folded map, at the center of which, in a small circle, was "Burkhardt Moser, Sr.," and in concentric spaces around this, his numerous descendants. Each space contained a generation, and, since the spaces increased as the distance from the center increased, there was room for the increasing number of names. As I was in a great hurry to make a train, and as I was in search of the genealogy of my own branch of the family chiefly, I did not take the time to copy everything; I did not take up the line of descent through Burkhardt Moser, Jr., (died in 1849 and said to be buried near Penn Hall, Pa.), one of the two sons of Burkhardt Moser, Sr.

It is Burkhardt Moser, "the bachelor" whose existence or identity is questioned by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company and not that of Burkhardt Moser, Sr., or of his son, Burkhardt Moser, Jr., or of Burkhardt Moser, Jr., (No. 2) son of Philip Moser, who was a brother of Burkhardt Moser, Jr. Who the "bachelor" may be I have not, in all my investigations, discovered to my satisfaction, and am inclined to agree with the L. C. & N. Co. that he is a myth, or that he was a married man who deserted his family and lived as a hermit on one of the tracts of land now claimed by the L. C. & N. Co., where he mined coal on a small scale and sold it in Tamaqua. It is claimed by some that a Burkhardt Moser, "the bachelor," did so live and mine coal near Tamaqua.

The Moser genealogy on the books of the L. C. & N. Co. has been verified, it is claimed by the Co., by reference to the records at the port of Philadelphia giving names of immigrants, place of residence in Europe, destination in this country, and other important items of family and personal history; by reference to the records of the churches in this country of which these immigrants became members; and by reference to tombstones and official documents in the counties of Eastern Pennsylvania. As these matters are considered sufficiently important by the L. C. & N. Co. to be investigated and made a matter of record aside from litigation, it may be taken for granted that the experts who have secured the information and have recorded it with such skill and decision, have made no mistakes.

Putting what I have learned from other sources with what is recorded as above stated, the facts are as follows: Of two brothers who came from the low countries of Germany to the U. S. in 1740, Philip Moser (sometimes spelled Mosser) settled at Moserville, Lehigh county, Pa. (now spelled Mosersville) and Burkhardt Moser settled at New Tripoli, Pa.

This Burkhardt Moser, Sr., who died in 1807, had two sons, Burkhardt Moser, Jr., who died in 1847, and Philip Moser, said to be buried near Penn Hall, Centre county, Pa.

According to the records of the L. C. & N. Co. this Philip Moser, just mentioned, had twelve children whose names I will give here and whose descendants I will name later under the head of each:

A, Christina or Christiana; B, David (no descendants); C, Elizabeth; D, Daniel; E, John; F, Philip, Jr.; G, Catherine; H, Maria; I, Jacob; J,

Michael; K, Magdalena; L, Catherine (No. 2)

A, Christina (born Oct. 1771; died March 11, 1838; buried at Aaronsburg) married John Matthias Beuck, a surveyor and justice of some note at Aaronsburg in his day, many of whose legal documents are on record at Bellefonte.

Their children were (1) John Matthias, Jr., who married Miss Kurtz, of Aaronsburg, and whose descendants live in Trumbull county, Ohio; (2) Daniel, who married Miss Wiss, of Aaronsburg, and whose descendants—George, Maria, Louisa, Harriet and Fannie—live at Ontario, California; (3) William, who married Hester Reeser, of Sunbury, Pa., and who was the father of John Matthias, Mrs. Mary F. Stiver (mother of the writer), Mrs. Sarah Musser, Emanuel, Mrs. Anna Barber, Mrs. Maggie Haines, Mrs. Susan Kerlin, Mrs. Kate Shoemaker and Mrs. Ellen Finney; (4) Elizabeth, who married Emanuel Etlinger, of Aaronsburg, and whose daughters were Mrs. (Sarah) Stover, Mrs. (Johanna) Foster, Mrs. (Louisa) Kurtz, Mrs. (Ellen) Kurtz, and George, who has sons (Clarence and Harry) at Cozey, Iowa; (5) Samuel, who never married; (6) Mary, who married James Homan and whose children were Alfred, Sarah and Mrs. (Louisa) Fortney.

C, Elizabeth, who married Mr. Houseman and whose children were Jonathan, Mary (Mrs. Jonas Rockey), Sarah (Mrs. John Rockey), Jacob, John, Elizabeth (Mrs. Daniel Musselman), Andrew and Lydia (Mrs. Benjamin Ockview.)

D, Daniel, whose children were David, Jacob, Polly (Mrs. Daniel Condo), Daniel, Sarah (Mrs. Nicholas Condo), John, Rosanna (Mrs. Jonathan Reed,) and William.

E, John, whose children were Daniel and Catherine (Mrs. Henry Ritz.)

F, Philip, Jr., whose children were Elizabeth (Mrs. Henry Housman), Catherine (Mrs. Michael Moser), David, John, Barbara (Mrs. John Harter), Sarah (Mrs. George Swartz), Maria (Mrs. George Igin), Mary Magdalene, and Philip, whose children were Catherine (Mrs. Reuben Groy), Samuel, Sarah (Mrs. Philip T. and Rachael.

G, Catherine, wife of Henry Billig, who died without issue.

H, Maria, who married Samuel Everett and whose children were Polly (Mrs. Christian Wannamacher), Catherine (Mrs. Jacob Kistler), Sarah (widow of Mr. Hoke), Magdaline (Mrs. Betts), Rebecca (Mrs. John Moser), Elizabeth (Mrs. Jacob Oswald), Maria (Mrs. Jonathan Oswald), Susannah (Mrs. Daniel Moser), Lydia (Mrs. Horatio Prindle), Esther (Mrs. Jonas Wannamaker), Michael, Daniel, Samuel and Charles.

J, Michael, whose children were Jacob, Michael, Jr., David, Elizabeth (Mrs. John Fay), Margaret (Mrs. Jonas Extine), Catherine (Mrs. Wm. Meyers), Hester (Mrs. Wm. Hillman), Susan (Mrs. John Wolford), Philip and Mary (Mrs. Jacob Hoffman.)

K, Magdalena, wife of Mr. Kistler, no issue.

L, Catherine (No. 2) wife of Michael Ohl, no known issue.

Of the merits of the claims of the Moser heirs—an organized body in Eastern Pennsylvania with headquarters, in 1900, at Philadelphia—I know but little, though I have conversed and corresponded with the chief attorney of the L. C. & N. Co., at Pottsville and with Captain G. W. Stanton, of Buffalo, 1900, chief attorney for the Moser corporation. I was informed by the legal representatives of the L. C. & N. Co. that two cents on every bushel of coal mined by the company had been laid aside from the first and is now on deposit somewhere—an immense sum—for what cause or purpose could not be ascertained after inquiry. I must give the representatives of the L. C. & N. Co., and especially their chief attorney, credit for courtesies during my visit in 1900, though access to their records in Philadelphia was not intended to be included among them. There was no violation of good faith on the part of the writer, however, in securing information. It is not the claimants but the claims that exercise the L. C. & N. Co.

THE POSTAL FRAUDS.

When last summer former Cashier Tulloch of the Washington Post-Office brought charges against certain officials and ex-officials of the department, Postmaster-General Payne met them with blustering abuse. To him they were "hot air," "vaporings" and "idle chatter." The President, in the fulfillment of an oft-expressed desire that the public service should be "as clean as a hound's tooth," appointed Messrs. Holmes Conrad and Charles J. Bonaparte as counsel to examine those charges.

These gentlemen now report that there were "deplorable and gravely discreditable abuses," and that the persons "primarily responsible appear to have been" Perry Heath and Geo. W. Beavers. Others were in a minor degree responsible by neglect, by toleration of the abuses, by obedience to improper orders or by laxness. But Beavers and Heath were first in evil doings.

This Mr. Heath is the Secretary of the Republican National Committee. At its recent meeting in Washington, the scene of his postal labors, he called the roll of the members and set the machinery of the meeting in motion. President Roosevelt has his report. What is he going to do with it?

In pursuing the good road policy in New York the State supervisors will recommend an appropriation of \$6,000,000 by the next Legislature, to be followed by a \$50,000,000 loan to bring the roads to the highest perfection. The plan is to provide for a comprehensive system of public highways of an extent of 7500 miles. This is very different from the piddling policy in Pennsylvania, when it became necessary for the Machine Legislature to decide between a liberal system of public highways and the retention for use of the pet banks of the treasury surplus that could be devoted to no better use than to road improvement. But the Machine will neither expend the treasury surplus wisely nor reduce the needless taxation by which the enormous surplus is accumulated.

The Panama affair has been made a strict partisan measure, and every honest American will welcome this view. The administration affects to see some great advantage in stealing an isthmus and violating a treaty. The Democratic party can rely upon the applause of succeeding generations if it be able now, as it often has been in the past, to conserve the honor of the Nation while affecting the construction of a needed waterway without inviting an international war. The reciprocity bill by the force of its momentum and Democratic aid now becomes law after presidential signature, but the spectacular special session has receded from public vision into absurd desuetude.

The intense and overmastering ambition of Roosevelt, with which no one has a right to find fault, if within reputable limits, does not effect the historic facts that, beginning with John Tyler in 1841 and ending with Chester A. Arthur in 1881, no one who succeeded through the death of the President has been elected chief magistrate. It is also a singular fact that all of these vice-presidential successors—Tyler, Fillmore, Johnson, Arthur and Roosevelt—were or are anxious to the utmost limits for an elective succession. They were all disappointed, with Roosevelt remaining to make another trial of the historic test.

Prof. Mallory, of the Harvard Medical school, believes that he has found the germ of scarlet fever in certain protozoa that infest the cells of the tongue and skin, these animal types corresponding to the bacteria of vegetable microbes which cause the less virulent infectious diseases. The importance of such a discovery cannot be valued, for with it firmly established the attack upon the disease can be made at the proper point. Of all maladies it is one household dread, and the family whose trusted doctor is able to save the stricken from sequences of deafness, palsy or worse, is among the favored of the earth.

The steel manufacturers in secret session last week resolved to "maintain prices." The railroad companies demand a reduction before placing orders. Under our blessed tariff the combination has been exacting \$25 a ton for rails at home while selling to foreign customers at much lower rates. So long as Mr. Hanna's "stand-pat" tariff policy prevails American consumers are not likely to secure any material abatement of the "stand-pat" robber prices.

The Senate passed the Cuban reciprocity bill by 57 yeas to 18 nays, the affirmative vote including nine Democrats, and in the negative one lone Republican, Mr. Bard, of California, standing pat for the fruit interests of his State.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

The Reporter will take a vacation next week.

Look at your label. Remember time flies rapidly.

Mrs. Christian Platt, of near Penn's Cave, is reported to be seriously ill.

Mr. and Mrs. James H. Holmes, of State College, will celebrate their fiftieth marriage anniversary, January 2nd.

Williamsport will be one hundred years old on March 1, 1906, and there is talk of properly celebrating the anniversary.

John J. Taylor, who lived east of town, last week moved to near Madisonburg on a property recently purchased by him.

John Cherry, son of Engineer Theodore Cherry, of Bellefonte, and Miss Rena Black, also of Bellefonte, were married last week.

J. H. Jordan, of McConnell, Illinois, writes: Mercury one night recently dropped to twenty-two degrees below zero; some snow, and poor sledding.

After January 1st special apprentices in the Pennsylvania railroad shops will be required to serve four years apprenticeship instead of three.

The will of Mrs. Curtin, widow of Ex-Governor Curtin, was probated last week. The entire sum, estimated at \$200,000, is divided among the heirs.

Section Boss James H. Smetzler and his men, Messrs. John Martz, John Puff and J. Wesley Whiteman are working full time on the L. & T. tracks.

David Glasgow, of near Tusseyville, was a caller Thursday of last week. He is suffering some from the effects of a fall through an opening in a barn of John Frazer.

S. W. Waite, of Pleasant Gap, well known on this side of Nittany Mountain, was in town on business Saturday. Mr. Waite lives on the property bought from the estate of M. S. Riddle.

Miss Edith Lutz, employed in the Commercial telephone exchange in this place, last week was the guest of Miss Mabel Ziegler, of Millheim, who holds a similar position in that place.

J. R. Smetzler, of Potters Mills, was in town Monday, and on calling at the Reporter office to pay his subscription found his label so well advanced in 1904 that he could very honorably postpone payment.

Small pox may be found in almost every section. Why not submit to vaccination? The highest authorities commend vaccination, yet many fail to take that precaution against one of the most loathsome diseases.

Ira Grossman, of near Penn's Cave, was a caller Monday. He has been taking care of the Mingle-Arney peach orchard, and states that the trees made a fine growth last season and went into winter in first-class condition.

Dr. Frank, of Millheim, consulted with Dr. Biekle, of Loganton, on an injury that Lewis Bailey, of the latter place, received to his leg several weeks ago. The doctors decided that Mr. Bailey's leg should not be amputated.

David S. Glasgow, one of the stirring young farmers of near Tusseyville, was a caller Friday. Although Mr. Glasgow has his farm work completed, he finds plenty of work to keep him busy without doing time behind the cook stove.

All lovers of the old actor, Joseph Jefferson, will be interested in the article by Henry Harrison Lewis in the January Woman's Home Companion, entitled "An Afternoon with Joseph Jefferson." It is illustrated by some unusual photographs.

Miss Jennie B. Smith, daughter of the late Adam Smith, of Centre Hill, is now located in Philadelphia, having gone from Lewistown to that place several weeks ago. She is a Reporter reader, on account of the kindness of her brother George Smith.

Dr. McCluney Radcliffe, of Philadelphia, who is the physician of authority at the Wills Eye and Ear Hospital, was in Centre Hall between trains Monday. He is a nephew of Mrs. Shannon Bost, and came here especially to visit her and her husband.

Senators Hoar and Gorman are seeking to get at the true inwardness of the so-called revolution in Panama. Senator Gorman plainly intimates his belief that a fomented war is to follow a promoted revolution. The latest news from the Isthmus gives some color to this view.

Samuel A. Steel, ex-prothonotary, and at present deputy prothonotary of Huntingdon county, and a member of the Huntingdon Industrial Reformatory board of managers, was found dead Sunday in his room with a bullet in his brain which had entered his mouth. He was one of the Republican leaders of that county.

WEEK OF PRAYER.

Sunday, January 3rd, 7 P. M. Lutheran Church. Sermon by Rev. Daniel Gress.

Monday, January 4th, 7 P. M. United Evangelical Church. Topic: The Warrant, the Privilege, and the Power of Prayer. Leader in the discussion, Rev. J. M. Rearick.

Tuesday, January 5th, 7 P. M. Reformed Church. Topic: The Church of Christ. Leader, Rev. W. H. Schuyler.

Wednesday, January 6th, 7 P. M. Presbyterian Church. Topic: All Nations and Peoples. Leader, Rev. J. F. Shultz.

Thursday, January 7th, 7 P. M. Methodist Episcopal Church. Topic: Missions, Home and Foreign. Leader, Rev. Daniel Gress.

Friday, January 8th, 7 P. M. Lutheran Church. Topic: The Family and the School. Leader, Rev. G. W. McInlay.

Saturday, January 9th, 7 P. M. United Evangelical Church. Topic: The Enthronement of Christ on Earth the Only Hope of Humanity's Welfare. Leader, Rev. J. M. Rearick.

Sunday, January 10th, 7 P. M. Reformed Church. Sermon by Rev. G. W. McInlay.