



### 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 VI. THE PRISONER'S STORY.

March 14th, 1863—At one o'clock p. m. we marched out of Libby Prison, and we did not see the place again till the following spring, (1865) on our return from "Appomattox," as a triumphant army; we marched through Richmond, with music and unfurled banners, past Libby, which was then filled with "Johnnies," who crowded windows and doors to see the Yankee Army pass; we "guyed" them: Say, Johnnie, how do you like Libby? Very much, they good humoredly answered. But we return to our march from Libby. We reached the dock, and marched aboard the Confederate Steamer "William Allison;" we cast loose and were on our way home, down the historic James, all excitement and expectation. Slavery was not dead in Virginia. There was a young negro on the boat, and a squad of southern men, standing aside, watched the "Coon" and whispered; then walked up to him and asked, where are you going? I just take this trip on de boat, he said. Who do you belong to? came next. I see free man. Where is your home? etc. They were not satisfied; they watched him closely, but I did not see the end of this matter. I thought then, and still believe that he was a contraband on a trial trip toward freedom.

In slavery days no Coon could travel without a passport, and it was worth from fifty to one hundred dollars to catch and return a runaway slave.

We steamed along for an hour, almost wild with expectation, and delighted with the beautiful scenery along the noble and historic James river; members of the Steamer's crew pointed out and named every point of interest, of which there was a continuous chain.

We now reached Drury's Bluff, ten miles below Richmond. Here the James river was effectively obstructed. A row of piles had been driven across the channel, and three rows of vessels had also been sunk in the channel; parts of the hulls and the great side wheels of several standing high out of the water, leaving only a narrow gateway, in comparatively shoal water open.

Drury's Bluff is an abrupt knoll, bordering on the water's edge on the south side of James river, rising two hundred feet above the river's water level. Safely perched upon this cliff, and high above the reach of the guns of the Union iron clad fleet, was Fort Darling, well and scientifically constructed, mounting fourteen heavy guns, mostly one hundred pounder rifled guns, none less than eight-inch shell guns, and all so mounted that they could be pointed directly down on the decks of passing vessels.

On the north side, just below is Chapin's Bluff, crowned with batteries almost as formidable.

Here the advance of the Union iron-clad fleet was effectively stopped and driven back in May 1862. The advance by water upon Richmond was never again attempted.

Some miles below we passed the Confederate squadron of sloping sided iron-clad Gun Boats, a beautiful and formidable looking fleet, at anchor, with banked fires, keeping watch of the Yankee fleet, a much stronger and finer fleet, only a few miles below, through which we passed shortly after exchanging with them whistle salutes.

Near Chapin's Bluff our steamer ran into a sand bar, on which we hung fast till some time in the night, when we got off, and reached Aiken's Landing, the place of exchange, at midnight.

During the night several prisoners fell over board and were drowned, and five died. One of these was James Walters, Co. "D" P. V. Cav., my partner on this trip. He did not seem sick, but weak; and like hundreds of others, fell asleep, never to wake again. He died during the night, under the same blanket that also covered me and another soldier. We did not know that he was dead till we roused up in the morning.

The night was intensely dark and stormy; just as day was dawning, a soldier ran into our compartment, shouting: "Aiken's Landing! The U. S. Steamer, 'City of New York,' is at anchor alongside, a U. S. Flag, big enough to cover this boat, floating at its main staff! Instantly we jumped up and rushed out to see the grand old banner, which we had not seen for so long. A long, loud, hoarse shout went up, and tears came to the eyes of many hardened soldiers, as they once more looked upon our own starry flag as it waved lazily, yet proudly, and de-

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### THE FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

#### The Greatest Success Attended Each Session—Brief Account.

The Farmers' Institute held in Grange Arcadia, Centre Hall, Wednesday and Thursday of last week was fraught with the greatest interest. While in attendance, Colonel John A. Woodward, the county institute manager, rendered valuable assistance in keeping those present in a good state of mind.

George L. Goodhart, the chairman, proved an admirable man in that capacity. He has given his entire life to the great industry for the betterment of which the institute is calculated, and his selection to the position of chairman by his fellow farmers was deserved recognition.

The several sessions of the institute were attended by the most intelligent and progressive farmers in the entire territory which reasonably might be said to belong to the Centre Hall Institute district. The Thursday afternoon audience was a remarkable one, not for size particularly, but for its personnel. It was not a congregation of chronic growers against high taxes and low prices—quite the reverse. Their discussions yielded them optimists rather than pessimists; their appearance and movements industrious rather than laggards; their speech intelligence rather than ignorance; their appearance indicated prosperity rather than poverty.

One of the pleasant features of the institute was the social mingling of those in attendance, both before and after the close of the sessions. Another enjoyable feature was the music rendered by a select choir.

No effort will be made to give a sketch of any of the talks on the various topics discussed, all, however, were of great importance to the average farmer and were discussed with intelligence.

The following resolution was adopted by the institute:

Resolved: That we tender a rising vote of thanks to J. S. Burns, A. L. Brubaker and Prof. R. L. Watts for their valuable instruction during the Farmers' Institute held in Grange Arcadia, and that we also tender our sincere thanks to the choir for the very excellent music.

#### The Watts Type Correct.

Speakers of the type of Prof. R. L. Watts, of Cambria county, are the correct type to speak before Farmers' Institutes. Prof. Watts is an educated gentleman—a graduate of Pennsylvania State College, 18—.

Besides being educated, he has had practical experience. The farmers of Pennsylvania have a right to expect speakers at their institutes who have intellectual ability; who can speak authoritatively and intelligently, grammatically and distinctly. Prof. Watts can do all that.

The Agricultural Department at Harrisburg needs a fearless man with a good, strong blue pencil, to mark "antiquated," "unsuited," "lack of intellect," etc., after some of the speakers now employed.

The Watts type is correct. Colonel Guffey, National Committeeman from Pennsylvania, is said to be a candidate for the national chairmanship.

#### Continued from a first column.

flantly in the strong south wind. The "City of New York" had brought down a batch of Confederate prisoners for exchange. They crowded thick along the "rail" of the vessel, and steadily looked at us. We hurried some Confederate corn bread bricks into their crowd, and told them that was what they would get to eat when they got home. They gathered them up, and began to eat them with apparent great relish, and called for more.

Some of our men threw their corn bread into the river; it thumped and sank to the bottom like a stone. The story of an heard, that this corn bread was baked out of corn chop, cob and all ground together is not true. To this day (1904) I have some of this same corn bread, issued to me in 1864, in my collection of relics, where it may be seen and examined by any one who may have been misled by the old canard.

At this point, let us further "give the devil his dues." Let the truth be told, Jefferson Davis, president of the Southern Confederacy, was by some radical talkers and writers of the time, blamed as the cause of harsh treatment shown the Union Soldiers in Confederate prisons. As a matter of fact, President Davis had no more to do with the Union Soldiers in Confederate prisons, than President Lincoln had to do with the Confederate soldiers in northern prisons. But, it can not be successfully denied that the lynch lay in President Lincoln's Cabinet. From there the cruel suggestion emanated to "stop Exchange."

### TEACHERS' INSTITUTE AT BOALSBURG.

The teachers' local institute held at Boalsburg, Friday and Saturday, was one of the most successful ever held in the second institute district. The institute was remarkable for the large attendance of teachers and spectators; remarkable for the number of teachers who took an active part in discussions; remarkable for the great interest manifested by spectators; remarkable for unity of action and sameness of opinion on all points of importance in the discussion of the various seasonable subjects on the well arranged program. In fact, the institute is not open to criticism.

The session Friday evening was unusually large for a gathering of that character, and the strictest attention was paid to every speaker.

After the rendering of a selection of music, and the invocation offered, Rev. J. I. Stoneyer delivered the address of welcome. A response was made by Miss Flo. R. Duck, and then the question of the evening was opened by Rev. A. A. Black. The subject was "Centralization of Schools." The speaker treated the question as it would apply to Harris township, and in his remarks, which were backed by figures, plainly proved that centralization could be effected in Harris township at no greater cost than the present system. The gain would be graded schools, with more efficient instructors and supervision by a more proficient head. Rev. Black's talk was a clear statement of facts known to be correct by the major part of the audience. These facts, however, had never before been thrown together to prove the practicalness of centralization of schools in Harris township, and they were received with the greatest interest.

Prof. M. E. Heberling, of Pine Grove Mills, was the next speaker on this subject. He spoke of centralization in a general way, and among other things stated that the schools of today are better than those of ten years ago, but that perfection could only be reached by centralization.

Adam Hosterman expressed a sentiment, which if generally accepted, would give ideal schools. It was this: That the expenditure of the least dollars and cents was not the question that should agitate the mind of school boards, but to do the best for the children.

Henry Hosterman, instructor of the Boalsburg Grammar grade, related his knowledge of centralization gained by living in a district where the same was in operation. His declarations proved the feasibility of centralization; its cost less than the old system; and results all ever claimed by those who advocate the plan.

Fingerboards pointing toward centralization of schools was the phase of the question briefly dwelt on by S. W. Smith, who stated that everywhere signs were visible. Among the fingerboards mentioned were these:

1. The fact that the question was being discussed at the time.
2. The movement by the national and state governments toward building good roads.
3. The exodus of the rural population, especially young people; (a) reduction of the number of school children; (b) the relative increase of cost per capita, for education owing to the decrease in numbers of scholars.
4. The increase, by law, of the salary of school teachers.

R. Bruce Harrison spoke in an inquiring way as to the cost of transportation, comfort of the children while being transported, etc.

Following this was a recitation by Miss B. Utah Fortney. "How can the patron assist the teacher," was a topic discussed by many of the teachers. Hon. W. A. Murray was called on by the chairman to give his views on this subject, and while doing so he gave many useful hints to parents.

The session Saturday morning, after the opening song, began by discussing "Teaching music in our public schools." The first speaker was Miss Effie Snyder, who is a music enthusiast, and predicted that in the course of time a regular course would be adopted.

Miss Rebecca Moyer very truthfully said that not all school teachers were music teachers, and that it would be difficult for such to do anything in this line. She suggested motion songs; boys who could not sing could be permitted to whistle; songs appropriate to the season, weather, holidays, etc., should be sung both for the music in them and to impress the sentiment.

Prof. P. H. Meyer, who had in charge the musical part of the program, thought the rudiments of music ought to be taught. The discussion then became general.

Prof. John A. Young, Prof. Jacob Diehl and Prof. Henry Hosterman spoke at some length on the subject of "Advantages and disadvantages of a uniform course of study."

"School Libraries" was the next topic discussed. The subject was opened by E. K. Smith. Others on the program gave their time to Col. D. F. Fortney, who kindly consented to speak to the institute. Col. Fortney's remarks covered the subject completely, and were of such a character that the whole of it would bear printing, but for the limited space in a paper such as the Reporter.

Recitation—Bertha O. Duck.

Continuation of discussion on school libraries followed D. F. Fortney's talk, during which Rev. A. A. Black, Theodore Boal and others gave some instructive talks touching chiefly the library question in Boalsburg.

Discussion on reading and speaking in primary schools. Miss Gertrude Wieland opened the discussion and was followed by Miss Maude Irvin, Miss Rebecca J. Moyer, Miss Effie Snyder, and Mrs. Frank McFarlane.

One of the most delightful and most thoroughly enjoyed features of the institute was participated in by some forty persons—teachers, directors and ministers—at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Davis Boal, immediately west of Boalsburg, Friday evening.

To answer to an invitation to the Boal home, under any circumstances, may always be looked forward to with the greatest anticipation of pleasure without fear of disappointment, but when an entire body of educators is invited to feast with a family so thoroughly in sympathy with all educational movements, there is special reason for enjoyment.

The occasion was one during which not only the animal but the intellect was fed.

It was decidedly a profitable half-hour or hour that each one spent among the curios, mostly implements of war, tastily arranged in a department especially fitted up for that purpose. Among the hundred or more collections exhibited, a few of the most noteworthy are enumerated:

A full suit of Venetian plate armor of the latest period, prior to the abolition of armor owing to the introduction of fire arms.

A shirt of mail formerly worn by the captains of Venetian war galleys, each ring of which was riveted by hand.

Scotch claymore, worn by a captain of Cameron Highlanders, who was killed while engaged outside Alexandria.

Military torture-collar, Savoyard Italian cross bow, halberds, pikes, a dagger for the left hand from the celebrated Toledo manufactory of swords.

Pistol with blunderbuss mouth and spring bayonet, which belonged to an Italian bandit, of the beginning of the nineteenth century.

Light Oriental shirt of mail to wear under clothes, used to turn dagger points only.

Helmet of half a dozen types, oldest of which comes from China, and dates back to the thirteenth century.

No less entertaining were the host and hostess, and Mademoiselle Denise de Lagarde, sister of the latter, a pretty French girl in her teens.

Everywhere in the Boal home were visible evidences of distinguished ancestors, individual knowledge and skill, travel and art, and love for home, all of which afforded instruction and entertainment to all guests.

The teachers who registered, the township in which they teach, and their home address, is appended:

- Centre Hall, whole number teachers, four.
- J. A. Young, New Columbia.
  - Flo. R. Duck, Spring Mills.
  - Rebecca Moyer, Rebersburg.
- College Twp., whole number teachers, nine.
- E. K. Smith, Oak Hill.
  - S. C. Bathgate, Lemont.
  - Edward Williams, Boalsburg.
  - Eva C. Bathgate, Lemont.
  - Frank Young, Boalsburg.
  - Arthur Peters, Oak Hill.
- Ferguson Twp., whole number teachers, sixteen.
- Jacob Dehl, Green Castle.
  - M. E. Heberling, Pine Grove Mills.
  - Margaret Ketchum, Pine Grove Mills.
  - Gertrude Ketchum, Pine Grove Mills.
  - G. B. M. Frey, Pine Grove Mills.
  - A. L. Bowersox, Pa. Furnace.
  - A. Maude Irvin, Pa. Furnace.
  - John Reich, Pa. Furnace.
  - Harry M. Walker, State College.
  - Annie K. Loesch, State College.
- Harris Twp., whole number teachers, six.
- S. Ward Granley, Spring Mills.
  - H. M. Hosterman, Boalsburg.
  - Gertrude C. Wieland, Linden Hall.
  - G. C. Hosterman, Boalsburg.
  - R. B. Harrison, Boalsburg.
  - Della Garlick, Linden Hall.
- Potter Twp., whole number teachers, sixteen.
- Edna M. Krumrine, Tusseyville.
  - Blanche V. Krumrine, Tusseyville.
  - John H. Bittner, Tusseyville.
  - H. F. Burkholder, Centre Hill.
  - Bertha O. Duck, Spring Mills.
  - Vera M. Grove, Centre Hill.
  - S. G. Walker, Penn Hall.
  - Jennie Sweetwood, Potters Mills.

The success of the institute was in a large measure due to the activity of the chairman, Prof. S. Ward Granley, both before and during the sessions.

### HEALTH LAWS.

#### Why Communities are Exposed to Contagious Diseases.

The frequency with which communities are exposed to contagious diseases is being much discussed. This exposure is due largely to the fact that the health laws of the state are totally ignored, in many instances, by physicians in charge.

For the public good, the Reporter here wishes to call attention to an act of the legislature signed by Governor Hastings, June 18th, 1895, which today is operative and which should be enforced:

Section 1. That every physician located or practicing in any of the municipalities of this Commonwealth, who shall know that any person whom she or he is called upon to visit, or who comes or is brought to him or her for examination, is suffering from, or is afflicted with cholera, small pox (variola or varioloid), diphtheria, diphtheritic croup, membranous croup, scarlet fever, typhoid fever, typhus fever, yellow fever, epidemic cerebro-spinal fever, relapsing fever or leprosy, shall forthwith make report in writing, to the health authorities of the municipality in which said person may be located, which said report shall, over his or her own signature, state the name of the disease, and the name, age and sex of the person suffering therefrom, and shall also set forth by street and number, or otherwise sufficiently designate, the house, room or other place in which said person may be located, together with such other information relating thereto as may be deemed important by said health authorities.

Section 2. Upon receipt by the health authorities of a report of the existence of a case of any of the above diseases, in any of said municipalities, they may at once place, or cause to be placed, in a conspicuous place or places upon or near the house or premises in which said case may be located, a placard or placards upon which shall be printed in large letters the name of the disease from which the person or persons in said house or premises may be suffering as aforesaid, as the case may be: Provided, That variola or varioloid shall be placarded as "small-pox," and that diphtheritic croup and membranous croup shall be placarded as "diphtheria."

Section 21. Provides that any physician, or person in authority, who shall fail, neglect or refuse to comply with, or who shall violate any of the provisions of this act, shall be liable to a fine of not less than \$5 00, or more than \$100, and in default of payment thereof may be imprisoned for a period not exceeding sixty days.

When there is no regularly organized board of health, the school board constitutes a board of health.

To enlighten the reader of the probable fatal results of scarlatina, scarlet-rash, etc., to which little attention is paid by either physicians, boards of health, or patients, the following is reprinted from a circular issued by the State Board of health, entitled "PRECAUTIONS AGAINST SCARLET FEVER."

Scarlet fever (called also scarlatina, scarlet-rash, canker-rash, and rash- fever) is a highly contagious and infectious disease, to be dreaded more than small-pox, for it cannot be prevented by vaccination, and its victims in our country are far more numerous than those from small-pox. Those recovering from scarlet fever are often left with great physical defects, such as blindness, deafness, paralysis and impaired minds. Scarlet fever and diphtheria have been justly dreaded as the most terrible diseases of childhood. It is therefore, highly desirable that every one should understand the nature of this disease, and the means to prevent its spread. It is always attended with a bright scarlet eruption on the skin, and is usually accompanied by a sore throat. Whenever children have sore throats, or an eruption of the skin, even of a mild character, they should be separated from the rest of the family until a physician has seen them, or these symptoms have disappeared. It must never be forgotten that the mildest type of scarlet fever may communicate the most fatal form of the disease. Although during the past few years the type of this disease has been mild, it may at any time and occasionally does show all its former malignity.

#### HOW THE DISEASE IS SPREAD.

Scarlet fever is believed to be caused by a special poison (contagium) which may be conveyed, to persons previously unaffected, by personal contact, by infected clothing, rags, hair, or paper, or by any of the discharges from the sick. The seeds or germs of this terrible disease may be received from anything which has touched the sick person. The discharges from the bowels, the kidneys, the nose, and the mouth, are considered to be extremely dangerous, as also all the discharges from the eyes, ears and skin. A person who has had scarlet fever is to be considered dangerous so long as the skin remains in an unhealthy condition, or continues to peel off in scales or flakes. This is not less than six weeks.

### TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

#### HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Marcellus Sankey, of Potters Mills, was a caller Saturday.

A regular meeting of Progress Grange will be held Saturday afternoon.

The second reunion of the Shaffer family is to be held at Hecla Park, June 15th.

Miss Alda Sankey, of near Lewis-ton, is visiting among friends and relatives in Centre Hall.

The Lock Haven Daily Democrat beginning last Saturday, will publish an eight page, instead of a four page paper, on that day.

The program for the district Sunday school convention to be held at Le-mont Saturday afternoon and evening, appears in this issue.

The annual football game between the Carlisle Indians and Bucknell University is scheduled to be played at Williamsport on October 8th.

Henry Homan, who for several years has lived on the Old-kirk farm at the Old Fort, will move to the Wilson farm, near Centre Hall railroad station.

Mrs. Miller Goodhart and sons, of Farmers Mills, were the guests of the former's mother, Mrs. Mary A. Ross, and Miss Emily Alexander, in this place, over Sunday.

Charles Weaver and Frank Decker drove several head of fine fat cattle through Centre Hall Monday morning. The same were purchased by Mr. Kerstetter, of Bellefonte.

The dairyman will find it to his interest to consult B. F. Homan, of Oak Hall Station, agent for the National Separator. Write to him for a catalogue, etc.

Thomas J. Sexton, Esq., of Bellefonte, will be associated in the law business with Frances A. Hauber, Esq., of St. Mary's. Mr. Sexton left Belle fonte last week for his new location.

Wm. Zerby, of near Spring Mills, was in town Saturday. He thinks the Wabash has selected a very good line through Georges Valley. His property is left about thirty rods to the north of the proposed railroad.

Clinton county, with a total of six hundred and twenty miles of road, finds that under the new road law it has a credit of \$2,870, its share of the \$500,000 appropriated for roads during the first year of the laws operation.

Boalsburg, Harris and College townships were represented at the farmers' institute by Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Glenn, Jonathan Tressler, Owen Mothersbaugh, Isaac Tressler, John Dale, Willard Dale, B. F. Homan, and others.

In the March Delineator exquisite Spring styles and illustrated articles on topics of fashion are supplemented by literary features of uncommon interest and value. In fiction there is a delicate romance by Richard Le Gallienne, The Shadow of the Rose.

You are asked to remember that the Rebekahs will hold a social in their rooms in the Bank building, Friday evening of this week. Oysters, ice cream, cake and coffee will be served. This is their first social, and they no doubt will do all in their power to please.

The Bunker Hill (Illinois) News publishes an address by Dr. S. L. Stiver, delivered at a teachers' local institute, on the subject of "Genesis of the American Spelling Book." In his address Dr. Stiver refers to a number of spelling books and primers that are now of great historic interest.

The soft weather Friday, Saturday and Sunday cut the snow wonderfully, and exposed the great amount of filth accumulated. Sunday morning there was a slight rain, accompanied by an electrical display, but not sufficient to wash the soil and remain-ing snow banks. Monday morning it was quite cold.

Malcolm D. Fleming, son of Julian Fleming of this place, is manager of the Morton C. Stout & Company's merchant tailoring establishment in Washington, D. C. He had formerly been employed with the same firm at Baltimore, Md. The Stout Company, besides its Washington and Baltimore establishments, does business on an extensive scale at Wheeling, W. Va.; Richmond, Va. and Philadelphia.

John A. Yearick, of near Farmers Mills, who will make sale of his farm stock and implements March 14, will move to the Vonada homestead, one mile east of Zion, which he recently purchased from Adam Vonada, of Madisonburg. The farm contains seventy-three acres, sixty-five of which are under cultivation. Mr. Yearick will be succeeded as tenant on the And-r-w-Corman farm by D. Geiss Wag-ner, of Manhattan, Illinois.